

St Columba's Episcopal Church, Largs

Financial Information

Aubery Crescent, Largs, KA30 8PR

Like all churches, we are totally dependent upon the generosity of our members and visitors! It costs around £85,000 a year to support a Rector and to maintain the buildings.

In return we are able offer spiritual sustenance, a sacred place for those who wish to pray, meditate, simply find a quiet place to think, to remember the people they miss, or join their contemplation of the Eternal with those of the generations who have gone before in this place. We offer regular Anglican worship, the rites and traditions of the Anglican church, and the presence of an experienced and reassuring companion. Our members are active in the community, and extend a welcome to anyone who would like to come to our services, social activities, and family involvement. Our hall and grounds are used for community activities.

With only about 100 active members, many of whom struggle on limited incomes, we have to supplement our congregational giving by holding fund-raiser and appeals, donating a share of the proceeds to areas of need. Generous bequests in recent years have made up much of the shortfall in our congregational income, but we continue to consume our reserves.

If you would like to make a contribution, we can offer the following options:

1. By contributing to the collection at a Sunday service.
2. By requesting regular giving envelopes – please speak to the Treasurer if you would like to give through this option.
3. By direct bank transfer to St Columba's SEC, Largs, Account no: 00264006
Sort Code: 83-24-15
4. By Standing Order to the same account – please inform the Treasurer if you intend to give through this option.

If you can Gift-Aid your donation, it is worth an extra 25% to us. Please speak to the Treasurer if you are a tax-payer and you will be asked to sign a declaration form.

Charity Status

Scottish Registered Charity No. SC004796

St Columba's is an unincorporated association, governed by a constitution last amended in 2010. As a member congregation of the Diocese of Glasgow & Galloway in the Scottish Episcopal Church, it is also governed by the Canon Law of the Scottish Episcopal Church. The management team of the church is known as the Vestry. For the purposes of charities law, the members of the Vestry are the Charity Trustees of the Church, and the charitable purpose is the Advancement of Religion.

Five Year Summary: The following table shows how our annual outturn and reserves have fluctuated over the most recent years. Our year runs from 1 September to 31 August in the following year, with our AGM held in October.

Year	Income	Bequests	Expenditure	Surplus/deficit for year	Total Reserves
2019/20	£97,840	£1,000	£97,850	-£10	£244,992
2018/19	£130,660	£27,000	£108,038	£22,622	£259,408
2017/18	£108,964	£10,000	£98,794	£10,170	£234,428
2016/17	£82,312		£89,109	-£6,797	£217,702
2015/16	£98,063	£25,250	£73,536	£24,527	£194,026

Note: Charities Law requires us to record liquidation of reserves as income.

With the church and hall being closed for much of 2020 and the early part of 2021, due to the coronavirus restrictions, the impact of COVID-19 has had a dramatic effect on the church's charitable donations. We are due to have our next Quinquennial Review in 2021 and this may impact on property expenses. We hope to return to a full set of fund raising activities in 2022.

Our reserves are invested in the SEC's Unit Trust Pool, the income yielded from which constitutes about 8% of total annual income. The church regularly fundraises to support charitable and missionary causes through Car Boot Sales and a Yuletide Fayre. Unless any legacies donated to the church specifically state the wishes of the deceased, they are simply placed in the reserves for general use.

The Diocesan quota is based on the church's adjusted income and has averaged at approximately 13% over the last 5 years. A full set of the most recent published financial statements can be provided if required.