



SOUTHWARK
CATHEDRAL

A Season of Gifts

Epiphanytide 2018

An invitation to reflect on how much you value belonging to our Cathedral and to review your own commitment to our ministry and mission.

A message from the Dean

The final stanza of Christina Rossetti's poem, 'A Christmas Carol' begins with the question 'What shall I give him, / Poor as I am?'

This is the Season of Gifts and that same question is asked of each of us and we ask it of ourselves. So often when we are giving gifts to others we seek to give an equivalent gift to the one we are receiving. But that is simply not possible when we are giving back to God. As St Paul makes clear in his Letter to the Romans, 'He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else?'

God gifts everything to us and we are meant to respond, but not necessarily like for like but certainly love for love. We give out of our poverty, God gives out of divine richness.

This year we are faced with a number of challenges as a cathedral community. There is always the challenge of 'making ends meet' and not least as a consequence of last year's terrorist attack which has had a consequential effect on our visitor numbers. But in addition we want to begin addressing the priorities that as a Chapter and congregation we have chosen. In this document you will read of the three strands that we want to develop this year – making disciples, pastoring disciples and deepening our friendship with our Muslim neighbours through the 2018 Iftar. We want this worshipping community to grow – in every way – as we seek to follow where Christ leads, from crib to cross, from empty tomb into the whole world.

Please help us. Give what you can, of all that God has given to you. As Rossetti concludes

'Yet what I can I give Him / Give my heart.'

Love for love.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Andrew." with a stylized, cursive script.

The response by 27 people to the 2017 Season of Gifts with increased pledges of £18,000 was greatly appreciated and we would like to thank everyone who responded. It is, however, disappointing that such a small number responded. 27 is a very small proportion of our regular worshippers and over 600 people have committed themselves to Southwark Cathedral by enrolling on the Cathedral Electoral Roll (membership list). It is clearly not sustainable for us to rely on a few people to fund our activities and so we are appealing to everyone who worships with us and calls Southwark Cathedral their spiritual home to make a response to this appeal and to commit themselves in terms of their financial giving and volunteering. This would make an enormous difference to our income and the scope of what we are able to achieve in coming years.

As a result of the increased giving in 2017 we

- are paying all staff directly employed by the Cathedral at least the London Living Wage (currently £10.20 per hour). This is a working out of our desire to be a place of inclusion, and was implemented at the request of the congregation. However, the recent increase in the London Living Wage rate was 4.5% which is substantially above inflation. We need your support to be able to afford pay rises for seven of our staff who are paid at, or just above, that rate which is more than we had budgeted for in 2018.
- are continuing to build up our reserves which should be equivalent to 4–6 months' expenditure. We currently have reserves of only three months expenditure.

- are contributing £34,000 this year to the Diocese for our third year as part of the Parish Support Fund, having increased this by 11% on last year following an appeal by the Southwark Archdeaconry to help them meet their financial target and assist poorer parishes. This demonstrates our commitment to play a full part in the life of the Diocese, supporting ministry in parishes less able to pay the cost of ministry.
- continue to be committed to giving 10% of our collections to mission and charities here in the UK and overseas.
- continue to be a place of worship, peace and hope to the many visitors, seekers and pilgrims who come to our Cathedral every day of the year.

The current position

2017 was a challenging year for us financially. We were unable to set a balanced budget and the Chapter had to approve a deficit of £20,000 for the year. The final result was better than expected and our expenditure exceeded our income by only £7,000. This is a tribute to the care for our resources exhibited by all our budget holders in keeping costs down and making every effort to raise income. The terrorist attack on London Bridge in June 2017 affected us along with many of our neighbours and many businesses have suffered a reduction in customers and income. We have survived better than most but the horrific events of 3 June 3 continue to have an adverse effect on our visitor numbers and income. Although the Chapter was able to pass a balanced budget for 2018, it will only be possible to achieve this if we see a significant increase in giving from the congregation. Recent higher levels of inflation and the large increase in the London Living Wage (which we are committed to paying as a minimum to our staff) mean that our commercial activities cannot, on their own, deliver the level of income that we need.

In 2018, each month we will spend £152,200:



Community and Outreach
£10,600



Liturgy and Music
£29,100



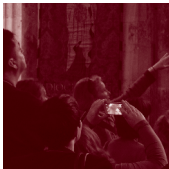
Cathedral precincts and upkeep
£50,100



Congregation
and Education
£1,300



Ministry costs
£22,500



Visitor
facilities
£5,200



Trading and Fundraising
£33,400

To cover these costs each month we will need £152,200:

Income from our trading activities	£53,500
Planned giving and tax recovered	£25,400
Fees arising from mission	£16,000
Grants from the Church Commissioners	£17,000
Cash collections and donations	£20,500
Income from our properties and investments	£13,550
Income from our grants and trusts (weddings, funerals, special services)	£6,000
Other income and legacies	£250

In order to meet the budget target set for 2018, we need to find a further £1,000 a month from Sunday giving.

Over the past years we have become increasingly reliant on the income from our commercial activities to balance our budget. In 2017, following the terrorist attacks and the fall in visitor numbers and a drop in conference business, this was not possible. Our Enterprises team is working hard to achieving a challenging budget target for 2018 but we need your help to contribute more to the day-to-day running costs of the Cathedral.



At Southwark I'm blessed to be able to worship God through the ministry of music. It's great to be a part of something that enables more people to experience the holiness of this place and find what they seek in this welcoming, inclusive and affirming community.

Tony Piper

We have three main priorities for Cathedral life during the coming year:

Encouraging Discipleship

In 2018 we will be focussing on how each of us grows in our discipleship of Jesus Christ. We are all on the same journey but at different stages and this needs to be reflected in the life of the Cathedral.

