



# PARISH PLAN FOR 2024

At the beginning of a New Year we usually find ourselves looking back on the past year with thanksgiving and ahead to the new year with hope.

We have so much to be thankful for here in our Parish dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and we have achieved an incredible amount together.

**Thank you** for your part in making the parish what it is!

'Failing to prepare is preparing to fail' is a motto heard frequently in the Parish and it is this motto that encourages us to make plans now, to prepare for the year ahead.

In this booklet I lay out some of the hopes and aspirations for the year ahead and I ask you to consider how you might play a part in helping to make these hopes become realities for us here in Bordon!

May God continually to bless us abundantly in 2024!

## Important dates:

**Presentation of the Lord: 2<sup>nd</sup> February**

**Ash Wednesday: 14<sup>th</sup> February**

**Holy Week: 24<sup>th</sup> March – 31<sup>st</sup> March**

**Easter Sunday: 31<sup>st</sup> March**

**Crowning of Mary: Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May**

**First Holy Communion Mass: 2<sup>nd</sup> June**

**Feast of the Sacred Heart: Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June**

**Parish BBQ: 7<sup>th</sup> July**

**Brown Scapular: 16<sup>th</sup> July**

**Triumph of the Cross: 14<sup>th</sup> September**

**Saint Lorenzo Ruiz: 28<sup>th</sup> September**

**St John Paul II: 22<sup>nd</sup> October**

**All Saints Mass: 31<sup>st</sup> October**

**First Sunday of Advent: 1<sup>st</sup> December**





# Maintenance projects



## Baptistery requires some love and attention!

One thing I always notice in Baptism Photos is how neglected the baptismal area of the church is. This is a sacred space where the newest members of the church are reborn and re-created as Children of God, and yet it looks bare and forgotten. Would you be willing to be part of a team working to improve the area?

## Do you have a head for heights?

Now we have the beautiful Crucifix from Czestochowa in the church, it would be good to have some lighting for it. In fact, we have lights already in place that - at the moment - are not working (circled in red opposite). We also need to change the orange glow bulb in the overhead light, but the fittings are very high up! Can you help with this?



## Outdoor Maintenance

We have some paving slabs at the front of the church that need some attention, and we lost a tile on the church roof during some strong winds! Would you consider being part of a team of helpers who could help out (from time to time) with projects such as these?



Would you like to be part of a team looking after the Shrine to Our Lady? Making sure it's clean and tidy and taking care of the flowers?





## Carpark needs:

Added to the paving slabs, the car park is in need of much attention.....

- We need to improve the lighting.
- The floor markings need to be repainted.
- Security lighting along the church building needs renewing.
- Signage needs improving and additional signposts need to be added.

# Outreach projects

## Maintenance & Mission

The few photos above show that we must give our attention to maintenance and maintaining what we have, like good stewards (as the Gospel says) but we also have a mandate from the Lord to go out on mission.

Reaching out and inviting others to 'come and see' what the Lord is offering them is a responsibility which we all share.

Would you be willing to give some of your time each week on a Mon, Wed or Fri (between 9am and 2pm) to help establish and grow a welcome centre in the parish hall?



## Coffee shop

This project will take a lot of time and effort to establish and to promote locally. I need to establish a team to help with this, to be pro-active in generating interest locally.



# Financial Support

## Thank you for all your support.....

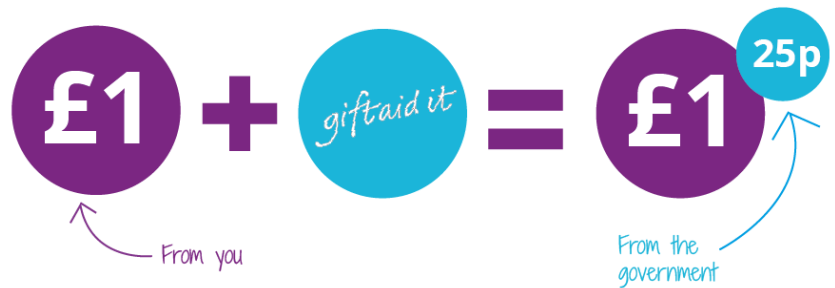
Thank you for all your efforts in helping us to reach our goal of £5.00 per person, per week – we are almost there!

I must thank you also for your help with all the recent fundraising initiatives! You have been more than generous.

I realise that so many of you are giving as much as you possibly can to support the parish, which is why I am not asking for more money!

There are other ways we can increase what we give to the parish at no extra cost!

Please could you think about these other ways of helping to increase our weekly income:



**GIFT AID:** The simplest way to increase what you are already offering to the parish is gift aid. Whatever you give the taxman will give 25% extra on your behalf. It is that simple!



## easyfundraising

**EASYFUNDRAISING APP:** This app is for anyone who has home deliveries. If you make your shopping orders through this app then they donate a percentage or a fixed fee (depending on the company) to the parish from your bill at no extra cost to you! Ranging from Deliveroo to Tesco!



**VOLUNTEER:** One way you can help us to keep our bills down is by volunteering your skills so that we do not need to employ others to do it for us!