

## Why should I give?

As members of God's family we belong to Him. All that we are and all that we have are His. Part of our family responsibility is to invest the resources He gives us for His purposes and for His glory. In the Bible God calls us to respond to Him in thankfulness by giving to and through our local church, where we are fed and nurtured, liberally and joyfully, generously and freely, and in proportion to our ability.

## How much should I give?

In the Old Testament, God called His people to give 10% as their tithe. Additional freewill offerings were over and above this. In the New Testament, we are under grace not law, and therefore we should be motivated to give even more freely. How much you give is a matter for prayerful consideration between you and the Lord.

## How can I give to Christ Church?

### Standing Order with Gift Aid

The most effective means to give to Christ Church is via a a standing order payment combined with a Gift Aid declaration. Whether you wish to give monthly, quarterly or annually, these commitments help us plan for the future development of our ministry as well as enable us to recover another 28% in tax relief for UK taxpayers. All you need to do to give in this way, is fill-in our bank standing order form, sign it and place it in the collection. We will do the rest.

### Giving a Legacy to Christ Church

If you would like to leave Christ Church a gift in your Will, giving in this way is exempt from Inheritance Tax. We will be pleased to supply details of how this may be done easily whether or not you have already prepared your Will.

### Via the Collection Plate

Of course, you can give in cash via the offertory each week. But, if you do pay tax of any sort, the Government is happy for you to direct the basic rate of income tax you have already paid to the charity concerned via Gift Aid. If you currently choose to give in cash and are a taxpayer, please consider using other Gift Aid mechanisms for your gift. If you pay tax at a rate higher than basic rate, further tax relief is available to you on your charitable donations.

# Christ Church

## Virginia Water



# Finance Challenge

## 2006

*To the Glory of God and the Future of  
Virginia Water*

## To the Glory of God...

Congratulations, Christ Church. Your support for our ministry in 2005 set a new record in giving - £222,000 in tithes and offerings. When taken together with the support to external charities for the Tsunami disaster and the Asian earthquake, our Church and community gave over £320,000 in 2005.

By God's grace and the commitment of many here at Christ Church, much has been achieved last year. Your generosity in helping meet the needs in South East Asia was amazing and in God's providence this has led to a growing student ministry among graduates from that area of the world. The investments made in enhancing the lighting of the Church and some decoration has made an enormous difference also.

## ...and the Future of Virginia Water

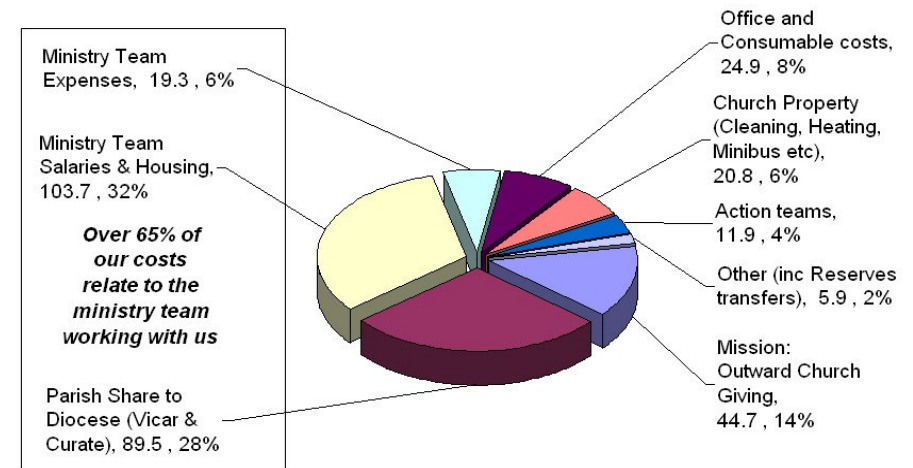
We believe God's plans for us in 2006 are ambitious. So therefore is the budget required to achieve them. Listed below are the significant initiatives planned after prayer by the Church Council. We need your commitment, talents and financial support to turn our vision into reality.

