



THE BISHOP OF LONDON

We live in interesting times when strong churches should be beacons and anchor-holds in an ever-shifting landscape. Christ Church is such a church, where clergy and people have faithfully served the local community for over 160 years.

Benjamin Ferrey had a reputation in the 19th century for designing churches both of great beauty and great practicality which were often built in the style of a village church. I was Vicar of another of Ferrey's London churches, St Stephen's Rochester Row. Christ Church is one of the very best examples of Ferrey's 'country church' designs, set in the heart of central London with a glorious East window, representing the Book of Common Prayer's Te Deum Laudamus (We Praise Thee O Lord), and surrounded by its own award winning gardens.

Today the church strives to be a centre of excellence for music and engaging preaching, while continuing to serve the local schools, colleges and hospitals; reaching out to the vulnerable and to the elderly and lonely; encouraging the young and the young at heart.

If we are to sustain Christ Church for the next 160 years, as a spiritual, cultural and community centre, we need your help and good will to restore it to its original splendour. In reality the roof requires urgent repair and there must be renewal of the heating and lighting to provide more usable community spaces.

Benjamin Ferrey and a host of loyal parishioners over the last century and a half have left Kensington a precious inheritance in Christ Church. I commend this current Appeal to you and hope you will share in passing on this goodly heritage to those who come after us.

With thanks for your interest and help

Richard Chartres

The Rt Revd & Rt Hon Richard Chartres KCVO DD FSA

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