

Fabric Report –The Parish of Bush Hill Park St Mark and St Stephen - May 2026

The churchwardens have continued to work closely with each other over the last year. All items of plate, silver and fabric have been maintained and kept in good order. Although the standing orders have continued, the plate collection has reduced, and the electronic collection has increased in comparison.

We had carol singing at Christmas at Bush Hill Park Station and lights of love which were lit and left during Christmas eve.

The gardens have continued to be kept in good order by gardeners and the gardening club for one side of the garden at the St Mark's site.

Although we have biannual gutter clearing of the church gutters, because we are in an area full of trees around us, we have had quite a few leaks due to gutters being full of fallen leaves.

Church cleaning has continued to be an issue as there aren't many volunteers. We are hoping that we will be able to attract a few more volunteers in the new year.

St Marks site

The gardening club led by Jackie, Janice, and Brian met several times during the year. Work is ongoing to keep the garden in a good state.

Last year the toilet and Sacristy were refurbished. Both areas now look bright and inviting.

We have also repaired some of the flooring. There is still more to be done.

The heating was still not working properly. After a bit of research, we went back to the suppliers of the boiler. In December they serviced the boilers. No 1 was left working and they ordered the parts required to fix boiler no 2. In January they fixed boiler no 2 and now both are now working.

We are hoping to manage and time our gutter clearing a bit better this year to avoid the excess falling leaves and additional expenses.

The usual fire extinguisher checks were done in November and as expected, we had a few replacements.

We had 2 of the trees in front of the church trimmed back. The 3rd tree is due to be done soon.

St Stephen's Church Jan – Dec 2025

In the hall, in January, we had new burners fitted in two of our wall hung gas fires and new timers fitted along with new carbon monoxide alarms. The church boilers were serviced and gas safety certificates were issued. A new backgarden fence was installed at the Curates House after a tree was removed.

February saw the return of Hond and Langer replacing more cracked and broken glass panes in both the church and halls. All gas equipment was serviced in the halls and 1 water boiler was condemned. Overhauling of the sound system took place in the church and new notice boards were fitted replacing the broken wooden ones.

April, we had the flat roof above the main entrance to the church repaired.

May repairs took place in the men's urinals, and the outside leaking tap was replaced.

In June we had the gullies and gutters cleared at the church, halls and vicarage. The annual service of the fire extinguishers for the church and halls also took place.

August saw the cleaning of all the high areas of the large hall.

September, the leaking toilets repaired. Repairs to the car park took place.

October a gas leak in the large hall was resolved and gas wall heater was repaired.

In November we had the high areas of the church cleaned and the electrician also replaced some of the old lights with new led lighting. We also had a new boiler fitted to the small hall replacing the condemned boiler. Another leak in the toilets was repaired. Organ repairs to the organ keys, leather work and the swell took place.

December saw the decoration of the main entrance to the large halls; the electrician was called in to resolve issues with the lighting in the car park. The cleaning of the gullies and gutters took place at the church, halls and vicarage.