

Vision Express

2019



cheltenham + minster
st matthew's church

Passionate about Jesus

Dear Friends,

We are at an exciting moment in the life of our church. We have a renewed vision, to be **Passionate about Jesus**, and a set of ministry commitments: **Discipleship, Prayer/Worship, Mission and Community**. We now need the faith and resources to make this vision a reality.

Discipleship

In every area of church life, we are committed to growing in our understanding of God's love: through our Sunday preaching, various small groups, our Sunday Club and Youth ministries, and our own personal Bible study.

Prayer and Worship

We are committed to responding to God's love as we gather as a church for praise and worship and as we pray in our various gatherings and prayer groups. We worship together so that we can also worship God better in our daily lives.

Mission

Because we are passionate about Jesus, we are committed to sharing that love with family, friends, colleagues, neighbours, school friends and work colleagues. We are also committed to sharing his love far beyond the confines of our local community, nationally and internationally.

Community

The church is a family whose members have been loved unconditionally by Jesus, and so we are committed to loving each other unconditionally. We serve each other practically, especially when people are in need. We want to share this love with the wider community of Cheltenham and beyond.



Funding our Ministry

The Staff Team

Thankfully, we are blessed with a gifted and committed staff team who enable us to serve our church family and reach out to our community.

Clare Dyson, our Associate Vicar, has now assumed responsibility for our work through the Minster and is already doing a great job building on the foundations that Andy Hall laid. The Minster has an important role within the Civic life of our town and remains a focal point for many who visit the town throughout the year. Clare continues to be Pastoral Minister for the whole parish.



It has become clear that **Patrick Wheaton** has been pulled in too many directions, working partly in St Luke's and partly in St Matthew's. We have therefore agreed with Patrick, and the Wardens from St Luke's, that, from September 2019, he will concentrate his efforts only on St Luke's parish. St Luke's will increase their contribution to our combined parish share incrementally over the next 2-3 years. That contribution will cover the full costs of Patrick's ministry by the end of the period and reduce the amount that the Minster and St Matthew's contribute to the Diocese.

Patrick's exclusive focus on St Luke's means there will be a big gap at our 6.30 service and in the running of our central small groups. **Simon Phillips** will join us from September this year as Associate Minister, and will particularly focus on leading the 6.30 service and ministering to the 18-30s whose numbers have dwindled at St Matthew's in recent years. We have already seen growth through the work that **Annie Phillips** has done with teenagers. Her husband, Simon will provide continuity as our young people transition into work or university life. He will also lead our ministry to the thousands of students who come to Cheltenham each year.



Andy Sawers resigned from his position as Administration Manager in 2018. **Jayne Seward** took over that part-time role, adding it to the work she does as our Children's Minister, another part-time role. With help from Luke Blackburn, Gill Sage, Sarah Brown and Jennie Aldridge, Jayne runs the church office, and is responsible for the day to day running of the two church buildings. There are many volunteers who help in all sorts of roles, both in the office and in other ways, and we are incredibly grateful to them.



Richard Coombs is our Rector. He is responsible for setting the vision and strategy for the church. He leads the staff team and is responsible for all the ministry that takes place in the parish. He has a particular concern for teaching and worship in, and for the theological direction of, the parish. He works closely with the Church Wardens and chairs the Parochial Church Council.

Every member of our staff team is essential if we are to deliver the ministries to which we believe God is calling us: Discipleship, Prayer and Worship, Mission, and Community .

We pay the Diocese an annual contribution which goes towards paying the stipends for Richard and Patrick together with pensions, housing and training for all our ordained ministers. This year our contribution is £149,000. This amount will reduce as St Luke's moves towards funding the cost of Patrick in full. In addition, some funds go to the Diocese for administration; resource costs; and supporting much less wealthy parishes in the Diocese. Richard has applied for a curate and is hopeful that we will be given one in the next couple of years. The curate's stipend, pension and housing would also be covered by our parish share. The rest of our staff costs for Clare, Jayne, Annie, Simon, and our admin team, including National Insurance and Pensions will be £120,000 a year and are all paid by the PCC. To fully fund our ministry, the rest of our budget and to have a small contingency, we need to raise an additional £50,000 per year.

