

Building for Life at St Paul's



St Matthew with St Paul
Pilgrims on a journey

An exciting vision

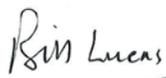
Summer 2017

Dear friends,

Thank you for reading this booklet. It explains a hugely important development for St Paul's. We are asking for your support, please.



Canon Peter Seal
Parish priest



Prof. Bill Lucas
Chair, Fund-raising committee

The atmosphere that the temporary changes in St Paul's have created all feels so good. The sooner we are able to move on and make the dream a reality, the better!
Bishop John Dennis

St Paul's is obviously a very good asset for the community, with wonderful acoustics, but its facilities are poor.
Louise Woods, Winchester Camerata

We like St Paul's how it is, but the building is scruffy and old-fashioned. We really need a decent kitchen and loos.
Destination group, age 10–12

People often say, 'I wish there was a small, quiet, warm space always available for prayer'. If there was, I could drop in to St Paul's at any time. This could be developed into a constant praying presence for the world.
Angela Davies

Our thriving, welcoming church

This undertaking is the most important development since St Paul's was originally built to sustain and expand our church community. Over the next 12 to 18 months we aim to raise a significant amount of money to transform the interior of St Paul's – Phase 1 of our plan. Once this is achieved we will turn our attention to the rest of the site. In this leaflet we outline our overall approach and suggest ways in which the congregations of our two churches can donate, whatever their personal circumstances.



Baptisms – font soon to have 'living water' bubbling up



Hospitality after services would be safer and easier with modern kitchen facilities

St Paul's site no longer fit for purpose

Throughout the year, an average of around 1,300 people come each week to the St Paul's site to worship, play, learn, dance, pray, sing, meet, exercise and attend concerts. But sadly the church itself lacks facilities that are viewed as normal in the 21st century, with no toilet or kitchen, and a floor on many levels which makes access very challenging. On one Saturday in May this year we welcomed

917 people for our Community Day. It was a wonderful event but also a reminder of how we struggle to cope with such numbers.



Community Day 2017 – over 900 on site, many all day. An amazing catering job done by teams of volunteers, but how much easier if food could be heated in church.



Shared lunch – already wonderful, but would work better with a kitchen in church



Annual Show – beginning to see how our space can be used creatively



Level flooring would make St Paul's accessible to all

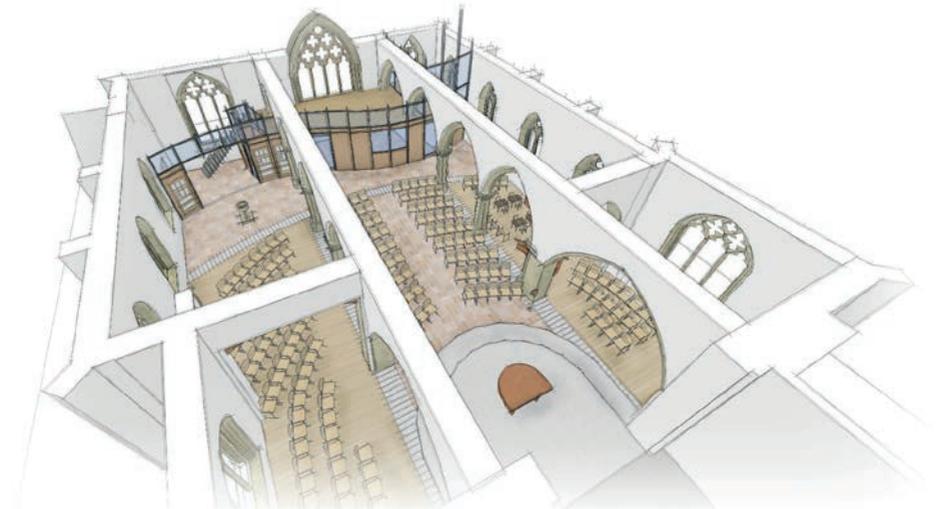


Large community events like the Pico Players workshop need adequate toilets!

