

PLEASE RETURN THE COMPLETED FORM TO THE FRIENDS AND
NOT DIRECT TO YOUR BANK

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

TO: The Secretary, The Friends of St Paul's Church
St Paul's Square, Bedford MK40 1SQ

I / We wish to apply for: Individual / Family / Corporate Membership
of the Friends of St Paul's Church, Bedford, subscribing the sum
of £____ per annum, and enclose a cheque / completed Standing
Order Form.

Full Name(s) in CAPITALS please

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Dr/The Rev'd.....

Surname

Address

.....

Postcode

Tel. (day)

Email

I am a tax payer and wish this and subsequent payments to be
regarded as Gift Aid

Signature

Date

STANDING ORDER FORM

Please pay Nat West Bank, Sort Code (60-02-13)

For the credit of The Friends of St Paul (a/c no. 51283735) the sum of
£____ on____ and thereafter on the same day each year until
further notice.

TO: The Manager

..... Bank plc

SignatureDate

Name of account to be debited.....

Account noSort code.....

**Please allow 4 - 6 weeks between joining date and payment*



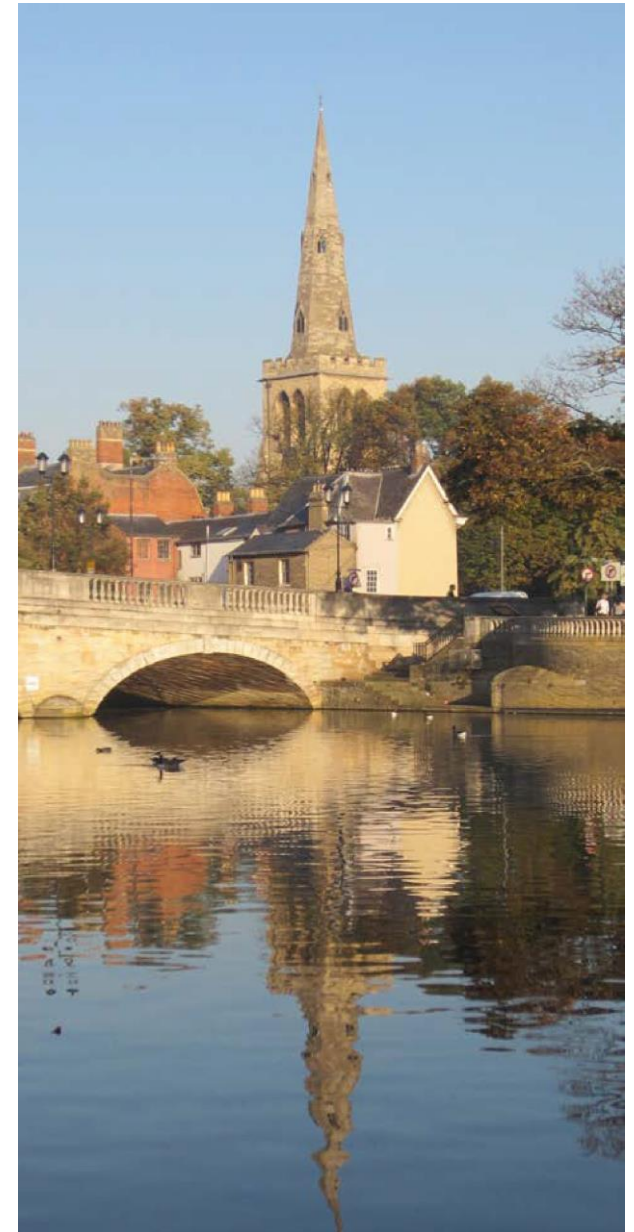
Friends

OF ST PAUL'S CHURCH, BEDFORD



Friends

OF ST PAUL'S CHURCH, BEDFORD



St Paul's Church, St Paul's Square, Bedford MK40 1SQ

Telephone 01234 340163

website www.stpaulschurchbedford.org.uk

A Historic Church

St Paul's is the Civic and County Church of Bedfordshire. It is a Major Parish Church, the largest in the Diocese of St Albans and its iconic spire dominates the town. Today, St Paul's hosts many special services, commemorations and celebrations in the borough and the wider region of the East of England, as well as being a central venue for concerts, recitals and exhibitions. It also provides a lively, vibrant place of worship for a diverse local town centre community. St Paul's is a member of the *Major Churches Network* (formerly the *Greater Churches*) and also of *Cathedrals Plus*.

Christian worship has been offered on this site since Saxon times when King Offa founded his Minster church. A later, medieval collegiate church stood here in the reign of Edward the Confessor and is mentioned in the Domesday Survey.



The larger part of today's Grade 1 listed building dates from the 14th and 15th centuries. The Trinity Chapel (*left*), which was home to the BBC Daily Service during the 2nd

World War, also dates from this time. In the 19th century, the north aisle was added, the tower, spire and transepts rebuilt. The Bodley screen, statuary and other furnishings, like the building, are of national significance.

Restoration of fabric and additions in the 20th century continues today, in order to maintain one of Bedford's most historic buildings. Despite good husbandry, regular surveys reveal that considerable sums of money are required to maintain the building and secure its future.

The Friends

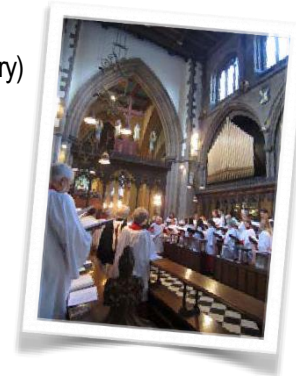
While the day to day running costs are the responsibility of the Parochial Church Council, there are frequent and extraordinary and particular needs for which money is required. The aim of The Friends, founded in 1990, is to provide support for the maintenance, enrichment and beautification of the fabric. Recent major projects which the Friends have supported include:

- ❖ Repair and restoration of the Nave roof, figures and angels
- ❖ Narthex
- ❖ Glass doors to the South Porch
- ❖ Tower walkway
- ❖ Replacement sound system
- ❖ Vergers' robes and wands of office
- ❖ 2018 Vestments
- ❖ Lectern steps
- ❖ Refurbishment of the Alexander Room (Choir vestry)
- ❖ Organ CCTV

Future projects include:

- ❖ Upgraded lighting for the Quire, Sanctuary and Trinity Chapel
- ❖ Exterior Floodlighting
- ❖ Security CCTV
- ❖ Resiting of the Organ blower

Membership of The Friends is open to all. The Friends aim to provide a link between people who have an affection for St Paul's, whether current or former members of the congregation, local people, or visitors from further afield.



Keeping in touch

The Friends promote concerts and other events, and there is an annual meeting to which all members are invited.

The wider the membership, the more truly can The Friends fulfil their aims.



How to join

Please complete the **Form of Application** *overleaf*, cut it out, and either send it to the Membership Secretary, or email: friends@stpaulschurchbedford.org.uk

It helps greatly if you pay by **Standing Order** as this reduces the administrative costs as well as making it easier for you. If you pay income tax, we would be very grateful if you would sign the **Gift Aid declaration** *overleaf*. This enables us to reclaim the basic rate of income tax for every £1 you give.

Membership

Individual	£10 per annum
Family	£15 per annum
Corporate	£50 per annum
