

**SUPPORTING GOD'S WORK
with our Finances
at St Mary's Eaton Socon
2020 – 2021**

(UPDATE)

**...part of worshipping our
amazing God**



The Challenge of 2020

Thank You!

Greetings from St Mary's Leadership – thank you for your continuing support through these challenging days. Here is a finance update for both 2020 and looking forward to 2021.

2020's Budget

When 2020's budget was set, not only was it the most encouraging budget set in recent years, but it also proposed the lowest shortfall of £8440.

In a normal year, it was reasonable to assume this would be covered by new and increased giving, thus enabling us to keep the Gift Day focus on capital and future developments (e.g. a Kitchen).

None of us could have ever foreseen the challenges that Covid-19 would bring.

Responding to changing circumstances

Throughout 2020, we responded quickly to the changing circumstances to ensure we made timely savings to minimise the impact to our deteriorating finances, for example the furloughing of the staff – thank you to the staff for supporting us through this challenging time.

However, St Mary's still incurs the ongoing costs in relation to our ministry and our responsibilities to keep our church buildings clean and safe.

We know from the feedback received that people have appreciated:

- ◆ our live-stream services
- ◆ the online resources made available on the church's website
- ◆ the weekly challenge
- ◆ the excellent Youth work (run by volunteers)
- ◆ the weekly paper resources we deliver to people
- ◆ the regular telephone calls
- ◆ our move to start reinstating various services
- ◆ the Life Events we have continued to take

Adapting our ministry...

The loss of income...

When we consider our income, we have been hit hard, with less income being received from Regular Giving, Church Hall Lettings, Life Events (Weddings & Funerals) and Cash Collections, amounting to over £12,000.

We rejoice that 2020's resourcing has been met in full by the Gift Day.

As we look to 2021 and assume that we will continue to live with Covid-19 for the foreseeable future, our ministry priorities need to continue adapting, whilst minimising any negative impact to our church finances.

Adapting our ministry...

Subject to our resourcing, this could include:

- ♦ enabling opportunities that bring people together on-site where possible within the ever changing constraints to continue learning, loving and living out the Gospel
- ♦ helping children and their families to engage more effectively with the Church's online and on-site ministry
- ♦ building larger teams of people to help resource the on-site and online ministries
- ♦ developing our live-streaming opportunities and online presence
- ♦ expanding our paper resources to connect with those without computers

The PCC recognises that the months ahead will continue to place a huge pressure on not only our personal finances, but also on the church's finances.

In response, the PCC has prepared the 2021 budget that reflects the current situation – this includes the **loss of income of over £12,000**, together with significant expenditure reductions made across nearly all areas. This has not been an easy decision to arrive at, but a necessary one.

Even with these reductions, **we still anticipate a shortfall of £4500 in 2021.**

How you can help

A way forward...

We ask you to **prayerfully consider your response** to this.

How can you help? It may be:

- ◆ You feel you can respond with a one-off gift
- ◆ You can increase your regular giving
- ◆ If you don't already give regularly, you may like to start supporting St Mary's on a regular basis

Increasing our regular giving is the most important option because it will help to resource the church's ongoing ministry and help avoid further budget cuts.

Responding...

On the next page, you will find a response form that gives you the opportunity to respond. It includes both options to give a one-off gift and a pledge to increasing one's regular giving. There's also the opportunity to start supporting St Mary's if this is new to you.

Please prayerfully consider your response, indicate which option(s) you can support at this time and **return to the Church Treasurer.**

All responses are handled by the Treasurer & Assistant Treasurer in complete confidence.

If you have any questions or would like further clarification about any aspect, please do contact myself, Roy Notley the Treasurer or any member of PCC.

In God, all things are possible – what will our corporate response be?

With every blessing

Tim, Vicar St Mary's Eaton Socon

Your Response

Your Details *(If you give anonymously using the PGS, please leave 'Your Details' blank)*

Name incl Title _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Your Response *(tick all that apply)*

I would like to give a one off gift of £ _____

I commit to increasing my regular giving by £ _____

Week Month

Quarter Year

from _____ (insert date)

I would like to start supporting St Mary's through regular giving
(The Treasurer will contact you shortly)

Gift Aid can be claimed on my gift as I pay Tax
(please complete the Gift Aid Declaration on the next page if not already completed)

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please return to address found at bottom of Standing Order Form (p7)

To find out more about Regular Planned Giving, please contact:

The Treasurer - Roy Notley

Tel: (01234) 589308 / Email: finance@eatonsocon.org

Gift Aid Declaration

If you pay tax, please read and complete this Gift Aid Declaration

To the Eaton Socon Parochial Church Council (PCC)

Title _____
First Name _____
Surname _____
House Number (or name) _____
Postcode _____

Tick all that apply.

<input type="checkbox"/>	I would like to Gift Aid all future donations until further notice
<input type="checkbox"/>	I would like to Gift Aid all previous donations for the charity's current financial period and the previous four

I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for the current tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities and Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for the current tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. I understand the charity will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I have given.

Notes:

Please tell us if you

1. Want to cancel this declaration
2. Change your name or home address
3. No longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains.

If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Bank Standing Order Form

Bank/Building Society Name:

Address:

Post Code:

Account Name:

Sort code:

Account Number:

Please pay the **'Eaton Socon Parochial Church Council'**

The sum of £

And in words:

Commencing on date:

And a like sum every month/quarter/year until further notice. (Please delete if not applicable).
Please debit my account with each payment made. This order cancels any previous instruction
in the favour of the above named PCC.

Eaton Socon PCC Bank:

Barclays Bank

Address:

41 High Street
St Neots, PE19 1AS

Account Name:

Eaton Socon PCC

Sort Code and Account Number:

20-74-81

60347043

Signature:

Date:

When completed, please return to: The Treasurer,
c/o St Mary's Church, Great North Road, Eaton Socon PE19 8EJ
Tel: (01234) 589308 Email: finance@eatonsocon.org