- ⊙ **Children's Ministry:** With the growth in our ministry among families through Chipmunks, Scallywags and Cherubs, as well as our Sunday Club programme, we believe we should invest in a Children's and Family Pastor to assist the clergy in evangelism and pastoral care.
- ⊙ **Youth Ministry:** About four years ago we created a youth worker fund and have been drawing from it each year to help pay for our youth ministry. As it has been gradually depleted, we have added an increasing amount to the general budget so that this year's budget now bears the full cost of the youth ministry.
- ⊙ **Student Ministry:** We have seen significant growth in our student ministry at Royal Holloway, especially among international students, as a result of last year's decision to employ Paul two days a week. In 2006 we will be seeking to appoint a full-time Student Pastor.
- ⊙ **Apprentices:** Christ Church is recognized as a training parish and we have also benefited greatly having Christian and Andy serve with us this year. Initially funded by a generous legacy, we wish to include some of the cost of our apprentice scheme from general funds.
- ⊙ **Mission:** Christ Church is a sending church. In 2005 we sponsored Richard & Fiona Coleman to train for the ministry and sent a team to help with CRISIS. In 2006 we will increase the amount we give to our mission partners and encourage short term mission opportunities.

## ...Through Your Investment

These plans, together with a few smaller items, raise our voluntary giving target to £298,000 which is about £25,000 per month. The full budget of £320,000 includes the expenses and revenue from the *Connection* magazine and some wedding fees, etc. After prayer and careful reflection, the budget was unanimously approved, in faith, by Christ Church Council. The table below provides a summary of our budget.

### 2006 Budget - Summary



Labels show budget spend in £,000 and % of overall budget of £320,600

Christ Church is not funded by the Church of England or outside charity. We rely almost entirely on voluntary giving from within the Church family, which is as it should be. We therefore challenge you to increase the amount you give to the Lord's work to and through Christ Church on a regular basis, and make it your first priority.

May the Lord bless you and those you love,

Stephen Sizer

Ulla Joseph

Colin Rye

## Finance Challenge 2006

I would like to increase my investment in God's ministry at Christ Church by:

- Giving by Bank Standing Order
- One-off Gift
- Increasing the level of my giving from £..... to £.....
- Please send me further details of the Gift Aid Scheme
- Please advise on how to leave a Legacy to the Church

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

## Gift Aid

Charities like Christ Church are able to reclaim basic rate tax (22%) on all donations we receive from you if you are a taxpayer. This equates to approximately 28% of the gift you give us out of your taxed income. So, for every £100 you give us using this scheme, we can claim back another £28 from the government, at no cost to you. If you pay UK tax and have not already done so, please sign and return the form overleaf.

## Confidentiality

Only you and our Treasurers have access to information about how much, and by what means, you give.

## Turning Vision into Ministry

Please place this in the collection plate or post to Ron Butler (Treasurer), Daphron, 28 Simons Walk, Englefield Green, Surrey TW20 9SQ. Cheques should be payable to 'Virginia Water PCC'.

## Gift Aid Declaration

Name of Charity: Christ Church, Virginia Water  
Charity claims reference number: X81307

Details of Donor:

Forename(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Surname \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Post Code \_\_\_\_\_

I want Christ Church, Virginia Water to reclaim tax on all donations I make from the date of this declaration, treating them as Gift Aid Donations.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

- Please supply me with a Bank Standing Order Form

NOTES:

1. As your declaration covers future donations please notify Christ Church if you change your name or address while the declaration is still in force. You may cancel this declaration at any time by notifying the treasurer.
2. You must pay an amount of income tax and/or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax that Christ Church claims on your donations in the tax year (from 6 April 2000, 28p for each £1 you give).
3. If in the future your circumstances change and you no longer pay tax on your income and/or capital gains equal to the tax that Christ Church reclaims, you should cancel your declaration before and in respect of any donations which exceed your taxed income/capital gains (see note 1).
4. If you pay tax at the higher rate you can claim further tax relief in your self-assessment tax return.
5. If you are unsure whether your donations qualify for Gift Aid tax relief, ask Ron Butler, our Treasurer, or contact your local tax office for leaflet IR113 Gift Aid.