

## St Mary the Virgin, Lowgate, Hull

# MAKING ST MARY'S FIT FOR THE FUTURE

## Here's how you can help



**St Mary's is the oldest parish church in Hull. Grade II\* listed our church has stood at the heart of Hull since at least 1333 and is packed with historical and architectural interest.**

### **Our Christian Mission**

Our parish is one of the five per cent most deprived in the country and St Mary's' Christian mission is to help those in need in our city. Currently this takes the form of hosting three soup kitchens a week, in normal times providing a hot meal for between 70 and 90 people each evening, but during the current pandemic providing a meal to take away. The soup kitchens are operated by volunteer group Hull Homeless Outreach.

### **Our Challenge**

St Mary's future and role in serving our parish is limited by, indeed put in jeopardy by, the lack of basic facilities and the poor condition of the church's interior.

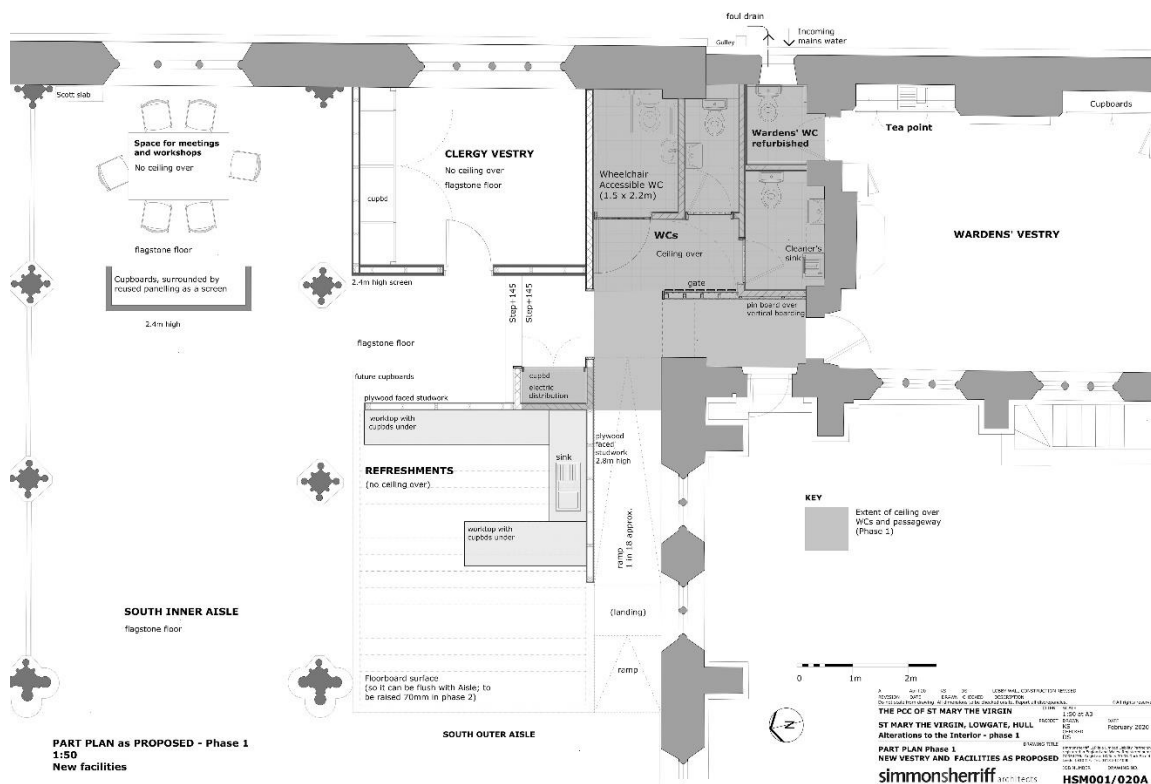
St Mary's lacks the facilities we need to thrive. The church has one toilet, which is not accessible for wheelchair users. The toilet's handbasin provides the only water supply. St Mary's does not have kitchen facilities. Nor does it have allied buildings, such as a church hall.

St Mary's heating has not worked for years - the underfloor pipework is beyond repair and need replacing along with asbestos removing. Driven away by the cold and damp, St Mary's congregation has dwindled.

The Victorian tiled floor is dangerously uneven. The electrical system does not meet current standards.

***We need physical change now to keep the church alive.***

## Our Plans



St Mary's has been working hard, within our small team's capacity, to develop plans, obtain approvals and raise funds to undertake major improvement works.

The scheme we have developed, includes the installation of a basic kitchen facility, the installation of three new WCs with one wheelchair accessible one, the refurbishment of the existing WC, the installation of heating and new electrics, a screened meeting/counselling area and new floor to a significant area.

### We need your help now

We have tenders for the works and will require a budget of £837,882 excluding VAT. We understand that our work will attract a Listed Places of Worship Scheme grant to cover VAT.

**Through fund raising, legacies and grants, we have secured a large portion of that, but we are still £97,700 short of our target for the first phase of works.**

### Summary

With Faculty approval in place and affordable tenders for the works, we are in a position to start the works in 2021 subject to top up funds.

If you wish to discuss making a donation, or other ways of giving your support, please contact our Project Officer Amanda Habergham by email at [info@stmaryslowgate.org.uk](mailto:info@stmaryslowgate.org.uk) or by phone on 01482 861614.

***We thank you in anticipation of your kind contribution.***

***Please use the attached form to make your gift towards St Mary's' improvement scheme.***

St Mary the Virgin, Lowgate, Hull

# GIFT FORM

## Making St Mary's Fit For the Future

Title	Mr	Mrs	Miss	Ms	Other
First name (s):					
Surname:					
Full home address:					
Postcode:					
Telephone:					
Email:					

**I wish my gift to be used for the St Mary the Virgin, Lowgate, improvement scheme.**

Amount:
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**I will donate by (please tick one):**

<input type="checkbox"/> Cheque Please make cheques payable to: St Mary's Parochial Church Council
<input type="checkbox"/> Online banking Please use:      Sort code    56 00 06      Account Number    03821269

**I wish to Gift Aid my donation**

**Gift Aid makes every £1 worth £1.25**

I am a UK tax payer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference. I understand the charity will reclaim 25p for every £1 that I give.

**Signature:**

	Title:
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Please return this form by email to [info@stmaryslowgate.org.uk](mailto:info@stmaryslowgate.org.uk) or by post to:  
Mr P Gibson, PCC Treasurer, St Mary the Virgin, Lowgate, Hull, HU1 1EJ

***Thank you***