



“Giving for All” “Open for All”

September 2011

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

During the autumn we will commence two separate stewardship (funding) campaigns. I am writing to inform you of the name, timescale and process of each, and to invite you to begin to consider how you will respond.

The first will be called ‘Giving for All’. This will be an invitation to each of us to consider the ordinary ‘running’ costs of our mission and ministry here at All Saints’ Childwall and then to make an appropriate financial response: in short, our ordinary income needs to increase. The last time we undertook formally such an initiative was five years ago, in 2007, so the time is right to do so again. Personal letters and information will be distributed during September, with a response form enclosed. I would be very grateful if you would make your response to the ‘**Giving for All**’ campaign on either **Sunday 23rd October** or **Sunday 30th October**.

The second is the ‘Open for All’ campaign. This will be an invitation to each of us to also consider our response to the Development Appeal, which we are formally launching in January 2012, when Bishop James, our Patron, will be preaching. Information for ‘Open for All’ will be coming out in October, to give a little time and space between the two campaigns. I would be very grateful if you would make your pledges to ‘**Open for All**’ on either **Sunday 27th November** or **Sunday 4th December**, though the pledges themselves will not be realised until **January 2012**. The ways and means in which you might give to ‘Open for All’ will be detailed in the information you will receive.

To help us prepare our hearts and minds to make a personal response to these two separate initiatives there will be a sermon series on various aspects of giving during September and October, and also on the two weekends our ‘Open for All’ pledges will be made. I am delighted that Reverend Steve Pierce, a Diocesan Officer with responsibility for Stewardship, will be preaching at All Saints’ twice in October on Haggai: once with an eye towards ‘Giving for All’ and once with ‘Open for All’ in view. Steve is an excellent teacher and we are very blessed to have secured his ministry for those two weekends.

I want to finish with two concluding comments. The first is that, after many months of deliberation and prayerful consideration, and after looking at effective Development Projects elsewhere, the PCC has agreed that we should employ a part-time Administrator. Part of his/her salary will come from more efficient use of our present buildings, especially in managing the use of the Church Hall, and part initially from the ‘Open for All’ giving initiative, as the Administrator will be specifically employed on some development tasks, eg writing business plans to help with grant applications, etc: these tasks simply cannot be done by volunteers given the timescales and pressures we will be facing. With the new Church Hall, his/her salary will be primarily revenue funded. Later this month a job description will be available should you wish to apply for this role.

Secondly, operating two giving campaigns simultaneously is challenging. However, the PCC are convinced that it will be important for us to have accurate information on both so that we can prayerfully respond in an informed way to each. Karen and I will be responding joyfully to each of these campaigns by increasing our ordinary giving in response to ‘Giving for All’ and making a pledge to our ‘Open for All’. Please do the same.

In Christ, and with my prayers,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'GR' followed by a horizontal line.

Canon Gary Renison