Buildings

We are responsible for the upkeep of two landmark buildings in the centre of Cheltenham. These are the Minster, which attracts around 10,000 visitors a year, and St Matthew's, which is likewise a listed building but has the flexibility to be used in a variety of ways for ourselves and for outside functions.

The bell ringers have, by monumental efforts, managed to raise around £400,000 to replace the Minster bells and now need only a few thousand pounds in order to clear some small individual loans from church members.

The Diocesan organ consultant has now approved the installation of the new Magnus digital organ within the Minster. We are now applying for faculty approval from the Diocese to enable us to reposition the console to replace the old pipe organ keyboard, installed in the 19th century. We are so grateful to the Friends of the Minster who have funded the new organ, which digitally reproduces the magnificent organ at Hereford Cathedral.

St Matthew's Church Kitchen

At St Matthew's, we need to replace the kitchen which was installed in 1999. Doors are falling off, worktops are chipped, a fitted fridge is broken, the gas cooker limps through its annual gas inspection and the dishwasher is at the end of its useful life. The kitchen is put to use on every day of the week and it is a wonder that it has lasted this long. If we are to fulfil our ministry commitments, we urgently need to replace it. Look at the benefit of the kitchen:

'I enjoy CAMEO, especially the lunches'

'It's great to be part of the monthly breakfast buzz at the Ten O'clock'

'Coffee and tea before and after a service are welcome and help make a relaxed atmosphere to catch up with each other'

'The cooked meal before Central Small Groups makes coming along less of a rush'

'I need that coffee at Bright Lights'

'Teenagers love being fed!'

'It's great we can hold receptions in our home church, visitors are really amazed'

In fact, not much happens without the use of the kitchen!



Plans have been laid down to completely refit the kitchen, but we will need to raise somewhere in the region of £40,000 to do the work.

Please stand with us, and all the fellowship, as we seek to build and grow God's kingdom as we are passionate about Jesus.

Richard

Clare

Bill

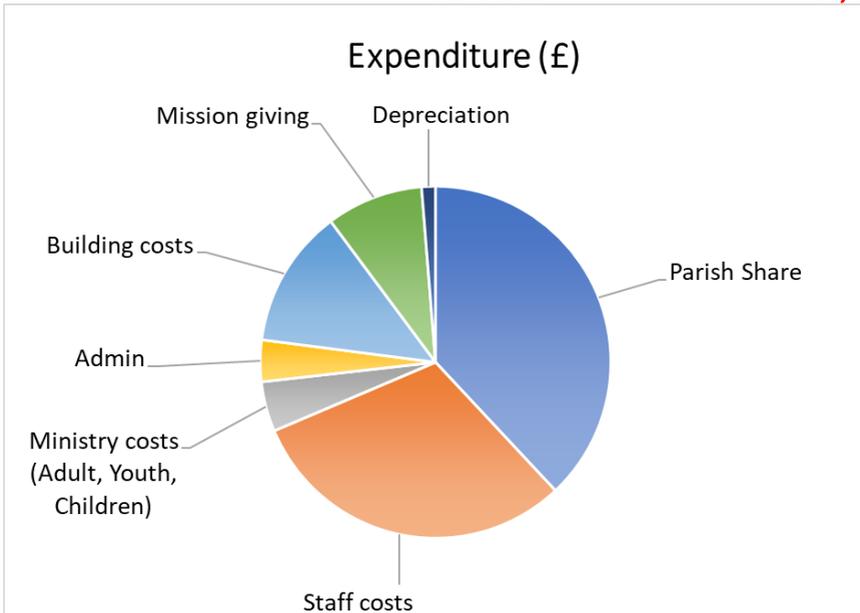
Richard Coombs, Rector,
Clare Salisbury and Bill Harvey, Churchwardens

Church Finance

For many years, our parish has covered its annual deficit by using funds from some very large bequests. These funds are now almost completely exhausted, and so we need to increase our giving if we are going to fully fund our ministry.

