

Dear Church Family at St Mary's

Sound Foundations – Financing Faith

The last few years have seen great strides in achieving our shared vision for St Mary's to share the love of Christ with all: the refurbishment of the church building, growth in new services and activities, maturing links with other churches, the development of groups for young and old. Our ability to achieve this vision, here in Princes Risborough, is only made possible by the generous commitment in time, prayer and money of so many people. For this, and on behalf of the PCC, I would like to say a very grateful and heartfelt 'thank you'.

Since late last year we have been reviewing our vision, discerning the next steps in God's plans for St Mary's and our service to the community of Princes Risborough. Whilst the focus remains unchanged it's important to take time to think about the key priorities and actions for the next few years recognising the changed environment we are in, locally, nationally and globally. The PCC's work on the vision, which was launched at the Annual Parish Meeting in April, will provide a sound foundation to grow God's kingdom through St Mary's Church.

Along with the vision we need to ensure our finances provide a sound foundation for the future. Like many other organisations in the current climate we find that our income is not keeping pace with the needs of our growing Church Family. As the enclosed leaflet explains we need to increase our income significantly to ensure our long term financial stability. Please take the time to read the leaflet and to prayerfully consider how you can respond at this time.

As we think about the next stage in making the vision reality, and particularly as we think about the financial implications, we are holding a series of open sessions to give an opportunity to ask questions and find out more. Three sessions are planned, all to be held in the church and lasting up to an hour and a half.

- Tuesday 10 July at 7.30pm
- Friday 13 July at 10.30am
- Sunday 15 July at 4pm

I hope you will be able to attend one of these and join in the discussion as we seek to follow God's call for St Mary's in sharing the love of Christ with all in this community.

Thank you,

David

Revd David Williams
Team Rector, St Mary's Princes Risborough

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