



Parish Appeal 2022



Welcome to our Parish Appeal, the first for some years. Please take a little while to read through this leaflet and hold its request in your prayers. These few pages tell the story of a parish which strives to flourish and grow in the name of Jesus Christ, who leads our ministry spiritually and in service to the local people.

Despite the challenges faced throughout the pandemic, we have shown ourselves able to face the future with confidence. Our approach to online services, pastoral contact and postal outreach, was put in place quickly and still remains in strength today. Alongside the considerable work to maintain the ministry of the church, we were able to make our own contribution as St Christopher's led in the town as a vaccine station.

Since February 2020 we have been able to employ not one, but two Children's and Families Workers, with great energy behind our commitment to be an all-age church. The ever popular First Steps pre-school group has been assured for the future, the Families@4 afternoon church is solid and growing, and now new groups for older children, with service as Acolytes, First Communion, The Den and the Junior Choir.

In the community, our links with the shops and high streets has been taken from nothing to considerable in the space of eighteen months, giving real presence to our place in the centre of town life. Our work in St Bartholomew's school has also been maintained, and we have been able to face the recent demands of OFSTED inspection and a change of Headteacher.

By way of our buildings, much has been done, with renovation of the upper room at St Christopher's and a major repair of the organ. Work is now also underway towards a considerable upgrading of The Link.

What these successes tell us is that we are able to plan well, use our resources effectively, and deliver a progressive frontline ministry whilst honouring all the traditions that have made us who we are. It is my pledge that whatever response you make to this call, our churches will use your commitment to present the best ministry we can for all the people of Haslemere.

Our Vision

Our vision to further expand the ministry of the church is an opportunity for us all. All that our churches provide is a chance for us to respond as faithful disciples, serving as neighbours to the community. **So what else is planned? How else might you get involved in support and service?**



Our ***outreach to the town remains first priority***. Part of that is to increase awareness of our church ministry across diverse parts of the community. Work has begun to form links with local sports clubs, which we wish to grow and deepen.

For the elderly we want to extend the reach of our pastoral work, with new initiatives such as a regular ***drop-in coffee morning***, including maintenance support for those with ***hearing aids***. As the pandemic eases, we want to re-establish a strong link with local ***care homes and Haslemere hospital***.



Whilst there are many openings for Christian service through the church, we do need to ***strengthen our faith teaching ministry***. We plan to nurture ***Confirmation for older children, home groups, Christian reading, and vocational courses towards licence ministries***.

We shall try to deepen our ***spiritual ministry*** with organised quiet days, mindfulness and healing, and spiritual direction.

Achieving our Vision through Generous Giving

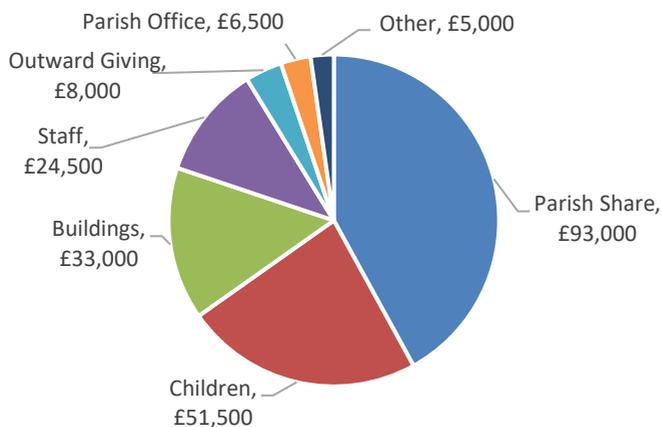
We are immensely grateful to those in our parish who have supported the ministry of our churches for many years. In recent years we have had to say goodbye to a number of our beloved friends, perhaps at the end of their lives or through having moved away. Alongside the development of our ministry programme, now is a natural time to bring a new opportunity to those who may wish to **join our parish giving scheme, or to review their current contribution**.

To achieve our Vision we need to have sound finances.

Our aim is to cover our costs and put aside £10,000 each year into a fabric fund to provide for the maintenance of the buildings.

This is how your money will be spent this year:

2022 Expenditure



The **Parish Share** is paid to the Diocese for which we receive a paid Rector, their housing, the training of the next generation of clergy and support in areas such as Safeguarding.

Most of our **Children's and Youth work** is paid for by the Haslemere RE Fund an independent charity which owns the old school in Chestnut Avenue.

Our **Buildings** are costly to insure, heat and maintain in good condition. Within the next 3 years we intend to undertake major work on the Link.

The majority of our **Outward Giving** will be funded by a programme of fun events.

Your part in achieving our Vision

Our success depends on many contributions - your time, your talents and your financial support. As we look ahead into 2022 we are asking our congregation to review their giving and those who don't already give on a regular basis to consider doing so. You may wish to consider whether your giving has kept up with inflation or how it compares with your other spending.

Did you know?

You can increase or decrease your giving at any time to take account of changes in your circumstances

FREE MONEY!

For every £100 given by a UK tax payer, the church receives £125!

Claim a TAX REFUND!

£125 received by the church costs a higher rate taxpayer just £75! Don't forget to put your donations on your Tax Return!

Inflation!

If everyone had increased their giving in line with inflation over the past 10 years we would have an annual surplus of c£30,000!

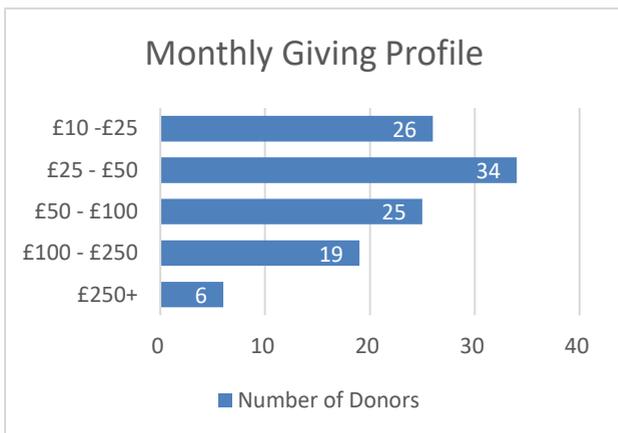
Without increased giving our day-to-day expenditure will exceed income by £15,000 in 2022

Regular monthly giving, directly from your bank, is the most efficient way to give. The **Parish Giving Scheme (PGS)** is the preferred way to do this as it is simple to administer, speeds up tax recovery and allows you to link your giving to the Retail Price Index if you wish.

Your giving is known only to Geoff Martin, the Planned Giving Secretary, who can also provide advice and guidance.

(If you wish to continue giving by Standing Order you may, however given the benefits of PGS to the Parish we would encourage you to move to the PGS.)

How much should I give?



Everyone's situation is different. You may want to consider what proportion of your expenditure you put aside for the work of the church, or how it compares with other items of your expenditure. **We need new donors as well as increases in giving from existing donors.**

What next?

Please give your prayerful consideration as to how you can support your church.

If you are a New Giver: please join the PGS by visiting the Giving section of the parish website: haslemereparish.org/donate60369 or phone 0333 002 1271 ref 1706 17069. Please do not ask to be anonymous as we won't know who our supporters are! Your giving will be confidential to Geoff Martin.



If you are an existing PGS Giver – and would like to increase your giving or index-link it, please visit the above website or phone the number above.

If you give by Standing Order – please update your Standing Order online or ask Geoff Martin for a form martin_g6@sky.com or 01428 641907

Thank you!