



The Dominican Friars

ANNUAL REPORT 2019



The English Province of the Order of Preachers.
Registered charity 231192 (England and Wales) and SC039062 (Scotland)



The Dominican Friars

ANNUAL REPORT 2019

FOR THE PERIOD 1ST OCT 2018 – 30TH SEPT 2019

The Dominican Friars in Britain



KEY FACTS

Houses: 5 in England,
1 in Scotland
(+ 2 canonically
associated in
West Indies)

Total Friars: 75
(+ 6 in West Indies)

Bishops: 1

Priests: 61
(+ 6 in West Indies)

Novices /
Student brothers: 13

www.english.op.org

THE DOMINICAN FRIARS (est. 1216) are an international Catholic religious order with a specialisation in preaching, teaching and pastoral work. Officially titled the 'Order of Preachers', they are known as 'Dominicans' after their founder, St Dominic.

The 'Province of England'

The friars first established themselves in Britain in 1221, as the 'Province of England'. The Province (one of around 40) endures to this day. It is legally constituted as a single charity 'The English Province of the Order of Preachers', with responsibility for the friars' work in England, Wales and Scotland.

Priories

The Province is made up of a number of priories, which are local communities of friars with a large degree of self-government. Currently these are in Oxford, London, Cambridge, Leicester, and Edinburgh (the Newcastle house was closed during the reporting year 2018-19). The Dominican houses in Grenada and Jamaica in the West Indies are also canonically dependent on this Province, and supported by grants, though not part of this charity.

Object of the Charity

The Province Trust Deed lists ten charitable purposes, which for the purpose of registration as a Charity are summarised as 'the promotion of education and the Roman Catholic religion and the establishment and maintenance of schools, churches and priories for these purposes and the upkeep of members of the Order of Preachers'.

Our Mission: The Aims of the Charity

The ultimate aim and purpose of the Catholic Church and therefore of the Order of Preachers is 'the salvation of souls' (cf. *CIC* 1752; *LCO* 1 §2). In furtherance of this goal, the Order of Preachers and the English Province aim to provide effective preaching, teaching and pastoral care flowing from fraternal religious communities of prayer and study. Through the work of the friars we seek to awaken and deepen faith, hope and charity, to the benefit of those to whom we minister, to their families and to the wider community.

More detailed information can be found on pp. 32ff.

Message from the Prior Provincial

“Once again, it is a joy to review the rich variety of educational, pastoral, cultural and academic activities taking place within this Province. During this year, we took some important steps forward, most notably the new annexe building for our educational work in Oxford, and a popular new Rosary garden at our shrine church in London.

“I praise the considerable hard work of the brethren, and also the many volunteers whose contributions, great and small, allow us to do so much more. Finally, and importantly, I feel moved once again by the generous financial support given by our benefactors. Be assured that we pray daily for all our friends and supporters.”

Very Rev Dr Martin Ganeri OP, Prior Provincial



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Objectives & Strategies for the Year 2018–19

(A) RECRUITMENT & TRAINING

To train priests and religious for pastoral and educational ministry, and to maintain the success of the full-time Director and Promoter of Vocations in drawing larger numbers of young men to enter the Province.

- Through pastoral engagement and work with young people, promote the Dominican vocation as a worthy and fulfilling life in the service of God and his people;
- Through prudent investment and fundraising provide funds to help support student friars and the communities in which they live;
- Plan for the future needs of the Province's centre of studies ('Studium') by identifying and training future teachers.

(B) MINISTRY

To continue effective and responsive ministry in the priories and parishes of the Province.

- Continue the training and ordination to the clerical state of friars who will work in the Province's priories and parishes;
- Ensure the friars are present in the locations where they are best able to minister;
- Secure celebration of the liturgy and the sacraments in a way that responds to the pastoral needs of each place;

(C) EDUCATIONAL APOSTOLATE

To maintain and support the educational and research activities of Blackfriars Hall, Oxford, ensuring proper levels of administrative support, and particularly to develop the research projects of the Las Casas and Aquinas Institutes.

- Expand the number of postgraduate students, especially in theology and philosophy;
- Continue to encourage visiting research scholars;
- Continue collaboration with the Anscombe Bioethics Centre (registered charity no. 274327);
- Enhance the research programme of the Las Casas Institute, providing appropriate administrative assistance to its Director and seeking new sources of funding;
- Continue the programme of seminars and colloquia of the Aquinas Institute and enhance its research programme, seeking new sources of funding and collaborating with similar institutions in other countries.

Of these objectives (a), (b), (d), and (g) applied to Scotland as well as to England and Wales; (c), (e) and (f) were specific to England and Wales, although not to the exclusion of participation by friars assigned to Scottish priories.

(D) BUILDINGS

To maintain the buildings of the Province so that they are fitting places for the religious life, including for older and sick members of the Order, and for the pastoral and educational apostolate.

- Ensure that regular surveys of the buildings are conducted;
 - Perform the maintenance works identified by surveys, as prioritised;
 - Identify, where possible, external sources of funding for maintaining buildings.
 - Carry out plans for renovation of insulation and heating for the churches, chapels and priories of the Province.
-

(E) BLACKFRIARS ANNEXE

When 33 St Giles, Oxford, becomes available, renovate it to provide accommodation and teaching space for Blackfriars Hall and administrative space for the Hall and Province.

- Undertake the works to a high standard while carefully managing the budget and project schedule;
 - Complete the works in time for student tenants to take up residence in Sept 2019.
 - Seek out prospective tenants for the ground-floor shop.
 - Plan for the moving of offices from the Priory and previous annexe building.
-

(F) LONDON AND LEICESTER

Support and develop the mission of the Rosary Shrine in London and Holy Cross Priory in Leicester to their local and extended surrounding areas.

- Finalise strategic development plans;
 - Take forward fundraising for fabric maintenance, facilities renovations, and the support of the priory communities.
-

(G) CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION

Recruit a part-time Finance Manager to relieve the burden of administration from the Provincial Bursar, in order to free him up for the mission of the Order and so as to enhance financial administration.

- Define the role and undertake recruitment;
 - Delegate certain functions from the Provincial Bursar onto the Finance Manager;
 - Direct the Finance Manager to review current practices and seek improvements;
 - Prepare for the transition to a new Provincial Bursar following the 2020 Provincial Chapter.
-

The Year in Review: Key Facts

A NEW ANNEXE FOR BLACKFRIARS, OXFORD [p.11]



THRIVING STUDENT MINISTRY IN EDINBURGH [p.15]



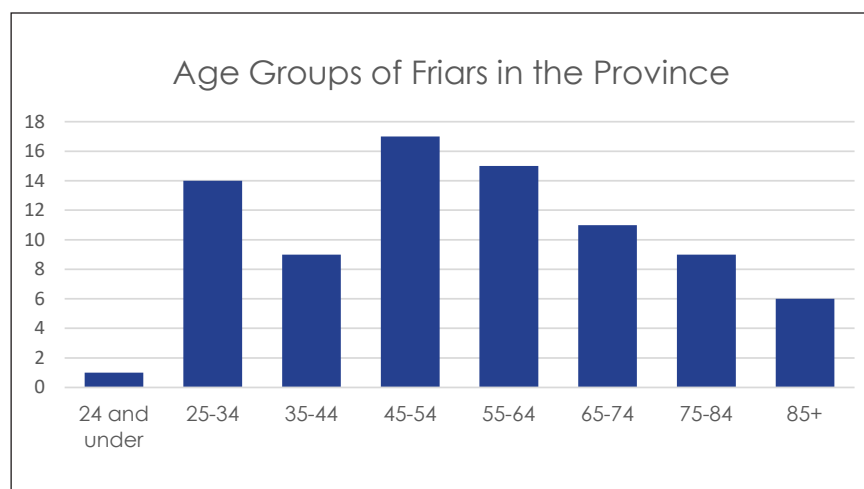
ROSARY GARDEN CREATED IN LONDON [pp.16-17]



NOVICE FRIARS – AND SISTERS – IN CAMBRIDGE [p.19]



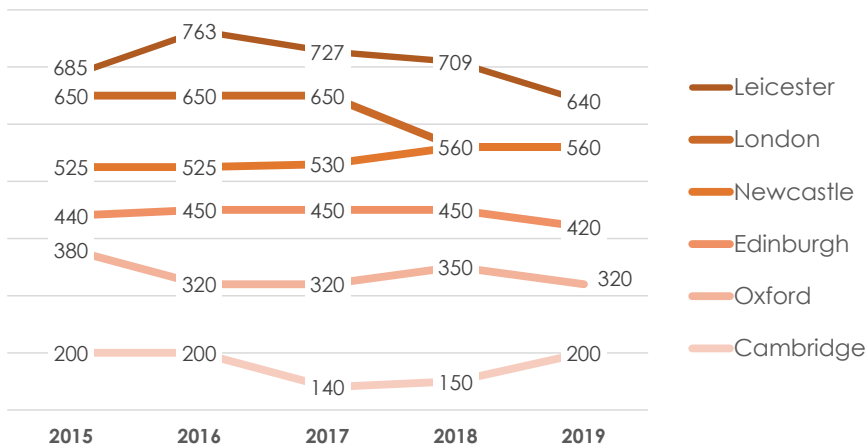
Figures from the 2019 *Catalogus* of the Province. Excludes those assigned in the West Indies (7), those serving as bishops (1), and those from other provinces resident in the UK (1).



Pastoral offices include parish priests, assistant priests, chaplains etc. (34 in previous year). Some are part-time: the count is 22 (21) if considered as 'full-time equivalents'. Some individuals hold more than one office. Paid work means the Charity receives income as a result of this work (64% paid in previous year).

The Year in Review: Pastoral Figures

EST. TYPICAL SUNDAY MASS ATTENDANCE AT DOMINICAN PRIORIES



Sunday Mass attendance figures are included merely to provide a rough idea of the scale of pastoral work in each priory. These exclude the many other forms of pastoral ministry undertaken (*see below*) and the many and varied other ministries that happen within this Province (*see the reports in pp.9–29*). They are of course susceptible to vagaries of local populations and of measurement.

SACRAMENTAL STATISTICS

Baptisms	Infants: 95 (2018: 119) Adults/older children: 15 (11) TOTAL: 120 (130)
Receptions of Baptised Christians into the Catholic Church	17 (20)
Confirmations	41 (42)
First Communions	Children: 60 (116) Adults: 17 (4) TOTAL: 77 (120)
Public Masses each week	Sundays: 30 (30) Weekdays: 79 (97) TOTAL: 109 (127)
Average Mass attendance	Sundays: 2,605 (2,944) Weekdays: 292 (349)
Sacrament of Penance (Confession)	11 hours scheduled per week (14) Average of 46 other individual confessions per week (96)
Marriages	22 (44)
Funerals	63 (121)
Hours of Pastoral Contact	323 (467)

The age-profile of the Province is such that at present there are fewer friars available to engage in full-time pastoral work, but more engaged in study and other forms of preparation for such work. Moreover, it is impossible to reduce the effectiveness of pastoral ministry to statistics; but the Charity Trustees consider that these figures indicate that the Province is continuing to provide in its parishes, priories and other apostolates the sacramental and pastoral resources that are a necessary prerequisite for effective and responsive ministry. A very considerable number of people benefit from this activity of the Charity.

It is to be noted that 4 friars (5) who are not resident in priories carry out pastoral work in various other parishes and chaplaincies in England and Scotland.

Plans for Future Periods

The Charity Trustees view the following as particular objectives for the year to September 2020:

(A) RECRUITMENT & TRAINING

To train priests and religious for pastoral and educational ministry, and to maintain the success of the full-time Director and Promoter of Vocations in drawing larger numbers of young men to enter the Province.

(B) MINISTRY

To continue effective and responsive ministry in the priories and parishes of the Province.

(C) BLACKFRIARS HALL

To maintain and support the educational and research activities of Blackfriars Hall and particularly to develop the research projects of the Las Casas and Aquinas Institutes, and foster links with the other private halls of the University.

(D) BLACKFRIARS STUDIUM

Strengthen the Province's centre of studies in Oxford, ensuring proper levels of funding and administrative support. Foster links with other religious congregations to open up a wider pool of prospective students and teachers. Raise funds, so that an adequate and sustainable system of payment for lecturers can be provided.

(E) BUILDINGS

To maintain the buildings of the Province so that they are fitting places for the religious life, including for older and sick members of the Order, and for the pastoral and educational apostolate.

(F) LONDON AND LEICESTER

Support and develop the mission of the Rosary Shrine in London and Holy Cross Priory in Leicester to their local and extended surrounding areas; refine development plans and take forward fundraising for improving the facilities that support these missions.

(G) 2021 ANNIVERSARY

Commence planning for suitable ways to mark the Province's 800th anniversary in 2021, including events, strategic development initiatives, and opportunities for recruitment, fundraising and communications.

(H) IMPACT OF COVID-19

The impact of COVID-19 on plans for 2019/20 is considered on p.43. Whilst progress on building projects slowed from March 2020, most other activities continued online.

Review of Activities



INTRODUCTION

The friars have continued their pastoral work in the parishes and chaplaincies both attached to the priories of the Province and elsewhere; and their educational apostolate which is undertaken alongside the pastoral work, and in a special way within Blackfriars, Oxford. As far as can be determined, in the course of the present reporting period friars and communities of the Province were involved in the concrete activities listed on the following pages. These reports are grouped by geographical location and followed by a Province-wide round-up of the wide range of educational activities undertaken.

Blackfriars: Priory of the Holy Spirit, Oxford



The Priory of the Holy Spirit, Oxford (known as 'Blackfriars') has as its principal work the formation of student friars. The friars also undertake pastoral work, through the liturgy and preaching in their own church, with several flourishing youth groups, and in co-operation with local parishes and the Catholic Chaplaincy to the University of Oxford. Blackfriars offers the most central open Catholic church in Oxford, with sung Divine Office and daily Mass.

The priory continued a programme of fabric maintenance, greatly assisted by generous benefactions. It is the location of

Blackfriars Hall, the Studium, the Provincial Bursary and the Development Office.

- The priory took on Sunday Mass provision for the military academy at Shrivenham.
- Br Gabriel Theis OP from the Province of Austria and southern Germany, and Br Peter Huong OP from Vietnam, joined us to pursue their studies.
- Work continued on replacing roof leading on the priory.

Prior: Robert Gay OP

23 resident friars, including

- 8 full-time students
- 1 friar of another Province engaged in full-time academic work or study.

CLERGY FORMATION IN DOMINICAN STUDIUM

As the only specialist centre for the formation of Catholic religious orders in Britain, the Dominican *Studium* (study centre) offers training towards Catholic ministerial qualifications, and courses in theology and philosophy. Students include Dominicans, Franciscans, Oratorians.

Dominican students: 13

Other students: 12

GODZDOGZ BLOG

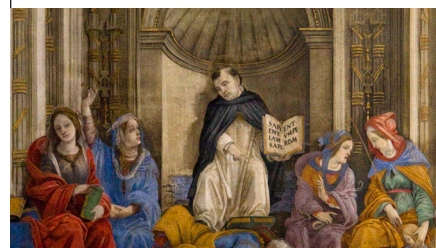
The student brothers at Oxford continued to post news and reflections on 'Godzdogz', [www.english.op.org/godzdogz] including items on the Creed, the saints, Dominican life, and on events in which they were involved.

Posts this year: 26

Est. unique visitors: 56,183

AQUINAS GROUP

This Monday-evening group for the 18-35s offers discussion of theological questions, prayer, and an opportunity for socialising. It continued to attract around thirty people.



Blackfriars Hall, University of Oxford

One of three Catholic Halls in Oxford University, Blackfriars Hall welcomes mainly post-graduate students as well as visiting students and academics.

Blackfriars specialises in Catholic theology and philosophy in the ‘Thomistic’ tradition. Academic research is centred on our two research centres (see over).

