



Councillor Fiona Buxton
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Christ Church, Kensington is one of my favourite churches in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea. It has been a much loved part of Kensington's rich heritage for over one hundred and sixty years and also serves as a vital hub of the local community, used not only by schools and nurseries but also by The Kensington Society, local residents' associations and groups such as the AA.

Under Rev'd Mark O'Donoghue's leadership, Christ Church goes from strength to strength with a clear desire to serve the most needy within the wider neighbourhood, including an innovative visiting, care and social programme aimed at vulnerable and isolated elderly people, which is being supported by the Council.

In an increasingly secular society, churches like Christ Church need to go beyond the traditional delivery of the sacraments and support of regular communicants to sustain the congregation, sense of purpose and financial support that these historic buildings require. So, as a ward councillor, I was delighted when the Diocese of London made the commitment to give Christ Church a full-time priest and have been impressed by the way that Mark and his family have made themselves part of the community. I have already seen an increase in the size of congregation and number of activities taking place in the church.

On behalf of the Council, I very much hope that sufficient funds can be raised to restore the church and refurbish it so that it can continue to serve the local community for many years to come.

Yours sincerely,

Councillor Fiona Buxton
Queen's Gate Ward
Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea