



# Racial Justice Grants

## Guidance for Applicants

Funding is available to support initiatives and projects which will actively support diverse ministry and racial equality in churches across the Diocese of Manchester. The funding is provided by the Church of England's Racial Justice Unit, in partnership with the diocese.

The funding is to enable churches in the diocese to be able to support **racial justice** via ministry projects, new activities or written/physical resources. This is part of our initial three-year Racial Justice Programme, as well as supporting the wider delivery of our long-term growth strategy of Growing Younger, Church Planting and Revitalisation, Developing Missional Leaders and Parish Renewal. If the funding is to be used for any capital expenditure items, a clear justification as to how this will support revitalisation and future growth is needed.

It is recommended that before applying for funding that you engage with your local Deanery Transformation Support Officer (DTSO). They can provide support and advice with your proposal and application. They can also provide signposting to alternative funding sources if this fund may not be the most appropriate for your initiative/proposal at this time. Your application will need to be supported by your Area Dean and Mission Community Leader to be considered. This funding can also be used to support any other grant applications match-funding requirements. Currently funding applications can be received up to 2028.

To support parishes in delivering racial justice initiatives safely and sustainably, guidance and advice are available throughout the planning and delivery of your project. Projects must meet diocesan and national safeguarding standards, including clear reporting pathways and appropriate supervision for all activities involving children, young people, or vulnerable adults. Applicants are encouraged to seek support from the safeguarding team at any stage to ensure that all safeguarding considerations are fully addressed and appropriate measures are in place.

As part of our commitment to transparency and good governance, all grant applications must be discussed with the PCC prior to submission. This ensures that the application has the backing of the parish's trustees, provides an essential record of oversight, and demonstrates the shared support and accountability of parish leadership.

Please return initial applications to the Racial Justice Lead, Diane Gray-Stephenson. She will then contact you to arrange a meeting to discuss your application and hear more about your project.

Following this, and any relevant updates completed, your application will be reviewed by the grants Racial Justice Funding Steering Group and then taken to the relevant Board(s). You will then be

notified of the outcome after the meeting. Funding is subject to a formal agreement between the PCC and the Diocesan Board of Finance.

## The upcoming deadlines for applications are:

- Final applications – 10am on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026.
- Decisions made on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026
  
- Final applications – 10am on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2026.
- Decisions made on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2026
  
- Final applications – 10am on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2026.
- Decisions made on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> August 2026

**Please note** that the outline proposal deadlines are indications only. You are strongly advised to submit your outline well ahead of these dates to enable more time for the Racial Justice lead to review your proposal.

It is expected that those who apply for a grant will complete the follow up surveys at 1 and 6 months and provided feedback.

### Contact Details for DTSOs:-

Deanery	DTSO	Contact Details
Bolton	Ima Lomax	imalomax@manchester.anglican.org 07467 719031
Bury & Rossendale		
Salford & Leigh	Sue Brown	suebrown@manchester.anglican.org 07908 663 614
Rochdale		
Oldham & Ashton	John Evans	johnevens@manchester.anglican.org 07769 377226
Manchester North & East	Andy Yates	andrewyates@manchester.anglican.org 07769380498
Manchester South & Stretford	Zoe Kruger	zoekruger@manchester.anglican.org 07769 380189
Diane Gray-Stephenson Racial Justice Programme Lead <a href="mailto:Dianegrays@manchester.anglican.org">Dianegrays@manchester.anglican.org</a> T: 0161 828 1441 M: 07483194387		

## Racial Justice Programme Parish Funding Application

Date: **25 April 2026**

Church/Parish: **St. Thomas, Werneth**

Contact: **Revd. Nick Andrewes**

Average All Age Weekly Attendance:

Sunday: (Church Services)  
**19 (from Statistics for Mission)**  
Thursday: (School Worship in church):  
**470**

Initiative/Project Title: **Permanent Screens & Shared Food**

Overview of Proposed initiative/project: (300 words max):

**St. Thomas' is requesting money to replace our movable TV screen with two permanent ones, and towards the cost of providing food for our regular after-service Bring & Shares. On a Sunday morning, this will enable our diverse, young congregation better to share and celebrate diverse, all-age intercultural worship and food; streamline service preparation and organisation; and grow numerically. On a Thursday morning, this will enable the children at the very diverse St. Thomas CE Primary School to enjoy a richer and more multicultural experience of Christian worship, teaching and life.**

Funding Requested (up to £3000 per church): Breakdown to show what the funds are paying for (e.g. £100 refreshments, £200 venue hire etc.)