2019 Budget

Income (£)		Expenditure (£)	
Planned Giving	305,000	Parish Share	149,000
Collections	12,000	Staff costs	120,000
Other giving	20,000	Ministry costs	
Other Income	15,000	(Adult, Youth, Children)	18,000
		Admin	15,000
		Building costs	50,000
		Mission giving	35,000
		Depreciation	5,000
Total income	352,000	Total expenditure	392,000
		Shortfall	40,000



Giving to the Church

Frequently Asked Questions

Who looks after our Planned Giving?

Andy Ponting is our Planned Giving Secretary and Adrian Bowcher is our Treasurer. They should be your first point of contact with all matters relating to giving. All details remain confidential.

How do I contact someone regarding Giving to the church?

All contact details are given below.

How can I give to the church?

We have a number of ways you can give or donate to our churches.

PARISH GIVING SCHEME (PGS) is our favoured route, but we appreciate it does not suit everyone. Complete a simple form and either return it to Andy Ponting or send to the address given within. You can choose the frequency of your gifts from monthly, quarterly or annually, and also you can elect for your gifts to be increased in line with inflation on the anniversary of joining the scheme. The advantage to the church is that we gain the Gift Aid tax of 25% back immediately which helps our cash flow enormously.

DIRECT DEBIT from your bank. This can be set up or changed at any time by contacting your bank and giving them our bank details which are printed below.

ENVELOPES are available from Andy Ponting. These enable regular gifts to be given. There are also envelopes near the collection plates to allow for one-off gifts to be given at any time including by church visitors.

CASH into the collection plate each time you wish to make a donation. We would prefer you not to give in this way as it is not tax efficient and we could lose out financially if you are a tax payer.

How do I increase my giving?

PARISH GIVING SCHEME (PGS) Simply contact the PGS Office (details below), give them your name address and church, and tell them what you would like to do. They will ensure it happens. Initially, you may want to contact Andy Ponting who will be able to give you your reference number which may help speed up the process.

DIRECT DEBIT from your bank. The transaction is between the bank and the church and only you can make changes to this by contacting your bank and informing them of the changes you wish to make.

I have not yet started giving to the church how can I start?

Contact Andy Ponting for advice.

The PARISH SHARE SCHEME is our preferred method.

Can I change from my Direct Debit to The Parish Giving Scheme?

Yes. You need to contact your bank and end your current direct debit. The PGS office cannot do this on your behalf. Once that is done collect the PGS form from the foyer in St. Matthew's or from the table in The Minster, complete it, and send it off.

Can I make a ONE OFF donation for a specific cause?

Yes. By putting a cheque or cash into one of the envelopes provided and writing the cause on the envelope, we recognise it as RESTRICTED GIVING to that cause and it will not be used for anything else. Our Christmas Appeals are an example of this. From time to time, we have envelopes printed for specific purposes.

Can I give anonymously?

Yes. The Parish Giving Scheme has a tick box so that your name and details are not known to anyone within the church. We still gain the additional 25% tax from HMRC if you are a UK tax payer.

Direct Debit giving - you can advise your bank to withhold your name from the bank statement. The drawback to this is we are unable to claim the tax of an additional 25% back from HMRC

Contact details:

Planned Giving Secretary: Andy Ponting
andy@pontings.co.uk 01242 517812 or 07881 501325

Treasurer: Adrian Bowcher
treasurer@stmstm.org.uk

Parish Share Office; (QUOTE OUR PARISH REFERENCE -164/CHTM)

PARISH SHARE SCHEME

Church House,

College Green

Gloucester GL1 2LY

Tel: 01452 835595 info@parishgivingscheme.org.uk

St Matthews Bank Details:

HSBC Account Number 50649236 Sort Code 40-17-10

