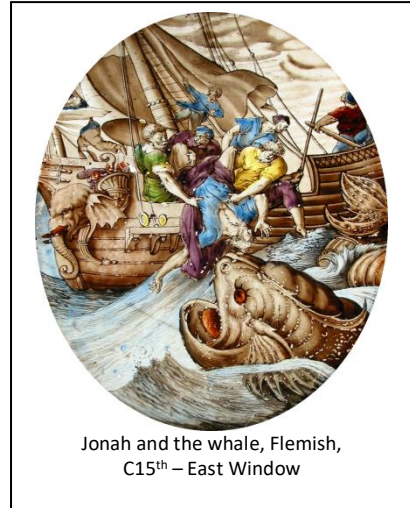


St. Mary's Church, Preston-on-Stour

Dear Friends of St. Mary's

We are writing to you to ask for your support to help safeguard the future of our Church, not only as a place of worship, but also as a significant historic building which we are sure you recognise as a valuable asset to the village of Preston on Stour, and indeed the County of Warwickshire.

St. Mary's, a Grade 1 listed building, was chosen as one of Simon Jenkins' "England's Thousand Best Churches" and is listed by Nickolaus Pevsner in his architectural guides. Whilst extensively remodelled during 1750-56, its origins date back to Anglo-Saxon times with the village name of Preston being a derivation of "Priest Town". St Mary's and its churchyards have always offered the entire community a place of beauty for quiet reflection, baptisms, weddings and funerals, of course regular services and our ever popular nativity play. The operational bell tower in itself is unusual, not only because the Bells continue to ring out, but also because there are few surviving churches with a 3 bell tower.



Jonah and the whale, Flemish,
C15th – East Window

As you can imagine, being so old, St. Mary's requires continual maintenance and over the last few years we have repaired the external stonework and completely renovated the east window. At the end of January 2019 we will undertake the first repainting of the interior walls for many years, a job which will come at a cost of approximately £12000. This money has to come from the Church funds where the only income is service related collections and donations from parishioners and supporters.

Over the years we have been very fortunate to receive support in the form of one-off donations and legacies from benefactors as well as some other activities to contribute to the annual running costs and regular maintenance program.

However we are keen to encourage other organisations or individuals to help us in the future.

As mentioned above, we are facing a significant expense to protect the church and maintain it as the central feature of the village for both our own and future generations.

To be blunt, the cash reserves accumulated over many years are rapidly dwindling!

We are hoping that you would consider making a donation to the St. Mary's Fabric Fund. All money raised will be ring-fenced and go directly to the maintenance of St Mary's and not be mixed with the funds required for the general running of the church. The Gift Aid process helps make donations tax effective and hence increase the value of your contributions.

Thank you in advance for any support you might be able to offer and we would also like to thank all who have, and continue to contribute their time and energy to the upkeep of our beautiful church.

All replies will be dealt with in the strictest confidence. If you would like to discuss any details, feel free to contact me, Phil Grellier (Church Warden) at 01789 450644.

Many Thanks!

Please visit the Church and see us on the Village website www.prestononstour.org
23/01/2019

Donation Details

Please return to the St. Mary's Church PCC Treasurer,
c/o Phil Grellier, Applegarth, Preston on Stour, CV37 8NG

Your Name:

Address:

Telephone number: email:

I / We would like to make a regular donation – please fill in details below
**Please fill in the gift aid declaration*

I / We would like to make a one off donation – please send cheque payable to “**PCC of Preston on Stour, St Mary's Church Fund**” to address above.
**Please fill in the gift aid declaration*

STANDING ORDER FOR YOUR REGULAR DONATION

If you are a tax payer, please complete the Gift Aid Declaration to make your gifts tax efficient.
Please complete and return as above. Karen, our treasurer will send it to your bank.

YOUR BANK DETAILS:

Bank name and address:

..... Post Code

Sort Code: - - . Account Number:

Account Name:

PLEASE PAY TO:

For the credit of: PCC of Preston on Stour, St Mary's Church Fund

Lloyds Bank, Sort Code: 30-98-26. **Account Number:** 00209849

The sum of (£

Monthly / Quarterly / Annually (Delete as appropriate)

First payment on

Subsequently on

This is a **new / is an additional / replaces** existing standing order for St. Mary's Church Fund.

Signed:..... Date:

YOUR DETAILS

Name: Address:

..... Post Code:

GIFT AID DECLARATION

**ST. MARY'S CHURCH
PRESTON ON STOUR**

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Gift Aid declaration – for past, present & future donations

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, PRESTON ON STOUR

Please treat as Gift Aid donations all qualifying gifts of money made

today in the past 4 years in the future

Please tick **all** boxes you wish to apply.

I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities etc that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. I understand the charity will reclaim 28p of tax on every £1 that I gave up to 5 April 2008 and will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I give on or after 6 April 2008.

Donor's details

Title ----- First name or initial(s) -----

Surname -----

Full home address -----

Postcode -----

Date -----

Signature -----

Please notify St Mary's Church if you:

- *Want to cancel this declaration*
- *Change your name or home address*
- *No longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains.*

If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.