



Resourcing for Growth

Vision | People | Property



Dear Friends

“

He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ.”

COLOSSIANS 1:28



Here at Saint James, we do not want to content ourselves with being comfortable or our buildings feeling full. We want to “present everyone fully mature in Christ.” For that to happen, gospel ministry needs resourcing.

In 2026, we are planning to grow the staff team. To do that we need to raise £1.6m to purchase two properties to house the enlarged team. We also want to develop our partnership with The Two St James Trust, to ensure that gospel ministry can continue here for the next generation.

The need is immediate. The opportunity is exciting. And this booklet will ask you to get involved.

Please read on. Please pray. And please respond with a cheerful heart to what the Lord is doing amongst us.

With love in Christ

Matt Beeby

Rector



Our Vision

Our vision as a church is to see every life transformed.
Through Jesus. For God's glory.

Through the gospel, we are adopted into God's family – the church – a united and diverse community committed to:

- **Reaching...** our communities with the gospel.
- **Growing...** disciples to maturity.
- **Resourcing...** gospel ministry for God's kingdom.

As a church, therefore, we exist for the 45,000 people who live within 5 miles of Saint James – and for the thousands more further afield – who are dying without Christ. We long to see people among us from *“every nation, tribe, people and language”* (Rev 7:9) which means we welcome people regardless of age, gender, sexuality, race, ethnicity and class.

“

We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us.”

2 CORINTHIANS 5:20



Our Mission

Our mission as a church is to 'reach the 2%.' By 2035, we want to reach 2% of the 45,000+ from the surrounding area, so that by God's grace, we might grow to be a church of 900+ people.

If that sounds ambitious, that's the whole point. We have been richly blessed, as a church, and therefore we have a responsibility to be good stewards of the resources God has given us. For the sake of the kingdom, we want to 'dream big.'

Whether or not we 'succeed' in our mission is, ultimately, down to God. But it is surely better to have 'given it a go' and 'not quite made it' than never to have tried at all – which is why we want to invest wisely and boldly, for eternity.

“

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. ”

MATTHEW 28:18-20



Our Plans

“ The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”

MATTHEW 9:37-38

To reach the 2% our 10-year plan is focused on training and equipping people across our congregations so that everyone at Saint James (paid and unpaid) can play their part in reaching the lost and growing disciples.

We don't want to 'keep employing more staff' (we're a lifeboat, not a cruise ship: we want to see everyone in our church family involved as 'crew'). However, to accelerate our growth, we would like to add a small number of new faces to the team in order to multiply word ministry across the church. Good people are hard to find - so our recruitment is opportunistic as well as strategic.

We have been thinking and praying for some time now about what we can do to enable growth in the congregation in Fulmer (spiritually and numerically) and we are close to completing the appointment of an Associate Minister for Fulmer. This is very exciting.

The Lord has opened a door for us with a senior church leader who is due to join the team in September 2026. He and his wife have a particular heart for ministry in a village context, combining expository Bible teaching with an appreciation of the spiritual treasures of historic liturgy. For the latest on this, visit: saintjames.org.uk/news

He will be joining us as a self-supporting minister, which means 'all' we need to provide is a place to live!

Property is a great blessing in gospel ministry because it significantly reduces the cost of employing staff. However, the Saint James PCC (the PCC) has decided that it does not want to acquire any more property.

This is partly because the responsibility of looking after flats / houses is a distraction from the work of ministry. It is also because a growing number within our church family are expressing reservations about where assets purchased with money they have given might end up.



Our Context

That brings us to the situation in the Church of England (CofE) and the responsibility we have “to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to God’s holy people.” (Jude 3)

In recent years, many of the bishops in the CofE have sought to lead our denomination away from the historical truths of God’s word. It has been a deeply unsettling time but as a church we are united in our gospel convictions.

Together with numerous other churches around the country, we are calling our bishops to teach the truth and uphold the authority of the Scriptures – and we are urging them not to seek a change in doctrine. We welcome, therefore, the House of Bishops’ statement in October 2025 which steps back from pushing ahead with further changes at the moment. However, the underlying issue of false teaching in the CofE remains.

Whilst we remain within the CofE, we have a responsibility to those who have gone before us, and to those who will come after us, to ensure that we are stewarding our resources and investing wisely for the future.

Our buildings are here because of the sacrificial giving of many, many people over the years. It is only right, therefore, that we seek to safeguard our assets for faithful gospel ministry in the future in Gerrards Cross and Fulmer.

“

So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the teachings we passed on to you, whether by word of mouth or by letter.”

2 THESSALONIANS 2:15





The Two St James Trust

“ In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now...”

PHILIPPIANS 1:4-5

With that in mind, The Two St James Trust (the Trust) was established in 2006 to support gospel ministry in Gerrards Cross and Fulmer and further afield, primarily by buying and managing properties for gospel workers.

The Trust and the PCC are therefore partnering together as we look ahead to our next phase of growth. The PCC has asked the Trust to support the growth of our staff team and our mission to ‘reach the 2%’ by expanding its portfolio of property assets. We have a big vision. But vision costs. And gospel workers need housing.

The PCC and the trustees of the Trust agree that our current property portfolio needs re-balancing in order to better fit our staffing needs both now and as we grow.

Having benefited from the generosity and sacrifice of those who have gone before us, we want to do our duty to ensure that Christ continues to be proclaimed here in Gerrards Cross and Fulmer long after we've gone.

