

PARISH OF ALSTON DOOR



**Holy Paraclete Church,
Kirkhaugh**

‘Meeting the Future Together’

Generous Giving, 2025

*If you receive more than one copy of this, please pass one on to
someone else!*

HOLY PARACLETE CHURCH, KIRKHAUGH

This wonderful church, a hidden gem, has been at the heart of Kirkhaugh for generations. It is open to everyone, every day as a place of peace and refuge, prayer and contemplation, and as a venue for musical events.

WHAT CAN WE DO FOR YOU?

With the other local churches we worship God, pray for you and try to share the love of Jesus.

We care for the church building and churchyard, for you.

But that's not all: we are here for you ...



- + For special occasions – not just Christmas, Easter and Remembrance, but christenings, weddings, funerals, anniversaries, blessing a new home ...
- + To work with and support your children's school and teachers
- + To visit those who are housebound, ill, lonely or in hospital
- + To deliver prescriptions
- + To talk to if you need a confidential listening ear
- + To organize social gatherings, concerts, events and exhibitions

WHAT CAN YOU DO FOR US?

We are your church, and we want to help—but we need your help too.

We need you to ...



- + **Tell us what the needs are** – we can't visit someone in hospital if we don't know they are there, for example!
- + **Tell us what sort of services you would like**, and when.
- + **Help us practically** – could you offer some time or talents to help clean or maintain the church building, for example, or to help with admin, IT or book-keeping? Do you have other skills which you could offer?
- + **Help us to pay for all this!** A beautiful, spiritual building such as ours is not cheap to maintain, other activities also have costs attached, and we need to contribute towards the cost of having a Vicar in the parish.

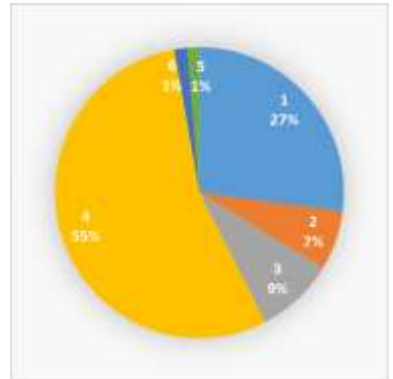
THE FINANCIAL NUTS AND BOLTS

It costs over £110 a week to keep Holy Paraclete Church running!

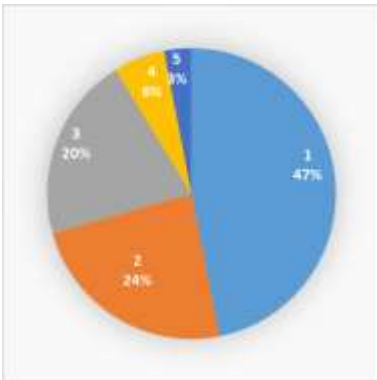
We rely on your donations: if you are already one of our generous supporters, through the Friends of Kirkhaugh or directly – thank you!

Spending in 2023

1. contribution to cost of a vicar	£ 2856
2. clergy expenses	£ 696
3. utilities, insurance	£ 930
4. maintenance, repair	£ 5773
5. sundries	£ 151
6. charitable giving	£ 145



Income in 2023



1. planned giving	£ 2256
2. collections, donations	£ 1141
3. gift aid	£ 993
4. weddings, funerals	£ 276
5. fundraising and other income	£ 147

Our estimated annual cost for 2025 is £5,700. However our current expected income is only £4,800, leaving a shortfall of £900. We need to make up this gap to cover the regular costs of the church and pay for ongoing repairs.

F.A.Q.'s

Why should I help?

The church is here for you: you have a right to a church wedding or funeral, to enjoy the church and churchyard free of charge, and to ask for our support when you need it. But this all costs money: if you don't help, who will?

Doesn't the church have pots of money already?

No! It's true that the Church Commissioners in London have investments, used mainly to fund things like cathedrals, bishops, pensions... But every parish church – including ours – has to be financially self supporting. We have no funding from the central church, government or anyone else.

Won't you give away all our money to the diocese?

No! Our six churches together contribute around £14,000 to the diocese (Holy Paraclete gives £3,000 of that). In return, the diocese provides a vicar and other services, worth around £60,000. So the diocese subsidises us!

Didn't you get a big legacy recently?

No. Joan Walton left a very generous legacy to St Augustine's Church in Alston, which will help to make big improvements to that church over the next couple of years – but legally it can only be spent on St Augustine's: it isn't available for Kirkhaugh church or any other church in the parish.

I can't afford very much – is it worth giving just a little?

Yes! We're grateful for however much or little you can give – even small amounts add up! And if you can't afford to give much financially, perhaps you could spare some time to help?

OK – so how can I help?

Please fill in the questionnaire that came with this leaflet. If it was delivered to you, someone will try to collect it within the next week. Otherwise, please leave it in Holy Paraclete Church, St Augustine's Church or return it to Richard Graham. Or if you prefer, you can fill in the questionnaire online. We'll get back to you with all the information you need.

Any more questions?

Phone Mark on 01434 382558 or Richard on 01434 381367, or email vicar@alstonmoorcofe.org.uk

Thank you!