

# Parish Share

**BUDGET 2017**



**THE  
DIOCESE  
OF  
BLACKBURN**  
THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN LANCASHIRE



# Shared finances for a shared Vision

## Welcome to the Parish Share budget booklet for 2017.

This booklet is designed to give parishes a summarised version of the Diocesan Budget relating to Parish Share that was presented to Diocesan Synod in October 2016.

This year we are taking a new approach to the gathering of Parish Share which is explained further on the following pages.

If you are unfamiliar with Parish Share and its purpose it also provides some background information along with full breakdowns of where the money goes, that we trust you will find helpful.

We continue to prioritise clearer presentation of relevant information about Parish Share to enable better understanding in congregations as a whole - not just PCCs and treasurers.

This year, to continue to help keep costs down, we are printing enough booklets to give one to each incumbent and treasurer. We will print more (up to a maximum of 30 for each parish) on request.

There is also an online version of this booklet. See the back page for more about this and other ways of engaging with this year's messages about Parish Share.

If you have any further questions about Parish Share, contact my colleagues in the Finance Team on 01254 503070 and they will be happy to help.

**Graeme Pollard**  
Diocesan Secretary



# An overview of Parish Share

This booklet forms a summarised version of the Diocesan Budget relating to Parish Share presented to Diocesan Synod in October 2016.

Our budget funds the resources required to undertake our shared vision for our parishes and the diocese.

Some people may have misconceptions about what Parish Share pays for and where the money goes.

For example you may have thought it helps to pay for Bishops' costs or the running of Bishop's houses and offices. It doesn't. The money for all of this comes from a central Church of England source.

You may have thought it pays for the upkeep of the Diocesan Cathedral in Blackburn. It doesn't. Or you may think it helped to pay for Clergy Court, the recently opened extension to the Cathedral. It didn't.

You may have thought Parish Share has been paying for the various Vision



2026 related initiatives, including the Vision Coordinator role and work with Vision Champions, across the Diocese. It hasn't. We have allocated funding received from All Churches Trust (Ecclesiastical Insurance) and the Church Commissioners.

This means for 2017 the funding for the Vision initiatives has not needed to form part of this budget and we have

also identified other income received from All Churches Trust (Ecclesiastical) which can be used going forward.

Some specific Vision projects are also not funded from Parish Share; for example the Vision Coordinator role; work with Vision Champions and the Pioneer Priest role at Mereside, Blackpool are all funded from other non-parish sources, including the Church Commissioners.

So what IS Parish Share for then? The bulk of what parish share DOES pay for includes clergy stipends, housing and training – all vital for the continued health of the church in EVERY part of the Diocese – and our work in parishes, church schools, hospitals, prisons and in all our communities.

- **Turn over the page now for a detailed breakdown of the budget for 2017**

# Parish Share Budget 2017

The 2017 budget is the first in a series of budgets that will enable financial restructuring over time. The Budget Committee recognises that there is significant work required to produce a strategy for clergy numbers and their spread across the Diocese to inform the budget process in future years.

## Notes to the 2017 Parish Share Budget

- i** The Regular Weekly Attendance rolling average for 2013/2014/2015 used in the 2017 share calculation has reduced by 2.4% which will mean an increase in the unit cost per regular weekly attender.
- i** The most recent national multiple deprivation data has been used to update the Socio-Economic multiplier for 2017.
- i** The budget assumes 100% collection rate. If a parish considers they can't meet their 2017 share in full, they must apply as soon as they receive their calculation to the new Parish Share Relief Fund and the new agreed figure will become their share assessment.

**i** Ideally parishes will make 12 equal share payments through the year and submit fee forms quarterly.

**i** Twelve clergy vacancies are anticipated in 2017, although there will be no attempt to manage the figure for financial reasons.

**i** Where a parish already has a house for a curate, it should be used for new curates in 2017. Where there is no house the DBF will look to rent a suitable property and ask for a lease of four years if possible. If this works well the DBF will move to renting more curate houses to reduce transaction costs on constantly buying and selling houses every four years.

