

May 2018

From the Churchwardens of All Saints Worcester

Dear Friend,

We are writing to you as an active member of this church. Thank you for your involvement. You will be aware that the church is dependent on the generosity in time and money of all its members, to thrive.

A major part of our expenditure as a church is our payment into a common fund supporting ministry and mission across our diocese, which is known as our parish share. This is how we help to pay for parish clergy across the diocese, including here, as well as a range of essential support services such as finance, HR, our Archdeacons and other services such as our children's and youth officers, work with our 100 church schools and with ordinands and other ministers in training. The PCC are committed to paying our fair share of these costs; to do this we need your help.

Each year a budget for expenditure is approved by diocesan synod, the representative governing body of the churches of the diocese. Having subtracted other income available, this expenditure is divided up between the parishes of the diocese. Three years ago a new way of dividing the amount required was introduced based on an assessment of the ability of each church to pay. Known as Fairer Share, this was based on the actual disposable income of active church members, each church being asked to contribute the same proportion of this figure.

In order to make this calculation, we use a completely confidential and anonymous survey of income. This is achieved by using two forms; the 'Survey Form' which identifies each participating member, and is the only one with your name on and the anonymous 'Income Declaration Form'. A copy of each of these forms is enclosed. Please read the instructions and notes carefully and then complete and return them to church as soon as possible, putting each in the appropriate sealed box.

The Survey Forms will be checked by us against the list of the forms issued in order to follow up the missing forms; the sealed box of Income Declaration Forms will be given to the churchwardens of another church for processing. This way the two forms can never be brought together ensuring it is impossible for anyone in this parish to know what you have stated on the income form. It is equally impossible for those who check the income form to know who you are.

You have received this letter because we regard you to be a participating member of this church. If you are not already a regular financial giver, we hope that you will consider becoming one. The Church is reliant on the regular generosity of people such as you to flourish. To become a regular giver, please speak to one of us.

A leaflet is enclosed to help with some of the questions you may have but if you would like any further information, please do ask and we will do our best to help.

Thank you for your support

Rich Colthurst

Phil Bristow

Churchwardens

On behalf of Rev Rich Johnson and the PCC of All Saints Worcester