PARTNERSHIPS

As well as the partnerships detailed overleaf, the Hall continued to work with the **Anscombe Bioethics Centre**, including hosting:

- a symposium to mark the 100th anniversary of Elizabeth Anscombe’s birth, on ‘Ethics and Agency’;
- an international symposium on ‘Privacy and Autonomy in Medical Law and Ethics: Emerging Trends’;
- a joint research seminar with the Aquinas Institute on ‘Anscombe and Aquinas: Perspectives on Virtue’.

Collaboration also continued with the **Humane Philosophy Project**, an international organisation involving Blackfriars alumni.

ALUMNI & DEVELOPMENT

Blackfriars saw a strong turnout for its two annual alumni events



in September. Blackfriars fellow Fr Ian Ker regaled 70 alumni from across the University with passages from Cardinal Newman, illustrating his often overlooked abilities as a writer – and, indeed, his sharp wit.

The following evening saw alumni and friends join friars, staff, and guest of honour Bishop

John Sherrington at the fourth Annual Alumni Dinner.

Regent: Simon Gaine OP

Vice-Regent: David Goodill OP

Students: 51 from 14 countries (37 postgraduate, 3 undergraduate, 11 visiting students)

www.bfriars.ox.ac.uk

BLACKFRIARS’ NEW ANNEXE



the SCR, and rooms for teaching and seminars. Work was completed in autumn 2019. The conversion eventually cost around £1.6m, with some donations alleviating the financial burden. This is part of a broader development effort for Blackfriars towards and through its 800th anniversary celebrations in August 2021.

During 2019, work commenced on converting a building at 32/33 St Giles in central Oxford owned by the Province since 2003 (previously leased to a bank) to become an annexe for Blackfriars, including accommodation, offices,

Blackfriars: Las Casas Institute for Social Justice

The year's activities saw one research stream draw towards the close of a two-year project with preparations for final publication of papers, a second research stream continue to progress with published papers and conferences, a third stream hold valuable public debates, and the launch of a major new project in collaboration with Georgetown University.

ECONOMICS AS A MORAL SCIENCE

With support from the Malinckrodt Foundation, the research programme on Economics as a Moral Science continued under the leadership of Prof. Peter Róna (*below*) to examine critical concepts for reformulating fundamental economic theory. The edited papers 'Agency and Causal Explanation in Economics' were published by Springer in the summer of 2019; and an



international conference at Blackfriars, Oxford, from 3rd to 5th October 2019 considered 'Free Will and Economics'. On a related theme, much earlier in the year, in the autumn of 2018, Lord Green had delivered a lecture on 'The Mandate of Heaven: Asia's ascendancy, the economic and cultural consequences' (*photo above*).

HUMAN DIGNITY

The research programme on human dignity saw the final editing of papers by Prof. John

Loughlin on 'Human Dignity in the Judaeo-Christian Tradition'.

Dr Maria Power, Prof. Loughlin's successor as lead researcher in questions of dignity, held seminars across the year concerning dignity in relation to the Victorian workplace, in respect to gender, and on dialogue in Northern Ireland.

Related to this stream of activity the Institute hosted by a special lecture by Prof. Kenneth Parker on 'Finding Christ in Prison: A Theologian's Reflections on Higher Education as a Social Justice Imperative for American Catholic Universities'.

Dr Marie Meaney spoke in the summer term on 'The Dangers of Totalitarianism Today - The Banality of Evil from the Perspectives of Hannah Arendt and Simone Weil'. Visiting research scholar, Dr Marystella Ramirez Guerra, spoke on women's education.



Blackfriars: Las Casas Institute for Social Justice

THE FUTURE OF THE HUMANITIES

A major new programme on the Future of the Humanities, co-sponsored with Georgetown University, launched in the autumn term of 2018 with a one-day conference at which the key speakers were Prof Kathryn Temple, Georgetown, and Prof Emma Smith of Oxford University. This was followed by a major livestreamed lecture by Prof. Terry Eagleton, 'The Crisis in the Humanities'.

In the Spring term of 2019 the programme held a public lecture and debate on art and the humanities at the Dulwich Picture Gallery.

Our 'lead' researcher on questions of migration, Dr Pia Joliffe, worked on the history of persecuted Christians in Japan, in particular the politics and culture of childhood and youth during Japan's "Christian



century" (1549–1650). This was complemented by two talks from Edward Hadas in October 2018 on migration and poverty from the perspective of Catholic Social Teaching.

Also in this area, Prof Alison Phipps (*pictured above*), UNESCO Chair in Refugee Integration through Languages and the Arts at Glasgow University, led a presentation on 20th November 2018 concerning 'The Arts of Integrating'.

Sr Imelda Poole IBVM (*pictured below*) had earlier on 10th

October 2018 delivered a lecture on 'The Fight against Human Trafficking'.

The Institute continued to welcome Visiting Research Scholars, in particular Dr Marystella Ramirez Guerra, and Dr Fernando Hernández Fradejas from the University of Valladolid in Spain, who continued his researches on the legal and economic thought of the Salamanca school of theologians.

SPONSORS & BENEFACTORS

Special thanks are due to all of those who supported the Institute, and in particular to the Mallinckrodt Foundation, Michael Osborne, and Robert Calderisi.

Director: Richard Finn OP

www.bfriars.ox.ac.uk/lascasas

YouTube: 'Las Casas Institute'



Blackfriars: The Aquinas Institute

ANNUAL PROGRAMME

- Advanced Aquinas Reading Class for students of theology, philosophy, medieval studies.
- Aquinas Lecture by Prof William Desmond (Leuven & Villanova): 'Communities of the Metaxu'.
- Aquinas Seminar Series: 'The Good of Human Interdependence'.
- Aquinas Colloquium: 'Aquinas and the Development of Law'.
- Conference: 'Studying Sacred Scripture with Aquinas'.
- Workshop: 'Promoting a Responsible and Free Conscience in Today's Society'.
- Monday evening Aquinas study group for young people.
- Six further public lectures.
- Study week for students and young adults.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

The workshop on conscience developed the joint project with the Las Casas Institute on 'Human Nature and Dignity: Resources for the 21st Century'.

The Aquinas Lecture and Seminar Series developed the project 'Aquinas on Nature and Human Nature', which will be taken forward in cooperation with the 'Thomistic Evolution Project' of the USA Dominicans.



SUPPORTING RESEARCH

The Institute hosted four visiting scholars, working on: 'Legal theory in the Thomist tradition'; 'Quantum mechanics and hylo-morphism'; 'The Augustinian background of Aquinas' theory of the passions'; and 'The relevance of Aristotelian-Thomistic metaphysics for the social and ethical dimensions of human agency'.

The Director supervised a Farmington Scholar developing resources for A-level teachers of the philosophy of religion.

DISSEMINATION

Lectures, seminars and conference papers were uploaded to [YouTube](#) or [SoundCloud](#).

Papers from the Colloquium will appear in *Law & Justice*, those from the conference in *Nova et Vetera*, and those from the conscience workshop will form a Temple Tract.

PARTNERSHIPS: USA & CHINA

The conference on sacred scripture was sponsored by the Faculty of Theology, Nicolaus Copernicus

University, Toruń. The workshop on conscience was co-sponsored by the Anscombe Centre, Oxford, the Centre for Catholic Studies, Durham, and the Eleanor H McCullen Centre for Law, Religion and Public Policy, Villanova.

The Thomistic Institute

continued funding lectures by international speakers, and the occasional study day, in Oxford and London, attracting large numbers of young people.

Dr William Carroll and two other Institute members organised and spoke at a workshop on 'Medieval Philosophy and the Modern World' at Peking University in April 2019. Official participants were 28 students from 11 Chinese universities; and 30 students and academics from universities in the Beijing area also attended.

BENEFACTORS

We gratefully acknowledge generous donations from Prof Ryan Meade (Villanova); and Paul and Mary Stannard.

We thank the benefactors who have enabled the Thomistic Institute to fund work in Europe.

The new stage of the Thomistic Evolution Project is being generously funded by the Templeton Foundation.

Director: Richard Conrad OP

www.bfriars.ox.ac.uk/aquinas

St Albert's Parish & Catholic Chaplaincy, Edinburgh



The House of St Albert the Great serves a thriving Parish and a vibrant Catholic Chaplaincy to the University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh Napier University, and Queen Margaret University.

CHAPLAINCY LIFE

The Catholic Chaplaincy serves the pastoral and spiritual needs of university students and staff.

We have been working on creating an online platform to help us keep in touch with those who have been involved in the Chaplaincy over many decades: to strengthen current friendships and to renew old friendships.

The **Catholic Students' Union**, an official University of Edinburgh student society, continues to be very active. It has a membership of almost 150 students; but many other students attend Mass and participate in the life of the Chaplaincy as well. Among the student events this year

were two student retreats, and a range of catechetical and social events: a weekly Theology (Faith & Reason) group, the Young Women's Fellowship, a weekly Midweek meal, and social events such as the St Andrew's Night Ball, Burns Night Supper, and May Ball. The students also put on events, such as a Christmas Carol Service to raise funds for a local homeless project. The recently founded St Albert's Catholic Chaplaincy Staff Fellowship continued to grow.

THE PARISH

The parish also had a lively schedule of events, not least talks. The regular Holy Ground series of talks on theology and the arts continued, as did the talks organised by the parish Justice and Peace Group. **The Albertus Institute**, which is not part of the parish but closely linked to it, organised a series of 'Coffee House' events, to facilitate

informed group discussion on issues of public interest.

THE COMMUNITY

Fr John O'Connor was Superior of the community and Parish Priest, and Fr Dermot Morrin was Bursar. Both worked in the Parish and Chaplaincy. Fr Aelred Connelly continued his work as part of the chaplaincy team at HM Young Offenders' Institution and Prison at Polmont.

Fr Fergus Kerr was Editor of *New Blackfriars*, a journal of Theology, Philosophy and Cultural Affairs (p.25). John was a part-time lecturer in Theology and Religious Studies at Glasgow University. In September 2019, the community was delighted to receive Br Samuel Burke. He will work mainly in pastoral work, in the Chaplaincy and the Parish.

4 / 5 resident friars

www.scotland.op.org



St Dominic's Priory & The Rosary Shrine, London

St Dominic's Priory serves a large and vibrant north London parish, with the largest Catholic parish church in London.

Members of the priory are active in a wide-ranging parochial apostolate and in many chaplaincy roles (see below left).

The priory provides significant teaching support to the Studium in Blackfriars, Oxford. One friar is a full-time school teacher in an independent primary school.

The Prior Provincial resides and has his office at St Dominic's.

LITURGY & DEVOTIONS

- Regular torchlit Rosary processions;
- Participation in the Global Rosary Relay;
- Monthly sung Masses in the ancient Dominican rite;
- Monthly pro-life Masses;
- A Day with Mary.

CHAPLAINCIES PROVIDED

- 2 local primary schools (parish priest serves both as foundation governor)
- Hospitals: lead chaplain to UCL NHS trust
- Students: Imperial College
- 2 local nursing homes



Running alongside these larger events are regular groups:

- Daily Rosary prayer groups in our Rosary chapels;
- Mothers' Prayer Group;
- Youth2000 Prayer Group with contemporary worship music;
- Regular visits by our Catholic schools to pray the Rosary.

We continued to host devotions to Our Lady associated with particular national communities in London:

- Our Lady of Fatima and Our Lady of Guadalupe;
- Seasonal Filipino celebrations: 'Simbang Gabi' Masses in the run-up to Christmas, the Holy Child of Cebu, the passiontide 'Pabasa ng Pasyon', and Our Lady of Manoag.

October as the month of the Holy Rosary was a particular focus

for activities, including a solemn Mass with Bishop John Wilson, a choral concert of Marian music sung by Edinburgh-based chamber choir, The St Andrew Camerata; a 'Rosario Cantado'; and a Rosary vigil.

The Rosary Shrine also welcomed the annual Diocesan Youth Mass, the annual retreat of the Catholic Medical Association, and a prayer vigil before the March for Life.

CATECHESIS & INTELLECTUAL DISCOURSE

To nourish the mind, we hosted a number of talks including:

- George Weigel, on 'Catholicism and Public Life in Turbulent Times';
- A one-day conference on 'Being Human': the Catholic vision of human anthropology, ethics and the moral life, human sexuality, and end of life issues;

St Dominic's Priory & The Rosary Shrine, London

- Prof. Vittorio Montemaggi, 'Rethinking Salvation in Dante's Divine Comedy';
- A Thomistic Institute study day on Beauty and the Sacred Liturgy;



in May 2019 following a solemn Mass with Dom David Charlesworth OSB, former Abbot of Buckfast, and has proved to be popular with parishioners and visitors, as well as improving the appearance of the alley alongside the church.

- Six Holy-Week meditations with Fr Benedict Croell OP.

ART & CULTURE

The Shrine hosted

- A concert of Marian music by Sir James MacMillan, sung by The Elysian Singers and conducted by the composer.
- Haydn's 'Seven Last Words of Our Saviour' with The Bach Players.
- Choral music by candlelight with 'The Lyra Singers'.
- The Schola Ste-Cécile from Paris.
- Regular recitals on our historic 'Father Willis' organ.

- EWTN filmed a special documentary on the Rosary Shrine (see www.rosaryshrine.co.uk/film)

DEVELOPING THE SHRINE

A new Rosary Garden was created, themed on the Mysteries of Light and featuring a statue of Our Lady of Cana by Cody Swanson, within a disused area of the church's grounds. It includes a paved walkway patterned on the Rosary, an array of Marian flowers and plants, and five benches. It was opened

We are very grateful for the support of so many donors who sponsored the different elements of the new garden. We are also grateful for the many generous individual gifts and legacies received over the year, including via the diocese's Growing in Faith scheme; and for the many volunteers who assist in the church and the garden.

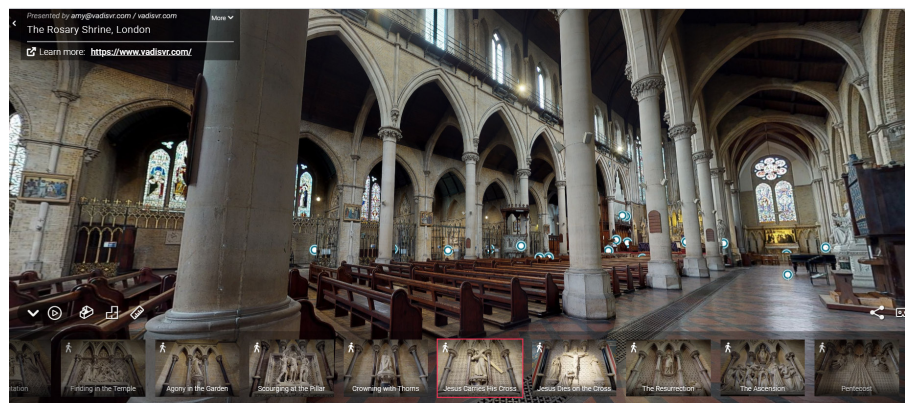
Prior: Thomas Skeats OP

10 resident friars, including
1 full-time student.

www.rosaryshrine.co.uk

ONLINE APOSTOLATE

- A 'virtual reality' 3D tour of our shrine church was created (pictured right, see www.rosaryshrine.co.uk/) to enable remote pilgrimage.



Holy Cross Priory & Parish, Leicester

Holy Cross Priory serves a large church and culturally diverse parish in the centre of Leicester.

APOSTOLATES

The priory provided

- Chaplaincy to Leicester and De Montfort universities.
- Chaplain to HMP Leicester. Chaplaincy has been developed so that more prisoners have access to weekly Mass, and increased volunteer support enabled group work to take place each week.
- Chaplaincy to Leicester Royal Infirmary. Home visits to the sick and emergency cover at several local hospitals
- Help to local homeless people and vulnerable families.
- Regular groups meeting for catechesis, bible study, young adults.



Friars were also active in teaching and preaching elsewhere, including the Dominican Studium.

EVENTS

As a city-centre parish, Holy Cross has a busy weekly programme and annual cycle of liturgical, catechetical and other events. Notable events included:

- Fr Timothy Radcliffe spoke on Hope for Christians in Iraq.
- Special devotional events including the annual novena to St Martin de Porres, and the Forty Hours of eucharistic adoration.
- Parishioners also participated in the Dominican annual pilgrimage to Walsingham, and in the March for Life in London.
- This year also saw the funeral of our brother, Fabian Radcliffe OP.

