



## Financial Foundations for the Future

## What is the Parish Share?

Each Church in the Diocese contributes money, the 'Parish Share', to the Diocese. The Diocese then uses these funds to pay for Ministry & Mission through out the Diocese – how it spends it is detailed below.

### For every £100 contributed:

**£80** is used to train, pay and house our parochial clergy.

**£12** provides advisers to help our parish: make disciples, develop outreach in our community, discern vocations to ministry, train our lay leaders, resource our mission and ministry, and support children's and youth work in our locality. It also provides resources for the 278 Church schools in our diocese. It supports social responsibility initiatives for older people, young families, and disabled people, and advocacy on housing, poverty, justice and social care.

**£4** supports Diocesan financial, administrative, legal and trust work.

**£4** supports the work of the national Church including clergy retirement housing provision.

## Who to contact

For more information please contact **David Williams**, the Rector, the Parish Office (01844 273300) or one of the church wardens.

If you want to find out more about planned giving please contact **Michael Hoey or Carole Bromhall**.

If you want to find out more about church finance in general please contact **Jane Dyson**.

## Vision

The Church has a vision for 2020. It is to be 'Rooted and Fruitful', sharing the love of Christ with all; this means that for the life of our Church:

- We will continue to develop the rich variety of services and prayer ministry for all ages.
- We will develop our Children's and Youth ministry, and we will provide inspiration and growth for Christians of all ages.
- We believe in the importance of enabling everyone to intentionally grow in their faith, working through our Life Groups and our courses, training and teaching.
- We seek to be good and wise stewards of our buildings that they may be used in support of the missional work we are called to fulfil.
- We will communicate both within the Church community and outwardly to the wider community to clearly present and share the love of Christ with all.

## The challenge

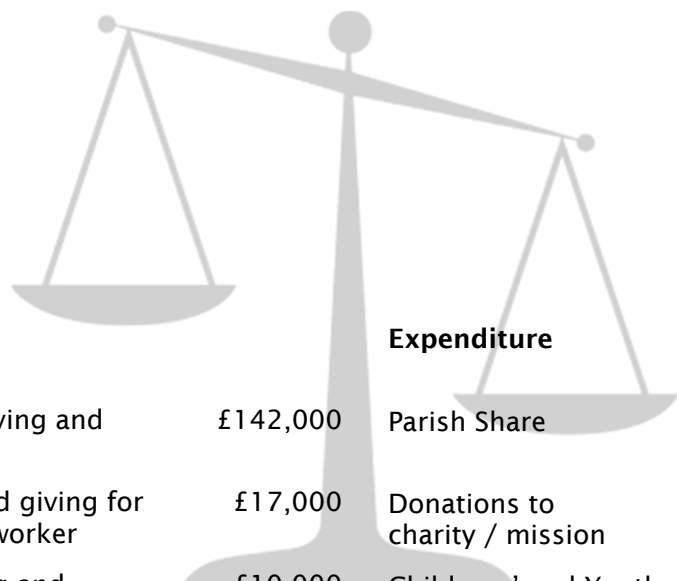
What we do at St Mary's is only made possible by the generous commitment in time, prayer and money of so many people, but like many other organisations we find that our income is not keeping pace with the needs of our growing Church Family. If things stay as they are, we face an increasing financial deficit and cannot continue to grow our ministry and mission.

## Money at St Mary's – a delicate balancing act.

As a Church family we are blessed with many generous gifts, but it is important that we remember why we give and how we support God's work. If we are to achieve what we have set out in our vision, we must be able to fund our work.

Over the last few years a gap has developed between the money coming in, and the need to spend. If nothing else changes, that gap will grow to a point that is unsustainable. This is illustrated below using the budget for 2018—showing a deficit of £25,000. On top of this there is the need to meet major costs arising from the maintenance of our buildings and churchyard.

### Taking this into account the funding gap is nearly £40,000 this year.



Income		Expenditure	
Planning giving and gift aid	£142,000	Parish Share	£88,000
Time-limited giving for Childrens' worker	£17,000	Donations to charity / mission	£33,000
Other giving and donations	£10,000	Childrens' and Youth work	£31,000
Investment income	£9,000	Buildings and churchyard	£22,000
Fees and other income (including hire)	£8,000	Administration and other expenses	£37,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>£186,000</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>£211,000</b>

## How you can help!

It costs over £4,000 a week to run the church, with most of this covering our obligations to people and the premises. At present we have a shortfall in income of £750 per week. A review of all our expenditure is already in place through the PCC, but the reality is that reducing expenditure will not make up the shortfall in funds: increasing income is the overwhelming priority.

## What to do next—all can play a part

Giving remains one of the most significant features of our life of faith. It not only reflects the generosity of God, it also serves as the means by which our initiatives and commitments in church life are supported.

Could you consider these steps as we enact generous giving:

- Join our stewardship scheme and commit to regular giving – all amounts, large and small, can make a huge difference.
- If you already give regularly, please take the opportunity to review how much you give. It's a good idea to review this annually to reflect changing circumstances, both good and bad.
- Use Gift Aid – if you are a taxpayer you can increase the amount the church receives by 25% by simply filling in a gift aid form (and this can cover one-off as well as regular donations).
- Consider leaving a legacy.

Every new or increased amount of giving, however small or large, is both vital and valuable for our vision to continue to be carried out.

Additional giving per week	Number giving	Total extra giving per year (with gift aid)
£1	70	£5,000
£5	60	£18,000
£10	25	£17,000
		<b>£40,000</b>

### 2 Corinthians 9:7

*Give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.*