

St Mary's Stoke D'Abernon

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Dear Friends of St Mary's,

In order to finish our new hall to the finest specification, the PCC has decided that an appeal for funding to members and friends of St Mary's should be made. Our new hall is going to be the "shop window" for our church and it is important that we finish it to the best possible standard and thus encourage newcomers and hall users; it reflects what we want for our church, the very best that we can afford.

To that end it is planned to hold a Gift Day on Whit Sunday or Pentecost which is Sunday, 24th May 2015, when you can bring your gifts. The total target amount is £150,000. We shall, of course, be appealing to charities and other bodies that support such projects but we thought it appropriate to give individuals and families the opportunity to contribute and indeed, many have approached me asking if there would be some form of fundraising.

How can I give? You can give a donation as a one-off gift or you can spread a commitment over a period of time. It is possible that you may have some stocks or shares which you could give to the appeal which we could cash in on your behalf; if you would like advice on the implications of this, please contact me and I will arrange it. I enclose a Gift Aid envelope as this will increase your gift by 25% if you are a UK tax-payer. Gifts can be brought on the day, posted to the Rectory or mark the envelope "Hall" and leave it in the collection plate.

I do not like asking for money but the PCC feels that it is appropriate on this occasion; building costs have risen since the project was first mooted and I know that we would all wish to see a first class hall. It gives the whole congregation an opportunity to be associated intimately with the project.

This appeal is not just about finishing a hall to the highest specification we can afford, it is about giving thanks for all that St Mary's has given us in the past and ensuring a well-grounded future for the work of God in this place. That way, we can grow our church for future generations.

Best wishes,

Godfrey
