



The Friends of St. Mary's

Registered Charity No.1071436

St Mary's has been the centrepiece of our village for some 800 years. The tower, completed in the early 16th century, contains one of only two sets of a complete peal of bells in Cambridgeshire. On the east wall of the nave are The Ten Commandments, Lord's Prayer and Creed, a historic feature which may date back to Elizabethan times. The church also boasts some celebrated stained glass.

The last major restorations took place in 1869-70 and 1956-61, largely paid for by generous benefactors. Now, some 50 years on, the time has come again for further repairs and refurbishment. The bells can no longer be used to full advantage, the Ten Commandments are dulled by age, and virtually unreadable, and a fair amount of stone and plaster work is required in the nave, under the bell tower and over the windows. The church architect regularly inspects the building, and it is estimated that we shall need to raise more than £25,000 to cover the cost of the work. Sadly, the days of generous benefactors are now rare, and the church receives no financial support at all from beyond the village. Grants are sometimes available, but often on a matched funding or loan basis, and even then there is no guarantee. The Friends of St Mary's, is therefore launching an appeal to raise the required funds, to enable us to apply for matched funding, and ensure that the work can be carried out as swiftly as possible.

Did you know?

Financial responsibility for the maintenance of the fabric of the church lies entirely within the Parish.

The Friends of St Mary's is a registered charity.

It is secular and non-denominational.

It is dedicated to cherishing the church building as a vital part of Fowlmere's heritage.

Money raised is used only for the preservation and maintenance of the fabric of the church.

It has raised over £15,000 since it was founded in 1998.

Do you value the church as an historic monument in the village?

Are you a Friend of St Mary's?

If not, why not join today?

How you can Help!

If you value this beautiful historic building at the heart of your community please support The Friends in their endeavours by making a donation.

giftaid it

Using Gift Aid means that for every pound you give we get an extra 28 pence from the Inland Revenue, helping your donation go further. This means that £100 can be turned into £128, just so long as donations are made through Gift Aid. Imagine what a difference that could make, and it doesn't cost you a thing. In fact if you are a higher rate tax payer you can offset your donations against tax too. So if you want your donation to go further Gift Aid it. It's that simple. **Just complete this form and return it with your donation to Graham Warnes at Fowlmere Post Office, 2 Westfield Road, Fowlmere. If you would also like to donate regularly see below.**

Gift Aid Declaration

I wish The Friends of St Mary's Fowlmere (Reg Charity No 1071436) to treat all donations I have made since 6th April 2007 and on all donations I make from the date of this declaration, until I notify you otherwise, as Gift Aid Donations.

I am a UK taxpayer.

Name: *(please use block capitals)* :

Address:
.....

Signature:

Date:

How to become a Friend of St Mary's

Complete this form and send it to your bank

To: The Manager (your bank)
Bank address
Post Code:

From: Your name
Your address
Post Code:

Account Name
Account number
Sort code

Please debit the above account with the sum of £.....on the first day of each *(delete as appropriate)* month / quarter / year with effect from the 1st day of 2008, and pay until further notice to:

The Friends of St Mary's Fowlmere, GIRO BANK, Fowlmere Post Office, 2 Westfield Road, Fowlmere
Bank Sort Code: 72-00-03
Account No: 5054 3283

Quoting Ref *(optional)*

Signature Date:

Donate While You Shop or While Surfing the Net.

It Costs You Nothing!

Do you shop online? If so, why not support The Friends of St Mary's at the same time. Access over 400 leading UK retailers (e.g. Amazon, John Lewis, Tesco) through easyfundraising.org and the retailer will donate a percentage of your purchase price to a charity of your choice. It's easy and it costs *you* nothing. Simply log on to

www.easyfundraising.org.uk

then register, select The Friends of St Mary's, Fowlmere from the list of charities, access your chosen retailer via the [easyfundraising](http://easyfundraising.org) website and make your purchase. The rest happens automatically.

And if you use

www.easysearch.org.uk

as your search engine, they too will make donations to your favourite charity.

Don't waste the opportunity to help The Friends of St Mary's.

You can keep track of your total donations on screen too.