



THE SHERBORNE BENEFICE

Sherborne Abbey with Castleton & St Paul's
Lillington and Longburton

The Vicarage
Abbey Close
Sherborne
Dorset
DT9 3LQ

The Reverend Martin Lee

Team Rector

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*Sherborne Abbey: Founded
by St Aldhelm AD 705*

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE ELECTORAL ROLL

October 2023

Day of Prayer and Gifts – Saturday 28th October 2023 10.30 am – 3.00 pm

In a world where the financial pressures are often discussed on the news, I suppose that it is not surprising that we too at Sherborne Abbey, must face up to the challenges which present themselves to us in the daily life of our Abbey.

Asking people to consider their financial giving, is always a hard thing to do, but it is deeply important that we do think hard about how we can support the Abbey, not just in terms of the time and talents that we give, but also to the financial support that we are able to offer. Especially at this time when we are endeavouring to undertake significant work in providing toilet facilities.

It is then our great pleasure that we are writing to invite you to join us on our annual Day of Prayer and Gifts and with confidence therefore that we commit ourselves as a parish to this important day. We pray on that day, and both before and after, for the on-going mission and ministry of our churches. It will also be an opportunity to see presentations representing various aspects of life in our Abbey which we are sure will be affirming of what we do and interesting for us all to share in.

Just as prayer is an act of our worship, so is our giving. Church is not like a shop or an entertainment venue – where you go and hand over money in return for something, whether an item purchased, or a service provided. Instead, it is a family to which we belong and in which we share in supporting. In that spirit then, may we ask you to consider your giving to the church such that its mission and ministry can continue to flourish in Sherborne and beyond?

To assist your giving, there are three ways you can do this – remembering that if you are a UK taxpayer making a Gift Aid declaration enables us to claim an additional 25% courtesy of the Government. If you haven't already filled out a form for this, please do so – there is one attached to this letter.

Option 1 (for a one-off gift)

If you prefer to donate directly using your online banking please use the following details:
Sort Code: 60-19-12 Account Number: 05509084 Name: Sherborne Abbey. Please use 'Gift Day [your surname]' as the reference.

If you are eligible and have not previously completed a Gift Aid slip there is one attached which can be sent to the Parish Office.

Option 2 (for a one-off gift)

If you prefer to give by cash or cheque please place in an envelope clearly marked 'GIFT DAY' (red spot Gift Aid envelopes will be found at the back of the Abbey) and either bring to one of the services or to the Abbey between 10.30am and 3.00pm on the Day of Prayer

"To know God and to make Him known in wonder, love and praise"

Website: www.sherborneabbey.com Registered Charity No. 1130082

and Gifts where one of the clergy will gladly receive your gift or deliver to the Parish Office.

If you are eligible and have not previously completed a Gift Aid slip, there is one attached to this letter.

Option 3 (regular giving)

A Standing Order form for you to make regular payments through your bank or to revise your existing giving. Please note that you can use the form to make your gift monthly, quarterly or yearly – whichever suits you best – and of course it can be cancelled at any time. Please do not send this direct to your bank. Please return it to the Parish Office and we will do all that is necessary. The form is attached to this letter.

We all find ourselves in challenging times, and this is an opportunity when together we can join as one and re-evaluate our giving. As we approach the Day of Prayer and Gifts, we all have the opportunity to respond in generosity to support the mission and ministry of the Parish. Thank you so much in anticipation of both your prayers and your gifts and we look forward to seeing you on Saturday 26th October 2023.

With every blessing

Martin

The Reverend Martin Lee
Team Rector