

Flourishing clergy serving God's people



About us

Our origins date back to 1655 when a group of clergy sons gathered for a service in St Paul's Cathedral and a collection was taken for the destitute families of priests dispossessed of their livings under Oliver Cromwell. The charity received a Royal Charter from Charles II in 1678. We have since grown by the amalgamation of various clergy support bodies and today we are the largest UK charity focused exclusively on supporting Anglican clergy families. We are widely known for our annual Festival Service which still takes place at St Paul's each year.



Our mission

Our mission is to support serving and retired Anglican clergy families and their dependants in times of hardship. Our main way of doing this at present is to provide one-off financial grants to eligible households for whom the clergy stipend or other sources of income are, in particular situations, inadequate.

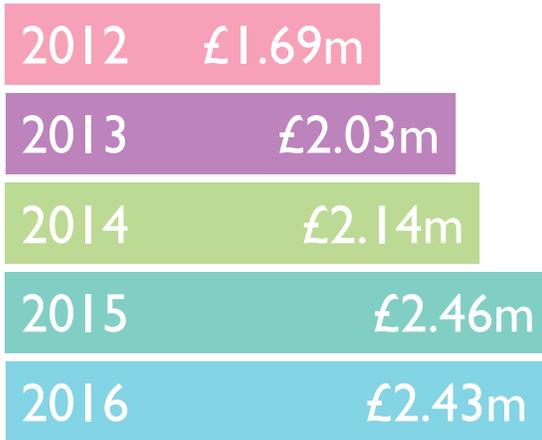


Our impact

A recent impact study undertaken for us by NCVO indicated that our grants made a substantial difference in the lives of our beneficiaries. Over a third of those surveyed said they could not have coped without the financial support they had received from the charity. We no longer provide grants for specific purposes, but nearly half of the serving clergy who receive our gifts use the money to take their family on holiday. Retired clergy, widows and ex-spouses most frequently put the gift towards paying utility bills.



Over £10m in grants over the last five years



“Financial anxiety is a real threat to health... Lifting it is akin to being offered security and wellbeing.”

