

ST MARY'S
LOUGHTON
NOTHING
IS
IMPOSSIBLE
WITH
GOD



MISSION GIFT DAYS

21 & 28 APRIL 2024

We are in an amazing time of mission and discipleship. St Mary's is having a real impact of hundreds of people each week and we are seeking to bring them to Christ. When we think of Cafe Hope, Living Hope, ignite, Hope Central, pastoral ministry, outreach and more; there are so many mission opportunities.

Whenever God is at work in mission, He also raises up people to be generous in financial giving to enable the opportunities to happen. I think of these people as Gospel Partners in mission. People with a vision for mission and discipleship, who can give to enable people coming to faith in Jesus. I want to invite you to become a St Mary's 'Gospel Partner'.

As a church family, we raised over £1.2m for the Hope Centre, because we could see a vision of what God wanted to do in mission. This is now happening! Peoples lives are being touched. So much mission and discipleship is happening. It costs well over £1,000 each day to keep us doing this.

These past few years have been challenging for our church finances. We need Gospel Partners now more than ever. People with a heart and vision to enable mission, ministry and discipleship to happen. If you don't yet give generously and regularly, now it s the time to start. If you already do, then thank you so much for what you are doing. Let's be generous in these Gift Days and use the finance God has entrusted to us for mission in these days.

With much love and gratitude,

Malcolm

BECOME A 'GOSPEL PARTNER'

This is what we want to ask you to help us to do:

Help disciple over a 1,000 people in our community

In terms of regular opportunities for mission and discipleship through various communities and groups at St Mary's, **we are currently ministering to over 1,000 people each month!** Most of these people don't yet know Jesus and we have opportunities through Cafe Hope, Christianity Explored, ignite, Connect, Hope Central, English Classes, Saved food, Little Lambs and much more - to bring them nearer to Jesus. This is amazing and also means so many people are serving. It also needs a lot of financial resource to make it happen!

Keep St Mary's open and active in mission & ministry

ignite



Our doors are open! We distribute food, offer community, share with those in need, pray with people, gather children and youth, share meals together, study the Bible, teach the faith, worship and pray, feed the hungry, care for creation, train and equip people to serve others... and much more! We are all about Jesus and bringing His gospel.

Expenditure in 2023 included Cafe Hope at £44,000. Nine staff cost £167,000, utilities cost us £35,000. We have had lots of maintenance and repair work across the church site, the total was £51,000. Ministry and mission needs significant financial investment and generosity from the church family.

Fully meet the everyday costs of being open

People are at the heart of our ministry. We want to keep open and active, sharing the gospel, discipling people and caring for people in Jesus name. In 2024, we are aware of more costs that will come including a new Table Tennis Table for Connect, two new laptops to replace ageing ones, further maintenance of the buildings and much more. We do apply for grants, and we do keep costs to a minimum, but we are aware that staying open and active in ministry is expensive, so we need more Gospel Partners.

Generous giving is central to our spiritual maturity

Let me encourage you to step out in giving and generosity as part of your Christian walk. We are all called to give according to our ability and when we all give, there will be enough for all God wants to do. It is important that there is equality in that everyone is participating in giving, so we share it together.

We are mindful that all our circumstances are different. There is no pressure and we each need to give as is appropriate for us. It may be that you are able to be very generous and to give beyond what you might usually do. Sometimes God gives us money, so we can be generous and serve others with our giving. Please pray and decide in your heart what God wants you to give, and then give freely, cheerfully and peacefully.

Further general information

- We would encourage all church members who are able, to consider setting up or increasing their Standing Order and to give with Gift Aid please.
- Please don't forget to Gift Aid all your donations, as we can claim 25% from the government!
- Scan the QR code opposite for online giving.
- If you wish to ask any questions, please email office@stmarysloughton.com



SCAN ME

Giving Goal

£50,000

Our projected deficit this year is £39,000. We are aware of additional building maintenance needs this year, hence the goal of £50,000. If we could raise this sum, we would balance our budget and not need to draw on essential reserves. We do have a policy of keeping 3 months of expenditure in our reserves.

How can I give?

- 1) Give online on our website stmarysloughton.com where there is a 'Give' section.
- 2) Use the form over the page and bring your gift and giving form on 21 and 28 April.
- 3) Do a bank transfer to our church account:
Sort Code: 40-30-25
Acc No: 00724580
- 4) Set up or review your Standing Order. Forms available online.
- 5) Make sure you Gift Aid your donation as we get an extra 25% from the government.

Giving Form - please complete and return to St Mary's

I would like to give to the 'Mission Gift Days'.

Name _____ Surname _____

Address _____

_____ Postcode _____

Email _____ Phone _____

I/we wish to give a lump sum of £_____ to St Mary's, Loughton

Please make cheques payable to St. Mary's Loughton PCC.

If you pay UK tax, please complete the Gift Aid Declaration below.

St. Mary's Church Gift Aid Declaration

To be completed by the main tax payer for a joint account

I would like St. Mary's Church Loughton to treat all donations I have made to Mission Gift Days and any other donations to St. Mary's Church I make, from the date of this declaration until I notify you otherwise as Gift Aid donations.

Date _____ Signed _____

Notes

If you wish to you can cancel the declaration at any time, please notify us.

You must pay an amount of income tax and/or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax that we reclaim on your donations in the tax year (currently 25p for each £1 you give). VAT and Council Tax are not included.

If you pay tax at the higher rate you can claim further tax relief in your self-assessment tax return. If you are unsure whether your donations qualify for Gift Aid tax relief, please contact us or ask at your local tax office for leaflet IR65 Gift Aid. If in the future your circumstances change and you no longer pay tax on your income and capital gains equal to the tax that we reclaim, you can cancel your declaration (see first note above). Please notify us if you change your name or address.

Thank you so much!

Every gift is greatly appreciated