Ambitious plans

As many of you are aware, and after extensive consultation, we have exciting plans to:

- enhance the quality of worship by redesigning the area around the altar
- convert part of the vestry into a small chapel for private prayer
- create a new community meeting room on the gallery
- make the church accessible to all, levelling the floor and putting in a lift to the new gallery
- improve the church heating, using eco-friendly technology
- develop a flexible performance space
- create sufficient accessible toilets for a busy community hub
- make a new parish office designed to meet the needs of a diverse team of staff and volunteers.



Later, in Phase 2, we also intend to:

- design and construct a purpose-built expanded pre-school on land at the rear of the site
- build a suite of community meeting and rehearsal rooms, a community kitchen and a cafeteria
- provide training rooms for use by schools, community groups and other churches
- become greener in all that we do.

Transforming St Paul's - Phase 1

In the first phase we will transform the interior of St Paul's.

Work space and storage for flower arrangers and cleaners

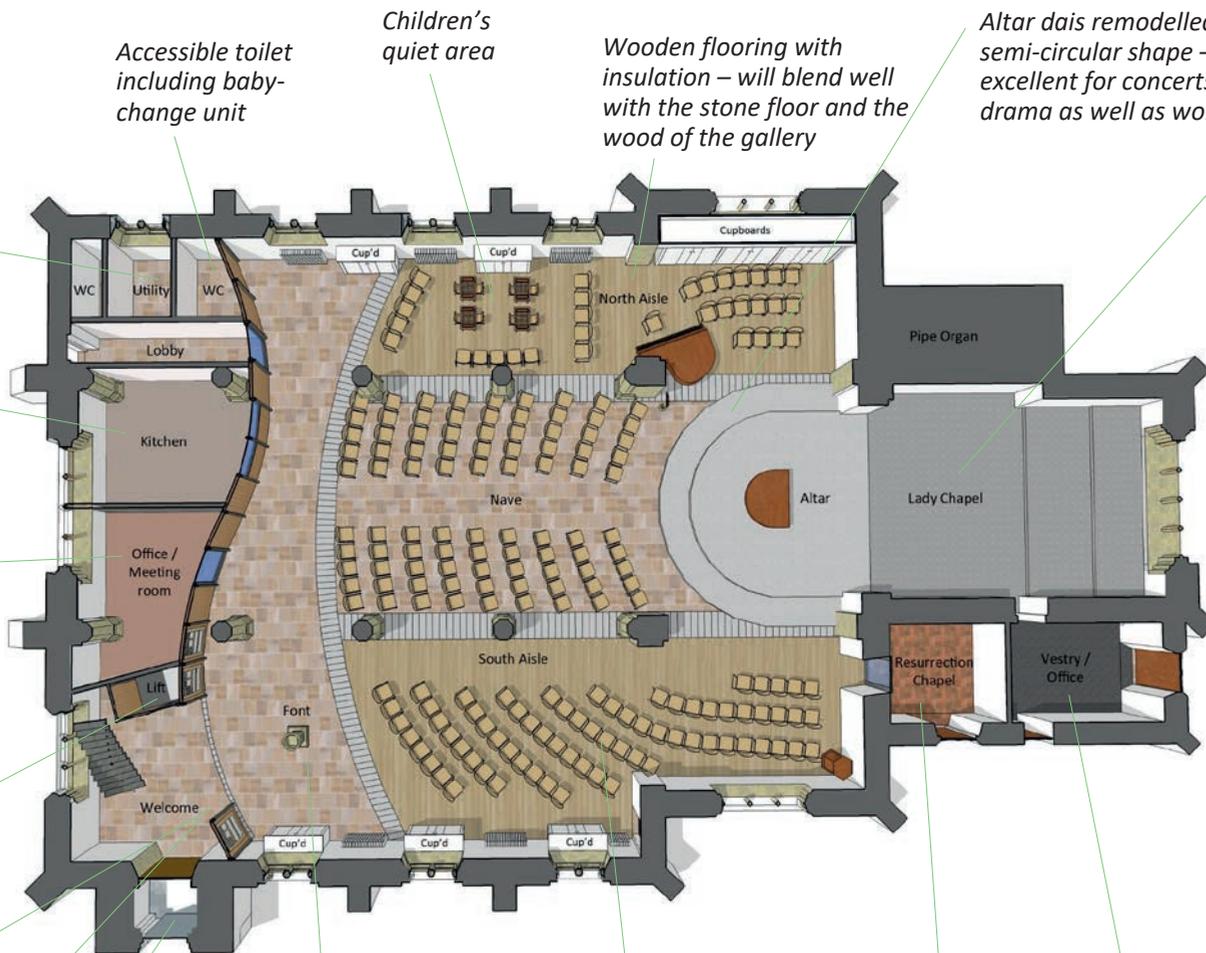
Kitchen to enable hospitality, with food and drink served from a purpose-built facility