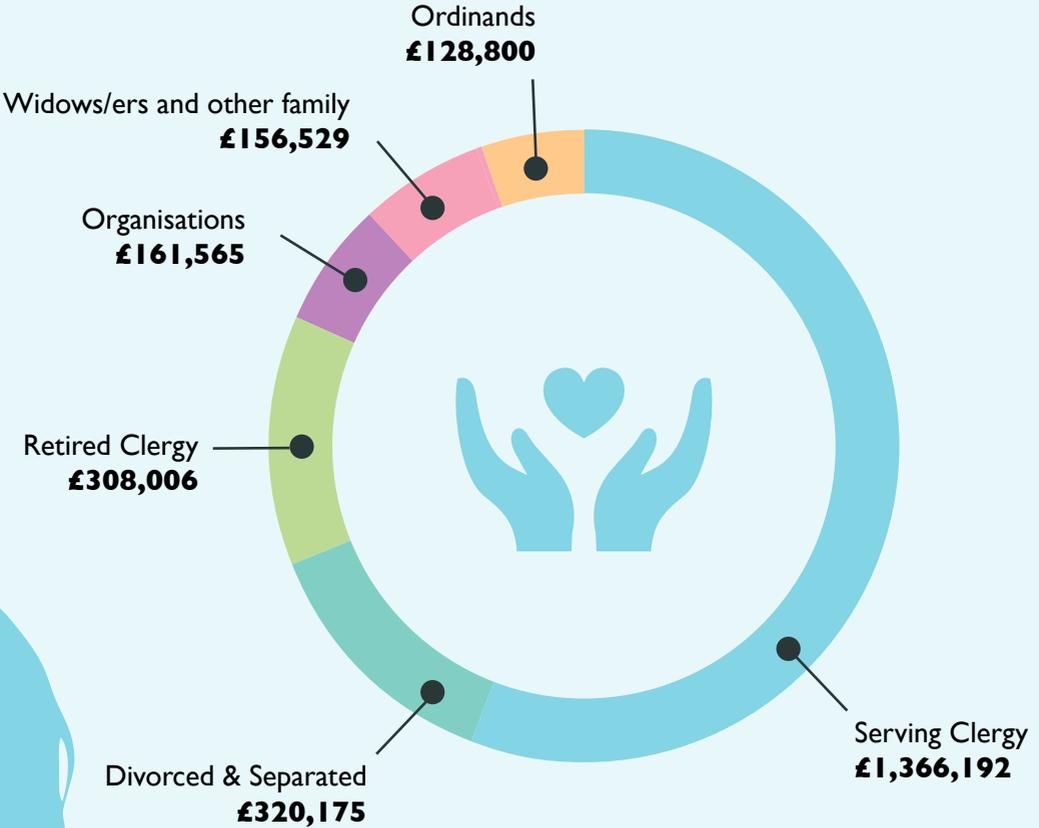
Strategic review in 2017-18

The wellbeing of clergy and their families is an increasingly important issue in the Church. We are uniquely placed as a charity to respond to the many challenges faced by clergy today. We will therefore be undertaking a major strategic review in 2017-18 and would love for you to be involved. To feed in your views and stay informed of developments, please SIGN UP at www.sonsandfriends.org/signup.



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2016 grants awarded

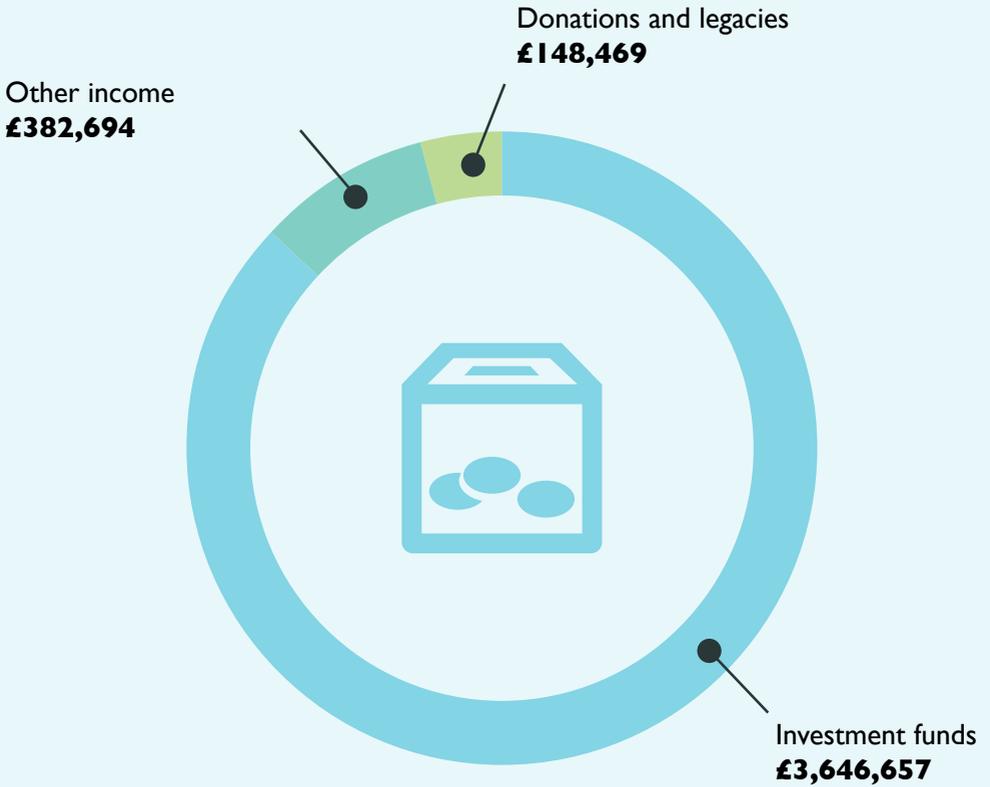


“

Life is very tough for us all in ministry. The support of the Sons & Friends has made a significant difference in all our lives and I am not sure I would still be in ministry if we hadn't got help when we did.

”