DEVELOPMENT

Plans were developed for the renovation of the parish hall complex, including currently unused areas, renamed as 'The Frassati Centre', with a purpose (inspired by Bl Pier Giorgio Frassati) of better serving the parish and its work in faith education, serving the needy and evangelisation.

We are grateful for the generous response from parishioners to our fundraising, including the usual enthusiastic response to the annual Advent Market (November) and Blackfriars Market (June), as well as efforts by individuals such as the sponsored walk from Mount St Bernard's Abbey to Holy Cross. These helped us fundraise for the fabric needs of our buildings and for the Frassati Centre development.

Prior: David Rocks OP

6 friars

www.holycrossleicester.org



Blackfriars: Priory of St Michael, Cambridge

The Priory of St Michael

Archangel is the location of the Province's novitiate, where new friars spend their first year in the Order.

Members of the priory are also involved in writing, preaching and teaching. They provide pastoral care for a congregation of c.150 people, as well as assisting with the sacramental needs of the adjacent parishes.



NOVITIATE

This year we had two novices, both for the Province of England, John Church and Daniel Rowlands, both of whom took simple vows and proceeded at the end of the year to our Studium in Oxford.

The novices also made a number of excursions to familiarise them with the history of the Province and the Order, and the Church today. These included a visit to Arundel for the annual Corpus Christi procession and flower festival.

The Dominican Sister of the English Congregation of St Catherine of Siena also have their novitiate in Cambridge, so all four novices were able to come together regularly for formation.

The year ended with no new novice friars for 2019 to 2020.

EDUCATIONAL APOSTOLATE

The Priory offers a programme of theological education in the form of regular talks, advertised in the city of Cambridge and environs, as well as at the University Catholic Chaplaincy.

This year's Aquinas Lecture (Jan) by Mgr Mark Langham, Catholic Chaplain to the University of Cambridge, was entitled 'Defrosting ecumenism: from exposition to altruism'

OVERSEAS AID

The priory promotes projects supporting educational provision in Ethiopia in co-operation with the **Jean Grove Trust** (reg. charity 1109593).

Prior: Euan Marley OP

Eight resident friars including one full-time student, and two novices.

www.blackfriarscambridge.org.uk



St Dominic's Priory & Parish, Newcastle

St Dominic's Priory,

Newcastle was a small community serving a parish and some of the students of Newcastle and Northumbria universities. Friars were also involved in teaching, ongoing formation, and ecumenical activity. The church and priory buildings have for some years belonged to the **Hexham and Newcastle Diocesan Trust** (reg. charity 235686).

OUR FINAL YEAR

It was decided at the previous provincial chapter in 2016 to close the Newcastle house along with those more recently established in Durham and Glasgow. The closure, which finally took place in late October 2019, was due to the need to consolidate our presence elsewhere and be more efficient in terms of manpower. It was also the case that Fr Colin who is aged 79 should have been enjoying retirement rather than helping to run a busy parish. The parish is now being run by two secular priests appointed by the new bishop.



This was therefore a low-key year following the announcement that we would be leaving Newcastle. Our outreach programme did, however, continue to bring newcomers and visitors to join in the life of our church community, alongside our regular congregation members and the many groups that use our facilities.

- A shorter season of four films in collaboration with Arts UK, with food and discussion.
- Lenten lunches with other Christian communities concluding with Stations of the Cross in St Dominic's.
- An ecumenical service in Holy Week.
- The 'Who is Jesus?' evangelisation course by

Br Andrew Brookes continued for a second year. It attracted 30 weekly participants to deepen their faith and also to form catechists who can give the same course in future.

- The annual Late Show at St Dominic's. The event included food from different ethnic groups, an organ recital, displays of singing and dancing, and talks on local history.
- Three more organ concerts took place during the summer inviting well known organists to play our newly restored grade 1 listed Willis organ; this brought audiences of about 60.
- A farewell garden party for all parishioners on 21st July. This was an occasion to thank the brethren who moved on to Cambridge, London and Leicester for all their work.

Superior: John Patrick Kenrick OP

3 resident friars



Educational Apostolate



Education is a key part of the Dominican charism. In this section we review the wide range of educational activities undertaken during the year.

SERIES OF TALKS

Talks were given by the brothers both in our own priories, parishes and chaplaincies and as guest speakers in other venues. Sometimes talks in our own centres or nearby are given as an individual coherent series.

- fr. Matthew Jarvis led a Scripture study group at Leicester on the Gospel of John.
- fr. David Sanders gave a series of talks on the Cross and the Resurrection in Oxford, also taking it on tour round parishes in Grenada and Jamaica.
- A group of young adults continued weekly in Oxford,

under the leadership of fr. Thomas Mannion, where about twenty participants met to discuss aspects of the thought of St Thomas Aquinas, and to which various brethren contributed.

- fr. Fergus Kerr also led an Aquinas Group in Edinburgh, but composed of senior academics and reading word for word through the *Summa Theologiae*. There is also a regular series in Edinburgh on Theology and the Arts.
- fr. Andrew Brookes led a series at Newcastle entitled 'Who is Jesus?', another for training in evangelisation, and a series on discipleship for young adults.
- fr. Dominic White began the Wisdom Circle in Cambridge to discuss wisdom in a range of disciplines.

RANGE OF THEMES

Examples of talks illustrating the further range of individual topics treated in our own centres and elsewhere are Aquinas on the moral life;

- Aquinas and the Life of Grace;
- Aquinas, the Law, and the Passions;
- The Spiritual Works of Mercy;
- Christendom and Religious Liberty;
- Marriage and the Eucharist;
- The Scope and Limits of Papal Power;
- Aquinas On Natural Law and Grace;
- Bl. Pier Giorgio Frassati;
- The Beatitudes;
- Scripture and Concern for the Environment;
- Dominican Spirituality;
- The Liturgy;
- Christ as Teacher and Exemplar;
- Yves Congar;
- Aquinas and Protestantism;
- What Did the Early Christians Believe About the Cosmos?;

Educational Apostolate (cont.)

- An Overview of Sophiology;
- Conversion;
- Medjugorje;
- Advent;
- Preaching;
- Religious Life;
- Introduction to Catholicism;
- Christian Morality Today;
- Vocation;
- Discernment;
- The Sacrifice of Isaac;
- The Washing of Feet;
- Responding to Scandals In The Church;
- The Old Testament;
- A Christian Attitude to Work;
- Science and Religion;
- Quantum Physics, God and Human Existence;
- Faith and Physics;
- Aristotle On Friendship and The Good Life;
- Confirmation as Mission;
- Beauty and Evangelisation Through Social Media;
- The Holy Rosary;
- Providence;
- Leadership and Communication;
- The Role of the Laity;
- Evangelisation and How to Do It;
- The Spirituality of St Catherine of Siena;
- Evangelisation and The Dominican Charism Today;
- How to Go to Confession;
- The Sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross and in the Mass;
- Who Is The Holy Spirit?;
- Faith and Discipleship;
- Grace;
- What the Incarnation Is;
- Why the Incarnation Happened;
- Nietzsche.

GEOGRAPHY

Among the places to which members of the province travelled in Britain to deliver talks were

Baldock; Bangor; Birmingham; Brighton; Bristol; Cardiff; Chiswick; Clapham; Clare; Crawley; Dartford; Exeter; Glasgow; Ilkley; Lancaster; Leeds; Lincoln; Plymouth, Shrivenham; Southampton; Weybridge; Wimbledon; and Worth; while they spoke internationally in such countries as Australia, France, Iran, Italy, Ireland, Singapore, Spain, and the United States of America.

BENEFICIARIES

The total number of attendees overall is difficult to estimate. Few brothers produced estimated figures, and such figures as we have could be taken to indicate a total audience of somewhere around 40,000, although it may be more.

Talks given by the brethren are often open to the general public, but are normally organised by a particular religious group, and a religious group of some kind is very often at its own request our audience.

DOMINICAN FAMILY

- fr. Luke Doherty addressed the Dominican Family Seminar in Leeds in January.
- Talks were also given by various brothers to the Dominican Sisters in Stone, Bushey and Crawley, to several Lay Fraternities, including in Washington DC, to the Dominican Secular Institute, and to the Dominican Youth Movement.
- Fr. Dominic Ryan led an Aquinas weekend at Stone in collaboration with the sisters.

Educational Apostolate

DOMINICAN YOUTH MOVEMENT

Once again a theology study week was held in 2019 and did very well, attracting the highest ever number of participants (*see* p.27). The two study weekends in Advent and Lent were less well attended, however, with only 15 at each including brethren. We continued with the student brothers taking roles in leading and organising these events.

THE DOMINICAN FORUM

The Province continued its ongoing series of talks with discussion on living the Christian faith for professionals working in the City of London. Known as 'The Dominican Forum', these talks are hosted and supported by Smith & Williamson and CCLA (two firms of investment managers); the Province extends its gratitude for this support. Several brethren from different

priorities contributed to this series over the year. Themes included:

- Living Hopefully in an Uncertain World
- Love Island or Holy Island? (on pilgrimage)
- Do the Right Thing
- What's the Point of Going to Church?
- Left, Right or Centre? Christianity and Politics
- Hard Science, Soft Religion?

OTHER CATHOLIC GROUPS

Apart from specifically Dominican events, our other audiences have included

- RCIA groups;
- First communion children;
- Schoolchildren;
- Seminarians of the English College, Rome;
- Seminarians at Valladolid;

- Hospital nursing assistants;
- Hospital nurses;
- Medical students;
- Hospital clinical staff;
- The juridical commission of the Union of Superiors General;
- Staff and students of the University of South Carolina;
- The Thomistic Institute of Princeton;
- Camden Catholic teachers;
- Pilgrims to Turin;
- Staff of the Al-Hikmah Institute;
- Parish summer campers;
- Students of Bristol chaplaincy;
- Augustinian friars and sisters;
- Permanent deacons of Birmingham and their wives;
- Carmelite nuns;
- Secular Carmelites;
- The Pure in Heart Group;
- University College, London, Islamic Society;
- Wellspring Community;
- Knights of St Columba;
- and the staff of Catholic Voices.



Educational Apostolate (cont.)

EXTERNAL SPEAKERS

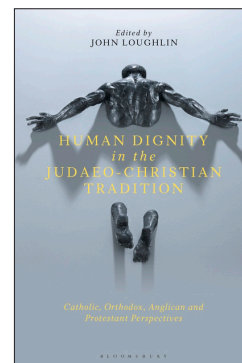
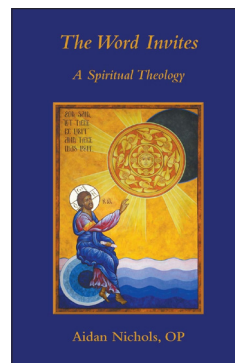
Not only do the brothers go out from our priories to preach in this way, but they also extend our intellectual mission by their use of our priories as venues for external speakers or Dominican speakers from another priory for the benefit of local audiences.

- The annual Aquinas Lecture at Cambridge was delivered by Mgr Mark Langham on 'Defrosting Ecumenism'.
- fr. Timothy Radcliffe gave the St Martin Novena Lecture in Leicester.
- A day conference on the theme of Christian anthropology, to which brethren and external speakers contributed, was held at London's Rosary Shrine.

ADVISORY ROLES

As well as giving and arranging talks, brothers also serve the wider Church through giving expert advice as consultants.

- fr. Timothy Radcliffe was a consultant for the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace;
- fr. Benjamin Earl was a member of the Juridical Commission of the Union of Superiors General;



- fr. Simon Francis Gaine served as a member of the Council of Censorship for the diocese of Westminster;
- fr. John O'Connor was a member of the board of the Albertus Institute, which is based in our parish in Edinburgh and organises events on issues around the relationship between science and religion.
- fr. Simon Tugwell advised scholars from around the world on matters of Dominican history.

PUBLICATIONS

A wider audience can also be reached through publications, both electronically and in a more traditional format.

BOOKS

Books published during the year include

- fr. Aidan Nichols, *The Word Invites: A Spiritual Theology*

(Gracewing, 2019) and *Conciliar Octet: A Concise Commentary on the Eight Key Documents of the Second Vatican Council* (Ignatius, 2019).

- A chapter by fr. Richard Conrad on the Trinity appeared in *Human Dignity in the Judaeo-Christian Tradition* (Bloomsbury, 2019);
- fr. Leon Pereira was the editor of several booklets published at Medjugorje,
- fr. Bede Mullens assisted in the editing of papers in ancient history on behalf of an Oxford academic.

Manuscripts and book proposals were also read on behalf of publishers, including Cambridge University Press and the Catholic University of America Press.

- fr. Simon Tugwell vetted a large collection of medieval documents which are to be published by a team of French scholars.

Educational Apostolate

NEW BLACKFRIARS JOURNAL

An important part of our corporate mission in publishing is our bimonthly journal *New Blackfriars*, which is published by Wiley-Blackwell, and in 2018 had a reach of 5,623 institutions.

It is edited by fr. Fergus Kerr with the assistance of fr. John O'Connor. Four other brothers from the province and one Dominican sister were involved in the editing of the journal during the year. Several brothers published articles or book reviews in the journal.

OTHER JOURNALS

Apart from *New Blackfriars*, articles or reviews were published in a number of other periodicals, including *Philosophical Studies*, *Medieval Mystical Theology*, *The Way*, *Noesis*, *South-Eastern Catholic History*, *Analecta Ordinis Praedicatorum*, and *Calx Mariae*.

- fr. Robert Ombres also assisted as a member of the editorial boards of *Ecclesiastical Law Journal*, *Angelicum*, and *Law and Justice*;
- fr. Brian Davies joined the board of the *International Journal of Philosophy of Religion*;



- fr. Simon Francis Gaine is on the board of advisers of the English edition of *Nova et Vetera*.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

As well as in academic publishing, brothers were also engaged in publication at a popular level in the service of the Church. For example, fr. Euan Marley prepared sermon notes for Redemptorist Publications's *Living Word*.

ONLINE PUBLISHING

Nearly every brother in the English Province contributed to **Torch**, the preaching website of the English Dominicans, which had an estimated* 293,615 (272,590) unique pageviews during the year, drawn from an international audience (an estimated 50,809 (44,660) visitors, including a core of around 4,197 (3,521) returning visitors, who are typically email notification subscribers or followers of the Province's Facebook page).

The student brothers' blog,

Godzdogz, received an estimated* 94,309 (108,993) unique pageviews during the year. The audience is estimated at 56,183 (50,691) visitors, including 2,771 (3,308) returning visitors. The students have written on among other things vocation, the Eucharist, the Resurrection, poetry, and novels.

[*Statistics from Google Analytics downloaded 10 July 2020].

Brethren have also been contributors on the internet to, for example, by contributing translations to the website of the Ecole Biblique.

LEARNED SOCIETIES

Hand-in-hand with publication goes the brethren's involvement in the wider academic community. Brothers are members of learned societies, including the Catholic Theological Association of Great Britain, the Canon Law Society of Great Britain and Ireland, The Aristotelian Society, and the Société Thomiste (Paris).

- fr. Matthew Jarvis is a committee member of the Leicester Theological Society.
- fr. John O'Connor is a member of the Royal Society of Edinburgh's Young

Educational Apostolate (cont.)

Academy of Scotland, and an Associate Fellow of the Higher Education Academy.

CONFERENCES

The brethren have also contributed papers at conferences.

- fr. Thomas Crean gave a paper on Savonarola at the Dialogos conference on 'Integralisms';
- fr. Bruno Clifton spoke on 'the appeal to local identity in the formation of Israel's national culture' at the conference of the International Organization for the Study of the Old Testament in Aberdeen;
- fr. Simon Francis Gainé spoke on 'Why the Dominicans opposed the Immaculate Conception' at a conference entitled 'Miraculous Conceptions' at St Mary's University, Twickenham;
- fr. David Goodill spoke on 'Joseph Pieper: Transcendence, Leisure and Culture' at the Humane Philosophy conference in Croatia.
- fr. Oliver Keenan participated in two seminars at Princeton, USA, on Karl Barth as part

of the National Endowment for the Humanities Scholarly Editions and Translations Project.