Office for staff and volunteers – the heart of the administrative hub of the parish, where enquiries are always welcome

Lift to new gallery – a visual expression of our commitment to including everyone

Level stone flooring – this will be durable and beautiful, ensuring safe access

Underfloor heating powered by air-source heat pump as part of our 'green' commitment



Accessible toilet including baby-change unit

Children's quiet area

Wooden flooring with insulation – will blend well with the stone floor and the wood of the gallery

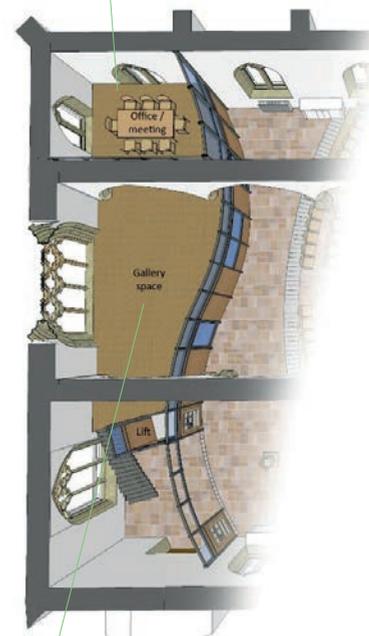
Altar dais remodelled in semi-circular shape – excellent for concerts and drama as well as worship

Lady Chapel re-using former chancel space – an ideal size for small services, with carpet to create a warm feel, especially for children

GALLERY

50 square metres more space available for church and community groups

Community meeting room – a wonderful new space



Gallery area – providing additional seating and ideal for a choir rehearsal

South porch with new outer glazed doors that attract and welcome

Font – a feature that catches your eye as you come into church – a reminder of God's love springing up in everyone

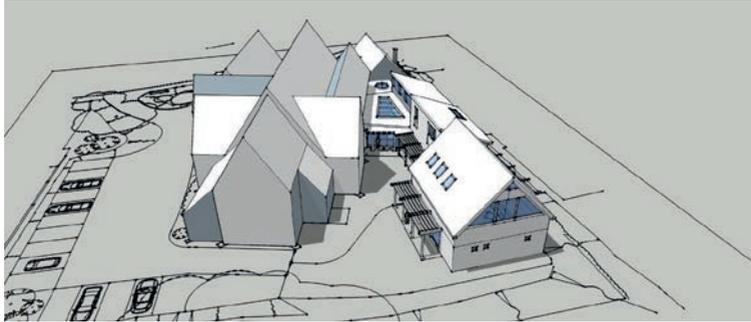
Seating that is comfortable, safe, stackable and enhances the beauty of the building

Resurrection Chapel – an intimate, quiet space for private prayer that can easily be kept warm

