

# ST PATRICK'S

SOHO SQUARE  
LONDON  
W1D 4NR

[www.stpatricksoho.org](http://www.stpatricksoho.org)

Summer Newsletter 2007



June is meant to be that month in which the sun shines and summer announces herself. This year couldn't be further from that truth but the month has been full of other things both more splendid and life giving. Despite the precipitation, God has poured his blessing upon us. The highlight was the Graduation Mass for the School of Evangelisation when Cardinal Cormac Murphy O'Connor came to be with our young people and bless them on the next stage of their missionary lives. The School also completed five years of its life, during which previous students are doing many things from marrying, entering into religious life and seminary or simply serving the Church. The church was full, the liturgy was uplifting and the spirit was full of joy. The School has been at the heart of the new chapter at St. Patrick's and its students are an invaluable part of the work of the Church in this part of London. Already so many fruits have flowed from it and those who spend time here will recognise the new life and joy that it brings. When the Church is restored and renewed it will look beautiful but the blood that will course through its veins will be the young people who profess their faith in ways attractive and compelling and so, make St. Patrick's a sign of contradiction to what Soho and the West-

End are.

At the centre of our life is always the celebration of Mass and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. This is always the strength needed for our outreach to the poor, homeless, and those denied love in our world. So many people have been touched through the programmes and we hope and pray that their lives have been helped and healed. Our world is so full of contrary messages and selfishness that there is an ever greater need of God's healing love and mercy.

Thank you for making that possible and most importantly, thank you for your prayer and friendship as we plan for the impending restoration of this very loved place.

God Bless,

*Fr. Alexander Sherbrooke,*  
Parish Priest



## General Information

**St Patrick's Catholic Church**  
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### Who's Who at St Patrick's

Fr Alexander Sherbrooke (Parish Priest)  
Sister Dympna (Parish Sister)  
Hannah Bannister (Parish Secretary)

### Mass Times

Monday – Friday: 12.45pm  
Saturday Vigil Mass: 6pm  
Sunday: 11am and 5pm

### International Mass Times

Saturday: 4pm Brazilian  
Sunday: 2.15pm Chinese 6pm Latin American

### Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

Monday-Friday: 7-8am, 11-1pm, 2-6pm  
Saturday: 7-9pm

### Confessions

Monday-Friday: 12.15-12.40pm  
Saturday: 5.30 - 6pm



Every year since 2002, on the 1<sup>st</sup> of October, a group of young people walk through the door of St Patrick's and embark on a journey that is life changing. Many have no idea what is in store for them whilst here at St Patrick's and upon their graduation their lives are changed forever. This past June, the fifth community of students graduated from SPES and were sent out to evangelise all parts of the world with a community of support that SPES has not yet seen gathered all at once. Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor celebrated the students' graduation Mass, concelebrated by over 25 Priests from throughout the Diocese, including Bishop Bernard Longley, who continues to serve and support the School through his involvement in the Board of Management. The Church was filled with past students, benefactors, supporters, family, friends and lecturers from throughout the past five years. The School has grown and evolved since its conception in 2002 and has seen 36 students from 15 different countries graduate.

There is a saying around this parish that is often repeated to the School community, and it reminds us of our vocation to God and to our lives: God is never outdone in generosity. The School is still here today, and continuing to grow and develop, because everyone involved has given so generously – the students, the supporters and the parish community. This year, because of such great generosity from so many, we have a rich timetable prepared for the students of 2007-2008, including more outreach to the poor, both within the parish and the London area, deeper study of Scripture on a weekly basis, and further development of the Spiritual Companion programme.

Sincerest thanks to all those who have given so generously. Please continue to keep us in your prayers, and you are most certainly in ours. For weekly updates on what is happening with the students and a window into the life of the School, keep an eye on the Blog which the students maintain throughout the school year. [www.sohope.blogspot.com](http://www.sohope.blogspot.com)  
*Jeanine Den Tandt, Co-ordinator of SPES*

### SPES—St. Patrick's Evangelisation School

Contact: Jeanine Den Tandt or Barbara Gornik

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Web: [www.stpatricksoho.org/spes](http://www.stpatricksoho.org/spes)

## St. Patrick's £4 million Appeal

### The Progress So Far...

Since the appeal was launched over a year ago in January 2006, we have raised and have commitments for £800,000. Success in stage one of our appeal has, in large measure, come from the generous donations of the Executive Board; friends; and parishioners of St. Patrick's Soho Square. These donations reflect the strong support for the planned restoration of our Church and the development of the basement and undercroft. These changes will allow us to serve the parish as well as the destitute and homeless, in greater numbers, with greater security and comfort.