Brothers moreover attended conferences on New Trinitarian Ontologies; the theological exegesis of Scripture; the soul and neuroscience; clericalism and sexuality; Christian law; Law and Liturgy; Dominicans and the Liturgy in medieval Paris; Theology, Creativity, and the Arts; Beauty and Transcendentals; the Bible in Jerusalem; Edith Stein; the conference of the Cambridge Institute for Applied Psychology and Religion; and the conference of the Society for the Study of the Old Testament.

TEACHING

Teaching in educational institutions is a central part of the Province's intellectual mission, and brethren teach in various institutions at tertiary level.

- fr. Brian Davies served full-time as Distinguished Professor in the Philosophy Department at Fordham University, USA;
- fr. Robert Ombres taught canon law at the Angelicum;
- fr. Fergus Kerr taught a

seminar for New College, University of Edinburgh;

- fr. Thomas Crean taught courses at Thomas More College, New Hampshire;
- fr. Oliver Keenan was an associate lecturer at the Maryvale Institute, which included teaching on the Diaconal programme for Scotland;
- fr. Dominic White gave lectures for the Margaret Beaufort Institute, Cambridge, including for the Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies;
- fr. John O'Connor taught courses for the Department of Philosophy at the University of Edinburgh;
- fr. Aidan Nichols taught theology courses at St Michael's College, Kingston, Jamaica;
- fr. Robert Verrill taught logic at Baylor University, Texas.
- Seminary teaching was undertaken by fr. John Farrell on Scripture for the propaedeutic year in the English College at Valladolid, and at Allen Hall; and by fr. David Goodill for the permanent diaconate course at Oscott College, Birmingham.

Educational Apostolate

Brethren were also involved in various tertiary institutions in other ways:

- Examining of doctorates was undertaken for the University of Edinburgh and the University of St Andrews by fr. Fergus Kerr.
- fr. Richard Finn was a Catholic Education Service governor at St Mary's, Twickenham, and a Trustee of the Centre for Catholic Social Teaching and Practice.

BLACKFRIARS, OXFORD

While brothers were thus involved in several tertiary-level institutions, the intellectual mission of the Province is centred on our Studium at Blackfriars, Oxford (*see* p. 10), together with our Permanent Private Hall of Oxford University, where 16 brothers and 1 sister were active in teaching philosophy and theology and allied disciplines during the year and a number of brothers held key administrative roles.

Here the brethren are engaged in an intellectual mission that is at once Catholic and part of the wider academic life of Oxford. The students at **Blackfriars Hall**, undergraduates, postgraduates (who are now

more likely than before to have chosen Blackfriars as their college) and visiting students, numbered 41, including two friars, from 14 countries, while in the **Studium** 24 students from various religious institutes were preparing for the priesthood, together with a small number of lay students in Catholic theology and philosophy. Working within the Hall naturally brings brothers to take on other roles within the University. For example, brothers were members of the Faculty of Theology and Religion and were involved in the supervision of a number of its postgraduate students, as well as the teaching and examination of undergraduates.

The Hall itself encompasses two further institutes, the **Aquinas Institute** and the **Las Casas Institute for Social Justice**, each of which held a number of events during the year, and furthermore enjoys a partnership with the **Anscombe Bioethics Centre** (registered charity no. 274327).

The Las Casas Institute was directed by fr. Richard Finn, and **The Aquinas Institute** by fr. Richard Conrad. Lectures and seminars in both the Aquinas and Las Casas Institutes are filmed and uploaded to their

YouTube channels. As well as providing opportunities for the brethren, these institutes, together with the Hall, continue to provide a basis for non-Dominican scholars and Dominicans from outside the Province to collaborate with us in our intellectual mission.

Reports on the activities of the Institutes are on pp. 12–14.

SUMMER SCHOOL

Outside the physical boundaries of Oxford itself the Hall, through the Aquinas Institute, supported the Dominican Youth Movement's residential five-day summer school on Aquinas at Buckfast Abbey in Devon, aimed at helping students from various centres of study and others with a knowledge of theology to benefit from the structure and content of the *Summa Theologiae*. This was the ninth time the event has taken place and it again proved very successful. 35 students, divided into two streams, beginners and advanced, attended lectures given by three brothers and one Dominican sister.

Educational Apostolate (cont.)



registered at the Angelicum;

- fr. Toby Lees who began a licence in theology at the Angelicum.
- fr. David Goodill spent a three-month sabbatical at the University of Fribourg for research on the virtues of prudence and hope in Aquinas.

INVOLVEMENT WITH SCHOOLS

In addition to this involvement at tertiary level, brothers supported education at primary and secondary level.

- fr. Rudolf Loewenstein was Director of Studies at St Christina's (Primary) School in St John's Wood, London;
- fr. Allan White was Principal of St Mary's Catholic Elementary School, El Centro, USA.
- fr. Oliver Keenan taught RE classes in the Rosary School in the London parish.

Other schools visited by brothers included St Bonaventure's School, London, St George's, Weybridge, Downside School, and the Cambridge Academy for Science and Technology.

FURTHER STUDIES

Among those undertaking complementary studies for the sake of the intellectual apostolate during the year were

- fr. Robert Verrill, who was continuing a doctorate in philosophy at Baylor University, Texas, together with an MA in physics;
- fr. Irenaeus Vincent continuing a part-time doctorate in ministry at the Catholic University of America;
- fr. Benjamin Earl continuing a doctorate in canon law at the Angelicum;
- fr. Gregory Pearson continuing a licence in canon law at the Angelicum;
- fr. Leon Pereira continuing a doctorate in patristics

ONGOING FORMATION

Talks for the brethren were arranged by house lectors, for example, in London on the medieval iconography of St Dominic given by fr. Peter Hyacinth Harries. The community in Leicester initiated the practice of a weekly lectio divina.

Individual brothers attended further courses in teaching methods, safeguarding, supervising postgraduates, good practice in teaching, and suicide awareness.

LIBRARIES

In addition to these complementary studies and continuing formation, our libraries are a principal resource for the intellectual apostolate.

- In Oxford £5,407.44 was spent on books, £358.14 on

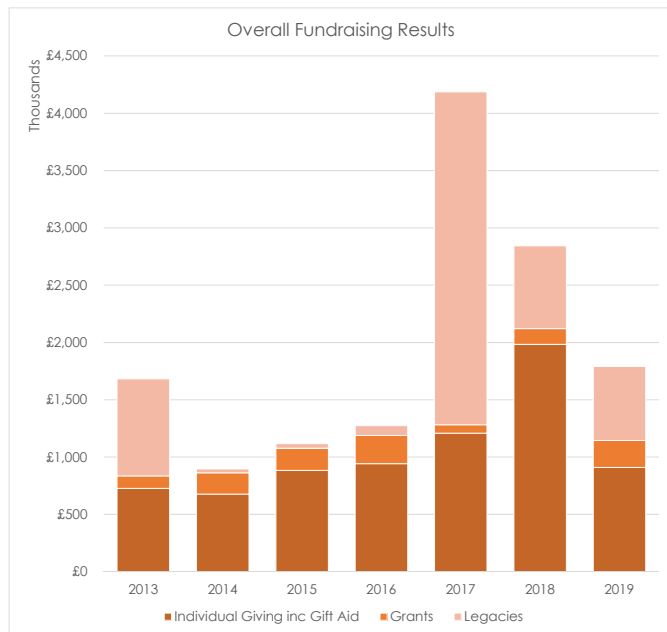
Educational Apostolate

- equipment and stationery, £250 on repairs and £250 on binding. 568 books were acquired and the list of subscriptions to journals revised.
- Edinburgh now has a collection of about 3,200, together with access to University databases. Buying is concentrated in the areas of Scripture, moral issues, and Science and Religion. About 800 books were alienated with the assistance of the Province's Library Committee.
 - Leicester, which has around 4,000 catalogued books, obtained over 20 new books during the year and has several hundred donated books wait to be catalogued. Acquisitions are mainly focused on pastoral and preaching topics, Scripture, Thomism and contemporary issues. Some external readers studying for DOMUNI courses have been allowed to borrow books.
 - Cambridge acquired fifteen books during the year, building up its biblical holdings, revised its list of periodical subscriptions, and improved lighting in the library.
 - The cataloguing of the London library continued.
 - The library in Newcastle, which numbered about 4,000 books, was disposed of under the oversight of the Province's Library Committee in view of the coming closure of that house.



Regent fr. Simon Gainé OP with former MP, the Rt Hon Ruth Kelly and the Chancellor of Oxford University, Lord Patten of Barnes. Ms Kelly gave the Newman Lecture in May at Blackfriars, in association with the other Catholic private halls of Oxford.

Fundraising Performance⁽¹⁾ – Trends



Overall Fundraising Results saw a total of £1.79m (2018: 2.84m) raised for the charity as a whole.

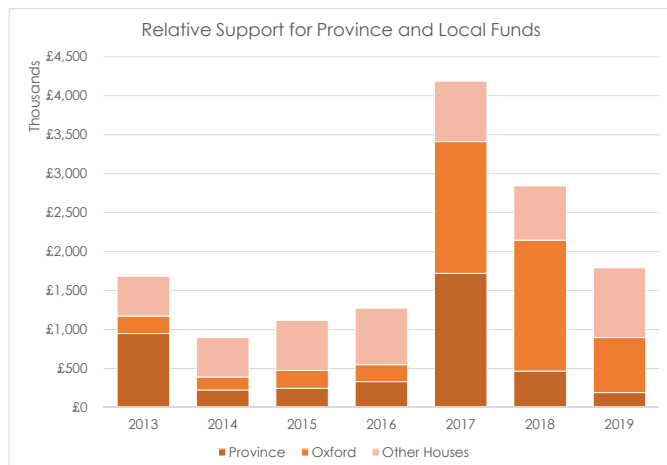
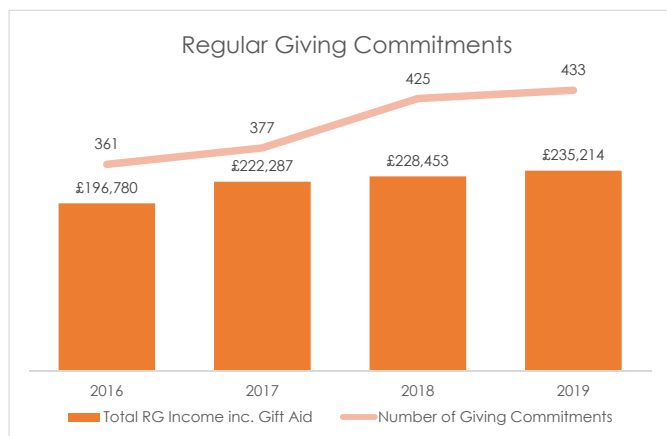
Major gifts (i.e. amounts of £5,000+) fell again to a more normal level of £185k ⁽²⁾, following the jump in the previous year (£1.27m). At the same time, other individual giving rose slightly to £731k ⁽²⁾ (£712k in 2018). This was partly due to a continued rise in the number and value of regular giving commitments: £235k ⁽²⁾ (£228k) – see below.

It was a good year again for legacies: £646k (£722k)*. Once again, a significant legacy to the Oxford Priory of £389k was gratefully received and will assist in providing for the needs of this community.

With several projects reaching maturity, a greater number of grant applications were submitted, and there was a corresponding increase in the value of grants received: £235k (£138k).

The number and total value of **Regular Giving Commitments** continued to rise across the Province, though with some slowing of growth, as the impact of new commitments was diminished by discontinuations (typically, donors who are deceased or who move away).

One important observation is the **Relative Support for Province and Local Funds**: the distribution of fundraising income between the Province and the individual houses. The graph below left shows how Oxford, with its important educational apostolate, and wide and relatively affluent supporter base, has dominated the other houses in recent years (and see ‘Blackfriars’ and ‘Oxford’ on facing page). Even while great efforts are needed to secure the funds that are vital for the future success of Oxford, increasing the voluntary income of the other houses is an essential strategic priority also.

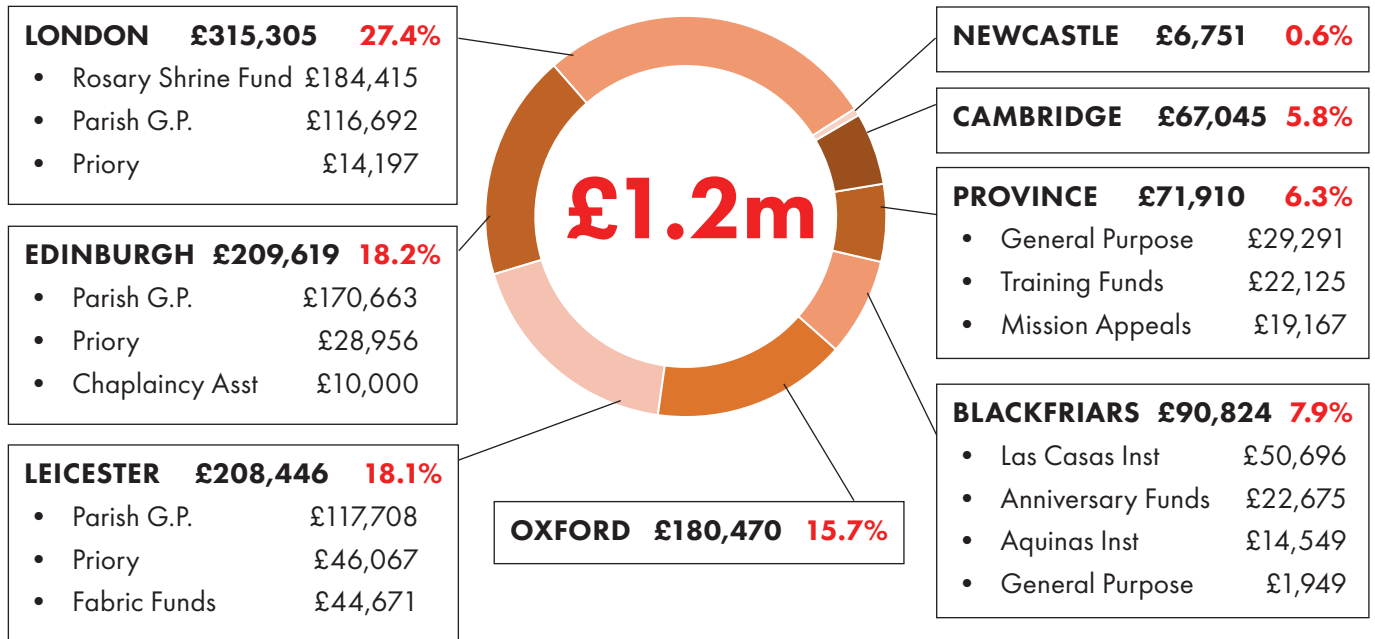


(1) Fundraised amounts listed here will not correspond exactly with figures listed in the audited accounts, owing to different ways of recording legacies and the income from Gift Aid. Figures here measure fundraising performance only.

