

WHY GIVE TO ST JOHN'S CHURCH?

Our Church has been here now for over 100 years. Once on the edge of the ancient town, it is now immersed in a thriving and expanding city. We are planning ahead to ensure that in 100 years time the Church of St. John the Evangelist will remain the active hub of this community.

We are a self-funding organisation. We are part of the church of England, a Church within the Diocese of Ely, but this does not mean that we are, or should be, dependent on other Churches for financial support.

As a Church, our most important source of income is that which is donated by our members. Money given regularly enables us not only to meet our running costs, but also to plan ahead and fund projects that will not only improve and maintain the fabric of the Church, but will enable us to reach out to our local community and beyond, with social and charitable projects.

Many of our costs are fixed, so the more money we raise on a regular basis above the level needed to meet our costs, the more we can increase the range of our activities. From the elderly, whether living on their own home or in sheltered accommodation, to the youngest, whether in school or still a toddler, we try to provide friendship and support through Church - based activities.

At the moment we raise about 55% of our general income from regular donations of around 45% of those families on our electoral roll. Increasing the proportion of our membership that donate regularly would make a significant difference to our ability to meet our mission goals and ensure the maintenance of our building. Families give on average £18 per week with the benefit of Gift Aid. Attracting ten new donors would give our church with the benefit of Gift Aid over £9,000 per annum.

Church members also give generously to charity and overseas mission work. As a church we currently cover our running costs but require surplus income to build up funds for future projects. In 2017 we committed ourselves to a project to increase accessibility at St John's and to renovate our kitchen area. We hope these improvements will not only enrich the life of our congregation but also the wider community. This project has been funded in addition to the general income that we need for our mission and maintenance work.

In our stewardship of money given we seek to do what we believe to be God's work, in our care of the people of the congregation, of the Parish and the wider world.

If you would like more information on any aspect of the Church's finances and how to give please talk to our treasurer, Roger Lilley.