For our children and young people from Lent Junior Xpress 1 we will be using the new published Diddy Disciples course, and Junior Xpress 2 will continue to use parallel materials. Youth Xpress has begun to use the Youth Emmaus discipleship course. The ages for Admission to Holy Communion and Confirmation have now been reduced which we hope will encourage our young people in their discipleship. During the coming year we are keen to develop a new role of Young People and Families Minister.

The Pilgrim Course will be offered for those wishing to explore Baptism and Confirmation in February. We will also offer the Pilgrim Course for members of the wider cathedral community in the autumn. This is something we will explore with the new Canon Missioner following his arrival after Easter.

Study groups this Lent will involve more teaching input than has happened in the past two years. This is in response to a request from group leaders and participants. At the same time we want to encourage those groups which have established themselves to continue learning together.

2018 Iftar

During the past year we have made significant steps in building good relationships with our local Muslim brothers and sisters. We would like to deepen these links and are committed to hosting a Grand Iftar at the Cathedral in May 2018.

Pastoring Disciples

Southwark Cathedral seeks to be a place of welcome and inclusion and we want to develop and nurture a culture of welcome, care and access for all. We would like to offer training in welcome to our staff, volunteers and members of the congregation.

We are concerned about members of our Cathedral community falling through the net and losing touch with us. In response a pastoral team is being established to offer care and support. We believe that existing groups and networks need to be more intentional about caring for one another and sharing news and pastoral information with the clergy and pastoral team. We want to help the congregation to take responsibility for one another with realistic levels of expectation. We are investigating pastoral care by phone, looking after our ageing members of our Cathedral community and also a renewed clergy commitment to meeting and greeting before and after services. During the year we would like to explore becoming a dementia friendly church with appropriate training for staff and volunteers.

Whilst the costs of these priorities are fairly modest at about £500 per month, including the budget shortfall we will need to raise a total of £1,500 each month. Will you help us to achieve this target? Please do not leave this to other people as we need your commitment and generosity to develop as disciples and as the community of God's people in this place.



Southwark Cathedral congregation and the sermons offer me friendship, understanding and spiritual fulfilment without being intrusive. Coming to the Cathedral every Sunday is like going to see your family for Sunday dinner. There's always so much love.

Pauline Allard



What can I do?

Give thanks

for everything with which God has blessed you. The more we give thanks, the more we realise how much we have been blessed.

Give generously

The Church of England challenges its members to give 5% (£1 in every £20) of their after-tax income to the church and a similar amount to other causes.

Give yourself

Get involved by volunteering and giving time back to God and his people.

Your contribution will make a real difference.

If...	this many people	increase their gift by	we'll have an additional
	10	£5	£50
	20	£8	£160
	19	£10	£190
	15	£20	£300
	10	£30	£300
	5	£40	£200
	5	£60	£300
			£1,500

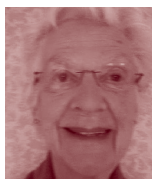
Please begin by looking at the top of the table and work your way to a place that feels both comfortable and challenging to you.



The Cathedral is a place where we can come, be still, pray and 're-set'. It's felt like a piece of home, ever since we were married here in 2009.

Rachel Marangozov





I value Southwark Cathedral for the thoughtful and reverent worship, the appropriate and good music from the choir and organist, and the welcoming and friendly people of all ages who make up the congregation

Gay Walker



This ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God.

2 Corinthians 9. 12

Things to pray about:

- Where does giving to God come in my financial priorities?
- Am I playing my part in financially supporting the life of the Cathedral?
- Could I help the Cathedral and better plan my giving by setting up a regular standing order for my gift?

How best to give?

There is no one answer to how much should I give. We are called to love God and our neighbour and our giving is an expression of that love. Please pray and think about what you give to the work of God through Southwark Cathedral.

If you give on the plate, then please consider giving regularly by joining the Planned Giving Scheme, preferably by standing order through your bank. This means that we know how much to expect each month, making budgeting easier, and it is also more secure. We currently have 324 members in the Planned Giving Scheme. It is also possible to give using weekly dated envelopes. The scheme means that we receive your gift even when you are unable to attend.

If you are currently in the Planned Giving Scheme, then think realistically and prayerfully about what you give and please consider increasing it.

If you pay tax you can optimize your giving through Gift Aid, so that the Cathedral can claim an extra 25p for every £1 you give. This is at no extra cost to you. Our Gift Aid scheme has 223 tax payers contributing. Will you join it too?

Consider remembering the Cathedral in your will, enabling the ministry of the Cathedral to continue in the future.

We are asking everyone to consider making a generous response to provide a secure financial base for our ongoing ministry. Members of Chapter are personally committed to playing their full part in this stewardship process.



Southwark Cathedral has a very special place in our hearts. It is not only our place of worship, reflection and prayer. It is a community that warmly welcomes and embraces all those who attend. We are proud to have been married here and to be part of the Southwark Cathedral community. **Tom and Marianne Smith**

My response

You are invited to renew or begin your financial commitment to Southwark Cathedral by completing the response form. Please return the response form to the Cathedral in the envelope provided by Sunday 25 February 2018. All financial information is totally confidential and will only be seen by the Cathedral Accountant and the Recorder.

Unless our money gift has cost us something, it is not really a thanksgiving but more like a tip. And one of the tensions in our discipleship lies in whether we live our life and give to God the odd crumb, or whether we give to God first, and then manage the rest. The Christian disciple who does the first will never be satisfied. The Christian disciple who does the second will always have enough.

Church of England website

Each of us must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9.7