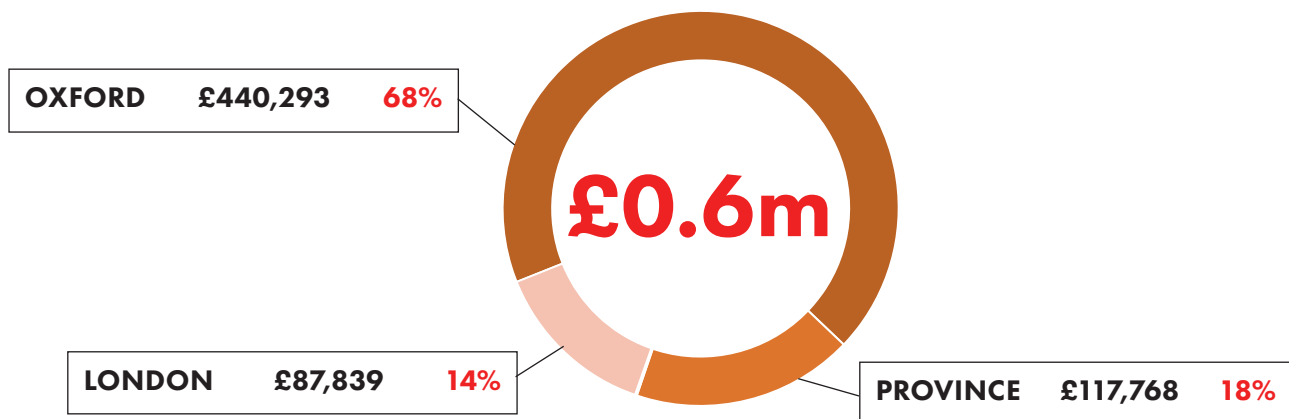
(2) Note that these amounts include the expected Gift Aid value, even if the actual tax reclaim happens in a later period.

Fundraising Performance – 2019

Voluntary Income (exc. legacies)



Legacies*



The friars express their gratitude to all who have helped sustain our mission this year through their generous giving. We would especially like to mark the contributions of:

Grants: Buckfast Abbey, Donnington Hospital Trust, Ferns Charities Trust, Miss S M G Ross Trust, Mrs L. D. Rope Third Charitable Settlement, Porticus UK, Saracen Trust, The Haramead Trust, The Lady Marian Gibson Trust, The Mallinckrodt Foundation, The T W Roberts Trust.

Legacies: Fr Michael Durand, Alan Francis, Sarah Gibson, Lady Herries of Terregles, Mark Jacques, David Matthews, Mary Todd. *R.I.P.*

Details of the Charity, Trustees, Advisors

NAME OF CHARITY	The English Province of the Order of Preachers
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER	231192 (England and Wales) SC039062 (Scotland)
ALSO KNOWN AS	The Dominicans
PRINCIPAL OFFICE	Blackfriars, St Giles, OXFORD. OX1 3LY
TRUSTEE	The Dominican Council (a company limited by guarantee, no. 387818) Blackfriars, St Giles, OXFORD. OX1 3LY
DIRECTORS OF TRUSTEE CORPORATION	Very Rev. fr Martin Ganeri Rev. fr Simon Gaine OP Rev. fr John Farrell OP (to 31 March 2020) Very Rev. fr Robert Gay OP (from 31 March 2020) Rev. fr Richard Ounsworth OP (to 23 Sept 2020) Rev. fr David Goodill OP (from 23 Sept 2020)
PRINCIPAL OFFICER	Very Rev. fr Martin Ganeri OP, Prior Provincial
BANKERS	The Royal Bank of Scotland 62-63 Threadneedle Street, LONDON. EC2R 8LA
SOLICITORS	Farrer & Co. 66 Lincoln's Inn Fields, LONDON. WC2A 3LH
AUDITOR	RSM UK Audit LLP, Chartered Accountants The Pinnacle, 170 Midsummer Bvd., MILTON KEYNES. MK9 1BP
INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT AND ADVICE	BlackRock Investment Management (UK) Limited 12 Throgmorton Avenue, LONDON. EC2N 2DL <i>and</i> Smith & Williamson Investment Management LLP 25 Moorgate, LONDON. EC2R 6AY
WEBSITE	https://english.op.org/

Structure, Governance & Management

INTRODUCTION

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30th September 2019. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on page 51 and comply with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (January 2019) and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

The English Province of the Order of Preachers is one of forty or so provinces of the Friars of the Order of Preachers, a religious order in the Catholic Church. The Order of Preachers was founded by St Dominic in the thirteenth century for the purpose of preaching, teaching and pastoral work in collaboration with the bishops. Members of the Order are often known as 'Dominicans', after their founder. The life of the friars is founded on the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity and obedience to which they bind themselves by vow, and is characterised by prayer, study and community life. Most of the friars are also ordained priests.

As part of the Catholic Church, the Order of Preachers is bound to the Church's Canon Law, especially as contained in the 1983 *Codex Iuris Canonici* (Code of Canon Law, hereafter *CIC*), and to the legitimate precepts of the Holy See and the Roman Pontiff. It is also bound by the laws of the dioceses in which it works, and of the Bishops' Conferences of England and Wales and of Scotland.

The Order has its own internal law contained in the *Liber Constitutionum et Ordinationum Fratrum Ordinis Praedicatorum* (Book of Constitutions and Ordinations of the Friars of the Order of Preachers, hereafter *LCO*). The General Chapter of the Order and the Master of the Order have authority, in accordance with canonical norms, over all the provinces, priories

and friars of the Order.

The English Province, in addition to the above-mentioned norms, has its own canonical governing document, the 'Statute of the Province'. The Province is governed by the Provincial Chapter and by the Prior Provincial. The Provincial Chapter is a meeting of friars representing the Province which takes place every four years; its object is to 'discuss and make decisions about all that pertains to the fraternal and apostolic life and the good administration of the province' (*LCO* 351 §I). The Provincial Chapter can make changes to the Statute of the Province as well as make other ordinations concerning the governance of the Province and its priories. The Provincial Chapter elects the Prior Provincial (major superior), who governs the Province until the following Provincial Chapter.

The Prior Provincial is assisted by the Provincial Council, composed of senior officers of the Province and other members elected by the Provincial Chapter. On major financial matters the Prior Provincial and Provincial Council are advised by the Economic Council of the Province, whose members are appointed by the Provincial Chapter and which is chaired by the Provincial Bursar.

The Province is made up of a number of priories, which are local communities of friars with a large degree of self-government according to the norms of Canon Law and the internal law of the Order and the Province. The priory is 'the fundamental unit of the Order' (*LCO* 1 §VII), and the principal place where the educational and pastoral mission of the Order is pursued. Priors (local superiors) are normally elected by the members of their priory for three-year terms. Each priory is engaged in a variety of ministerial work, often centred on parish churches or university chaplaincies. Two priories are especially but not exclusively dedicated to the formation and training of priests and friars. The Prior Provincial and his Council have responsibility for the collaboration of the various priories, for the support of provincial projects and for the establishment, maintenance and en-

forcement of common policy, including those involving major financial issues.

The Charity consider that the members of the Provincial Council comprise the key management personnel, in charge of directing and controlling the charity and running and operating the charity on a day-to-day basis. The Prior Provincial and three other members of the Provincial Council are Directors of the Trustee Corporation, as listed on p. 32. Other members of the Provincial Council are members of the Trustee Corporation. All trustees, and all other members of the Provincial Council, give of their time freely and no remuneration was paid to any of them in the year. Details of trustee expenses and related party transactions are disclosed in notes 9 and 10 to the accounts.

The individual friars make profession of a vow of obedience, encompassing also the other 'evangelical counsels' of poverty and chastity. As a result of the profession of poverty, all that is acquired in virtue of the work or activity of a friar belongs to the friar's priory (CIC 668 §3; LCO 546). Once a friar has made definitive or 'solemn' profession, any income whatsoever that comes to the friar belongs to his priory or the Province (LCO 546, 548). This arrangement is given civil effect by means of a 'Deed of Disposer' in favour of the Charity made by each friar at the time of his solemn profession. Alongside the profession of poverty by the friars, there is a corresponding obligation on the Order to provide its members 'with everything that is necessary to fulfil the purpose of their vocation' (CIC 670).

The Dominican friars share a spirituality and mission with other branches of the 'Dominican family': nuns, sisters, members of secular institutes and fraternities of priests and laity (cf. LCO 1 §IX).

NATURE AND CONSTITUTION OF THE CHARITY

In order to allow for the general administration and financial maintenance of the members, priories and works of the Province, **the Province Trust** was established by Trust Deed in 1930, modified by a deed of partial revocation in 1945. Its registered objects are 'the promotion of education and the Roman Catholic religion and the establishment and maintenance of

schools, churches and priories for these purposes and the upkeep of members of the Order of Preachers.'

Under the name 'The English Province of the Order of Preachers', the Province Trust is registered as a charity in England and Wales, no. 231192, and in Scotland, no. SC039062.

The sole trustee of the Charity is the Dominican Council, a company limited by guarantee and governed in accordance with its Memorandum and Articles of Association. The Dominican Council was incorporated on 25 May 1944, no. 387818. Its registered office is Blackfriars, St Giles, OXFORD OX1 3LY.

The chairman *ex officio* of the Corporation and its Committee is the Prior Provincial, at present the Very Rev. fr. Martin Ganeri OP. According to its Articles of Association, 'any Roman Catholic Priest of the English Province of the Order of Preachers' (art. 6) is qualified to be a member of the Corporation. Three members of the Corporation are elected by the Corporation to serve on its Committee alongside the Prior Provincial. The members of the Committee function as the directors of the Corporation and as 'Charity Trustees' in the sense of s177 of the Charities Act 2011.

RECRUITMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Province has a wealth of experience among its friars, who have spent years pursuing the Province's mission and the Charity's objects by means of educational and pastoral work. Many of the friars have also served as administrators at a local level, holding offices such as prior, parish priest or bursar. The Provincial Chapter therefore has a rich pool of competent and proficient friars to draw upon when it elects the Prior Provincial and the Provincial Council.

The normal practice of the Dominican Council is to elect new members of the Corporation from the Provincial Council, and so in turn it is from among these experienced friars that the Committee is elected. As a result, the Charity Trustees, i.e. the members of the Committee of the Dominican Council, are friars of proven prudence and experience with detailed knowledge of the Charity's work and structure.

The solemnly professed friars have no personal income

or property; anything that comes to them is acquired for the Order, which in turn is obliged to support all its members, providing them with ‘everything that is necessary to fulfil the purpose of their vocation’ (*CIC* 670). Hence the object of the Charity includes ‘the upkeep of members of the Order of Preachers’. The members of the Committee of the Dominican Council therefore benefit from the activity of the Charity, but they do so in their capacity as members of the Order of Preachers, not as a result of being Charity Trustees.

TRAINING OF CHARITY TRUSTEES

New members of the Committee of the Dominican Council are very experienced in the work of the Province and its administration. As superiors and administrators they are already well-acquainted with the governing documents of the Order. New members of the Committee are provided with latest version the Charity Commission’s publication ‘The Essential Trustee: What you need to know, what you need to do’ and the OSCR publication ‘Guidance for Charity Trustees’. Trustees are encouraged to familiarise themselves with the other resources for Charity Trustees provided by the Charity Commission, OSCR and other sources. All Charity Trustees are provided with appropriate briefings from the Charity’s professional advisors concerning their responsibilities and when this is pertinent to any decisions that have to be made by the Charity Trustees. Members of the Committee of the Dominican Council attend meetings of the Association of Provincial Bursars and seminars for Charity Trustees organised by professional advisors.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE AND DECISION-MAKING

The Charity is structured internally as local priories in accordance with the laws of the Order of the Preachers contained in *LCO*. These norms, together with those of the Province itself, set out requirements for financial administration and reporting, investment, property acquisition and maintenance for the Province and for each priory, and also the limits to the powers of priors and of the Prior Provincial.

In particular:

- A Prior has a limit above which he cannot authorise expenditure without the consent of the Priory Council. The Priory Council can authorise expenditure to a higher limit, which varies depending on the size of the Priory, and above this authorisation is required by the Prior Provincial or, beyond an upper limit, the Provincial Council. These limits, which are reviewed every four years, also apply to the authorisation of alienations or the incurring of liabilities. When authorisation is given by the Provincial Council, the Economic Council of the Province is consulted in advance, and a determination is made whether the matter requires an act of the Trustee Corporation.
- The annual accounts and budget of each priory are sent to the Prior Provincial (*LCO* 563) and submitted for examination by the Provincial Council (*LCO* 564), the Economic Council of the Province and the Trustee Corporation.

The limits mentioned here are reviewed every four years by the Provincial Chapter.

MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OF SCOTTISH ACTIVITIES

The priories in Scotland are managed locally in the same way as priories in England, under the supervision of the Prior Provincial and the Provincial Council assisted by the Economic Council. The Trustees take the view that local governance structures are adequate and appropriate without an additional layer of governance specifically for Scotland.

RELATIONSHIP WITH A WIDER NETWORK

The Province is part of the Order of Preachers and of the Catholic Church. It operates in accordance with the teaching and laws of the Catholic Church, and the manner in which it realises its object, ‘the promotion of education and the Roman Catholic religion’, is influenced by the priorities identified by the Church and by the Order of Preachers internationally.

RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER CHARITIES AND ORGANISATIONS

The Charity is closely related to the **Hoper Dixon Trust** (registered charity no. 231160). Under the terms of a Scheme of 20 July 2006, that Trust exists ‘for the benefit of the poor connected with or in the neighbourhood of any house or pastoral centre under the direction of the Dominicans of the English Province of the Order of Preachers’.

The Province also co-operates in the mission of the **Catholic Dioceses** in whose territory members of the Province work. Six parishes and chaplaincies to eight universities are entrusted to the Province.

The Charity co-operates fraternally in a number of projects with **other branches of the Dominican family** (Congregations of Dominican Sisters, Dominican Secular Institute and Lay Dominican fraternities) active in Great Britain. The Province recently co-operated in the establishment of a Priestly Confraternity of St Dominic, and remains closely involved in its development and expansion.

The Province operates Blackfriars Hall, Oxford, a Permanent Private Hall of the **University of Oxford**. The Hall co-operates with the University, Colleges and other Halls in furthering its educational objective. There is also co-operation with **other religious institutes** in training candidates for the priesthood and in providing theological formation for other religious. The Hall is developing a research collaboration with the **Anscombe Bioethics Centre**, registered charity no. 274327. Members of the congregations at two of the Province’s priories run overseas aid charities: the **Blackfriars Overseas Aid Trust** (registered charity no. 288585) based in Oxford and the **Jean Grove Trust** (registered charity 1109593) based in Cambridge. The Province is happy to promote and support these works.

The Order’s presence in Grenada and Barbados is canonically dependent on the Province. Though the presence there is not part of the Province Charity, from time to time the Charity is able to make grants for the work of the Order in the Caribbean.

FUNDRAISING DISCLOSURES

The Charities (Protection and Social Investment) Act 2016 requires charities which are subject to an audit to make disclosure in their Financial Statements about their fundraising activities.

The Dominican Friars have been mendicants since the very beginning of the Order of Preachers in the early 13th century, and benefactors have played a crucial role at every stage of our history up to and including the present day.

In 2013, impelled by an urgent need to improve the financial situation of the charity, the Province began to employ a full-time fundraiser (Development Director) to direct and manage fundraising and related communications activities on the charity’s behalf. The Development Director is now assisted by a part-time Development Support Officer, with oversight provided by the Prior Provincial and the Provincial Bursar, and guidance given by the Province’s Fundraising Committee.

Most funds are raised from those with whom we have close relationships, typically through their attendance as worshippers at one of our churches. Wider circles of relationships are maintained through our opt-in magazine, opt-in email newsletters, websites, and social media pages, all of which may include invitations to donate. Contact relationship data and donations data are managed centrally through a highly secure database with access restricted to a small number of employees.

We fundraise in accordance with the requirements of the Fundraising Regulator, and with our moral obligations as a Catholic charity. We fundraise responsibly at all times and with a sensitivity to the pastoral relationship that most donors have with the friars. We avoid approaches to vulnerable people and do not hold information on children. We do not exert pressure on people to donate, nor is access to the services we provide as a charity dependent on donations. We do not at this time employ third-party fundraisers, though some people do voluntarily and of their own initiative fundraise on our behalf. Subscriptions to communications can be cancelled at any time. Complaints are responded to as soon as possible.

RISK

The trustees review annually the principal risks to which the charity is exposed, and the strategies and procedures in place to mitigate those risks. The trustees consider that the major risks can be categorised under four headings: operational, financial, reputational and regulatory. Listed below are the main risks in each category, along with the principal ways in which they are mitigated.

