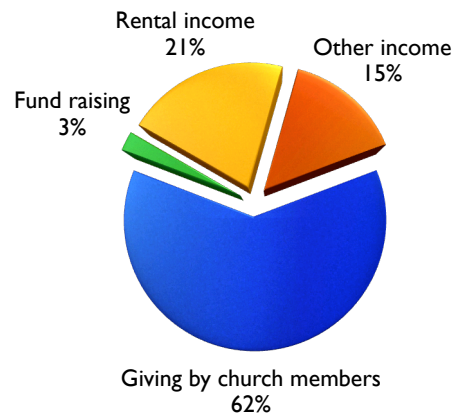


# How are our finances?

We are blessed to have a talented finance team who ensure we get good value for our money and contribute fairly to the Diocese.

In the recent past, necessary expenditure has outstripped our income - see the trend opposite. We need to increase our giving to continue our good work for the community.

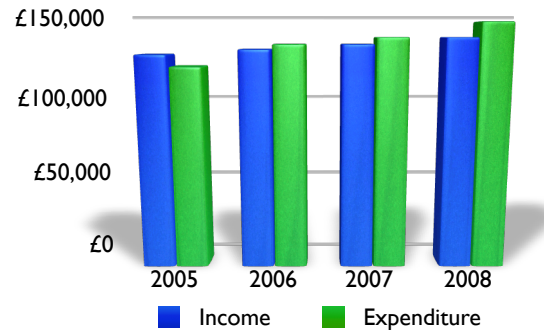
## Where our money came from in 2009



You provide the largest part of our income through your weekly, monthly and special giving.

Through Gift Aid, we are able to get back the tax you have already paid.

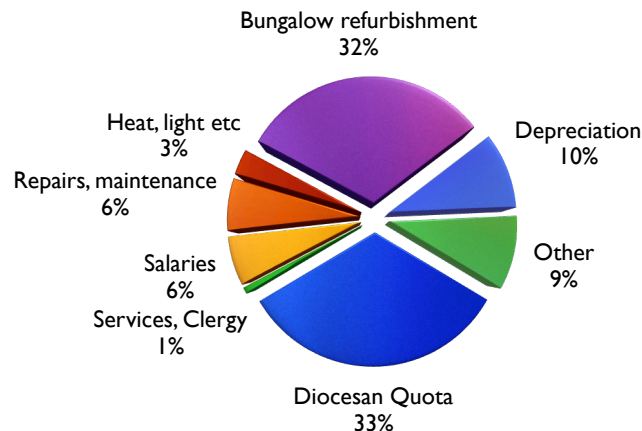
Now the bungalows have been repaired, rents will once again help us to realise our mission.



Our largest expense is the 'Diocesan Quota': supporting the work of our Diocese of Southwark. We contribute according to our ability. Our finance team has recently agreed a lower contribution for us.

The Diocese provides clergy, vicarages, advice, training and spiritual resources to all parishes, including to ourselves, sharing the cost in as fair a way as possible.

## Where our money went in 2009



# Giving for Life



# Thank you!

# Our thanks to you

Our mission is to celebrate God's love throughout the whole community, by social action and spiritual renewal.

Through your monetary gifts we are able to offer space for the community to thrive and to worship God.

Thanks to you: over 30 groups of children and adults are able to use St Matthew's for community activities and events: hundreds of people each week.

Thanks to you: we are able to host a shelter for the homeless from time to time, expressing the love of Christ today.

Thanks to you: we support the work of Bishop Andrew Proud and Janice in Ethiopia and the Horn of Africa; and mission in other places too.

And thanks to you: we are able to learn more about the love of God, our relationship with God and with each other through worship and Bible study.

Each year your funding supports more than 500 church services and study group meetings. Thank you so much!



# How should I give?

## Give a proportion of your income

The bible says that we should give 10% of our income: thus those with more money should give more.

The Church of England asks us to give 5% to the church, leaving us to distribute a further 5% to charities of our choosing.

It might help to remember how much everyday things really cost.

Everyday things	Per month
2 single tram journeys a week	£17
The 'Times' 6 days a week	£30
1 tank of petrol	£48
Council tax band C	£104
Croydon to Zone 1 season ticket	£169

## Adopt a regular giving method

- A regular standing order from your bank
- Freewill envelopes

Regular giving through a bank helps the church because we know how much will be coming in, even when you are on holiday.

## Use Gift Aid

Please sign a Gift Aid form if you are a taxpayer. We can then reclaim tax you have already paid on the amount you give.

For an occasional special gift, please use a Gift Aid envelope.

## Special giving

- The collection plate in church
- Donations via the Treasurer
- Charity cheques
- Legacies

Legacies are important to us. Please think of St Matthew's when you are making your will, by adding something for 'St Matthew's PCC'.

## Next step

Complete a 'Financial response and pledge form' and related papers (available separately) and follow their instructions.

# Thank you!

*"For all things come from you, and of your own do we give you"*

1 Chronicles 29.14b

# Give for Life

*"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also"*

Luke 12.34



## The Parish Church of St Matthew

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