



ST PETER'S EASTERN HILL

Anglican Parish Church of the City since 1846

15 Gisborne Street Melbourne Victoria 3002 Australia

Dear Parish Friends,

Today is Stewardship Sunday, when we ask you to reflect on how you can support the mission of the parish. There are many ways you already contribute – some as servers, some in the hospitality program, the Guild of Saint Benedict, some prayerfully, musically, some as welcomers, others as volunteers in our various programs, and some financially. Many do more than one of these, some multiple.

This Sunday, we are asking you to prayerfully consider whether you can do more.

In this note, we are particularly asking about financial support as Parish Council prepares to submit the budget for next year to our upcoming Annual Meeting. Things are again tight for the parish. Like everyone, the Parish is facing cost of living increases, and so we ask if you could increase your regular contribution for that reason alone.

But the next church year involves two big changes from previous years that we ask you to reflect on.

Firstly, as we are already benefiting from, we have a new assistant priest, Mthr Kathryn, so our full-time stipended ministry team has doubled from previous years. We therefore have more consistent staffing – no crises, for example, when Fr Michael takes his well-deserved leave. We have more time for priests to do pastoral care and outreach. This step-change in staffing requires a step-change in parish outgoings and hence a step change in donations. Parish Council has set a goal of offertory covering ministry costs, and we now invite you to reflect on how you might contribute to that.

Secondly, Parish Council is revising the way we organise our wonderful music program. The intention is that from next year, we have four 'choral scholars' who will join our choir as young people in training; they'll possibly be music students, who can contribute and develop at the same time. The stipend for a choral scholar will be \$6000 a year. Two parishioners have already committed to donate two stipends between them and we are now looking for one or two parishioners to support the other two. This way of helping will particularly suit taxpaying parishioners as donations to the music program can be made through the Melbourne Anglican Cultural Organisation (MACO) which has tax-deductible status. Please think about and talk to one of us if you can help out. Parish Council is aiming for donations through MACO to cover the full cost of the music program.

If you can't support a full scholarship, you might like to think about donating toward other aspects of the music program, including the salary for the director of music.

We all love St Peter's. But the St Peter's we know relies on the generosity of all of you, the parishioners. We ask you to prayerfully reflect on what you can do to step up to meet the increased costs we face next year.

Sincerely,

Daniel Ferguson, Rachel Ellyard, Michael Gronow (Parish Wardens)

Peter Griffin (Parish Treasurer)

St Peter's Eastern Hill Anglican Church

Stewardship Program 2023/2024

For all commitments, 1st October 2023 – 30th September 2024

Name: _____
Address: _____
Telephone: _____
Email: _____

I wish to contribute to the work of God's Church and will offer:
\$ _____ per week or \$ _____ per month

I would prefer to give (please tick) via direct debit from my bank through the ADF (if you select this option, you will be issued with applicable information from Parish Office

OR

With a set of weekly envelopes

Or

I would also like to contribute the gift of time. Could you put me in contact with someone to talk about: Hospitality, Choir, Serving, Welcoming, Hospitality, Pastoral care, other.
Please specify: _____

BEQUESTS AND ONE-OFF GIFTS

I also wish to make a one-off gift.
If you would like your gift to support a particular aspect of ministry at St Peter's Eastern Hill, e.g. Family Ministry, Multi Media Equipment, Garden, Mission Giving, Music, etc.,
Please specify: _____

I would like to receive information about making a bequest to St Peter's Eastern Hill in my will.

Supporting the Parish financially

General contributions

A *regular deposit via bank transfer* helps us meet the ministry costs and ordinary bills of the parish. Please put your name in the relevant field so we can acknowledge your contribution.

Direct payment to the Parish account held by Anglican Development Fund:

BSB: 703 122 Account number: 0500 4666

Regular donation envelopes. We maintain a system of regular giving through envelopes put in the collection plate. For those of you who give this way, thanks. If you want to start giving this way, please contact the Parish Office office@stpeters.org.au

Tax deductible donations:

A donation to the Melbourne Anglican Cultural Organisation, specifying St Peter's, helps keep our fantastic music program going. Please specify your name so we can acknowledge the donation. You can donate at this website: <https://www.melbourneanglican.org.au/maf-donation-page/>

Bequests:

Please also remember St Peter's in your will. Bequests can be made for a specific purpose (such as maintenance) and you can also specify that the bequest be placed in our 'endowment fund' so that only the interest or dividends are used for the work of the parish, but the initial amount you donated remains intact. Please find further information here: http://webmail.stpeters.org.au/info/Bequest_brochure.pdf