OPERATIONAL

The activities of the charity are highly dependent upon those friars who are responsible for their management, often with little or no professional lay assistance. For this reason there is a risk that our ministries may suffer from lack of direction, poor management and inefficiencies. It can happen that a particular friar is overburdened with responsibilities leading to stress and reduced effectiveness. To mitigate this, the trustees and especially the Prior Provincial regularly review the work of each entity of the Province, ensuring that those responsible for our works are provided with the practical and moral support required. The Province has also instituted regular meetings between the Provincial and local superiors, to offer support and share best practice. The Province maintains its commitment to ensuring that friars who are experiencing emotional or psychological difficulties are provided with appropriate professional help.

The charity is responsible for the care of a number of elderly friars. As at 30 September 2019 there were 18 friars over 70, of whom 9 were over 80. Like all of the friars, these men have no resources of their own as all earnings, pensions and other income have been donated to the charity. As far as possible older brothers continue to live in community, though where appropriate residential nursing care places are found. The Province remains committed to designating all pensions income to the Designated Sick Fund (see page 40), which covers the cost of residential care but also funds home nursing care where appropriate, as well as works in priories designed to make them more suitable for elderly and infirm brothers.

The on-going work of the charity requires that young men continue to present themselves to join the Order,

and that these men be properly formed and educated for our ministries. Many religious orders in the UK have seen very low or even non-existent levels of recruitment for a number of years leading to a severely ageing demographic profile and the abandonment of numbers of ministries. The Province has committed one of its ablest young priests to work full-time as Promoter and Director of Vocations, and over the last two years ten men entered the noviciate, an unusually high number. The Province is also committed to ensuring that its friars receive the best possible intellectual, spiritual and pastoral formation.

FINANCIAL

The charity's principal assets comprise listed investments, the value of and income from which are dependent on movements in UK and world markets. A substantial long-term loss of value of these investments would threaten the long-term financial viability of the Province, and any significant reduction in investment income would cause financial difficulties even in the short term. To mitigate this, the investments are managed by reputable investment managers who adhere to a policy agreed by the trustees. The performance of investments and our investment strategy are assessed regularly by the Economic Council of the Province, aided by a lay expert, to ensure that our investments remain appropriate to the charity's needs (see further page 42).

The Development Office, under the leadership of a lay professional Development Director, with the co-operation of all friars, ensures that the Province and individual priories maintain excellent relationships with existing donors and takes the lead in seeking out and cultivating potential new sources of support. The work of the Development Office is supervised by a committee comprised of friars and lay people with appropriate expertise.

Our operations involve very large numbers of financial transactions including significant amounts of cash, bringing with it the obvious risk of fraud, theft or loss. The Province has a well-established set of 'Norms for Economic and Administrative Practice' which impose appropriate procedures for cash-handling and for the management of bank payments etc., and the Provincial

Bursar visits priories regularly to support local bursars and other friars in adhering to these procedures and other good practices. The Province decided at its recent Chapter to substantially reduce the levels of expenditure that can be made without a second authorised signature.

The operation of Blackfriars Hall and Studium is at particular financial risk, depending as heavily as it does upon numbers of students. The Regent and other moderators of the Hall engage in visits to the USA to seek additional students, and the Hall is developing with the Development Director a fundraising strategy emphasising student scholarships and support for Studium teaching with a view to providing Blackfriars with a more solid financial base in the years to come.

REPUTATIONAL

Friars and some other volunteers working with the friars, by the nature of our activities, inevitably often operate with little immediate supervision and often in positions of considerable pastoral responsibility and trust. Mistakes and misjudgements especially by friars in such positions can lead to harm to the reputation of the whole Province. The trustees consider that the greatest risk to the reputation of the charity in terms of severity of outcome, though not of likelihood, comes from allegations of abuse by friars of children or vulnerable adults: even where these allegations are historical in nature and relate to long-deceased friars, and even where they are unfounded, they can be deeply harmful to the reputation, local and national, of the Province, its ministries and its friars. The Province works closely with the Catholic Church Insurance

Association, the Catholic Safeguarding Advisory Service and the Safeguarding Co-ordinator of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham to deal with any such allegations in accordance with the safeguarding policy of the Catholic Church in England & Wales. A member of the Provincial Council is the Province's Safeguarding Co-ordinator, and he is responsible for ensuring that all friars are familiar with, and practise, this safeguarding policy, again in association with the Archdiocese of Birmingham. Lay people volunteer as local safeguarding representatives at each location.

The trustees also recognise the potential for reputational damage that may result from operational failures mentioned in the first paragraph of this section, and this risk is mitigated as detailed there.

REGULATORY

The trustees are keenly aware of the need to comply with relevant laws, including but not limited to those governing employment, health & safety at work, immigration and data protection, and the potential consequences of failures in this regard. The Provincial Bursar, assisted by the Economic Council of the Province, the Development Director and professional experts, takes the lead in compliance, and is aided in this regard by training sessions provided by the Association of Provincial Bursars. Each site within the Province is visited at least once a year by a professional Health & Safety advisor, to ensure that our sites are not only compliant with the Health & Safety at Work, etc. Act (1974) and related regulations, but also provide good working and living environments for the friars.

Public Benefit

The Charity Trustees have read the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, and the specific guidance for charities whose objects include Education and the advancement of Religion. The Charity Trustees have taken note of the Charity Commission's advice of October 2015 concerning public benefit and fee-charging in relation to educational charities. The Charity Trustees have paid due regard to the Commission's guidance, and all who make decisions about the activities the Charity undertakes are concerned to ensure that a real religious or educational benefit is provided to a broad range of people.

The priories of the Province all celebrate liturgy which is open to the public, and the friars are available to any members of the public who wish to consult them about matters of faith and the spiritual life. The priory churches are open to the public for most of the day, and many people avail themselves of the opportunity for quiet prayer or reflection. No charge is made for admission to the churches or to religious services (cf. *CIC*, c. 1221). Offerings are customarily made on the occasion of celebration of certain rites (e.g. baptisms, marriages and funerals), but Canon Law requires that those who are not able to make an offering are not thereby excluded (*CIC*, c. 848 and c. 1181). Some charges may be made for other activities (e.g. participation

in pilgrimages); the Hoper Dixon Trust, a connected charity, is in some cases able to assist with these costs.

The main educational centre of the Province, located at Blackfriars in Oxford, welcomes applications to study from any suitably qualified student. Blackfriars Hall charges fees at the level prevalent among Oxford colleges, and students are eligible for public funding in the same way as other students in higher education. The Hall is aware that public funding is not available to assist all who would benefit from studying in Oxford, especially those wishing to study for a second undergraduate degree or a postgraduate qualification. The Hall continues actively seeking funds to broaden access, having almost exhausted funds available for scholarships to students in the previous reporting period. Members of the public who are not students at Oxford may attend lectures and classes at Blackfriars on application; a small fee is normally charged, but is waived in cases of financial hardship. Blackfriars Hall and many of the priories and parishes arrange for public lectures and talks which are free of charge.

The Charity Trustees consider that the achievements and performance of the Charity demonstrate success in providing benefit to a broad public.

Provision for Sick and Elderly Friars

As of 30 September 2019, 21 friars of the Province (28%) in Great Britain were aged 70 or over, of whom 11 (15%) were 80 or over. Although most of these brothers continue to be active and enjoy reasonable health, the Charity Trustees are concerned to ensure that adequate provision is made for the care of older brothers and of any other sick brothers. The Charity maintains a Sick Fund for this purpose, of which details are given in the Financial Review and Statement of Financial Activities. At the end of the reporting period, two brothers were in nursing homes (2018: two), and another two required substantial home-based nursing care; it is not unlikely that these numbers will rise, so the Trustees continue to ensure that such provision is affordable whenever necessary. While the provision and level of funds is adequate for current needs, the Charity Trustees are aware that demands could increase substantially in future years.

All pension income is designated for the Sick Fund, which at the end of the period stood at £3,818k (2018: £3,684k). While the income from this fund currently suffices, the Charity Trustees are concerned that the Sick Fund should continue to be increased to ensure that likely future demands can be met.

Priories are also concerned to keep constantly under review their provision for disabled and infirm brothers and as necessary to make various adaptations and improvements. In the current reporting period the Priory in Cambridge completed the installation of a wheelchair-adapted lift to allow disabled brothers as well as members of the congregation to move more easily between floors, and the project will be partly subsidised from the Sick Fund. Work was also undertaken in the Leicester Priory to improve bathrooms for the care of elderly and infirm brothers.

Investment Performance

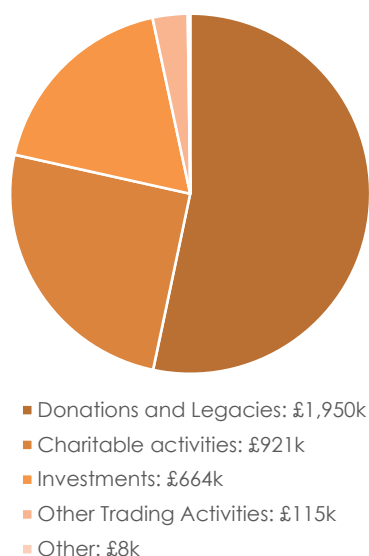
The Charity's investments had a market value of £20,705k (2018: £20,887k) at the end of the reporting period. The market value of investments with Smith & Williamson was £8,630k (2018: £8,332k), and these represent the value of the Designated Sick Fund and the Designated Training Funds, plus a small part of the Restricted Training Funds. The Province also held units of Charifaith to the value of £10,969k (2018: £11,637k). In view of low interest rates, the Charity has continued to seek to minimise cash holdings, consistent

with ensuring sufficient liquidity for medium-term spending. At 30 September 2019, £1,106k (2018: £919k) was directly held in cash funds, comprising 5.3% of total investment assets (2018: 4.4%). Income from cash funds over the year was £9,017 (2018: £5,897), an improving but still low figure.

Further details of these investments may be found in note 6 to the Financial Statements.

Financial Review

*Figure 1:
Income*



FUNDING SOURCES AND INCOME

Total income for the year to 30 September 2019 was £3,659k (2018: £4,734k), a decrease of 22.7%. This is largely attributable to a decrease of £1.1m in donations income, following last year's gift of £1.1m resulting from the sale of a mediaeval painting whose proceeds were donated to the charity. A slight increase in legacy income, plus a more significant increase in grants received, including one of £100k to the Edinburgh student chaplaincy, resulted in a net drop in total donations and legacies income of £889k or 31%. Income from charitable activity fell by £73k as some friars ceased to receive salaries from external entities. The fall in income from trading activities is in large part due to a loss of property income from 32–33 St Giles, Oxford, which until January 2019 was let to a branch of RBS, but following the bank's departure has since been redeveloped for the Province's own use. Income from listed investments grew by 4.2% to £665k (2018: £638k) as the performance of investments held up well.

More details are given in note 1 to the financial statements; cf Figure 1.

EXPENDITURE

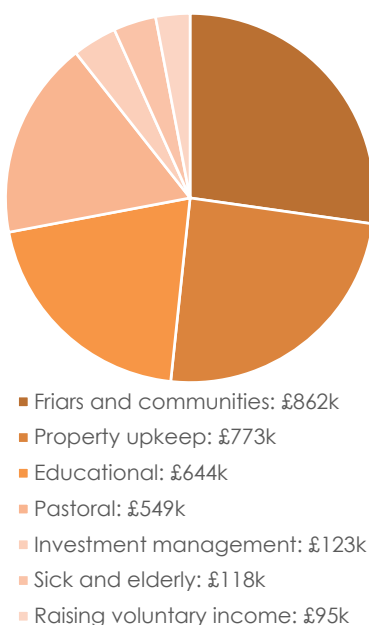
Expenditure totalled £3,163k (2018: £2,905) during the year, an increase of 8.9%.

The cost of educational activities rose from £550k to £644k (17%), due to the employment of an additional member of academic staff at Blackfriars Hall, increased activity in the Las Casas and Aquinas Institutes, and improved rates of pay for Hall and Studium teaching in order to attract higher-quality teachers. Expenditure on pastoral activities rose from £476k to £549k (15.3%); this was partly because of the occurrence of a pilgrimage to Italy which takes place only every other year, and support from the Province charity for pastoral activities taking place in the Province's houses in the West Indies. The Province's required contribution to the central costs of the Order also rose by £35k.

The cost of upkeep of buildings rose again, albeit only by 1.5% from £761k to £773k, due to the continued high cost of maintaining the Province's historic properties. The cost of maintaining the friars and communities rose from £816k to £862k due to a number of factors including unusually high travel costs, despite a modest fall in expenditure on utilities and on food. A number of brothers required full-time residential care, leading to an increase of 28.7% on care for sick and elderly friars. Finally, investment management costs remained stable in line with investment levels, costs of raising voluntary rose slightly to £95k; this figure represents only 4.9% of voluntary income (donations and legacies excluding pensions income).

More details on expenditure are given in note 2 to the financial statements; cf Figure 2.

*Figure 2:
Expenditure*



Funds & Investments

INVESTMENT POLICY AND OBJECTIVES

The Charity's investment policy is set by the Trustees, after regular consultation with the Province's Economic Council and professional investment managers. The principal objective is the maximisation of returns, seeking capital growth but also a steady and, where possible, growing level of income. The Charity Trustees are concerned to manage risk and therefore maintain and review periodically, with the assistance of the Province's Economic Council and professional advisors, a high degree of diversification in the Charity's investment assets, whether held directly or through a common investment fund.

In keeping with the objects of the Charity and the teachings of the Catholic Church, the following policy is stated in the Statute of the Province: 'Investments shall be avoided in companies a significant proportion of whose activities are contrary to the moral teachings of the Catholic Church, including but not limited to those relating to sanctity of life, care for the environment, and justice and peace.' This applies both to direct investments and to those through a common investment fund.

POLICY ON RESERVES

The laws of the Order oblige the Province to ensure that funds are available to support central administration, common projects (e.g. publishing, archives, libraries), the care of sick and elderly friars, and the formation of student friars. The Charity continues to maintain a high level of reserves in order to meet these obligations. The Charity Trustees also ensure that the level of reserves held is adequate to respond to unexpected financial needs, and to be able to commit to new apostolic projects when possible. Such a level of reserves is required because of the very large potential demands made by the ownership of the priories and churches necessary to meet the requirements of the Charity's objects, many of which are listed buildings. It might not always be possible to meet urgent needs out of branch funds. The high level of reserves also produce an income for central

activities, allowing contributions from branch funds to central province funds to be kept down.

The Charity Trustees' view is that an amount equal to a minimum of four months' total expenditure (i.e. £1,054k over the reporting period) should be held as free reserves.

The Charity Trustees continue to aim for an increasing level of reserves designated for the purpose of providing for the needs of older or infirm friars and the formation of novices and student friars. The Charity Trustees continue to maintain designated funds as capital funds which generate sufficient income necessary for the Province to be able to satisfy its obligations under the laws of the Order and to meet annual expenditure requirements in these priority areas.

RESERVES AND DESIGNATED FUNDS

The balance sheet shows total unrestricted funds of £11,335k (2018: £11,169k). The Province General Purpose fund accounts for £3,015k (2018: £2,932k), of which £2,572k (2018: £2,673k) are free reserves (i.e. excluding fixed assets held for charity use). This level of free reserves represents ten months' total expenditure by the Charity.

Designated funds make up the remaining £8,320k (2018: £8,237k) of unrestricted funds, the principal of which are:

Sick Fund: This holds a balance of £3,818k (2018: £3,684k) to provide care for sick and elderly friars. Income from the pensions of the friars is allocated to this fund. Despite a number of friars in residential care over the past few years and works to provide accommodation in priories suitable for elderly and infirm friars, it has been possible to continue to build up the sick fund. While it is impossible to predict with accuracy the burden on this fund, the large number of older friars makes significant demands in the near future likely.

Student Training Fund: The Charity maintains a designated fund for the support of the friars' studies, which holds a balance of £3,026k (2018: £2,992k).

Implications of Covid-19

The Trustees have reviewed the impact of COVID-19 since March 2020 on the charity's income, expenditure, commitments and its assets and liabilities, and the charity's capacity to continue as a going concern. The Trustees have concluded that the charity continues to be financially sustainable for the foreseeable future.