**i** The costs relating to Whalley Abbey will again be funded from Diocesan Board of Finance reserves and not from the Parish Share Budget.

## Reductions in costs included in Parish Share Budget

**i** Vacant posts will be advertised on the Diocesan Website at no cost to parishes, but if a national advertisement is requested, the parish will need to pay. This is to maximise the use of places for

advertisements that don't involve cost. Deprived parishes can apply for support

**i** Vacant parishes will be able to claim reimbursement for payments to retired clergy for up to two rather than three services per week.

**i** Grant to Churches Together in Lancashire is reduced by £6,000

**i** Where parishes apply for retrospective faculties, they will pay their own faculty charges.

**i** The vacant Parish Development Officer (half time) post has now been removed from the budget

**i** Amount included in budget for Parish Development Resources Officer has been reduced from full time to 0.8 to match current post

## Increases in costs included in Parish Share Budget

**i** Safeguarding support has been increased following increased training requirements introduced by the National Church

**i** Stipends and salaries are budgeted to be increased by 1.5% in April 2017



In 2017 the budget presented to Diocesan Synod represented a 0% increase in Parish Share. This has been made possible partly by taking a new approach to the decision making process leading up to the setting of the budget and additional funding from the National Church.

The Bishop’s Leadership Team, including the budget holders, were involved from early in the process to ensure the budget stayed focussed on our Vision and if savings needed to be made that they would come in places which caused least impact.

A series of recommendations were made to the Budget Committee in July by Bishop Julian. Most of these recommendations were accepted by the Committee.

Subsequently the budget was approved at Diocesan Synod in October.

### INCOME

<b>A</b>	PARISH SHARE	£7,546,082
<b>B</b>	DBF* FEES	£603,000
<b>C</b>	INVESTMENTS/RENTS	£722,531
<b>D</b>	NATIONAL CHURCH	£1,205,636

\* Diocesan Board of Finance

### EXPENDITURE

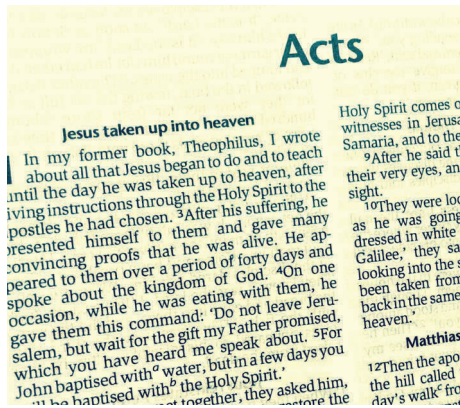
<b>E</b>	PAROCHIAL STAFFING AND RELATED COSTS	£7,781,529
<b>F</b>	PAROCHIAL TRAINING	£719,820
<b>G</b>	NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL COSTS	£277,945
<b>H</b>	PARISH FOCUSED WORK	£538,158
<b>I</b>	CENTRAL TEAM DBF/E* AND SHARED COSTS	£639,574
<b>J</b>	GOVERNANCE/LEGAL AND PROFESSIONAL COMMITTEES	£170,223
<b>K</b>	WHALLEY ABBEY (NET COSTS)	£100,000

\* Diocesan Board of Finance and Board of Education

# The Biblical principles for Parish Share

Each year when we produce our summary Parish Share booklet we like to take an opportunity to reflect on the Biblical principles behind Parish Share.

As part of its work a couple of years ago The Parish Share Review Group set up a theological reflection sub-group to look at those principles and reflect on why, as a Diocese, we share together in the cost of mission in this way.



Some of the key points that emerged from that process for your prayer and reflection are as follows ...

