

The BIG 'OUR CHURCH' PROJECT

Playing our part in the ongoing story of St. Mildred's

Chapter 5 2017 + Continuing to Serve

What we would like to do:

- Introduce new energy efficient LED lighting which can be adapted for different services and events
- Upgrade the sound system to improve clarity and cater for different services and events
- Repair stonework, and Paint the interior to enhance worship
- Decorate the Lady Chapel to provide a more intimate worship space and provide ramp access
- Renew all power circuits/fittings to bring up to current standards and cater for audio-visual equipment and other electrical appliances
- Construct a new accessible sanctuary/stage area for Sunday worship and midweek concerts
- Purchase new moveable (and independently lit) choir stalls so the Choir can face the congregation
- Extend the fire alarm system in to the church and boiler room
- Refurbish the Vicars Vestry and Flower Room to become more effective spaces
- Install external lighting, and a new cross and notice board
- Waterproof the boiler room to prevent flooding
- Refurbish the organ to make fit-for-purpose for the next 50 years

Background information

Powering the Church

The church was rewired in 1977, and the electrics are non-compliant to current electrical safety standards in a number of key areas. We need to completely rewire the church including Distribution boards, lighting, sockets and switches.

The way we use the church for worship and events is also changing, and as part of this we wish to upgrade the lighting. This will provide the flexibility for all of our services, creating the right mood and emphasis as appropriate in all areas of the church. LED lighting will also provide a significant reduction in ongoing lighting costs.

Along with the interior lighting, we wish to install an external lit cross and exterior lighting which would improve safety and give the Church a greater sense of presence.

Additional power sockets are also required for services like café church and occasions like the Christmas market.

Finally, we would like to enhance the church's Audio and Visual equipment, upgrading our current sound system to be as flexible as possible and providing a projector screen to cater for our different methods of worship.

Nave Area

The church is now used for many forms of worship and events, and we wish to extend the nave platform to create a much more flexible environment. This will incorporate a removable communion rail, as well as a disabled ramp to the first level towards the Lady Chapel. When redesigning the area, we will introduce moveable choir stalls to improve acoustics, and replace the current carpet.

Storage facilities will also be considered for the increased amount of equipment used during our services.

Church Boiler Room

The current boiler room frequently floods and risks damage to the boiler and injury to property committee members. We would like to waterproof the walls, level the floor, and resolve the drainage facilitates which currently sees the flood water circulating around the pump system.

Decorating

The church was last decorated in 1987 following the fire which destroyed the church organ. It now needs re-decorating in a number of areas, particularly painting throughout, addressing the ceiling beams and cleaning the water damage to stone work.

During decoration, we would like the opportunity to make the Lady Chapel feel a much more intimate worship space designed around how we use it.

We would also like to glaze the North West and South West entrance doors to open up the church. Finally, the decoration may also allow the opportunity to improve the church acoustics - slightly reducing the echo will improve the audible clarity of readers and the choir.

Organ Refurbishment

The organ is due a major refurbishment, and we will take the opportunity to add new pipes and upgrade the organ where practical.