

## How can I help?

- Support our fundraising events – enjoy social events and raise money at the same time. Look out for publicity in the village, in our parish magazine and on social media.
- Spread the word.
- Hold a fundraising event of your own.
- Donate to our appeal: every donation small or large helps.

## Making a donation

The easiest way to make a donation is online:

[lovegiving.co.uk/stjohntheevangelist](https://lovegiving.co.uk/stjohntheevangelist)

or use the QR code below



Payment is secure and you can choose to make a one-off donation or set up a regular payment. There is also a Gift Aid option if you are a regular tax payer, which enables us to claim an extra 25p for every pound you give.

You can also

- write a cheque, made payable to 'PCC of St John the Evangelist Church Milborne Port', and send it to the Parish Office, Church House, Bathwell Lane, Milborne Port DT9 5AN,
- make a bank transfer to our account number 67314098, sort code 08 92 99,
- or make a payment through the card machine situated at the crossing in the church.

Thank you for your support.

## For more information

If you'd like to know more about the repairs, discuss our appeal, or chat about something personal, please get in touch with us.

Reverend Rona Stuart-Bourne: 01963 845278

Nicki Edwards, Churchwarden

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Susan Wales, Churchwarden

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## Visit our church

St John's is open every day for anyone who wishes to visit, whether it's to discover more about its history, join others in prayer and worship, or simply for some quiet time away from our busy everyday world.



## St John's Repair Appeal

We are grateful for photos from the Spirit of Milborne Port and benjamin+beauchamp architects.  
Other photos are by members of our congregation.

# ST JOHN'S REPAIR APPEAL



Help us preserve  
our village church

## Our village church

St John the Evangelist has been at the heart of our village for more than a thousand years. Each generation has left its contribution to our lovely and historic building: much of the church is Norman or Victorian, our tower belfry was added in the fifteenth century, and the statues at the East end were added in the 1970s. St John's is a Grade I listed church, which carries with it a heavy responsibility for its upkeep.

Today we are faced with the need for major repairs to our church in order to preserve it, both so that everyone in the village can continue using it today, and for the generations to come.



## What needs to be done

The church's architect's recent structural survey highlighted several urgent issues:

- Repairs to our leaking roofs. Water damage is the most urgent issue the church is facing. Leaks are currently causing damage to ceilings, walls and floors and there are concerns the long-term leaks may have allowed structural decay. Rainwater ingress causes mould and raises internal humidity levels. This has an effect on every part of the interior, making the building more difficult to heat, affecting the sensitive workings of the organ, and contributing to condensation on windows which in turn causes further damage. The recent wet spell has highlighted the need to undertake essential repairs to the building's envelope, to shed rainwater and to prevent further ongoing damage.
- Repairs to, and conservation of, the interior and exterior stonework and mortar of the building.
- Repairs to and conservation of the windows, including the glass, and the metal frames.

The photos above show just some of the roof and stone damage. Our aged boiler and heating system will soon need to be changed to satisfy the national church's drive to achieve net zero, and the electricity and wiring updated. Our magnificent organ is over a hundred years old and badly in need of an overhaul. This all comes at a huge cost. The church has just enough reserves to cover fixing the roof, provided there are no nasty surprises when work commences, but that leaves nothing for future work.

## Where does the church get its money?

We receive no funding from government or church bodies to keep our precious historic building in good shape. Its upkeep relies on the generosity of parishioners, local residents, and our loyal supporters.

## What help is needed?

It costs £226 per day to keep this Historic Grade I listed church open. The PCC is faced with a daunting task to raise money for everything that needs to be done on top of this, which is likely to be in the region of £175,000. We are working hard to make funding applications and organise local fundraising, but we need everyone's support. Together, we can meet this challenge and secure our church's future for generations to come.

## But I don't go to church

St John's is not only a place of worship. It is there for community events such as the Spirit of Milborne Port Christmas Lights Switch On, for christenings, weddings, funerals, and as a place of support and celebration. It is more than a building: it is a symbol of our shared history, values, and traditions. Supporting a project such as this is not just about fixing it; it is about investing in our community. Its doors are open to everyone, offering comfort, inspiration, and a sense of belonging.

**Please follow the QR code overleaf to make a donation, or to set up a recurring payment, however small. Everything helps.**

