



Cost of Being Church in 2026

Many of our churches are celebrating momentous anniversaries this year – I joined one marking an astonishing 1300 years of faithful Christian witness. Each celebration honours the faithful Christians who have gone before us, building and sustaining Christian communities which faithfully worship, witness and care for their neighbours. Making Jesus Known for centuries. I thank God daily for their faithfulness, and for your faithfulness as Christian communities today.

As with our ancestors in these places, our task is to continue to witness, supporting ministry and God's mission. What we call parish share today is our joint effort to fund the local church. 89 per cent of the budget of the Diocese of Salisbury is spent on local ministry, including spending on stipends and clergy homes, and supporting parishes with safeguarding and fundraising. This figure is greater than the amount contributed in parish share and as with previous years, we have an annual £2 million deficit. It is large, but our faith is surely larger and our predecessors surmounted much greater challenges. Can we respond together to support ministry in this diocese for another 1,300 years?

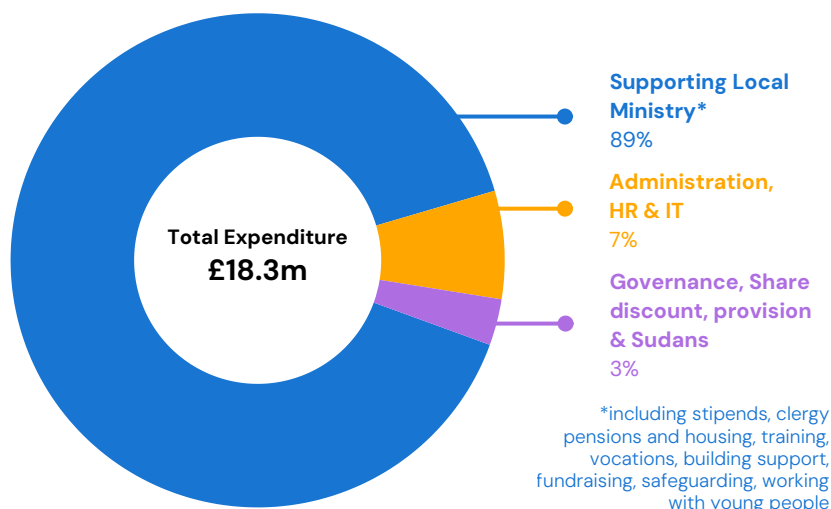
Thank you for your faithful contribution to ministry and mission in 2026.

+ Stephen Lake

The Rt Revd Stephen Lake
Bishop of Salisbury

Diocesan Budget 2026

Figures are rounded



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