Demand for the services provided by St. Patrick's, particularly the Open House Meals and Drug and Alcohol Addiction Prayer Group far exceeds the space we currently have available. Our planned changes will allow us to minister to and comfort the neediest of our neighbours.

Restoration of the church will return our beautiful parish to its full stature as a place of Divine worship which will continue to be at the centre of all we undertake for our parishioners and those who come seeking help.

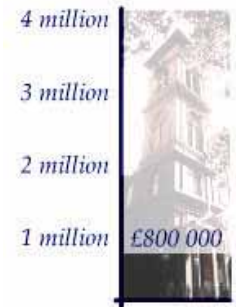
We have now moved into stage two of the appeal which has brought many changes in order to provide a new level of support to the appeal and restoration works. The first of which is the creation of two new committees alongside our Executive Board, namely the Building Committee and Programmes and Services Committee, which will be introduced in more detail below. In addition, Lisa Simpson will take over the managing of the appeal and will be assisted by Katie Musselbrook, Communications and Development Officer.



## St. Patrick's £4 million Appeal

### Amount Raised to Date

Fundraising efforts have taken a back seat over the last few months whilst the new structure of the appeal was being put into place and also while the building and architectural plans for the building works were being decided upon and finalised. Despite this, we have still received many generous donations and our new total is £800,000. Please continue to pray for the appeal as we continue with our fundraising efforts and if you or anyone you know may be interested in making a donation, organising an event to raise money on our behalf, or providing any other form of fundraising support please do be in touch. Our fundraising brochure is available online at <http://www.stpatricksoho.org/fund/brochure.php> or alternatively, please contact the office to request a hard copy.



### The Building Committee

The primary function of Building Committee is the management of the programme of building work to restore St. Patrick's various buildings to their former glory, thereby putting to good use the wonderfully generous gifts made by a large number of donors. The Parish is blest in having an extensive network of talented contacts, some of whom have kindly agreed to be members of the Building Committee, and include Martin Armstrong, Philip Dinkel, Dan Hill, Fr. Peter Newby, Dr. John Martin Robinson and Arabella Volkers.



With the renovation work running into several million pounds and the parish buildings being closed for approximately 12 months, the magnitude and complexity of the project is considerable: all services will need to be re-located and alternative venues found, for example.

The four key elements of the project are:

- Excavation of the crypt to provide a homely yet modern community centre, that can be used not only for Parish activities but provide a useful service to several other groups seeking such facilities.
- Restoration of the fabric of the Church and its works of art – that is long overdue!
- New lighting and sound systems- which visitors to some of the recent events that have taken place at St. Patrick's will have noticed is desperately needed
- Refurbishment of the presbytery to provide more suitable means of supporting the pastoral work of the priests of the parish



Preparation and planning for this project has been underway for sometime now. Important progress was made with the selection of Castanon & Associates as project architect – their appointment by the Diocese is eagerly anticipated in the coming month. The process of identifying suppliers and initiating tenders has also been making good headway. An outline design of the 'Soho Square site' (Church, Parish room, Community Centre and Presbytery) is expected by the end of the year and, with God's blessing, excavation work will commence next April. There is a long way to go but real progress has been made over the last six months.

This is a fantastically inspirational project, touching as it will, thousands of people in various ways – those who simply come to the Church for its 24 hour Eucharistic Adoration will see a truly magnificent Italian Renaissance interior, those who come to St. Patrick's as part of the many outreach programmes of the Parish will be accommodated in a way that makes for less cramped conditions; those who are part of the School of Evangelisation will enjoy improved facilities that will enable them to study more effectively; and last but not least, those visiting the priests of the Parish in preparation for receiving Sacraments or for other reasons will have a welcome privacy.

