

25TH ANNIVERSARY APPEAL IN CHRIST THE PRINCE OF PEACE

25 years ago a generation of parishioners had a vision for Christ the Prince of Peace and built this new complex – church, hall and St Charles Borromeo. We are hugely grateful to that pioneering generation for their generosity and for their vision, many of whom are still active in the parish.

25 years on a committee has come together to look at how we the successor parishioners can keep this vision alive and have come up with suggestions of what we can do to continue this. It's 7 projects to beautify the parish and ourselves leave a heritage for future generations.

Today I am going to talk about those projects, but the real heart of this appeal is to ask you to participate in the renewal of our parish 25 years on. There are many ways in which everyone does so already – through prayer, through taking part in parish activities, and financially. So these are special ways to do a little more.

Four of the seven projects are devotional to develop the worship and liturgy of the parish.

The first has already been done and paid for – there's some good news - it is the **NEW LIGHTING** for the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, paid for through the generosity of the Medjugorje prayer group.

The second is to enhance our devotion to **OUR LADY** by having a **PAINTING** to go up on the left hand side of the altar. We have commissioned an artist to do a painting that reflects the peace that is in our dedication name. The final cost will be **£6,000**.

The hope of our church lies as St John Paul said, in our young people. The recent parish questionnaire reflected a huge interest in promoting youth activities as well as a longing for more music in church. In response to that, we are employing a magnificent choir master who will work to create a **YOUTH CHOIR**. You already heard them on Sunday the 23rd of November when they performed the new Christ Prince of Peace hymn composed for that special occasion. In order to keep this wonderful project alive, we need to raise **£5,000**.

Lastly you can see the state of **THE KNEELERS IN THE CHURCH**. We have tried to glue them back several times, they keep coming undone...We have got a quotation to have them upholstered properly like the ones in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, and it adds up to **£6,000**. How about coming together on this, and if it is something you feel is needed, maybe you can adopt a kneeler for £100...

Next, there are two infrastructure projects, which the committee has identified.

The **BOILER IN THE HOUSE** has been doing its work for 25 years; but lately it keeps going wrong. We have been told that it is on its last legs. Due to new regulations the position of the boiler will have to change. Estimated price of project **£7,000**. If you would like to keep your parish priest and those working for you in the office warm and happy, you might want to go for this project.

The **PARISH HALL AND TOILETS** have been used by many different groups over the years. They are in need of some refurbishment...The hall needs painting, the floor needs repairs and many of the toilets need to be replaced. The cost could be around **£10 to 15,000**.

The last project is on its own, and represents the Weybridge Parish community in a larger sense. The committee wants to include a gift to **OUR PARISH SCHOOL, ST CHARLES BORROMEIO**. There are three areas, after discussion with Mr Holt, the headmaster, which we would like to fund -

- The first is a contribution towards their **NEW BOILER** – 90% will be funded by the Government but the schools has to find 10% which is **£4,000**.
- The school playing field requires further restoration and maintenance, as there are areas still not suitable for use or competitive sport. The additional maintenance costs would be approx. **£3,000** per annum.
- Some of the **OUTDOOR PLAY EQUIPMENT** that supports the children’s coordination, physical and mobility development needs replacing. The level of the funds required by the school for this project is **£5,000**.

At the end of each pew you will see a piece of paper and there are three options

- you are interested in helping with one of the projects – if so please give your details and there will be members of the 25 year committee you can talk to as you go out of church
- you would like to give a donation to one of the projects – you don’t have to specify any project in particular or you can choose which one it goes to by ticking the relevant box
- you may be new to the parish or want to take this occasion to make a covenant for a regular donation or to gift aid your donation in which case there are forms at the back

If you want to make a contribution then please do so at any time, not just today, by leaving the donation in an envelope in the church or the parish office marked 25th anniversary appeal.

In whatever way you can help to carry on the work of our beautiful parish, through prayer, participation or through financial means we thank you most sincerely.