

CHRIST CHURCH, WEST WIMBLEDON
Sharing God's Love



Giving generously
as an
act of worship

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN
MAY 2019



Dear Friend of Christ Church...

This month we are running a Stewardship Campaign to encourage everyone to review their financial giving, helping our Church survive and thrive for future generations.

What does Stewardship mean?

Stewardship is the way we respond to life when we become disciples of Christ. At its heart is the recognition that all that we have, and all that we are, is a gift from God. We are stewards of all He has given us and that includes our time, our talents and our money.

Our generosity is one of the values that mark us out as Christians. A good proportion of the congregation give regularly and we give thanks for all that you already give and do for Christ Church. Our hope is that even more of you will become regular givers.

What you give is a personal matter between you and God but we hope you will consider whether you are giving as generously as you can. If you conclude that you can increase your giving, or maybe due to a windfall can make a one-off gift, that will be enormously helpful to us.

What does your generosity mean to Christ Church?

The cost of running the church and paying for the Vicar is nearly £2,700 each week – rising with inflation every day. The stark fact is that we are not even covering our day-to-day running costs, let alone paying for the major repairs and maintenance required to the church and hall. Christ Church gets no state funding. Maintaining our church for today and securing it for the future requires continued expense.

My prayer is that our Church may continue to flourish. It can do so – but only with your help. I hope this leaflet will give you the information you need to review your stewardship of Christ Church.

May God guide you as you reflect upon all He has given as you decide prayerfully on what you can offer back in gratitude and thankfulness.

Michael J. Burns

With my thanks and prayers, Michael Burns, Vicar

How your giving supports our Church

1 The Vicar: Christ Church pays a Parish Share to the Diocese of £82,000 per annum in total. £78,000 of this provides our full-time priest (£27,000 salary, £12,000 NI and pension, £9,000 housing and £30,000 towards the Diocese) and the rest is our contribution to support poorer parishes in our Diocese.

2 Young People: Our children and young people contribute so vibrantly to life at Christ Church. Your generous giving supports the work of our talented teachers and leaders, helping our young learn and grow in faith and ensuring we are a vibrant Church for the future.



3 Our mission action plan is to share God's love in all our work – walking together in faith, welcoming friends and strangers and working for our community. To do this we would like to invest in a number of initiatives including updating our website, enhancing the welcome area in the Church

and becoming a more outward facing Church.

4 Music and Worship: Thanks to your giving, we are very fortunate to be able to employ a very gifted Director of Music helping us make our worship joyous.

5 Administration: We employ a part-time Administrator and a part-time Bookkeeper. Their valuable work frees up the Vicar and Church Council to concentrate on developing and growing the mission work of the Church.

6 Buildings: As a Grade 2 listed building caring for our beautiful Church is costly. Our Hall is also undergoing major refurbishment. We get no state funding and have to find the resources to pay for the maintenance and development of our buildings ourselves.

7 Charitable Giving: We would like to increase our giving to local, national and international charities.

Our offerings should be a joyful expression of giving back to a generous God

A few questions for you to consider in prayer...

- *Is your giving represent a realistic proportion of your income?*
- *Can you regularly donate more?*
- *Could you leave a bequest for the Church in your Will?*
- *Is there anything more you can offer to help the life of Christ Church, however small? We are always glad of volunteers to help with the many jobs that make church run smoothly.*

You may decide you are already giving and doing as much as you can. Please be assured that we are thankful for that. Perhaps your giving has to reduce because of a change in your circumstances. We quite understand if you have to take that decision. Thank you for what you are able to give.

How to give

- To ensure regular weekly or monthly giving please use the **giving envelopes** (available in Church) or **bank standing orders** (see accompanying leaflet). To increase your Standing Order simply contact your Bank with your new instructions.
- If you are a Taxpayer, please **Gift Aid** your giving – this increases donations by 25% at no cost to you
- If you currently put cash in the **offertory bag** would you consider taking a set of **giving envelopes** or making a regular payment through your bank? That way you are contributing even when you are unable to attend.

Please rest assured that all giving is in confidence.

WE ARE RUNNING AT A LOSS

In 2018 we had a deficit of £41,930 due to the unexpected cost of vital stonework repairs. Whilst we have met this deficit from our reserves, we need to improve the level of giving to secure the future ministry of Christ Church. We expect to be in deficit this year, not least due to the ongoing refurbishment of the Church Hall.

2018 INCOME

Congregational Giving	£130,612
Other income	£39,661
Charitable Giving	£5,358

TOTAL **£175,631**

2018 EXPENDITURE

Payment to the Diocese	£82,000
Running costs (Church/Hall)	£60,218
Major repair costs (Church/Hall)	£69,985
Charitable Giving	£5,358

TOTAL **£217,561**

DEFICIT **-£41,930**