

# ST ANDREW BY THE WARDROBE & THE COPTIC ORTHODOX CHURCH CENTRE



## RESTORING WREN'S HISTORIC CHURCH



*St Andrew by the Wardrobe*

*H.R.H Prince Charles and H.E. Archbishop  
Angaelos meeting young volunteers for the  
Coptic homelessness ministry*



*The Ven. Luke Miller, Archdeacon, with  
young assistant at St Andrew by the  
Wardrobe*

This project plans to regenerate the historic Parish and Ward Church of St Andrew by the Wardrobe (by Sir Christopher Wren, Grade One listed) to allow the building also to be the new London Headquarters of the Egyptian Coptic Orthodox Church. It will flourish both as a centre for worship and for the support of the wider community and a place of sanctuary in the heart of the City of London as it re-opens after the pandemic.



Twice before has the church been the subject of renewal: the medieval church was destroyed in the Great Fire of London, 1666 and rebuilt by Christopher Wren. Then in 1940 it was gutted in a bombing raid in the Second World War and re-opened in 1960.

This third regeneration, 2021, is led by The Venerable Luke Miller, Archdeacon of London and His Eminence, Archbishop Angaelos of the Egyptian Coptic Orthodox church in the Diocese of London. This partnership will provide an exemplar of Christian organisations working together in a model that furthers our shared faith whilst sustaining outstanding heritage buildings for the long-term.

### **Background & Significance**

St Andrew has a strong significance as an integral part of London's history - the foundation of a church on the site dates from the time of William the Conqueror.

- Famous historic parishioners include William Shakespeare, John Dowland (lutenist and composer) and Sir Anthony van Dyke.
- Adjacent first to Baynard Castle (1138) and later to the King's Wardrobe (mid 14thC), hence its name.
- The existing church was built by Wren (1685 - 95) after the Great Fire destroyed the earlier church. After severe bomb damage in WW2, the interior was restored. Wren's walls and tower remain.

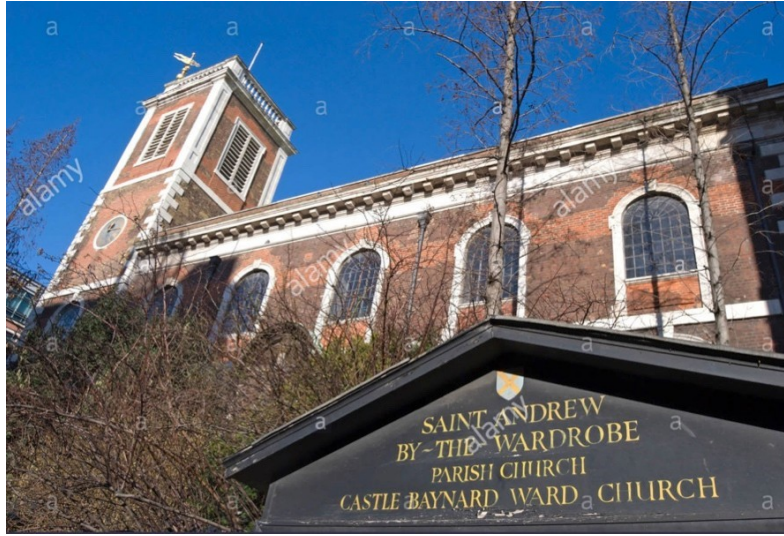
### **The Need**

St Andrew by the Wardrobe is at a crossroads. It is well loved and valued by City organisations who fill it on significant occasions during the year, and it supports the work of the Archdeaconry of London across eighty-eight churches in the City and Westminster. Yet, with only a very small regular congregation, this intermittent activity is not enough to sustain it. St Andrew needs a new year-round use that will bring the church back to full life and provide an income to ensure its future viability. In order to secure the proposed partnership and achieve this outcome, significant investment is urgently needed. A recent report stated that the electrical system is failing and needs immediate renewal. Without this work the church will become unsafe and may have to close. In addition, the heating system is broken beyond economic repair, there are no accessible toilets and poor access for people with disabilities; the kitchens and existing toilets are in an unsatisfactory condition; the interiors, particularly the chapel and parish room, are unwelcoming. These problems need to be addressed if the church is to be once again a thriving centre for the wider population.

### **The Future**

This proposed partnership is a splendid opportunity to bring a community back to the heart of the City. Future emphasis will be on building ecumenical ties, youth/community involvement, education and the support of the homeless and

of refugees. The church will continue to be used for ceremonial occasions by our long-standing City partners and will welcome tourists, schools and local visitors.



### The Cost

A schedule of works has been drawn up by Edwards Wilson and budgeted at **£900,000**. This includes a 7.5% contingency sum and an allowance for un-reclaimable VAT. Both the Parish and the Coptic Orthodox Church are contributing to the cost and we have been promised a substantial grant from the City Churches Grants Committee. **It is urgent that we raise the full sum required before letting the contracts for the work and we are very grateful for any help that you are able to give us in any way.** To keep the church open, works on the electric and heating systems need to be carried out as soon as possible and we need to complete the fundraising so that works can begin.

Donors to date include: PCC of St Andrew by the Wardrobe; The Coptic Orthodox Diocese of London; The City Churches Grants Committee, The Castle Baynard Ward Club; The Worshipful Society of Apothecaries; The Worshipful Company of Blacksmiths.

For further information or to make a donation please contact  
[administrator@standrewbythewardrobe.org](mailto:administrator@standrewbythewardrobe.org)  
[www.standrewbythewardrobe.org.uk](http://www.standrewbythewardrobe.org.uk)



*Coptic Church Youth Mission: Tug-of-War*



## DONATION FORM

Name.....Title.....

Address.....

Post Code.....

Email address.....

Name of bank account if paying by bank transfer.....

I would like to donate £..... towards the restorations of the Ward Church of St Andrew by the Wardrobe

By Bank transfer to:

CAF Bank. Account Name: PCC of St Andrew by the Wardrobe Sort Code :40-52-40

Account No: 00023461 (reference restoration)

or

By cheque made payable to PCC of St Andrew by the Wardrobe

If you are eligible for Gift-Aid you can increase your Gift to us by 25p for every £ by completing the declaration below:

ST ANDREW BY THE WARDROBE, LONDON, EC4V 5DE

Registered Charity No 1162335

GIFT AID DECLARATION

*I confirm that I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for the current tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities and Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for the current tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. I understand the charity will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I have given.*

Signed.....

Date.....

*giftaid*

**Please either make a payment by bank transfer and send a signed copy of this form by post to the address below, or by email to [administrator@standrewbythewardrobe.org](mailto:administrator@standrewbythewardrobe.org) or send your cheque with the signed form to:  
St Andrew by the Wardrobe, St Andrews Hill & Queen Victoria Street, London, EC4V 5DE**

(Please note that your address is needed to identify you as a UK taxpayer. Your contact details will only be used for the purposes of contacting you in relation to your donation and in accordance with the rules set out by HMRC governing Gift Aid donations.)