

ST. MARY THE VIRGIN - AN APPEAL FOR FUNDS FOR AN INTERIM REFURBISHMENT OF THE CHURCH INTERIOR.



Grafton Regis is a very small village of 45 properties, more of a hamlet than a village.

Our church, St. Mary the Virgin dates from the 12th century and as such requires a lot of attention to the building. **A large task for a village of less than 100 people.** The church is Grade2* listed.

Over the last two years the members of the PCC (Parochial Church Council) of St. Mary have found themselves having to rethink their church repair strategy. This is due to two important positive changes in the village, firstly in the demographics and secondly in the change in how the various committees work together.

New families have moved into the village and the average age of the congregation has decreased substantially. We now have a regular group of young children attending church and this has enabled us to start a children's Sunday group however with a church full of pews it has been difficult to give them their own space.

Secondly, the village hall committee and the PCC have begun working together on fund raising events. This has been a huge benefit for the church and allows us to pay our Parish share and Insurance costs. This has actually given us more energy to tackle the repair programme for the church. Many of the fund raising events take place in the church and with the need to provide suitable provision for the children attending church this brought into focus the very evident fact that the church interior was very rundown and could not



provide the facilities we need for our new congregation and audiences.

A small refurbishment for the church interior has been planned which we believe will give us many of the benefits we are looking for quickly and remove some of the pressure in planning a major refurbishment. The funds needed for the mini-refurbishment of the church is **£20k.**

We are re-ordering the north aisle by removing the pews and installing chairs and tables for the children's Sunday group, a comfortable area for families with small children and a coffee area. We also need to purchase some carpeting for this area. The largest task is the redecoration of the church walls; they were last painted in the 1970's. There are unsightly patches of algae growth and damp now showing on the walls and a fresh coat of paint would help to highlight our stained glass windows and wall memorials. The paint specifications required by the church authorities dictates that we use an environmentally friendly product, which does have an added cost to the project. Finally we would like to replace the carpeting in the chancel area of the church. All of these changes together should give us a fresher, brighter church interior and a much pleasanter environment. The church already has a welcoming feel and these improvements can only enhance it.

[Type text]

If you can help with a donation towards the work use the donations forms on the following pages. We would be grateful for anything from a £1 to £20,000. If you a tax payer please tick the Gift Aid box on the form. Thank you from the members of the PCC.

If you would like more information, please contact the churchwardens through the e mail facility (churchwarden) on the main church page.



DIOCESE OF PETERBOROUGH

I wish the attached cheque for £ _____ to be used by THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN BOARD OF FINANCE for the sole benefit of the PCC of St. Mary the Virgin, Grafton Regis.

Full Name (in capitals)

Address _____

Postcode _____

Gift Aid declaration

I want the Peterborough Diocesan Board of Finance to reclaim tax on this donation.

I note that I should tell the Peterborough Diocesan Board of Finance if I do not pay an amount of tax that at least equals the tax deducted from this donation.

Signed _____ Date _____

Please post your completed form to: The Treasurer, The Rectory, Church Lane, Grafton Regis,
Towcester, Northamptonshire. NN12 7SS

[Type text]



DIOCESE OF PETERBOROUGH

I wish the donation of £ _____ to be used by THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN BOARD OF FINANCE for the sole benefit of the PCC of St. Mary the Virgin, Grafton Regis.

Payment instructions

To pay by Debit card, please supply the following details:

Debit Cards Visa Master Card Maestro

Card No :

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Issue No:

Start Date Expiry Date

Full Name (in capitals)

Address _____

Postcode _____

Gift Aid declaration

I want the Peterborough Diocesan Board of Finance to reclaim tax on this donation.

I note that I should tell the Peterborough Diocesan Board of Finance if I do not pay an amount of tax that at least equals the tax deducted from this donation.

Signed _____ Date _____

Please post your completed form to: The Treasurer, The Rectory, Church Lane, Grafton Regis, Towcester, Northamptonshire. NN12 7SS

[Type text]