- ✓ The early Christians demonstrated their love for one another by the support of those in need (Acts 2:45, 4:35, 6:1, Romans 15:26). They were prepared to share their most talented people to further God's mission wherever it was needed. In the same way, here, as members of the Church of England in Lancashire, we too are called to share people and resources.
- ✓ Our common life includes a responsibility to the local congregation, to the wider people of God, and towards those who are sent out in mission to other places.
- ✓ Our response to this common life has been to cover the costs of mission through a common fund – known as 'Parish Share'.
- ✓ Costs include the selection, training, employment, housing and ongoing support of clergy in parishes and non-parish based clergy working across the wider Diocese.
- ✓ They also include the common costs of legal services; human resources advice; support for church schools; mission; discipleship; safeguarding and social outreach projects.
- ✓ Many of these things couldn't be done by a parish acting alone, but when we can work together we can ensure that the work we do as a response to God's call, is done well and efficiently.
- ✓ It is not, as St Paul says, a question of relief for some and pressure for others, but a fair balance between one church's abundance and another's need (2 Corinthians 8:12-15).



# What is Christian Stewardship?

Vision 2026 commits us to Making Disciples of Jesus Christ: including giving generously of our time, talents and money to the cause of Christ, *writes Stephanie Rankin of the Diocesan Parish Mission Support Department.*

Christian Stewardship is not a programme, nor is it about raising money, but it is part of our lifelong journey as disciples.

It will include the choices we make about how we use our time, our talents and our money. In the gospels, Jesus seems to indicate that one of the biggest challenges for us is around the issue of money and possessions.

Christian Stewardship means seeing our lives and possessions as a gift from God to be used

in His service, knowing that we will be accountable to Him for how we have used them. As Christians, giving is a sign of our love for God and a response to His love and generosity to us. As we grow as disciples, we may find that God changes our thinking about giving.

**How do I know if I'm giving generously of my time, talents and money to the cause of Christ?**

✓ Am I living a life of service, reflected in how I use my time and talents?

**Treasures in heaven**  
**19**Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. **20**But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. **21**For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.  
**22**The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes

- ✓ Is the amount I'm giving away realistic in relation to my income?
- ✓ Can I see an element of sacrifice in my giving? Does it impact on my lifestyle?
- ✓ Is my giving a priority from what I receive each week or month, or just what's left over?
- ✓ If what I give away was given back to me, would I notice?

Stewardship is not about us giving enough for the church to 'make ends meet'. Instead, as God's stewards, we give because we acknowledge God's generosity. As we give generously, the church is resourced for mission and ministry so that each church can become a Healthy Church Transforming its local Community.

For advice or assistance with any aspects of stewardship or running a programme, call me, Stephanie Rankin, on 01254 503273 or email [stephanie.rankin@blackburn.anglican.org](mailto:stephanie.rankin@blackburn.anglican.org)

# More information; keeping in touch

There is an online version of this booklet which is downloadable from our Diocesan website and can be printed, should you wish to produce additional copies locally for your parish.

Just log on to [www.blackburn.anglican.org](http://www.blackburn.anglican.org) and put 'Parish Finance' into the search box to find the relevant page.

Please note if you, or someone you know, has sight loss the booklet can be read at increased size on the website by clicking on the + or - signs at the right when it is open on screen, or by pressing the 'Ctrl' key on your keyboard and then either the + or - key.

For this year we also wanted to ensure all parishes were able to fully engage with the presentation given to Diocesan Synod about the budget on October 22, prior to the passing of the motion to approve it.



So, on our Diocesan website parish finance pages, you will also find the PowerPoint presentation (with accompanying notes) which was given by Canon John Dell, Chair of the Diocesan Board of Finance, when presenting the budget for 2017 to Synod for consideration.

That presentation is also available to view on our Diocesan YouTube channel (slides combined with audio). Just search online for YouTube and Blackburn Diocese to locate the channel and click on the relevant video. Why not show the video at your next PCC meeting? There will also be an update on Parish Share in a forthcoming edition of the Diocesan magazine 'The See' which is available in most parishes and also online via the Diocesan website.

The See also features the latest news about what's happening across the Diocese, including Vision 2026, and you can always get all our latest news on the Diocesan website, where you will also find links to all our social media channels (Twitter, YouTube, Flickr and Facebook).

## OUR DIOCESAN PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we embrace  
Your call for us to make  
disciples, to be witnesses and  
to grow leaders. Give us the  
eyes to see Your vision, ears to  
hear the prompting of Your  
Spirit and courage to follow in  
the footsteps of your Son, our  
Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen