



ST. LAWRENCE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

FELTHAM | LONDON



Week Two OUR PARISH, OUR RESPONSIBILITY

“Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with
whatever gift each of you has received.” - 1 Peter 4:10

Looking to the future with confidence

Last week we shared with you our three priorities for the coming years here at St Lawrence's, which are;

Securing the long-term care of our church

Our recent diocesan buildings survey shows that our ageing lighting system will need to be replaced in the next 2 -5 years. This will be an opportunity for us to replace the lighting system with one which is eco-friendly, as well as economically viable.

Forming disciples

The three pillars of ongoing formation that we wish to promote for St Lawrence's are the Youth, Liturgy and Pilgrimage Funds. In this way, we hope to reach out to parishioners of all ages, continuing to be a missionary and outreach parish.

Enhancing our liturgical encounter

We are blessed that our church has stunning stoneware, oriented to our liturgical celebrations; the Altar and Tabernacle, the font, the Stations of the Cross, the top of the columns in church. Our vision is to replace the lectern and ambo (readers and celebrants' stations) with similar stone, drawing us into a more functional and focussed Sanctuary space.

Thank you for your energy and for engaging with our parish Planned Giving Appeal as we look to the future with confidence.



DID YOU KNOW THAT YOUR
GENEROSITY ENABLED US...

...complete our loan last
year for the build of our new
Parish Centre?



...To witness over 250 children
and adults to embrace the Faith
through First Communions and
confirmations last year?



...To baptise over 100
children and adults in 2024
as we welcome people to
our church, and into the
Catholic Faith?



Our Parish has a rich history as the spiritual centre in the lives of many.

To maintain the beauty and heart of our parish, here are some considerations that are helpful to be aware of...

- Day-to-day running costs
- Building costs & repairs
- Support for parish programmes & projects
- Saving a minimum of 20% of income received for emergency repairs

As Stewards responsible for the gifts received from God, we can come together to help look after our beautiful church & pass it on to future generations so that they can enjoy and benefit from its beauty.

TOTAL OPERATIONAL INCOME			TOTAL OPERATIONAL EXPENDITURE		
Standing Orders	£52,648	21%	Parish Ministry	£89,498	39%
Envelopes	£12,993	5%	Diocese Contribution	£54,808	24%
Loose Plate Donations	£81,388	32%	Donations	£6,227	3%
Contactless	£30,123	12%			
Gift Aid	£2,805	1%	Loan Repayments	£0	0%
Donations	£48,494	19%	Liturgical	£12,373	5%
Candles, Shop & Paper	£13,883	5%	Candles, Shop & Paper	£6,361	3%
Parish Activities	£1,371	1%	Parish Activities	-£1,761	-1%
Property Income	£3,869	2%	Property	£55,838	24%
Other income	£8,784	3%	Admin & Other Costs	£7,206	3%
Total	£256,359		Total	£230,550	
(£) Savings 2023:	£25,789		(%) Savings Rate 2023:	10%	

Why maintenance of our Church building matters...

Our church is beautiful and it enriches our worship, and enhances the quality of the spiritual and sacramental life of our parishioners. Quite simply it is cherished. We look after this church not only for us, but for our children, and their children, so that they are able to inherit this beautiful sanctuary.

Through small regular investments in maintenance we are able to conserve what has been passed into our guardianship. We accept that we cannot stop decay, only slow it down, but we are able to minimise the risk of extensive high-cost repairs through regular maintenance: the regular cleaning of gutters and our drains is astronomically cheaper than having to replace the nave roof due to dry rot and water ingress for example that might arise following years of neglect.

Over the coming 5 years we are anticipating that we will need to spend £214,300 to maintain our church site.

“...Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood”

Acts 20:28

Our Offertory income: How we resource our church



The graph above shows the fluctuation of offertory collections since 2018.

Giving efficiently: Why Standing Orders are so helpful

- Improves the regularity and consistency of church income
- Saves the parish time and money spent counting and banking cash loose plate donations
- Helps us to budget and manage our finances more effectively, and bank statements provide an independent audit trail for the Inland Revenue



DID YOU
KNOW...

If everyone who can Gift Aid their donations did so, our parish would raise thousands of pounds more per year, at no cost to the donor!

How can Gift Aid help our church?

Gift Aid is a government scheme that allows us to reclaim the basic rate tax you pay as a UK taxpayer. It means that we can claim 25p of tax for every £1 you donate at no extra cost to you. All you need to do is make a Gift Aid declaration.



Common Gift Aid Myths busted:

- The Government will NOT look into Immigration Status
- You will NOT have to do any more paperwork after signing up
- Your taxes will NOT change if you Gift Aid
- If you are a pensioner, you CAN still Gift Aid - If you have a taxable income stream

Gift Aid is easy to do, it doesn't cost you a penny and helps the parish even further!

giftaid it

- 18% of donations were Gift Aided in 2024.
- In 2024, 166 out of 1578 parishioners Gift Aided.
- If you pay UK income tax, you are able to sign up to Gift Aid.
- Gift Aid allows us to receive an extra 25p for every £1 you donate!

Please ask if you have any questions about Gift Aid!

Please take this leaflet away with

If you have any questions,
please ask a volunteer after Mass or contact:

Parish Priest: Father Mike Maguire

Address: Presbytery

9 The Green

Feltham

TW13 4AF

Tel: 020 8890 2367

Email: Feltham@rcdow.org.uk

To stay informed or donate to our parish online,
please visit:

<https://saintlawrences.org.uk/>

WRCDT – Charity Number 233699

