

“I’m convinced, how do I help?”

Request for more information

Please return this slip to the temporary post box in the outside smoking area of the King Alfred.

We in turn will contact you.

Name:.....

Address:.....

.....

.....

Phone:

Or email:

Alternatively, if you would like to just donate without hearing from us, you can setup a standing order or make a donation using online banking to:

St Michael’s Church, Burrowbridge bank details:

Account Name: Burrowbridge PCC

Account Number: 23599774

Sort Code: 60-11-38

Use the reference: St Michaels Giving

Corinthians 9:7 “For each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver”

Mandate/Gift Aid forms can be collected from the church (when it reopens) or you can contact any of the persons below for help.

You can also download a copy from our facebook page:

www.facebook.com/StMichael.Burrowbridge

Hon. Associate Priest

Rev John Tyler

01460 281 574

PCC

Marion Hilling

01823 698 009

Treasurer

Rob Ellis

01823 490 599

Or email: rellisscr@hotmail.com

Your Pledge will make a real difference, but we can make it work even harder for us

Regular giving by bank standing order can mean additional money for us.

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If you pay income or capital gains tax to the same amount of your donation in the same tax year, we can claim Gift Aid on your giving. This means for every £1 donated, we get a further 25p from the HMRC. So a £1000 annual donation would grant us a further £250 from the government. Enough to pay for a service of the organ.

On behalf of the Burrowbridge Parochial Church Council (PCC), we thank you for taking the time to read this leaflet. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

St Michael’s Burrowbridge

An Invitation to Join the Giving Initiative

YOUR VILLAGE CHURCH NEEDS HELP



Dear ‘Bridge’ Reader
We pray you are keeping safe and well. During this lockdown, we have undertaken a thorough review of our finances. In recent years, the church has been running at a moderate annual deficit, but the current global crisis has hit us particularly hard.

Like any charity, we rely on the support of donors to keep us going. With no weekly collections, our annual costs are munching away at our modest savings. As such, we urgently ask our community for assistance.

We already have a number of people who are giving by monthly standing orders, but not enough to cover our costs. Therefore, we are asking for additional supporters to join our giving initiative.

The annual operating cost for St Michaels is around £8,000 per year.

These are the basic costs for lighting, insurance, churchyard maintenance and payment to the Church of England.

We have to pay the Church of England a contribution every year, which goes towards the provision of a vicar, even as now, when there is no resident vicar. A bit like household council tax.

All funding to cover the church running costs has to come from the church goers, local donations and fund raising ventures, along with the fees we get for weddings and funerals, which is a very small amount.

We receive nothing from the Church of England or the local Diocese. **Nothing directly comes from the Government** or other giving agencies.

Like the vast majority of local parish churches, we are reliant on volunteers – those unpaid individuals that keep the church clean inside, full of flowers, managing the churchyard etc.

The Church building and the beautiful Churchyard on the slopes of the Mump can be a haven for quiet reflection and spiritual resource and comfort.

Along with the ‘King Alfred’ and the Village Hall, the church is one of the village amenities, and it comes into its own for special occasions – like

the Weddings, Funerals, Christmas etc – when it can be filled to capacity.

Of course in normal circumstances it is also open and used regularly week by week.

An invitation to Join

“But I’m not religious, and I don’t go to church... Why should I care about it..?”

Burrowbridge is linked with the villages of Lyng, Stoke St. Gregory and North Curry in a ‘Benefice’ (Athelney Benefice) under the care of a Vicar (at the moment, as you know, this post is vacant ; it may take a year or so for it to be filled. But, as soon as the present Covid-19 restrictions are lifted and the situation is ‘normalised’, it’s ‘Business as usual’).

In these past few decades villages have been losing their Shops, Post Offices, Pubs and Schools – it would be a pity if Burrowbridge lost its Church as well, and its symbol was a ruined Church on the Mump. If villages lose their communal buildings and organisations the whole community is impoverished. We are asking, if you possibly can, to help preserve and fund it with a small regular contribution each month.

With Every Blessing, Rev John Tyler
Honorary Associate Priest

We are hoping many residents of Burrowbridge will join the few others to support our beautiful little church. If we can get as many as possible all donating, say on average £15 per month each year, we can not only cover our annual operating costs, but start to build up a fund to cover the expensive repairs that will be needed in due course. Repairing a leaking roof, or a

cracked window, is not a cheap event for a Grade 2 listed building.

We appreciate that times are difficult, and that not everyone will be able to give. But every £5 per month would help. There is no minimum or maximum to give per month.

If you can afford £1, that’s great, thank you.

If you can afford £100, that’s great, thank you. Your donation can be amended or cancelled anytime you wish, and all giving information is kept strictly confidential.

You would be making a big difference to your village church.

If you are interested in joining the regular givers at St Michael’s, would you kindly complete the information request on the reverse side of this leaflet, and we will contact you directly.

We shall be grateful and thankful for anything you can spare.

If you would rather just give a one off donation, we would be, again, most grateful.

£8,000 a year is required

or a little over

£150 per week or £21 a day to cover the church costs