

# St Mary the Virgin Buckland

Thank you to everyone for all you do to support church life financially and through volunteering. St Mary's is a focal point of our village, passed by most of us every day. It is an attractive listed building and the focus of our community activities. Yet we are not funded centrally and in 2016 it cost **£161 each day** (including fabric costs) to keep our Buckland church open. Funding comes mostly from worshippers and volunteers. This leaflet outlines some ways you could ensure that St Mary's can remain open and a spiritual centre at the heart of Buckland Village.

## At St Mary's we seek to:

- ❖ Love God together
- ❖ Care for each other
- ❖ Serve our neighbours

## Highlights from the last year include:

- Our village Flower and Arts Festival "The Art of Nature" and Songs of Praise with the Bishop of Croydon
- New contemplative prayer group
- "Messy Church" - and receiving a Diocesan grant to help fund it
- Welcoming many for baptisms and weddings
- Prayer board installed and being used



Our vision is that St Mary's would be an inclusive church, that is open to all, relevant to the needs of the community and at the centre of village life. Our joint benefice plan is looking at five priorities to work towards our vision.

We are very grateful for your generosity in enabling us to meet our costs and the support of the Friends of St Mary's and the Churchyard Fund.



However, our finances are tight and we face a couple of challenges. As Canon David Eaton mentions in his July magazine article "Passing it on" we make a contribution to the Parish Support Fund to help fund the cost of having a priest in our benefice and at the moment we are not paying our way. We just broke even last year and we are waiting to hear about the costs of restoring the organ.

**May I ask you to consider your commitment to St Mary's in terms of money, time and skills.** If every member of the electoral roll gave an extra £1 a week we would raise an extra £4,000!

Please return the forms included in this leaflet - one is on finance, the other about volunteering - before our time of thanksgiving at **our Harvest Festival on September 24<sup>th</sup>**. **Copies will be on our website, and you can email your replies.**

If you have any questions then please do talk to a Churchwarden or myself.

**Revd Canon Carol Coslett 01737 842102  
officerectory@btinternet.com.**

# My financial commitment

Please note - All financial information is confidential and is only seen by the Treasurer.

Yes I would like to give towards the mission and ministry of St Mary's

I have decided to pledge a gift to St Mary's £..... each week/each month (delete as necessary).

I would like to pay by: *(tick as appropriate)*

- Standing order
- Envelopes
- Other - please specify.....

I pledge to give a one off donation of £.....

- Please arrange for me to Gift Aid my giving. I am a UK taxpayer.
- I would like to join the Friends of St Mary's - please send me details
- I would like to leave a legacy - please send me details of how to do this

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you. Please detach this form & return to the Treasurer Barbara Thomas, Little Perrow, Old Road, Buckland or email treasurer.bucklandstmarys@outlook.com before 24<sup>th</sup> September**

We are extremely fortunate at St Mary's in having many people who do so much - thank you, but we would welcome others to join us

*This is a list of some of the opportunities to use your skills and time. Are you interested in activities surrounding one of these areas of ministry? This list is not exhaustive ....it is just to help or prompt you*

- Activities surrounding Worship
- Activities surrounding Buildings and Grounds
- Bell ringing
- Bible study groups/Community Talks/ speakers
- Brass Cleaning
- Catering/winter lunches
- Charitable outreach
- Churchyard and Gardening
- Encouraging others
- Finances
- Flower arranging
- Office Support/
- Publicity/website
- Organising events/
- May Fayre/ Art Exhibits
- Prayer - intercessory and prayer ministry
- Serving on PCC
- Singing and Music
- Supporting our Fabric
- Working with children or youth/Messy Church
- Welcoming



## My commitment of time and skills

Please detach and return this form to  
The Rectory

I would like to offer my time and talents in these areas of our life together in Buckland



Area of interest \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Area of interest \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

I have the following time and skills I would like to be able to use to help the work of our church: \_\_\_\_\_

I am already serving in these following position(s) and wish to recommit to it (them): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this Time and Skills form to the Church office, Reading Room or The Rectory before our Harvest Festival on 24th September. You can also email the form to the Rector @ [officerectory@btinternet.com](mailto:officerectory@btinternet.com)

Thank you



## St Mary the Virgin Buckland

Still at the heart of the community in 2017

We want to remain  
Open to God  
Open to All  
Open for YOU

“Giving towards the work of  
St Mary’s Church”

Response Form 2017