### The Program and Services Committee

The purpose of the Programmes and Services Committee is to provide expertise and support to each of the programmes offered at St. Patrick's. Whilst the existence of this Committee will be more prominent throughout the renovation of St. Patrick's, they will continue to provide support on into the future. The Committee consists of a number of experts in the fields of homelessness and drug addiction who will be able to draw upon their experience to guide the projects as well as providing St. Patrick's with credentials in these fields, which will be beneficial for successful applications to trust funds.



In conjunction with the Building Committee, this committee is meeting with representatives from each of the groups at St. Patrick's in order to help interpret their space requirements and functional needs for the new community centre. The Committee's main aim at present is to ensure that the requirements of each of the projects and services at St. Patrick's are properly taken into account throughout the entire renovation process.

## St. Patrick's £4 million Appeal

### Organ Update

In our last Newsletter we provided information on the Gray Organ at St. Patrick's that is a significant part of the history of this church and also of substantial relevance to our national history and musical heritage. In the last month the pipes from the organ have been removed for safe keeping and repair by Goetze and Gwynn, the organ grinders(!) who will be restoring the organ during the church renovation. If you would like more information about the Gray Organ or would like to make a donation specifically for this element of the restoration, please contact the office.

### Making a Donation



There are many ways in which you can donate to St. Patrick's £4 million Appeal namely, standing orders, single gifts, in legacies, gifting shares and by sponsorship and volunteering. It is also possible to donate to a particular element of the appeal be it the restoration of the organ, a particular altar, the new stained glass windows or the new community centre. Each of these have separate price tags and your donation would be kept specifically for your chosen designation. No matter how you choose to give, if you are a UK tax payer please make sure you sign a Gift Aid Declaration so that we can receive an extra 28% from the Inland Revenue, on top of your donation, at no extra cost to you! For more details please contact Katie Musselbrook or look online at [www.stpatricksoho.org/fund/donate](http://www.stpatricksoho.org/fund/donate).



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### Other ways you can help!

#### Become a 'Friend of St. Patrick's'

One way in that we are encouraging people to support the St. Patrick's Appeal is by becoming a Friend of St. Patrick's, costing £50 a year or £500 for life. As a Friend of St. Patrick's you will receive regular Newsletters, tickets to musical concerts and invitations to receptions after major parish events, quiet days of retreat and reflection, talks by eminent speakers and an invite to the annual "Friends Get Together". If you would like to become a Friend of St. Patrick's please find a form in the church or download one online and send it back to us. Alternatively, contact the office on the details below.



#### Purchase a Pew!

A great way to support the appeal and leave your mark on St. Patrick's for the future. It will cost us approximately £200 to restore each pew and an additional £50 to add an inscription of your choice. Perhaps you would like a pew in memory of a loved one who had a particular affection for St. Patrick's, you may have been married or baptised here or even if you would like to know exactly what your money will pay for, this could be the option for you. If so, please write to us stating clearly that you would like to restore a pew and details of what your inscription should say along with a cheque for £250 (£200 without inscription) made payable to St. Patrick's Soho Appeal.

#### Shop online - Avoid the hustle and bustle of the shops and support the Appeal at the same time!

By shopping online at [www.4rchurch.com/stpatricksoho](http://www.4rchurch.com/stpatricksoho) or via the link on our website, the retailer will give us commission on your purchase! This means a donation to the St. Patrick's Appeal at no extra cost to you! There are over 700 major retailers featured to suit all of your shopping needs, albeit a surprise trip for a loved one, the latest Harry Potter book or DVD that the kids just have to have or your grocery shopping without stepping outside! However much you spend will make a difference! Every penny counts so please think of us.

#### Advertise your business on our website!

St. Patrick's now has an online corporate directory of all of those who have supported the appeal. If your business would like to make a financial contribution, offer of services, or a gift in kind, as a thank you for a financial contribution, offer of services or gift in kind, your business will be offered a whole page on our website. The basic page would contain simply your contact details but you can add as little or as much information as you wish. We would hope this would be beneficial to your corporation in that it is a source of advertising and you will be seen to be using your funds to support a charitable cause. By listing the businesses that are in support of St. Patrick's we will hopefully raise the profile of the appeal and in turn encourage other companies to support us. If you would like information about our Corporate Directory please contact Katie Musselbrook at [katie.musselbrook@stpatricksoho.org](mailto:katie.musselbrook@stpatricksoho.org).



### Fundraising Contact Information

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