There is, of course, more we could talk about here than just property. The Trust has a key role to play in the growth of the ministry at Saint James, so it is an exciting time. Watch this space as our shared vision evolves.

In the meantime, if you would like to discuss anything relating to the CofE or the Trust, please get in touch with Matt or one of the Churchwardens or contact one of the trustees at the Trust on: info@thetwostjamestrust.org.uk



**Chris
Booker**
(Chair)



**Ed
Clark**



**David
Mulligan**



**Peter
Whittle**

To find out more about the Trust, visit: thetwostjamestrust.org.uk

The Funding Need



The Trust is therefore seeking to raise funds to purchase two properties:



A house (which we need to acquire by next summer).

This will be used, in the first instance, to house the Associate Minister for Fulmer.



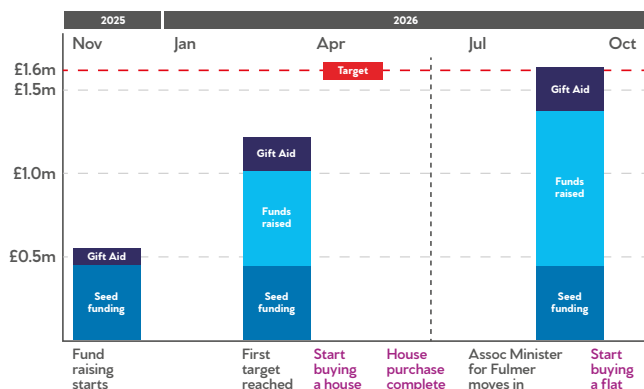
A flat (for which the need is less immediate).

This will enable us to stop paying rent on the open market.

We estimate the combined cost of two such properties in this area to be around £1.6m. So, that's our target, and we're asking everyone at Saint James to get involved.

To demonstrate that this is achievable, a small group of people from within the church family have pledged their commitment to a seed fund, so that we are not starting from zero. Their pledges total £450,000 which, with some Gift Aid on top, takes us to more than £500,000.

So, by the grace of God, we are well on the way to our target!



“

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.”

2 CORINTHIANS 8:9



The Grace of Giving

With a big target, it's easy to think that smaller gifts have no real worth, but Jesus honours the widow at the temple who gave from the little she had and he commends her for her sacrificial heart.

A need like this, therefore, asks us to examine both our hearts and our attitude to money. It's also an opportunity for us to excel, as a church, in the grace of giving. Just imagine what God might do if we are willing to trust him to provide for our needs?

Our circumstances will differ hugely from one household to another but whatever you are able to contribute will be hugely appreciated – and every little helps!

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Jesus said, 'Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything – all she had to live on.' **MARK 12:43-44**



How can we respond?



Prayer

- We are asking everyone to set aside time to pray and to consider their giving for this project.
- Please don't give any more than your heart is willing to, but why not ask God to enlarge your heart so that you know what generosity and sacrifice should look like in your particular circumstances?



Unless the Lord
builds the house,
the builders
labour in vain."

PSALM 127:1



Pledges

- We are asking each person or household at Saint James to consider what they can contribute as a one-off gift towards our £1.6m target.
- Remember that we still need to pay the bills and fund the ministry here, so we ask that any gift you make is over and above your regular church giving.
- If you would like information on other ways of giving (instead of a one-off gift), please contact Mark Bingham (from The 10:00 in GX) or David Mulligan (from The 5:30) who are leading the fundraising: mark@binghams.org | david_mulligan@btinternet.com
- We are asking every household to return their completed Pledge Form by Monday 2 February 2026 – at the very latest.
- Completed forms will only be seen by a very small number of people from the Trust and the fundraising team – for accounting and administration purposes.



Next Steps

So, we are asking everyone to:

- **Pray...** for wisdom and generosity as you think about what you can give.
- **Consider...** how you can be involved in this project.
- **Commit...** to giving by completing the Pledge Form.



Remember this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work." **2 CORINTHIANS 9:6-8**

Pledge Form

To download a pledge form online, please scan the QR code on the next page or go to: thetwostjamestrust.org.uk/resourcing-for-growth

Charity Name: The Two St James Trust (registered charity number 1117902)

Project: Resourcing for Growth: purchase of two properties

Donor Information

Full name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Pledge Details

Amount pledged: £ _____

To be given by (date): _____ (Ideally by April 2026)

☐ I would like to speak to somebody about other ways to give.

Gift Aid Declaration

☐ I am a UK taxpayer and would like The Two St James Trust to claim Gift Aid on my donation.

I understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year, it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Authorisation

I pledge to give the amount stated above by the date indicated.

I acknowledge my gift will be used for the purchase of properties to be let to the PCC, who will use them to house staff members. Ultimately, the trustees retain full discretion as to how the properties will be let in the future in line with the Trust's Objects and Statement of Beliefs, which are aligned with Saint James, and available on the Trust's website.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Please return completed pledge forms to the Saint James Centre in the labelled collection box or in a sealed envelope marked FAO The Two St James Trust (pledge form)



For FAQs and more information about this project or the Trust, please scan the QR code or go to:

thetwostjamestrust.org.uk/resourcing-for-growth



The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Saint James Gerrards Cross with Fulmer represents the congregation at Saint James Church (Gerrards Cross & Fulmer) and is a registered charity no: 1129332

saintjames.org.uk

The Two Saint James Trust is a registered charity no: 1117902

thetwostjamestrust.org.uk