

How to Respond

Please complete the relevant parts of the enclosed Response Form and bring it with you to a service on Dedication Sunday, 27 November. Please complete the form even if you are not changing your present giving intentions, so that we are all responding as a church family. Before completing the Response Form it may be helpful to consider the following:

If you currently:	then please pray about whether you could.....
Are not making a regular financial contribution	Give to Holy Trinity on a regular basis
Give a regular amount by envelope	Increase the amount
Give regularly and are a tax payer	Allow the church to claim a further 25% through Gift Aid on your giving or by joining the Parish Giving Scheme
Pay regular amounts through standing order or the Parish Giving Scheme	Increase the amount you are currently giving
Are unable to do any of these	Consider leaving Holy Trinity a legacy in your will.

For further information on any of the above please contact:

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Thank you for considering prayerfully this pamphlet and your contribution to Holy Trinity.

Holy Trinity

The Parish Church of Coleman's Hatch



Stewardship Sunday - 6 November 2016

Dedication & Thanksgiving Sunday - 27 November 2016

“Yours, Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendour, for everything in heaven and earth is yours. Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand.”
1 Chron. 29: 11-14

Dear Friends,

As I look back over this past year, I do so with a sense of gratitude to God for all the resources He has given us at Holy Trinity. In our bible study series '40 Days with Jesus', we looked at Post Easter encounters with the risen Lord Jesus. The transformation of lives given in love and service to Him. Our Stewardship theme this year is to give thanks to God for His greatness, power and faithfulness as we acknowledge that everything in heaven and earth belongs to Him and we are stewards of those gifts.

Stewardship is not primarily about money- it is about our response to God's grace and an expression of thankfulness in action. What does that mean for each of us as individuals as we re-commit ourselves to God's service for another year? You will see on the next page some of the ways in which we have seen God at work among us during 2016. Please take a moment to rejoice in what God has been doing and prayerfully consider your response.

I want to thank everyone who has contributed to the life and mission of Holy Trinity and for the ways we share the good news of Christ with our local community.

The challenge for 2017 is great and exciting and we serve a great God. Please join with me in re-dedicating yourself to serve Him faithfully throughout the coming year.

Rev'd Julie Sear

2016 Highlights

- Trinity Cafe' going from strength to strength
- Vintage Fete
- Pet Service
- Teddy Tots baby and toddler group in Trinity Hall
- Pastoral care and visiting
- Teams in place to care for the fabric and grounds of Holy Trinity
- Working together with the community
- Part time Curate joined us at the end of June
- Monthly Open House at the Rectory
- Weddings and Baptisms and Funerals.
- Monthly prayer breakfast
- Bible study groups and Lent Course.
- Sung Matins and Choral Evensong
- Charitable giving.

Outlook for 2017

We pray that 2017 will see further growth in these initiatives. Hopefully we can support them through prayer and giving generously of time, talents and resources so that these precious fruits of growth can be tended rather than wither on the vine, with a church here in Coleman's Hatch for future generations.

Projects proposed for 2016-2017 ~ improvements to the sound system; construction of a terrace outside Trinity Hall; Work on the churchyard to make it safe, attractive and welcoming, repairs to the clock.

The Financial Situation

Over the last few years our income has not kept pace with expenditure and it has often been necessary to draw on reserves. In 2014 for example, even after allowing for the exceptional cost of organ repairs, we had a deficit of £6,000. Last year we were able to reclaim income tax on Gift Aid for several past years, without which we would have shown a deficit of £3,000. This year we will be lucky not to show another deficit, even before the charitable donations which we have traditionally made.

The PCC feel we should have sufficient income to cover normal costs, in particular the growing diocesan contribution, and allow the charitable donations to continue, so we ask the congregation to consider increasing the amounts you give - from the present £35,000 a year to at least £40,000 which is about 15%. This is a substantial increase.

Not every established contributor will be able to increase their giving. Hopefully some established contributors will be able to do so. We pray there may be an increase in regular contributors.

Let each of us settle before God what is right for us to do, and let us pray and entrust to God's safe keeping the overall financial needs of Holy Trinity.