

A lasting gift

St Mary's is a thriving church offering a focus for our worship, a witness to God's love and a welcome to all.

We have exciting plans to develop our buildings, to extend our work with young people and to reach out to those in need in our community.

To share God's love in Saffron Walden we need people's time and money. A legacy in your will would be a valuable and lasting way to continue your generosity to our church.

Please consider how a gift in your will could help the Church meet the needs of future generations.

The Revd David Tomlinson – Rector

Our Mission *"Sharing God's love"*

Our Vision Our aim as a church is to:

- worship God with joy and reverence
- tell of God's love in Jesus Christ
- learn about and live our Christian faith
- pray and learn about prayer
- serve God's world through prayer and action
- offer Christ's ministry of wholeness and healing
- encourage all to discover and use their gifts for God
- engage with and nurture children and young people
- welcome everyone warmly and offer generous hospitality
- value and care for each other

In all this, we will use the resources we have - our time, buildings and money - wisely in God's service.

Your will matters

Making a will and updating it regularly is the only way to make sure your wishes are carried out after your death, giving you peace of mind that you can continue to support your family, friends and causes that you love.

Whatever your age, write a will and keep it up to date. Without a will, your loved ones could face a lot of work, trouble and expense after your death.

As Christians, we believe that we are God's stewards, entrusted to use His gifts to us for the good of our family and our church family. In thanksgiving, we should also take will writing seriously, stewarding what we have wisely.

Many Christians give regularly and proportionately from their income. Why not consider giving a lasting gift from your estate, too?

A gift in your will enables our Church to play its part in the unfolding Christian story in our community.

How we use legacies

At St Mary's we are grateful for all gifts in wills, however large or small, and we endeavour to use your gift to make a difference in our parish.

Our policy is to use legacies to help fund significant development projects in the parish. This could, for example, be used for equipment, staffing, mission or to restore or improve the fabric of the church for the benefit of generations to come.

Since needs and priorities change over the years, we encourage donors to allow the Saffron Walden Parochial Church Council to determine the most appropriate use of the gift in the light of current priorities. However, if requested, we will discuss possible uses of the gift with your executors when the time comes. We will also make sure that gifts remain anonymous if you wish.

There are many different ways to leave a legacy including a specific amount, or a percentage of your estate, or a gift that passes to the church after the death of a relative. A legal advisor can help you make the will you want. Here is some suggested wording to leave a gift in your will:

"I give £ (insert amount) or% of my residuary estate to Saffron Walden Parochial Church Council, registered charity number 1128863 for its general purposes, and I declare that the receipt of an officer of the Council shall be a sufficient discharge to my executors and trustees."

We strongly advise you to see a solicitor when writing or amending your will.

Wills and Legacies

A gift in your will really can make a difference.

In recent years, St Mary's Church has received generous legacy gifts from members of our Church family. Gifts like these have helped us to refurbish our children's corner with carpet, tables and shelving for toys and games, making it a welcoming space for children and families. This kind of generosity is also enabling us to make progress in our building development plans, designed to improve the quality of the welcome we offer .

There are three steps that we encourage every adult member of our church to take:

1. Make a will and review it regularly
2. Consider leaving a proportion of your estate as a gift in your will to our parish
3. Get a free information pack to help you

Visit www.churchlegacy.org.uk or phone 08445 870875 to order a free pack from the Church of England's Legacy & Wills Information Line

How to contact us:

Rector

Rev'd Canon David Tomlinson
The Rectory
17 Borough Lane
Saffron Walden
Essex CB11 4AG
Tel: 01799 500947
E-mail: rector@stmaryssaffronwalden.org

St Mary's Parish Office

Church Path
Saffron Walden
Essex CB10 1JP
Opening hours:
Monday-Friday 9.30am - 12noon
Tel: 01799 506024
E-mail: office@stmaryssaffronwalden.org
Website: www.stmaryssaffronwalden.org

Other leaflets in this series:

- Welcome to St. Mary's
- Children welcome
- Your Child's Baptism
- Getting Married at St Mary's
- The Healing Ministry at St. Mary's
- Death and Bereavement
- Lord, teach us to pray
- The Christian Faith
- Planned Giving

Legacies supporting St Mary's financially