2016 income

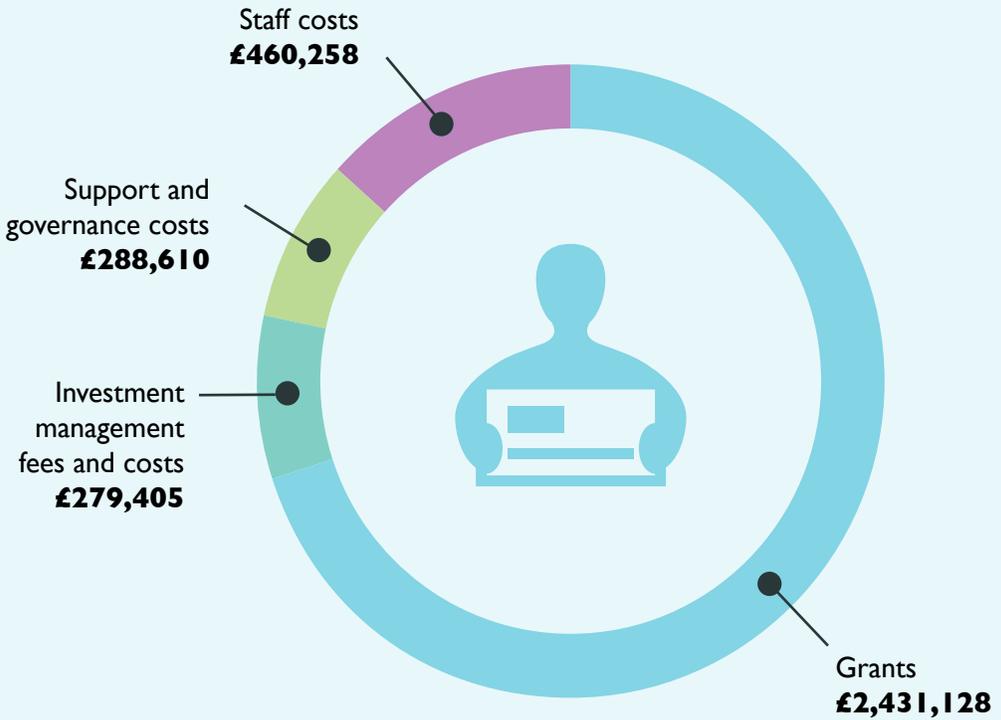


“

Being a clergy widow has been difficult and the grants I've received from the Sons & Friends over the years have meant fewer financial worries.

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2016 expenditure



“Extra money has eased the tensions in our family life which have been quite significant during these teenage years which include managing depression and autism.”

Eligible groups

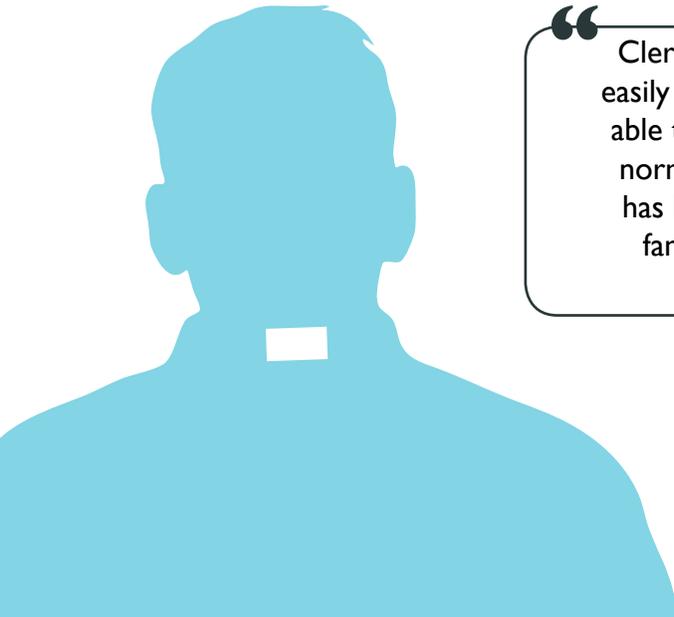
We provide help to the following groups in times of poverty, hardship or illness:

- Serving and retired Anglican clergy and their dependants
- Divorced and separated spouses and civil partners of eligible clergy
- Widows, widowers and surviving civil partners of eligible clergy
- Anglican ordinands training for ministry in the UK



The relevant clergy must be working in or have worked in the UK, Ireland, the Diocese in Europe, the Isle of Man, or the Channel Islands, or be ordained mission partners working abroad under the sponsorship of a UK-based missionary society.

All support is provided by our small team of grants officers and is completely confidential.



“ Clergy households are not easily understood and to be able to give your children a normal holiday experience has been invaluable to our family’s treasure trove of shared memories. ”



364TH FESTIVAL SERVICE

Celebrating the ministry of Anglican clergy
and the work of Sons & Friends

at 5pm on Tuesday 15th May 2018

at ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL

Free entrance – all welcome

Our Festival Service will be attended by the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs, Aldermen, Bishops, representatives from the City Livery Companies and many others.

THE FESTIVAL DINNER

will be held afterwards at Merchant Taylors' Hall

To apply for tickets please telephone 020 77993696

or email enquiries@sonsandfriends.org.uk



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