

**SUPPORTING GOD'S WORK
with our Finances
at St Mary's Eaton Socon
in 2022**

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



Thank you & Giving Thanks!

Thank You!

Greetings from St Mary's Leadership – thank you for your continuing support through recent months. Here is a finance update for both 2021 and looking forward to 2022.

Looking Back and Giving Thanks

It's important that our starting point is one of giving thanks to God for his provision through the last two years. Although all our lives have been turned upside down in various ways by Covid19, God has been ever-present with us throughout the pandemic and continues to walk with us through all changing scenes of life.

Some areas of Church life to give thanks for include (and there are others):

- ◆ The Church's pastoral care of people
- ◆ Those who have worked tirelessly to provide attended services
- ◆ The Youth work
- ◆ The livestreaming of services
- ◆ The regular paper resources for those without computer access
- ◆ The Church Bible & Kitchen Projects funded by donations and grants (not general giving)

When we come to the church's finances, savings made during 2021 include:

- Using the Government Furlough Scheme saved £3,000 (this is in addition to the £10,000 saved in 2020)
- Staffing savings were made due to a combination of Parental leave and Tim not having a PA for the last 3 months of 2021 saving £7,500
- General expenses have been much lower

These combined savings amounting to over £12,000 have helped us balance the budget this year without the need for a Gift Day. Thanks be to God! However, these savings won't be repeated in 2022.

Looking Forward and Trusting God

Looking Forward and Trusting God

2022's budget has been the most challenging budget St Mary's has had to prepare in many years. Factors influencing this include:

- ◆ No Furlough scheme
- ◆ We anticipate staffing levels being restored to their 2019 levels
- ◆ A loss of nearly £10,000 in regular giving due to changes in people's circumstances
- ◆ A small increase in Parish Share
- ◆ Increases in energy costs
- ◆ General Church Expenses will increase back to their normal levels (this reflects the resumption of church activities, ministries and events)

If we were to resource St Mary's to the same level as we did in 2019, the above factors add up to a **shortfall of nearly £27,000**. This, the PCC felt, was not realistic in the current climate.

After much prayer and debate, the PCC has reluctantly agreed to reduce two areas in the short term: World Mission and PA support to Tim. Both of these have been reduced by 50%, saving £9628.

With these savings, we still face a shortfall in 2022 of around £17,000.

We believe we can meet this £17,000 shortfall challenge if everyone plays their part. However, our ability to support essential mission, allowing the Gospel message to be taken out in our local community and beyond, will be shaped in 2022 by our financial position.

Regular giving supports the key work of St Mary's and we are all called to be good stewards of our resources.

Once we have financial clarity for 2022, the PCC plans to revisit the budget.

So what can you do to help?

Read on to discover...



How you can help

Two Things To Do:

The **first thing** we need to do is to come before the Lord and ask him what he wants you to give of all he has entrusted you with.

This could be a one-off gift or an increase in regular giving - it could be both! Increases in regular giving will help the church to resource its ongoing ministry and keep the church's finances on a firm footing for the future.

The **second thing** to do is to complete the Pledge Response form on the next page. It includes both options to give a one-off gift and a pledge to increase one's regular giving.

There is also the opportunity to start supporting St Mary's if this is new to you.

Please prayerfully consider your response, indicating which option(s) you can support at this time and return to the church **by Sunday 9 January 2022**.

All responses are handled by the Treasurer in complete confidence.

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



2022's Pledge Response Form

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 _____ (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 this form and one off gifts in the envelope supplied

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: _____

A close-up photograph of a person's hands holding a small, rectangular gift wrapped in brown paper and tied with a piece of twine. The background is softly blurred, showing the face of another person. Three green circular callouts are overlaid on the image, containing text.

Bring the
whole tithe
into the
storehouse...

...that
there may
be food in
my house.

Malachi
3:10