In 2020 the charity has experienced a drop in income from fundraising and from charitable activities and expects its income from investments also to fall in response to the challenging economic situation. The closure of churches for public worship from March to July 2020 followed by socially-distanced reduced capacities has meant greatly reduced income from collections. Blackfriars Hall refunded a number of fees for the Trinity term 2020. However, during the lockdown the friars moved as much of their ministry online as possible. Services are live-streamed and online attendance has been high. University teaching

by the Hall and chaplaincy work has been delivered virtually. Articles, talks and conference attendance have taken place online accompanied by requests for financial support. In addition, special fundraising activities are taking place online. The response of existing and new friends and supporters has been most encouraging.

The charity had free reserves of £2.6m at 30 September 2019. Most of this balance related to investments with Charifaith, which fell in value by 13% by 31 March 2020, but by 30 September 2020 recovered to 98% of their 30 September 2019 valuation. If it had proved necessary, these investments would have been partly or fully liquidated in order to cover the essential operating costs of the charity. The charity also has designated funds of £7.3m invested, which can be reassigned to cover expenditure if necessary. It has not been necessary to do so. A modest surplus is expected for the year ended 30 September 2020 and a similar result is planned for 2021.

Trustees' Responsibilities

TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE PREPARATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) regulations.

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales and Scotland requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- a. select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- b. observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- c. make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- d. state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- e. prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, the provisions of the trust deed, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 and the provisions of the Book of Constitutions and Ordinations of the Friars of the Order of Preachers. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Declaration

DECLARATION

The officers of the Trustee Corporation, The Dominican Council, declare that to the best of their knowledge the annual accounts of the English Province of the Order of Preachers have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, and the regulations and requirements of the province Trust Deed, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 and the provisions of the Book of Constitutions and Ordinations of the Friars of the Order of Preachers.

The officers of the Trustee Corporation who were in office on the date of approval of these financial statements have confirmed that, as far as they are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the auditor is unaware. Each of the officers of the Trustee Corporation has confirmed that they have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as an officer of the Trustee Corporation in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that it has been communicated to the auditor.

BY ORDER OF THE TRUSTEE



fr David Goodill OP
Secretary to the Dominican Council
12 March 2021

Auditor's Report

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE ENGLISH PROVINCE OF THE ORDER OF PREACHERS

OPINION

We have audited the financial statements of The English Province of The Order Of Preachers (the 'charity') for the year ended 30 September 2019 which comprise Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 30 September 2019 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and the Charities Act 2011.

BASIS FOR OPINION

We have been appointed auditors under section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with regulations made under those Acts.

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's

responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

CONCLUSIONS RELATING TO GOING CONCERN

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the charity's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

OTHER INFORMATION

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether

there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

MATTERS ON WHICH WE ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT BY EXCEPTION

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and the Charities Act 2011 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is not consistent in any material respect with the Annual Report; or
- proper and sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' responsibilities set out on page 44, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to

liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at <http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

USE OF OUR REPORT

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, and regulation 10 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and the Charities Act 2011. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and its trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

RSM UK Audit LLP

Date: **15 March 2021**

RSM UK Audit LLP, Statutory Auditor

The Pinnacle, 170 Midsummer Boulevard, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, MK9 1BP

RSM UK Audit LLP is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

for the year ended 30 September 2019

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES						
for the year ended 30 September 2019						
	Unrestricted Funds 2019	Restricted Funds 2019	Total Funds 2019	Unrestricted Funds 2018	Restricted Funds 2018	Total Funds 2018
	£	£	£	£	£	£
INCOME FROM:						
Donations and Legacies	288,988	1,661,279	1,950,267	527,097	2,311,905	2,839,002
Other Trading Activities	57,075	58,178	115,253	143,837	115,705	259,542
Investment Income	380,505	284,232	664,737	388,198	249,491	637,690
Income from Charitable Activities	39,278	881,368	920,646	40,044	953,618	993,662
Other	195	7,617	7,812	-	4,537	4,537
TOTAL INCOME	1766,041	2,892,674	3,658,715	1,099,176	3,635,256	4,734,433
EXPENDITURE ON:						
Raising funds						
Costs of raising voluntary income	85,723	8,988	94,711	85,401	2,135	87,536
Investment management costs	122,884	-	122,884	123,124	-	123,124
Charitable Activities	638,302	2,307,057	2,945,359	509,764	2,184,907	2,694,671
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	2846,909	2,316,045	3,162,954	718,289	2,187,042	2,905,331
GAINS/(LOSSES) ON INVESTMENTS	6145,077	330,747	475,824	356,608	415,485	772,092
Net income	64,209	907,376	971,585	737,495	1,863,699	2,601,194
TRANSFERS						
Transfers between funds	11102,317	(102,317)	-	237,694	(237,694)	-
Net movement in funds	166,526	805,059	971,585	975,189	1,626,005	2,601,194
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS						
Total funds brought forward 1 October 2018	11,168,848	16,229,440	27,398,288	10,193,659	14,603,435	24,797,094
Total funds carried forward 30 September 2019	1211,335,374	17,034,499	28,369,873	11,168,848	16,229,440	27,398,288

BALANCE SHEET

BALANCE SHEET

at 30 September 2019

	Notes	2019 £	2018 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	5	6,962,922	5,670,573
Investments	6	20,704,972	20,887,483
TOTAL FIXED ASSETS		27,667,894	26,558,056
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	7	1,079,589	911,294
Bank accounts		445,401	343,880
Cash in hand		7,737	4,346
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		1,532,727	1,259,520
LIABILITIES			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	(830,748)	(419,288)
Net current assets/(liabilities)		701,979	840,232
NET ASSETS		28,369,873	27,398,288
FUNDS			
Restricted funds			
Branch funds		11,890,430	11,158,040
Province restricted funds		5,144,069	5,071,400
Total restricted funds		17,034,499	16,229,440
Unrestricted funds			
Province general purpose		3,014,934	2,932,241
Province designated		8,320,440	8,236,607
Total unrestricted funds		11,335,374	11,168,848
TOTAL FUNDS	12	28,369,873	27,398,288

The financial statements on pages 48 to 65 were approved by the Trustee, authorised for issue on 12 March 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

<p><i>David Goodill</i></p> <p>.....</p> <p>fr David Goodill OP</p>	}	Directors of Trustee Corporation
<p><i>Simon Fain Gaine OP</i></p> <p>.....</p> <p>fr Simon Gaine OP</p>		

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

for the year ended 30 September 2019

2019
£2018
£**CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES**

Net movement in funds	971,585	2,601,194
Depreciation charges	340,856	334,391
(Gains)/losses on investments	(475,824)	(772,092)
(Profit)/Loss on disposal of fixed assets	-	(325)
Interest received	(664,737)	(637,690)
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors	(168,295)	2,150,221
Increase/(Decrease) in creditors	411,460	146,850
NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES	415,045	3,822,549

CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES

Interest received	664,737	637,690
Purchase of property and equipment	(1,633,205)	(378,565)
Proceeds from disposal of property and equipment	-	325
Purchase of investments	(1,291,665)	(5,637,618)
Proceeds from sale of investments	1,950,000	1,665,494
NET CASH PROVIDED BY INVESTING ACTIVITIES	(310,133)	(3,712,674)

CHANGE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS IN THE YEAR

Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	348,226	238,351
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE YEAR	453,138	348,226

Accounting Policies

BASIS OF PREPARATION

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective 1 January 2015, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair' view. This departure has involved following Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing these accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (the Charities SORP (FRS 102) effective 1 January 2015) rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005, which has since been withdrawn.

The trust constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

ASSESSMENT OF GOING CONCERN

The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for the foreseeable future, being a period of at least 12 months from the date that these financial

statements have been signed. In arriving at this conclusion, the charity has prepared a detailed budget and cash flow forecast which have been sensitised for the potential impact to revenue streams. Whilst a number of the charity's revenue streams are likely to be adversely impacted, the Trustees consider that the charity has sufficient unrestricted reserves, in the form of cash and a liquid investment portfolio, that could be drawn upon, should the charity be required to do so in order to meet its costs for the foreseeable future, being a period of at least 12 months from the date that these financial statements have been signed. On this basis, the Trustees consider that it is appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis.

FIXED ASSETS

Functional property is capitalised at cost except in the case of historic property for which no cost information is available. Such property has been capitalised using the derived cost method based on insurance replacement value and retail price index. The year the property was built is used for this purpose and as such enhanced expenditure is also incorporated into cost.

Tangible fixed assets are being depreciated over their useful economic lives. The following rates are used:

Historic Property: over expected useful lives between 10 and 371 years

Other Freehold Property: over expected useful lives between 10 and 50 years

Motor Vehicles: over 4 years on a straight-line basis

Fixtures and Fittings: over 4 years on a straight-line basis

Assets in the course of construction: are not depreciated.

Assets are reviewed for impairment when evidence of such impairment arises.

Expenditure on tangible items is not capitalised where it is less than £2,500 or where the view is taken that it

is incapable of providing any future economic benefit to the Charity.

WORKS OF ART AND HISTORIC TREASURES

Individual works of art, historic treasures and plate are not capitalised as a valuation is not considered practical. Such items as are in the possession of the Charity were created for use in religious worship or devotion and continue to be used for these purposes. The Charity maintains stewardship by keeping a full inventory and has no intention of disposing of any of the works of art, historic treasures and plate so long as this use continues.

INVESTMENTS

All investments are valued at their market value at the balance sheet date. It is considered that market value best represents a true and fair view of the value of these assets to the Charity.

Gains and losses on disposal of the investments are treated as realised. Gains and losses on the revaluation of investments are treated as unrealised. Both are recorded in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Investment management fees are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when incurred.

FOREIGN CURRENCIES

Assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate of ruling at the date of transaction. All differences are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities.

LIABILITIES

Liabilities are recorded in the financial statements when the Trustees have made a commitment to acquire goods or services.

DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

Donations and legacies are accounted for in accordance with the requirements of the SORP (being entitlement, probability and measurement). Legacies are considered

receivable once the value of the legacy has been determined and probate has been granted. Legacies received by friars of the Province, who have signed Deeds of Disporonor in favour of The Dominican Council, are classified as legacy income.

Donated assets and services are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when a reliable estimate of the value to the charity can be readily obtained.

GRANTS RECEIVABLE

Grants receivable are accounted for in accordance with the terms of the grant, and are recognised when the conditions for receipt have been complied with.

PENSIONS RECEIVABLE

Pension income for professed members of the Order is accounted for when it is receivable.

ACTIVITIES FOR RAISING FUNDS

Fundraising, publications and other similar income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when the relevant amount of income becomes receivable or the item has been sold.

Property rental income is accounted for when it is receivable in accordance with the terms of the relevant agreements.

INVESTMENT INCOME

Investment income is accounted for when notified by the Charity's investment portfolio manager. Deposit interest is accounted for on a receivable basis. Interest received on cash held with investment managers is accounted for as investment income.

CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

The costs of charitable activities are accounted for when they become payable. They include apportioned support costs.

SUPPORT AND GOVERNANCE COSTS

Within this heading are incorporated management and administration costs, and any other costs not directly

constitutive of charitable activity, generation of funds or governance. Where support costs are attributable to a particular charitable activity, they are allocated to that activity. General support costs are apportioned on the basis of the direct costs of each activity.

NATIONAL INSURANCE CONTRIBUTIONS FOR FRIARS

The Province pays voluntary (class 3) national insurance contributions for friars when these will count towards the provision of State Pension. These costs are recognised at the end of the tax year in which HM Revenue and Customs issues notice of a gap in National Insurance Contributions.

RETIREMENT BENEFITS

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for its employees. The amount charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in respect of pension costs is the contributions payable in the year.

TAXATION

The English Province of the Order of Preachers is a registered charity and as such its income and gains falling within Sections 518 to 564 of the Income Taxes Act 2007 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 are exempt from income tax and capital gains tax to the extent that they are applied to charitable objectives.

RESTRICTED FUNDS

Restricted funds can only be applied for a particular purpose. Most restricted funds of the charity are 'branch funds', restricted to use for the particular purposes of a branch of the charity (a priory, a parish or Blackfriars Hall) while that branch continues in existence. Some branch funds have more specific designations; others have further restrictions that would have to be respected even in the event of a branch ceasing to operate.

There are also central restricted funds, the principal of which are:

- Training Funds – to support training of student friars of the Order;

- Historic Property Fund – comprising the Historic Property Fixed Assets (see 'Fixed Assets' above);
- Mission Funds – to support various missions of the Order.

UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

The unrestricted funds of the Charity comprise general purpose funds and designated funds. General purpose funds are retained to cover future direct charitable costs, general support costs, and investment management costs.

Designated funds are those parts of the Charity's unrestricted funds designated by the Trustees to be used for particular purposes in the future. The Trustees have the power to reallocate such funds. The principal designated funds are:

- Study Funds – representing amounts designated for expenditure on students' study costs.
- Sick Funds – representing amounts designated for expenditure on the care of sick and elderly friars.

CONNECTED CHARITY

The Hoper Dixon Trust is considered to be a connected charity because the Dominican Council is one of the Trustees. The Trust's accounts are not consolidated within those of the English Province of the Order of Preachers because in the opinion of the officers of the Dominican Council the Order does not have control of the Trust.

The Trust's Statement of Financial Activities and Balance Sheet are given in notes 17 and 18 respectively.

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Charity only has financial instruments and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

Notes to the Financial Statements

1. ANALYSIS OF INCOME

ANALYSIS OF INCOME									
	Unrestricted Funds 2019 £	Restricted Funds 2019 £	Total Funds 2019 £	Unrestricted Funds 2018 £	Restricted Funds 2018 £	Total Funds 2018 £			
INCOME									
Donations and Legacies									
Donations and gifts	34,082	919,878	953,960	19,005	2,036,350	2,055,355			
Legacies	116,768	530,132	646,900	370,939	144,625	515,564			
Grants received	5,500	211,269	216,769	2,568	130,930	133,498			
Pensions received	132,638	-	132,638	134,585	-	134,585			
Total Donations and Legacies Income	288,988	1,661,279	1,950,267	527,097	2,311,905	2,839,002			
Other Trading Activities									
Fundraising, publications etc.	10,098	5,915	16,013	9,792	3,259	13,051			
Property	46,977	52,263	99,240	134,045	112,446	246,491			
Total Other Trading Activities	57,075	58,178	115,253	143,837	115,705	259,542			
Income from listed investments	380,505	284,232	664,737	388,198	249,492	637,690			
Charitable Activities									
Ministerial services	24,156	436,873	461,029	21,938	557,186	579,124			
Educational services	15,122	444,495	459,617	18,106	396,432	414,538			
Total Income from Charitable Activities	39,278	881,368	920,646	40,044	953,618	993,662			
OTHER INCOME	195	7,617	7,812	-	4,537	4,537			
TOTAL INCOME	766,041	2,892,674	3,658,715	1,099,176	3,635,257	4,734,433			

2. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE

ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE							
	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2019 £	Restricted Funds 2019 £	Total Funds 2019 £	Unrestricted Funds 2018 £	Restricted Funds 2018 £	Total Funds 2018 £
COSTS OF RAISING FUNDS							
Costs of raising voluntary income		85,723	8,988	94,711	85,401	2,135	87,536
Investment management costs		122,884	-	122,884	123,124	-	123,124
Total costs of raising funds		208,607	8,988	217,595	208,525	2,135	210,660
EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES							
3							
Educational		77,696	566,484	644,180	71,251	478,627	549,878
Pastoral works and projects		210,216	338,360	548,576	150,873	324,873	475,746
Care for sick and elderly friars		93,644	24,425	118,069	70,009	21,715	91,724
Property upkeep		127,363	645,607	772,970	121,960	639,477	761,437
Support of the friars and communities		129,383	732,181	861,564	95,671	720,215	815,886
Total charitable activities		638,302	2,307,057	2,945,359	509,763	2,184,907	2,694,671
TOTAL EXPENDITURE							
		846,909	2,316,045	3,162,954	718,289	2,187,042	2,905,331

3. ANALYSIS OF SUPPORT COSTS

	Educational £	Pastoral £	Sick & Elderly £	Property £	Friars & Communities £	Total £
CENTRAL SUPPORT COSTS						
Friars	1,566	1,334	287	1,879	2,094	7,160
Staff	13,852	11,796	2,539	16,621	18,526	63,334
General administration	7,947	6,768	1,457	9,536	10,629	36,337
Governance costs						
Audit fees	6,957	5,925	1,275	8,348	9,305	31,810
Legal fees	4,613	3,928	845	5,535	6,169	21,090
Other professional Fees	3,656	3,114	670	4,387	4,890	16,717
Total central support costs	38,591	32,865	7,073	46,306	51,613	176,448
BRANCH SUPPORT COSTS	156,167	25,981	-	-	92,360	274,508
TOTAL SUPPORT COSTS 2019	194,758	58,846	7,073	46,306	143,973	450,956
TOTAL SUPPORT COSTS 2018	202,130	57,058	6,320	52,461	137,719	455,688

Central support costs are apportioned to activities in proportion to directly incurred expenditure.

