

ST MARY'S DALMAHOY
Meeting of Vestry 13th October 2025, 7.00pm

AGENDA

Opening Prayer & Welcome

Apologies for Absence

- Olivia Almond, Wilma Brown

Minutes of the last meeting

Pending revision

Matters arising from Minutes

Candles

Donor sheet

Other matters from Christine

- Scouts' partnership
- AGM
- New format for bulletins

Treasurer Report

The initial approval of the £9,186 VAT award that St Mary's has requested from the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme to reimburse the VAT paid on the Church Repointing Project has been given. This money should be paid to St Mary's account in the next few weeks.

Geoff Angell has submitted St Mary's half-yearly Gift Aid claim. This is for £3,395. All being well this should be in St Mary's account by mid-November.

Events Committee

Fabric Report

Carole to follow up gutters

Gas safety has been carried out all is correct

Lay Rep Report

Eco-Rep Report: Church Heating – Summary of Changes and Observations

Over the past 12 months, the church has felt warmer than the previous year, despite using the same far infrared heaters. Several factors may have contributed to this:

1. Heater Position Adjustment

The heaters were lowered from their original too-high position, likely in **Autumn 2023**, improving their effectiveness.

2. Door Heaters Use

Heaters above the two main doors were occasionally used **before services**, providing both physical warmth and a psychological sense of warmth as people entered.

3. Sacristy Heating for Organ Care

A **plug-in heater on a timer** was used during very cold periods in the

sacristy near the organ to improve air circulation. Currently, a **fan** on a timer continues to circulate air, though without heating.

4. **Old Heaters**

The older heating system remains non-functional and will require an **electrical upgrade** to be usable again.

5. **Energy Management**

To avoid unnecessary use, the infrared heaters (which have **frost protection mode**) were **switched off at the mains** when the building was not in use.

With the **Mar Thoma church no longer using the building**, overall energy use has also reduced.

6. **Thermostat Observations**

The system was set to **16°C** during a recent service. Heaters automatically turned off when that temperature was reached and came back on when it dropped, indicating the system is responsive and efficient.

7. **Energy Saving Suggestions**

- **Switch off the third heater on each side** when only 20–30 people attend and encourage seating nearer the front. This could save **9–12 kW** over a 1.5–2 hour service.
- **Consider using the hall** when the temperature has stayed below **5°C** in the week leading up to a service.

AOB

Date of Next Meeting 10th November 2025