

JUNE  
2018



# Supporting St. Mary's

St. Mary's Church, Shaw-cum-Donnington

## WHAT WE DO

We are a busy and welcoming church and offer a variety of services each Sunday and during the week. We are very fortunate to have a full time rector, the Rev. Dr. Marion Wood, a verger, two administrators and a part time youth and family worker plus a large team of volunteers who support our activities.

We serve the community in Shaw and Donnington and offer baptisms, weddings and funerals in our beautiful church. Local schools visit for assemblies and festivals and our church centre is used regularly for church activities and by community groups.

We support our elderly community with a lunch club, pastoral visits, home communions, Barnabas group for the bereaved and nursing home services.

We nurture our young people and families by offering Saturday Messy Church, Meeting Point group, school Christian clubs, after school youth drop in and a junior choir.

In an active and busy church like St. Mary's it is easy for existing members to think that all is well and for newcomers and visitors to feel that their contribution is not really needed. We have been successful with fundraising efforts to support specific projects such as the roof repair but we also need to raise enough regular income to continue our work serving the community in Shaw and Donnington.

We need **YOUR** help to achieve this.

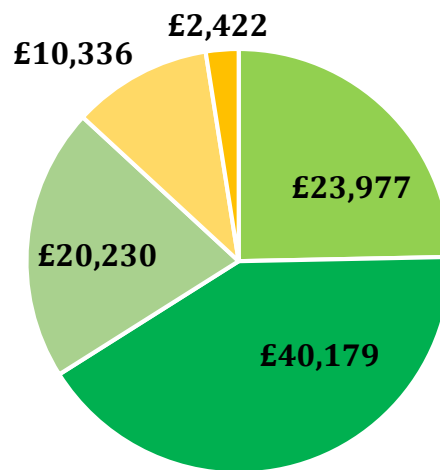
## WHAT WE WANT TO DO

	Approximate Cost in 2018
Continue our current commitments to our whole community	£105,000
Grow our involvement with the young people of the parish	£4,400
Keep our beautiful building running well	
Repair our chancel roof to keep our beautiful church leak free for many years to come	£45,000 <i>(Funds already raised)</i>

As ongoing expenses increased in 2017 our income decreased and we incurred a deficit of £8,301. The cost of the major roof works in 2018 is covered but our regular income does not meet unavoidable ongoing expenditure and our reserves are decreasing. Your support would be much appreciated to ensure that we can re-establish a firm financial basis for our current and future needs.

## OUR INCOME

Here is a summary of the income we received in 2017. This was a decrease of almost 30% compared to the previous year. You will notice that one-off voluntary donations make up a significant portion of our income. In 2017 this included specific donations and grants of £19,821 for the roof fund, children's work and the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary activities.



### Extraordinary Voluntary income

One-off gifts, donations, grants and legacies **£ 23,977**

### Regular Voluntary income

Regular donations by Standing Order, cash collections and gift aid recovery, **£ 40,179**

### Church activities

Weddings and funeral fees, hall hire **£ 20,230**

### Investment income

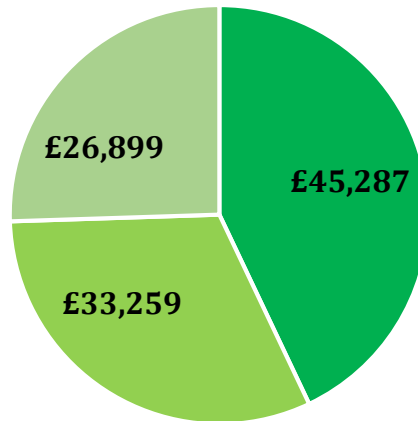
Mrs Jones Will Trust, rent from a Walton Way property **£ 10,336**

**Other miscellaneous income + parish share rebates** **£ 2,422**

**TOTAL INCOME** **£ 97,144**

## OUR EXPENSES

Here is a summary of our running costs in 2017.



### Parish share

Our contribution to the Diocese of Oxford for clergy pay, pension, training and housing. It also includes the support we give to other parishes that wouldn't otherwise be able to afford a minister, as well as our share of the other costs of the Church of England both locally and nationally

**£ 45,287**

### Church activity costs

Salaries and expenses for our Administrators and Verger, fees for organists and children's choir tuition, materials and expenses for services, children's church, Messy Church, choir and music group and home study groups, special events and support for charities

**£ 33,259**

### Bills

Electricity, gas, telephone, insurances, bank charges, licenses, office costs, repairs and maintenance, Walton Way property costs

**£26,899**

**TOTAL OUTGOINGS      £105 445**

## WILL YOU HELP US?

### PRAY WITH US AND FOR US

Prayer is vital and underpins everything we do. You can pray for the initiatives that we support, join us at our monthly Prayer Breakfasts, or join a home group.

### VOLUNTEER FOR US

We rely on volunteers to carry out many of the tasks that keep our church running smoothly. Everyone has talents that they can share. Please join one of our teams if you have a few hours to spare on a regular or occasional basis. If you don't know what needs doing, just ask one of the people in the contacts list.

### FINANCIAL SUPPORT

It costs **more than £100,000 per year** to run St. Mary's. We receive **no financial support** from the Church of England.

Many people already give a regular donation. Could you consider increasing your existing donation, or starting to donate regularly if you feel able to do so? We are introducing the Parish Giving Scheme in 2018 to support regular giving that keeps pace with inflation. There is more information in the separate Giving to St Mary's leaflet.

Would you like to make a one-off donation to mark a special occasion or for a special project? Cash or cheque donations or BACS transfers are always thankfully received. Gift aid envelopes are available in the pews and at the back of the church and our bank account details are on the back of this leaflet.

St Mary's has benefitted from many generous bequests that have enabled us to boost our income and fund special projects. If you are making or updating your will and would like information about leaving a gift to St Mary's, please contact us.

Christian Giving is a response to God's generosity and an expression of our awareness that we owe everything we have to Him. God calls us to be good stewards of His gifts and to invest them in His mission and in the service of God and our neighbour.

Giving towards the upkeep of our church and local ministry is also an obligation to past and future generations. We are only able to enjoy our church as a beautiful place for worship, family celebrations and community activities due to the generosity of previous generations. Their example and care obliges us to ensure that future generations can enjoy the same privilege.

**‘Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.’**

**2 Corinthians 9:7  
New International Version (NIV)**



## QUESTIONS? GET IN TOUCH!



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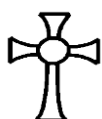
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