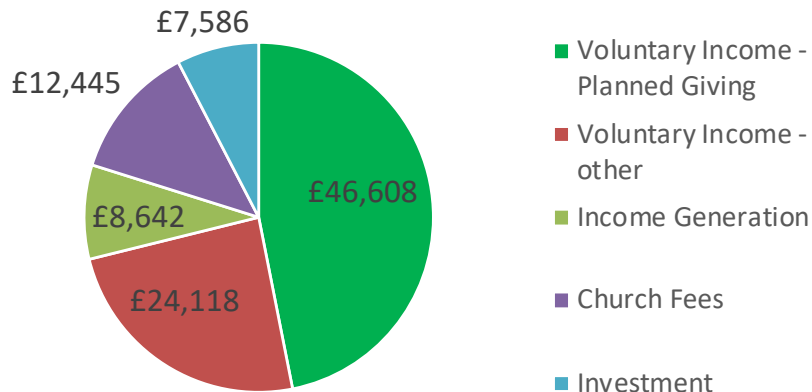


St Mary's Church Finances - 2023

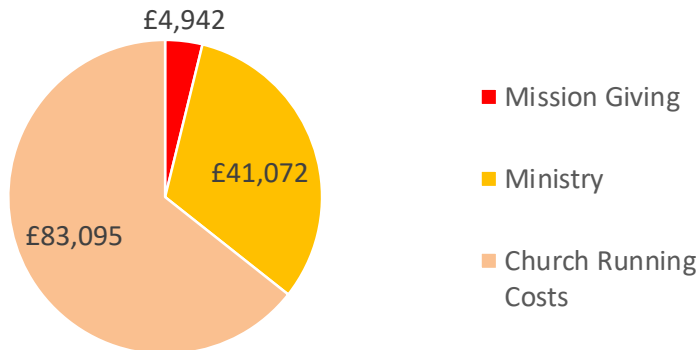


St Mary's Church – Ambleside

St Marys - Income 2023 - (£99,399)



St Marys - Expenses 2023 - (£129,109)



Please note: All Major Repairs to the Church have been funded by generous legacies, matched Grant Funding and targeted community appeals.

Live Generously - Paul's Teaching in 2 Corinthians 9 v 6-11

“⁶ Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.⁷ Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.⁸ And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.⁹ As it is written:

“They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor; their righteousness endures forever.”

¹⁰ Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness.¹¹ You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.”

Biblical Teaching – Discipleship and Stewardship

Tithing (10%)

Everything we have comes from the Lord. (1 Corinthians 10 v26)

Give to the Lord the first of everything we receive - “the principle of First”. (Genesis 14 v 18-20)

We are not owners of what we have, we are **Stewards** of what we have been given to look after. (Luke 12 v 16-21). (Matthew 25 v 14-30).

Jesus calls for complete love of the Father: body, mind, soul and strength. (Luke 10 v27). Jesus re-affirms the principle of tithing. (Matthew 23 v 23). Our tithe is to be given to the “storehouse” (local church) for its mission and ministry. (Malachi 3 v 10)

Giving - A “Free will Offering” is over and above our Tithing. (Exodus 35 v29)

Think biblically and pray about how much you should give. Remember, whatever you decide to give or however you decide to distribute your giving, all that you have comes from God.

GOD...is all giving, all loving. His Son freely laid down his life for us and we give because HE has first given to us.

THE CHURCH.... Is the fellowship of God's believing people – ordinary people, like you and me, but people who take God seriously. People who have so much to thank God for.

MINISTRY....Means all of us working together.

- Sharing the life of the risen Lord
- Sharing our life and faith with others
- Building up disciples
- Reaching out with works of love to the community and to the world



MONEY.....is needed in God's household as in your own. We share together the support of our church and its ministry both locally and further afield through the various individuals and organisations which we as a fellowship support.

ACTIONS....Speak louder than words – so be generous

- With your **TIME**. With your **ABILITIES** and **GIFTS** – discover them, develop them and use them for Him.
- With your **POSSESSIONS** – they are His, you are only the manager of them.
- With your **MONEY** – for it is by God's grace that you have it.

Practical Pointers

Set up a standing order to coincide with when you receive your income or ask for envelopes for a weekly contribution if you prefer. Don't put off tomorrow what you can do today – tomorrow has a habit of not arriving. Make sure that your good intentions are not just that – **act today**.

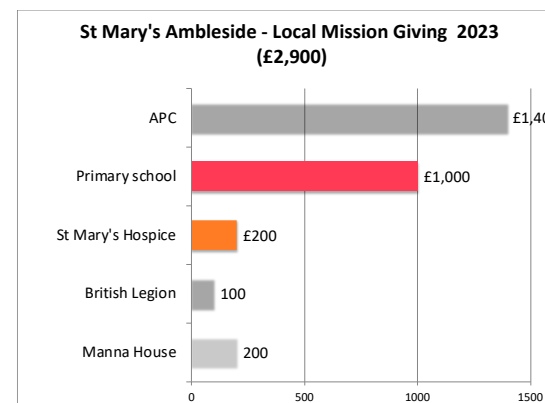
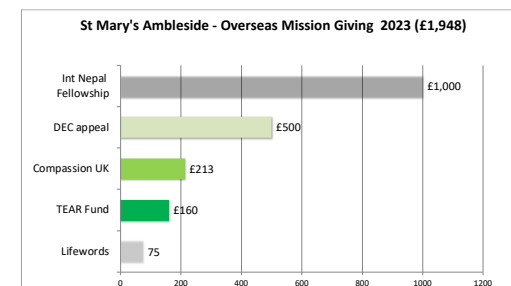
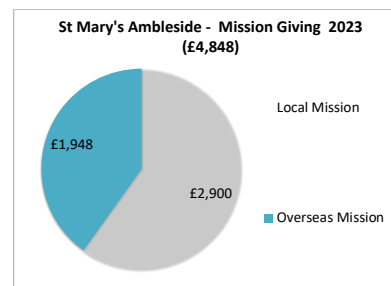
Give your gifts a boost

- Another 25% at present, if you pay sufficient income tax. All you have to do is complete a Gift Aid declaration. It is as simple as that!
Guidance: Your donations will qualify as long as **they are not more than 4 times what you have paid in tax** (Income tax and/or capital gains tax) **in a tax year**
- If you want to find out more about the scheme or envelope giving, please contact: **Church Treasurer** (Tony Sunnucks)

Our Mission - we plan to:

- Provide welcoming, accessible and inspiring worship each week and experiment with new ways of worship.
- Welcome new family members at baptisms, celebrate the love of couples at weddings and be available to our community for them to say their 'good-byes' to loved ones at funerals,
- Have the church open every day for private prayer and to welcome our many visitors.

By God's grace and with your help we continue with God's mission in our community. Thank you for your partnership in the gospel, the commitment of your time, your skills and abilities and, of course, your generous giving to St Mary's Church Ambleside



St Mary's Church also supported **Christian Aid, Children's Society** and **Crisis at Christmas**. These annual collections are sent directly to the charities.