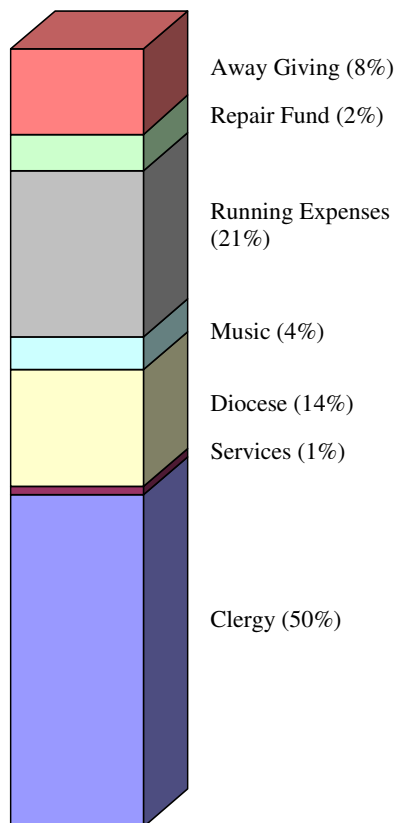


## “Where the Money Goes”

It costs almost £70,000 per annum - over £1,300 per week - to run Seal Church on a full time basis, of which about 90% is unavoidable expenditure. The chart below shows where the money goes, broken down as follows:



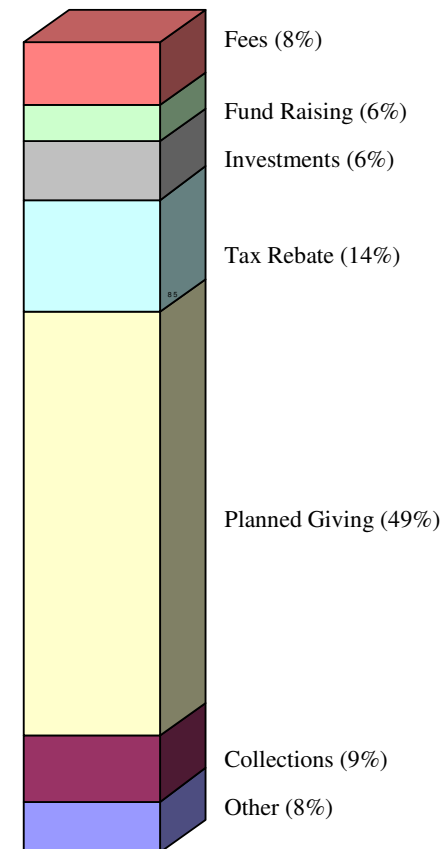
- **Away Giving** (£109 per week) comprising donations to our link missionaries and various UK and overseas charities (currently at 10% of income).
- **Repair Fund** contributions (£29 per week) towards future major repairs to the Church.
- **Running Expenses** (£277 per week) such as heating, lighting, maintenance, cleaning and insurance of the Church, Church Hall and the Churchyard.
- **Music** (£55 per week), which includes the cost of the organist and a contribution to the bell ringers.
- Every Church makes a contribution to the **Diocese** - ours is Rochester - (£185 per week for 2007/08) according to its means and based on average Sunday attendance.
- The cost of **Services** (£10 per week) includes candles and communion bread and wine.
- **Clergy** costs (£654 per week) include our Vicar, Readers, visiting preachers and towards the vicarage.

The Church also gives money from special campaigns and services throughout the year; for example Christian Aid week, Harvest, Remembrance Sunday and Christingle.

## “Where the Money Comes From”

In 2007 we expect to raise between £55,000 and £60,000 per annum from the various sources as shown in the diagram below. Of this, about 60% comes from regular contributions from members of the congregation.

- **Wedding and Funeral Fees** will generate about £87 per week in 2007, but this can vary widely.
- Our Church holds various **Fund Raising** events throughout the year (£72 per week) towards Church expenses.
- We rely heavily on our **Investment Income** (£70 per week) to try and balance the books each year.
- Another key part of our income is the **Tax Rebate** from the Government (about £154 per week in 2007), which we can claim on Gift Aided donations.
- Most of our money of course comes from regular, **Planned Giving** from members of the congregation (£538 per week).
- **Weekly Collections** account for a further £96 per week.
- Other income is generated from special **appeals, grants, miscellaneous donations** and income from Church Hall **lettings** (about £83 per week in 2007).



The Church is Grade 1 listed, so is very expensive to maintain and preserve, yet receives no general grants or subsidies (other than the tax rebate on gift aided contributions) from central or local Government.

## “How Can I Help?”

As with almost everything else in life the Church’s costs continue to rise and, without continued support from our congregation, the village and the wider community, we could not continue.

There are various ways of contributing towards the upkeep of our Church and maintaining the Mission within Seal:

**Collection plate:** Cash donations at regular Sunday services and also at Weddings and Baptisms.

**Planned giving:** Most people promise to give a regular amount each week/month/quarter/year – either through the envelope scheme or by standing order.

**Gift Aid:** This has replaced the old covenant system and, for taxpayers, enables us to claim 28% (*only 25% from April 2008*) from the Government on top of individual contributions.

**Donations:** Ad hoc donations are always welcome and can now be done via the Gift Aid scheme using the envelopes provided in Church. Some people also donate via the Charities Aid Foundation scheme.

**Legacies:** Our Church relies very heavily on investment income from past legacies in order to pay its way each year. Many people like to provide for the Church in their will, to replace their regular giving or in memory of a loved one.

For further information or assistance, please contact any of the following:

The <b>Vicar</b> is Anne Le Bas, The Vicarage, Church Street, Seal	01732 762955
The <b>Readers</b> are Rosemary Clary and Kevin Bright	01732 455384 01732 458849
The <b>Churchwardens</b> are Hilary Coffey and Christine Wightman	01732 762640 01732 762827
The <b>PCC Secretary</b> is Jennifer Kent	01732 763583
The <b>Treasurer</b> is Mike Harvey	01732 457118

St Peter and St Paul, Seal

# Stewardship

at

St Peter & St Paul’s Church



*They gave themselves first to the Lord*

2 Cor 8.5