**£2,500 towards cost of TV Screens (total: £6,775.80 + VAT)**

**£500 towards cost of Bring and Share food.**

How will the funding help the church to advance racial justice in the parish? (300 words max):

**Our congregation is diverse, approximately:**

- 60% Nigerian**
- 10% Afghan & Iranian**
- 10% S. Asian**
- 20% White English**

**And young: often with approximately 40% secondary school age children from these backgrounds.**

**The school is diverse, approximately 85% S. Asian, 5% Black African, 5% Roma, 5% White English.**

**The purposes in permanently installing the TV are:  
better to enjoy a greater diversity of Christian content to project an image to the school children of Christianity in all its diverse cultural expressions,  
better to celebrate and affirm the richness of congregation members' own ethnic backgrounds,**

and their expressions of Christianity,

better to enjoy content which is visual and engages young people as well as adults.

The purposes of the food component are:

better to affirm and celebrate the ethnic backgrounds of all our congregation members at our bi-monthly Bring & Share meals after church;

better to bring our church community together and build relationships of understanding, love and trust;

better to welcome new members into church at special events (and then, hopefully, regular events);

better to enable members, who may not have much money, to bring food to participate in such events.

In addition the Parish now hosts a popular HAF holiday club which draws children from the local, diverse, deprived community. 35-40 attended daily in the first week of the Easter holiday. This figure is projected to grow significantly. The screen is also used to support learning in the English Class delivered in church by people who do not speak English well. Again, the screens will benefit people from a wide range of backgrounds, enriching their lives, and supporting pathways towards integration and participation in wider society.

Diocese Strategy - Outputs and Outcomes supported (please tick all that apply):

Outcomes & Outputs (2030 Goals as per Diocese Strategy)		Tick
Growing Younger	Increase in average weekly attendance of those under 18	Tick
	Increasing diversity of under 18s attending church weekly.	Tick
	Increase number of activity in parishes aimed at under 18s	Tick
Church Planting & Revitalisation	Provision of materials/resources for multicultural mission in parishes	Tick
	Increase new Anglican multicultural congregations/Christian gatherings within parishes	
Parish Renewal	Increase in people attending church - All Age Total Average Weekly Attendance	Tick
	Increase diversity of people attending church weekly - All Age Total Average Weekly Attendance	Tick
	Increase people attending church in the 10% most deprived areas - All Age Total Average Weekly Attendance	Tick
	A commitment to Racial justice Sunday	
Developing Missional Leaders	Empowering clergy and laity to minister and lead in their local contexts.	
	Provide learning opportunities to clergy and laity	Tick

Please provide any details of how these activities will be supported by the parish/congregation? (300 words max):

**We have already trained a number of Nigerian young people to operate the devices during services.**

**We have used a portable screen during services and school worship for 4 years, and its use is welcomed: it is time to make it permanent.**

**A faculty application for the screens is now in the Public Notice stage: the PCC were involved in**

discussions around size and position of the screens, and fully agreed to the change.

The parish Mission Action Plan stresses simplifying Sunday morning preparation, so increasing focus. Fixed screens will enable this, and reduce setup errors, providing a consistent and more accessible and enjoyable worship experience on a Sunday morning.

Congregation members already cook food and welcome friends at the Bring and Share meals. Again this is part of our Mission Action Plan missional strategy.

How will the initiative/project delivery be managed? (200 words max)

**TV SCREENS:**

A faculty has already been obtained. Nigerian young people operate the devices. Playlists are produced and distributed by the incumbent, and downloaded by the young people. Actually a purpose of permanently fixing the screens is to reduce the management required!

**FOOD:**

The Treasurer will reimburse expense receipts, where food has been purchased, and where they are claimed.

If the initiative/project requires purchasing items or services, how would this be done? (200 words max)

**TV SCREENS:**

We already have a quotation, which was the cheapest of two. (£6,775.80+VAT and £10,728.0+VAT respectively)

A small contribution from the Oldham Parish Children's Education Fund has been applied for. Potentially £1,000.

A contribution from Benefact Trust will also be applied for.

**FOOD:**

Individuals would purchase ingredients on their own initiative, and reclaim the cost from the Treasurer, if required, by submitting receipts.

Please confirm that your respective PCC (minutes), Area Dean, and Mission Community Leader support this application. **Yes.**

**Minutes are attached.**

**There is currently no Area Dean.**

**I am the Mission Community Leader.**