

**SUPPORTING GOD'S WORK
with our Finances
at St Mary's Eaton Socon
in 2023**

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



Thank you & Giving Thanks!

Thank You!

On behalf of St Mary's Eaton Socon's leadership, please accept my thanks for your support of St Mary's during 2022. Your gifts continue to enable St Mary's to minister and touch so many lives in the Eatons, St Neots and the world!

Looking Back and Giving Thanks

Whilst 2022 has been a most challenging year, financially speaking, we give thanks for all the work and ministry of St Mary's. This includes (to name a few):

- ◆ The regular Sunday Services at 9am and 10.30am
- ◆ The growing use of the Kitchen
- ◆ The re-development of the Sunday evening programme
- ◆ The re-establishing of the Sunday School under Liz Faulkner
- ◆ The continuing livestreaming of services
- ◆ The ongoing refurbishment of the Church Hall

Having made reasonable savings in 2020 and 2021 through using the Government Furlough Scheme, 2022 has seen our ministry costs rebound whilst income has fallen. In addition 2022 has seen St Mary's complete a number of necessary Buildings and Fabric repairs.

It may be helpful to know that the Church Hall refurbishment programme to date has been funded by restricted gifts i.e. no general giving has been used for this work. If you haven't visited the Church Hall lately, please do!

The PCC made significant cuts to its 2022 budget, including World Mission Support and the Vicar's PA hours. Even so, as of October, the expected shortfall will be around £5,600 after allowing for much higher energy costs of £3,500 for the last quarter.

Given the current financial climate, the PCC felt strongly to use some of the church's designated funds to cover several 'one-off' unforeseen costs in the year to leave a final shortfall of around £2,500.

This means we can focus as a church on resourcing 2023's work.

Looking Forward and Trusting God

Looking Forward and Trusting God

The PCC recognises that we are all living in financially challenging times, with the ever increasing cost of living impacting all our lives in so many ways. Sadly the Church is not immune to these increases either.

Did you know that the Church pays business 'energy rates' with no price cap? This means if we were to heat the church as we have in the past, we would need to find around £19,400 compared to 2021's cost of £5,690!

Yes, we can (and will!) turn the heating down by a degree or so to help make some savings, but the reality is that our church buildings still need to be heated, not least because a warm building environment contributes greatly to both one's comfort levels and the welcome people receive! The investment in the church's heating alone significantly impacts 2023's budget.

In addition, we had hoped to restore some of the World Mission Support and Vicar's PA hours in 2023, however, the reality is that this is not possible in the current financial climate.

All these and other contributing factors mean St Mary's is currently looking at a shortfall in 2023 of around £19,000. So how do we resource this together?

The answer is through regular giving and one off gifts.

Even when facing a challenging financial time, we need to make sure we still honour God with our financial gifts, in proportion to what he has entrusted us each with.



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 during 2023 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 15 January 2023**.

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



2023'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 during 2023 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 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: _____

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:

- send the Bank Standing Order Form to your Bank for them to action
- send your Gift Aid form (if relevant) and advise your new bank instruction to the Treasurer (details p5). Many thanks

A person's hands are shown holding a small, rectangular gift wrapped in brown paper and tied with a piece of twine. The background is a blurred image of a person's face, suggesting a warm, personal setting. Three green circles with white text are overlaid on the image.

Bring the
whole tithe
into the
storehouse...

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

Malachi
3:10