

*Rochester*  
CATHEDRAL



Is it time for you to think about  
the legacy you leave behind?



## A magnificent heritage

There has been Christian worship at Rochester for over 1400 years. Today many thousands of people each year come here to enjoy the beautiful surroundings; to listen to uplifting music; to take part in activities or to join in worshipping God in this very special place.

The building and the life of Rochester Cathedral would not exist as we know it today if it were not for the generosity of men and women down the ages who, by gifts and endowments, have left us such a magnificent legacy. If we want to leave a similar legacy to future generations we need to follow their example.

## Our response

It's not just the Great and the Good who can leave something behind for future generations. Everyone should make a Will and most of us can use our Will to do something wonderful for those who will come after us.

## The need

It costs just under £1million each year simply to keep the cathedral running on a day-to-day basis. The cathedral is almost entirely self-funding – we receive no government money, and only £80,000 each year from central church funds. Additional projects such as improvements to the building, development of the music and our outreach work, or extending our ministry into new and exciting areas, all depend heavily on individual giving and legacies.



### **The Fabric**

*The cathedral is a big building to maintain, built with stone, timber, lead, slates and glass which*

*slowly but inexorably decay and need repair. The best way to care for it is to keep on with smaller scale projects, rather than to wait until there is a major crisis to be faced. The current building project in the Crypt and Library are typical examples of ongoing work that both maintains fabric and enhances our attraction to visitors, however, they are very costly. Generous grants help, but seldom meet more than half the cost. The shortfall can only be met by those who love this precious building and want to see it live on in sound condition for those who come after us to enjoy and to worship in.*

### **The Music**

*For centuries music has underpinned the daily worship offered by the Cathedral. It inspires and entertains thousands of people in different ways, virtually every day of the year. However, the cost of maintaining this is unsustainable and we will be forced to compromise if nothing changes.*

*The current annual cost of Music in the Cathedral is £225,000. Our immediate priority is to replace the sinking fund that currently finances part of it. This will require an endowment of £1.5 million. Our long term goal is a £10 million endowment which will be able to support music in the Cathedral as an entity in its own right, securing its future and enabling its contribution to continue at the highest level. We will also be able to implement fully an outreach programme designed to benefit dementia patients, the elderly and youth offenders.*

**Scott Farrell**  
Director of Music



### **The Education**

*Imagine you are 6 years old and finding out about different parts of the Cathedral – what better way, than to*

*undertake role play and baptise a baby by the font – even better if you can dress up to make it more memorable. Then at 9 years old you might spend some time looking at the windows in the Lady Chapel to find out about Stories in Glass. Move on a few years and it's great to learn about the Monks and the Monastery here – by dressing up and finding out about their jobs, life and maybe even the punishments! You might also meet Prior Walter if you find out about the effect of the Reformation on the Cathedral.*

*The Cathedral offers a unique educational experience, and every year we welcome over 15,000 children and young people to take part in a wide range of activities that open their eyes and minds, working to The National Curriculum. Our Education team is run by experienced teachers, and provides a wide range of tours, workshops and trails to meet the needs of various groups and the school curriculum. Working alongside volunteers we welcome groups of all ages and educational needs and share with them the wonder, beauty, history and spirituality of the Cathedral.*

**Helen Bradshaw & Sue Gray**  
Education Officers

*When making or changing your Will, you will, naturally think first about your nearest and dearest; but making a Will is also a time to consider leaving something to the causes and places that are dear to our hearts. Please consider making Rochester Cathedral one of those causes by leaving a gift in your Will, and dedicate it to the aspect of cathedral life that you prefer. Leave something wonderful for future generations.*

**The Very Reverend  
Dr Philip Hesketh**  
Dean of Rochester



Tear off coupon:

Name:	
Address:	
Post code:	
Telephone:	Email:

Please tick where appropriate

- I would like to talk to someone about leaving a Gift in my Will
- I intend to leave a gift in my Will to Rochester Cathedral Trust 
  - Dedicated to Fabric
  - Dedicated to Children & Youth work
  - Dedicated to the Music Endowment
  - Undedicated
- I have already left a Gift in my Will to Rochester Cathedral Trust

**PLEASE RETURN TO:**

Ms Lynne Bax, Rochester Cathedral Trust, Garth House, The Precinct, Rochester, Kent ME1 1SX  
development@rochester-cathedral.org Tel: 01634 810074

*The personal data you provide will be used only by Rochester Cathedral to send you other information that may be of interest.*

- Please tick here if you don't want this to happen.

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Things to think about before you visit a Solicitor to write your Will:

Decide what you want to include in your Will.

- a. What do you own?
- b. How do you want to leave it?
- c. Who will carry out your Will? Think about who you will appoint as Executor.
- d. Guardians for children. If necessary, how will your children be cared for?
- e. Charitable gifts - What charities would you like to support?

## Rochester Cathedral

Nurturing the Radical Hope of Human Flourishing In Jesus Christ

[www.rochester-cathedral.org](http://www.rochester-cathedral.org)

Cover Photograph – Rochester Cathedral West front taken by David Robinson