

# questions you may have

*We have tried to address the most common questions but if you have any others please contact the parish office.*

## **What has happened to the heating at the church?**

*The heating system in the church is broken and unsafe to use, and the boiler heating the priests' house, parish offices and parish rooms is well over 30 years old and needs replacing. We needed to have a complete rethink about the heating across all the church buildings.*

## **Could we just repair the old one?**

*We have explored all options. In the church, however, the old PowrMatic air handling system drew cold air from outside and so when it was really cold it was not effective. The boiler in the priests' home and parish rooms is so old now that no parts can be sourced when it goes wrong. We will however still be using most of the pipework and radiators in the house and parish halls, and most of the ducting in the church.*

## **What about the sustainable heating options?**

*Given all of the characteristics of our church, its site and its listing, and considering the various sustainable heat sources currently available, none of them are realistic options for us. The gas boiler we have chosen can be adapted easily to work on hydrogen when the technology allows.*

## **Why are you not considering the environment and installing an air-source heat pump?**

*A heat pump is only energy efficient for buildings that need to be kept at a constant temperature 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Our Church requires to be sufficiently warm for short periods of around an hour at all other times it will be too expensive to keep the whole building warm.*

## **When will it be done?**

*The project is highly complex, and we want to get it right. Finding the right solution for our needs, getting the plans drawn up, getting all the many correct permissions, going out to tender for each part of the project, and then scheduling the work, ordering the bespoke parts is all very time consuming. Please see the timeline of what has been going on with the project so far.*

## **Is it essential to have an outside staircase?**

*Health and safety regulations have changed a lot since the church was built 60 years ago. Contractors, and maintenance people are now no longer allowed now to use ladders to climb up onto the 2 roofs of the church.*

**Who is working on the project?**

*Overall Fr Tom is responsible for the work, but there are a number of very experienced people working on this project, some volunteers, some Diocesan staff, and some external consultants. Our head of Fabric is a retired surveyor, and we as a parish owe him a massive debt of gratitude for the work he has done on this project and is continuing to do.*

**It does seem to be a lot of money?**

*There are many reasons why this is such an expensive project – there are a number of different parts to the project; and work in a listed building is always more restrictive (and more expensive), and parts and labour are very expensive across the whole economy at this time (and getting more expensive).*

**Where is the money coming from? can't the Diocese pay?**

*The Parish are having to fundraise for the full cost of the project. Amy in the office is applying for grants, and the stewardship group are looking at fundraising activities. The Diocese does not have the money to fund this project, so it must come from us.*

**What happens if we don't raise £165,000 in the next couple of months? How can you be planning the schedule without having the funds in place?**

*We hope that we will be able to raise a good chunk of the money via our many fundraising efforts, and via the generosity of our parishioners. We have to hope that we will get there. If the funds raised through donations is not sufficient we will use the parish reserves to complete the project.*