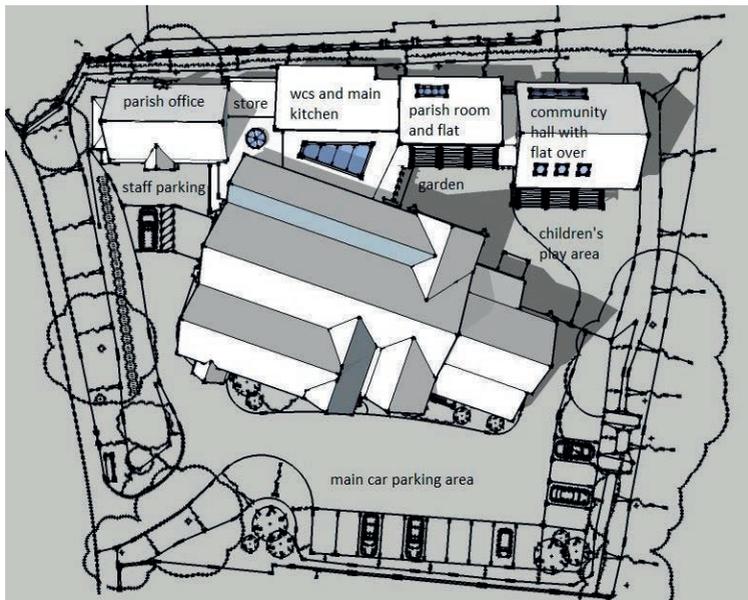
Vestry – providing all we need to prepare for worship, and doubling as a small office

Transforming the St Paul's site - Phase 2

The second phase of our *Building for Life* will create a purpose-built pre-school building with accommodation for a caretaker and a children's/youth worker (replacing the parish rooms), reconfigure the parish hall and landscape the whole site. For this we will largely be looking for external funding.



We have a vision of a fully accessible site with comfortable meeting spaces and a well-equipped kitchen for hospitality and welcoming in the wider community.



An appeal for help

To date we have invested in extensive community consultation and commissioned acclaimed church architects St Ann's Gate to create a detailed plan for the site.

We shall be submitting our plans to the diocese at the end of August and are confident that they will be approved in October.

Our *Building for Life* Fund-raising Appeal is being led by a long-standing member of our congregation, Bill Lucas. After careful deliberation, the Fund-raising Group, those working with our architect Antony Feltham-King and the diocese, and your PCC have agreed an approach to raising the money that has three elements:

1. from our congregations – one-off donations, pledged giving over two years, fund-raising events and being an ambassador for St Paul's
2. from charitable bodies – well-researched approaches to bodies that fund church buildings and community activities
3. from local organisations – engaging with business, philanthropic organisations and local government to make a case for our broader role in the community.

For Phase 1 we need to raise £850,000.

The great news is that we have already raised £259,500 towards this target.

This is a wonderful start, but there is more to do. We are confident of your prayerful and financial support. We need to show external funding bodies that our congregations are making a significant contribution, especially for the internal changes that make up Phase 1.



Ways of giving

Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

Luke 6: 38

We recognise that everyone's personal circumstances are different, so there are a number of ways to offer financial support:

- give a one-off donation towards our remaining target of £590,500
- pledge to donate a regular amount (monthly, quarterly or annually) for a period of two years
- organise a fund-raising event on behalf of *Building for Life*.

Our initial focus for Phase 1 of this project is a three-month campaign which we hope will end with a joyful Harvest Thanksgiving. We look forward to celebrating God's generosity to his people and our own response to that.

If we are to move forward with our building plans we need firm financial commitments before we can take the next steps. Remember, if you are a taxpayer and gift aid your donation, we can reclaim an extra £25 for every £100 you donate. The enclosed pledge sheet explains how you can show your support.



Putting St Paul's at the centre of our community

At a time when so many people are suffering real hardship, both locally and in more distant places, through homelessness, migration, poverty, mental illness or loneliness, we will continue to look beyond ourselves, too.

We are convinced that building projects are actually people projects.

By investing in our buildings – making them fully accessible, safe, warm and even more welcoming – we believe that we can develop St Paul's as a centre that serves the local community and also reaches beyond itself to places and people whose needs are so challenging.

The recent restoration and improvement projects at St Matthew's, completed early this year, have already made a significant difference – literally hundreds of people have enjoyed coming to St Matthew's for a variety of events. All have commented on the difference the building work has made.



The Mayor of Winchester cutting the cake at St Matthew's Open Day, 1 April 2017, in the new community space, with hospitality facilities.

Since then the church has hosted a series of local history talks, a wonderful Flower Festival and an exhibition of drawings, as well as three weekly services.



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