Branch support costs are allocated to the principal activity of the branch incurring the cost.

4. STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

	2019	2018
STAFF NUMBERS		
Average number of employees	17	19
Average number of FTE employees	10	11
Employees receiving emoluments in excess of £60,000	-	-
STAFF COSTS		
	£	£
Salaries/Wages	336,596	339,500
Employer's national insurance costs	25,298	24,625
Pension costs	35,949	31,117
Total Staff Costs	397,843	395,242

No remuneration is paid to the trustee corporation or its directors.

VOLUNTEER NUMBERS

Friars	75	77
Other volunteers	158	158
Total volunteers	233	235
Total Full Time Equivalent volunteers	86	86

4. STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS (CONT.)

For the purposes of this report, employees are those who have contracts of employment. The figures do not include persons paid through payroll from time to time who have no contracted hours; typically, such persons provide teaching or other ad hoc services to Blackfriars Hall, and are either employees of other institutions or students doing small amounts of part-time work.

The charity considers its key management personnel is comprised of its Trustees and other members of the Provincial Council, all of whom are Friars. The total

employment benefits, including employer pension cost of key management personnel, were £nil (2018: £nil). The total of expenses reimbursed to key management personnel was £nil (2018: £nil).

The principal roles of non-friar volunteers are answering the door and telephone at the priories in Oxford and Cambridge, and church cleaning, flower arranging and similar tasks in Leicester and London, along with singing in the church choirs. The average number of hours worked by these volunteers each week is 2.6.

5. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS USED FOR CHARITABLE PURPOSES

	Inalienable Property £	Other Property £	Asset in the course of construction	Motor Vehicles £	Fixtures & Fittings £	Total £
COST						
Balance brought forward 1 October 2018	1,000,613	7,100,674	-	101,981	1,661,670	9,864,938
Additions	-	258,001	1,238,449	-	136,755	1,633,205
Disposals	-	-	-	(10,440)	(4,827)	(15,267)
Balance carried forward 30 September 2019	1,000,613	7,358,675	1,238,449	91,541	1,793,598	11,482,876
DEPRECIATION						
Balance brought forward 1 October 2018	464,756	2,216,471	-	81,793	1,431,345	4,194,365
Disposals	-	-	-	(10,440)	(4,827)	(15,267)
Charge for year	2,573	211,461	-	13,124	113,698	340,856
Balance carried forward 30 September 2019	467,329	2,427,932	-	84,477	1,540,216	4,519,954
NET BOOK VALUE						
Brought forward 1 October 2018	535,857	4,884,203	-	20,188	230,325	5,670,573
Carried forward 30 September 2019	533,284	4,930,743	1,238,449	7,064	253,382	6,962,922

Historic property includes churches, places of worship and priories owned and occupied by the Order.

One property included in 'other property' above was during the reporting period used to generate income; its cost totalled £1,823,005 (2018: £1,823,005) and accumulated depreciation charged totalled £643,765 (2018: £567,205).

Asset in the course of construction: during the year a property included in Other Property underwent a major refurbishment that was incomplete at 30 September 2019. The asset came into use in December 2019.

INVESTMENTS

	30 September 2019		30 September 2018	
	Cost £	Market Value £	Cost £	Market Value £
Charifaiith Common Investment Fund*	8,330,247	10,969,359	9,114,617	11,636,552
Funds managed by Smith & Williamson**	6,533,325	8,629,736	6,350,677	8,332,199
BlackRock Institutional Cash Series	1,018,198	1,105,877	846,250	918,732
	15,881,770	20,704,972	16,311,544	20,887,483

	2019 £	2018 £
Market Value at 1 October	20,887,483	16,143,267
Additions at Cost	1,291,665	5,637,618
Disposals at Market Value	(1,950,000)	(1,665,494)
Net gain/(loss) on revaluation	475,824	772,092
Market Value at 30 September	20,704,972	20,887,483

* As of 30 September 2019, the composition of the Charifaiith Common Investment Fund was as follows:

UK Equities	28.5%
Global Equities	28.2%
Fixed Income	22.6%
Property	4.7%
Alternatives	13.5%
Cash	2.5%
Total	100.0%

** As of 30 September 2019, the composition of the Funds managed by Smith & Williamson was as follows:

UK Equities	23.7%
Global Equities	44.1%
Fixed Income	11.2%
Property	0.0%
Alternatives and Multi-Asset	16.9%
Cash	4.1%
Total	100.0%

6. INVESTMENTS

7. DEBTORS

	2019 £	2018 £
DEBTORS		
Trade debtors	103,903	103,920
Prepayments and accrued income	960,751	807,099
Other	14,935	275
Total Debtors	<u>1,079,589</u>	<u>911,294</u>

8. CREDITORS

	2019 £	2018 £
CREDITORS		
Amounts falling due within one year		
Trade creditors	363,963	313,002
Taxation and social security	5,464	19,432
Accruals and deferred income	350,869	48,251
Other	110,452	38,603
Total Creditors	<u>830,748</u>	<u>419,288</u>
Deferred income (analysis)		
At 1 October	31,875	32,325
Amount released to incoming resources	(31,875)	(32,325)
Amount deferred in the year	7,672	31,875
At 30 September	<u>7,672</u>	<u>31,875</u>

Deferred income represents unsaid Masses and advance rent received.

9. TRANSACTIONS WITH TRUSTEES

The Trustees of the Charity are also members of the Order and as such have taken vows of poverty under which they renounce all personal right to income and

capital. The Charity provides for the essential needs of all members of the Order within the Province.

10. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Members of the Order arranged for grants totalling £20,004 (2018: £18,692) to be made from the Hoper Dixon Trust, a trust of which the Dominican Council is a Trustee. The beneficiaries of the Hoper Dixon Trust are the poor connected with or in the neighbourhood of any house or pastoral centre under the direction of Dominicans of the English Province of the Order of Preachers. The Hoper Dixon Trust's Statement of

Financial Activities and Balance Sheet are reproduced in notes 17 and 18 respectively.

As of 30 September 2019, the Hoper Dixon Trust owed the English Province of the Order of Preachers the sum of £5,040 (2018: £4,003) in respect of grants approved and payable.

FUNDS 2019

	Unrestricted Funds			Restricted Funds			Total
	Province General Purpose £	Province Designated £	Total Unrestricted Funds £	Total Branch Funds £	Total Province Restricted £	Total Restricted Funds £	2019 £
Income	458,729	307,312	766,041	2,731,139	161,535	2,892,674	3,658,715
Support costs, governance and generating funds	(287,346)	(97,709)	(385,055)	(8,988)	(380)	(9,368)	(394,423)
Opening funds	171,383	209,603	380,986	2,722,151	161,155	2,883,306	3,264,292
Funds available for use	2,932,241	8,236,607	11,168,848	11,158,040	5,071,400	16,229,440	27,398,288
	3,103,624	8,446,210	11,549,834	13,880,191	5,232,555	19,112,746	30,662,580
Resources directly expended on charitable activities	(239,199)	(222,655)	(461,854)	(2,129,135)	(177,542)	(2,306,677)	(2,768,531)
Inter-fund transfers	98,149	4,168	102,317	(121,888)	19,571	(102,317)	-
Net investment gains	43,531	16,829	60,360	125,748	42,452	168,200	228,560
Allocation of unrealised gains in the year	8,830	75,887	84,717	135,515	27,032	162,547	247,264
Closing funds	3,014,935	8,320,439	11,335,374	11,890,431	5,144,068	17,034,499	28,369,873
TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS							
Sick and Elderly Fund	-	(10,500)	(10,500)	10,500	-	10,500	-
Contributions to shared costs	200,617	39,521	240,138	(234,277)	(5,750)	(240,027)	111
Allocations	(102,468)	(24,853)	(127,321)	101,889	25,321	127,210	(111)
	98,149	4,168	102,317	(121,888)	19,571	(102,317)	-

The transfers represent the obligations of the Province to support the friars and activities of Blackfriars Hall and the individual priories, and also the obligations of the Hall and priories to support the central costs of the Province.

11. FUNDS 2019

FUNDS 2018

	Unrestricted Funds			Restricted Funds			Total
	Province General Purpose £	Province Designated £	Total Unrestricted Funds £	Total Branch Funds £	Total Province Restricted £	Total Restricted Funds £	2018 £
Income	489,709	609,467	1,099,176	3,669,857	(34,600)	3,635,257	4,734,433
Support costs, governance and generating funds	(280,995)	(20,190)	(301,185)	(271,549)	(6,976)	(278,525)	(579,710)
Opening funds	208,714	589,277	797,991	3,398,308	(41,576)	3,356,732	4,154,723
Funds available for use	2,703,791	7,489,868	10,193,659	9,476,247	5,127,188	14,603,435	24,797,094
	2,912,505	8,079,145	10,991,650	12,874,555	5,085,612	17,960,167	28,951,817
Resources directly expended on charitable activities	(170,604)	(246,500)	(417,104)	(1,773,133)	(135,384)	(1,908,517)	(2,325,621)
Inter-fund transfers	96,891	140,803	237,694	(157,404)	(80,290)	(237,694)	-
Net investment gains	1,735	868	2,603	4,314	1,837	6,151	8,754
Allocation of unrealised gains in the year	91,714	262,291	354,005	209,708	199,625	409,333	763,338
Closing funds	2,932,241	8,236,607	11,168,848	11,158,040	5,071,400	16,229,440	27,398,288
TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS							
Sick and Elderly Fund	-	(10,500)	(10,500)	10,500	-	10,500	-
Contributions to shared costs	239,622	50,072	289,694	(303,404)	13,710	(289,694)	-
Allocations	(142,731)	101,231	(41,500)	135,500	(94,000)	41,500	-
	96,891	140,803	237,694	(157,404)	(80,290)	(237,694)	-

The transfers represent the obligations of the Province to support the friars and activities of Blackfriars Hall and the individual priories, and also the obligations of the Hall and priories to support the central costs of the Province.

12. ALLOCATION OF ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

ALLOCATION OF ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS 2019

	Province General Purpose £	Province Designated £	Total Unrestricted Funds £	Total Branch Funds £	Total Province Restricted £	Total Restricted Funds £	2019 £
Investments	3,049,641	7,256,833	10,306,474	6,384,554	4,013,944	10,398,498	20,704,972
Property	436,630	1,038,994	1,475,624	4,118,874	1,107,978	5,226,852	6,702,476
Other fixed assets	-	22,950	22,950	235,171	2,325	237,496	260,446
Current assets	219,042	1,663	220,705	1,291,777	20,245	1,312,022	1,532,727
Creditors: amounts falling due in less than one year	(690,379)	-	(690,379)	(139,946)	(423)	(140,369)	(830,748)
Net Assets	3,014,934	8,320,440	11,335,374	11,890,430	5,144,069	17,034,499	28,369,873

Balances of the principal Province funds are given in note 13.

ALLOCATION OF ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS 2018

	Province General Purpose £	Province Designated £	Total Unrestricted Funds £	Total Branch Funds £	Total Province Restricted £	Total Restricted Funds £	2018 £
Investments	2,987,193	7,425,900	10,413,093	6,328,816	4,145,574	10,474,390	20,887,483
Property	258,803	643,361	902,164	3,622,877	895,019	4,517,896	5,420,060
Other fixed assets	-	165,684	165,684	80,179	4,650	84,829	250,513
Current assets	83,034	1,662	84,696	1,148,667	26,157	1,174,824	1,259,520
Creditors: amounts falling due in less than one year	(396,789)	-	(396,789)	(22,499)	-	(22,499)	(419,288)
Net Assets	2,932,241	8,236,607	11,168,848	11,158,040	5,071,400	16,229,440	27,398,288

13. BALANCES OF PROVINCE FUNDS

	2019 £	2018 £
PROVINCE DESIGNATED		
Sick Funds	3,818,413	3,684,282
Study Funds	3,025,523	2,992,172
Other*	1,476,504	1,560,153
Total Province Designated	8,320,440	8,236,607
PROVINCE RESTRICTED		
Training Funds	4,115,169	4,092,985
Inalienable Property Fund	533,284	535,857
Mission Funds	328,493	341,802
Other*	167,123	100,756
Total Province Restricted	5,144,069	5,071,400

* includes a number of smaller funds designated or restricted for specific charitable activities of the Province.

14. ACTIVITIES IN SCOTLAND

	2019 £	2018 £
Income from activities in Scotland	317,351	217,290
Expenditure on activities in Scotland	(275,698)	(239,862)
Net (Expenditure)/Income relating to activities in Scotland	41,653	(22,572)

15. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

LESSEE

At the reporting date the charity had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payment under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2019 £	2018 £
Within one year: Property	19,065	2,603

LESSOR

At the reporting date the charity had contracted with tenants for the following minimum lease payments:

	2019 £	2018 £
Within one year: Property	-	8,160

16. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

At 30 September 2019, the charity had capital commitments of £461,760 in respect of the refurbishment of a property classified as 'Asset in the course of construction' in Tangible Fixed Assets (note 5).

17. HOPER DIXON TRUST STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds			
	Income Fund	Designated Capital Fund	Total	Total
	£	£	2019	2018
			£	£
INCOME				
Donations and Legacies	-	-	-	-
Investment income:				
Income from investments	15,801	-	15,801	15,530
Income from bank deposits	71	-	71	38
TOTAL INCOME	15,872	-	15,872	15,568
EXPENDITURE				
Expenditure on charitable activities:				
Grants payable	20,004	-	20,004	18,692
Support costs for grants payable	60	-	60	31
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	20,064	-	20,064	18,723
NET GAINS ON INVESTMENT ASSETS	-	31,054	31,054	33,773
Net income (expenditure) and movement in funds	(4,192)	31,054	26,862	30,618
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS				
Fund balances brought forward at 1 October	15,351	488,401	503,752	473,134
Fund balances carried forward at 30 September	11,159	519,455	530,614	503,752

18. HOPER DIXON TRUST BALANCE SHEET

	2019 £	2018 £
FIXED ASSETS		
Investments	519,455	488,401
CURRENT ASSETS		
Bank balances	16,199	19,354
LIABILITIES		
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(5,040)	(4,003)
Net current assets	11,159	15,351
NET ASSETS	530,614	503,752
FUNDS		
Unrestricted Funds		
Income Fund	11,159	15,351
Capital Fund	519,455	488,401
TOTAL FUNDS	530,614	503,752

19. POST BALANCE SHEET EVENT

The Trustees have reviewed the impact of COVID-19 since March 2020 on the charity. The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for the foreseeable future. In arriving at this conclusion, the charity has prepared a detailed budget and cash flow forecast which have been sensitised for the potential impact on revenue streams. Whilst a number of the charity's revenue streams are likely to be adversely impacted, the Trustees consider that the charity has sufficient unrestricted reserves, in the form of cash and a liquid investment portfolio, that could be drawn upon, should the charity be required to do so. On this basis, the Trustees consider that it is appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis.



The Dominican Friars

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