

Notes for completing application form

1. The only churches at present in communion with the Church of England are other Anglican Churches and certain foreign Churches.
2. Membership of the Electoral Roll is also open to members in good standing of a Church not in communion with the Church of England which subscribes to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity where those members are also prepared to declare themselves to be members of the Church of England.
3. Every six years a new roll is prepared and those on the previous roll are informed so that they can re-apply. If you are not resident in the parish but were on the roll as an habitual worshipper and have been prevented by sickness or absence or other essential reason from worshipping for the past six months, you may write "would" before "have habitually attended" on the form and add "but was prevented from doing so because" and then state the reason.
4. If you have any problems over this form, please approach the clergy or lay people responsible for the parish, who will be pleased to help you.
5. In this form, "parish" means ecclesiastical parish.

**Those who become 16 in the next twelve months may complete the form and become eligible to be entered on the roll on their sixteenth birthday.*

What do I do now? How can I get more involved?

Please ask!

If you want to follow up any of the questions above please speak with your Vicar, your Churchwardens or your Treasurer - and they'll be happy to respond to your enquiry whether it's about involvement in spiritual or very practical aspects of the church's life.

And if you're ready to complete the Electoral Roll form - please do so and return it to your church's Electoral Roll Officer.

Welcome to the new Roll, and thank you for your support for your church in this way.



CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL

Application for enrolment on to
the Electoral Roll of your Parish
church



What is the Electoral Roll?

At its simplest it's the list of names and addresses of every person who can vote at a parish's Annual Meeting (and any special or extra church meetings).

Who can be on it?

Any lay person (i.e. not ordained clergy) who is baptised and over 16 years old, provided they live in the parish or have worshipped at the church regularly for at least six months. It's possible to be on the Roll of more than one church, but in that case a choice must be made over which one church you wish to vote in.

How can I be more involved in the church?

Being on the Electoral Roll gives you the right to vote at the annual meeting. For many people that will then lead to greater involvement and support for the week to week work of the church in Living God's Love.

What is Living God's Love?

It's the initiative in the Diocese of St Albans which helps us to focus our aims in the Christian life

- *Going Deeper into God* through worship, prayer and study of our faith
- *Transforming Communities* through Christian service in and beyond our congregations
- *Making New Disciples* through encouraging and building faith in the people of our communities.

How can I show support for the church?

At its heart support for the church is our response to God's love. It is spiritual (through prayer and regular participation in worship services), practical (through involvement in

the week to week activities which support the life and ministry of the church), and financial (in contributing to the financial resources for the parish).

What about financial support?

Such support is very much welcomed, although there is absolutely no church 'membership fee'! Biblical guidelines make clear that Christian giving to God's work through the church is a priority and planned, regular and a suitable proportion of our income.

Where do church funds come from?

There is no Government funding for the Church nationally, so the vast majority of funds for the day to day running of the church to support its ministry and mission is provided by the local congregations and friends of individual parish churches.

What is the best way of giving to the church?

Regularity in giving is best achieved either through a standing order through your bank – or regular giving in a weekly envelope. For anyone who is a taxpayer donations using Gift Aid provide an additional benefit to the church.

What is Gift Aid?

It's a Government scheme to allow churches, as charities, to reclaim tax paid on donations. Donors need to have made a simple declaration, and that then allows a reclaim of tax to be made (£2.50 on every £10 gift at the current 20% basic rate of tax). Gift Aid costs the donor nothing!

What next?

.....see overleaf



APPLICATION FOR ENROLMENT ON THE CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL

PARISH _____

Full Name _____ Preferred title (if any) _____

Full address _____ Postcode _____

I declare that: (tick ONE box only of boxes 2a, 2b, 2c)

- 1 I am baptized and am aged 16 or over (or, become 16* on _____)* see note overleaf
- 2a I am a member of the Church of England (or of a Church in communion with the Church of England) and am a resident in the parish.
- 2b I am a member of the Church of England (or a Church in communion with the Church of England) and, not being resident in the parish, I have habitually attended public worship in the parish during the period of six months prior to enrolment.
- 2c I am a member in good standing of a Church (not in communion with the Church of England) which subscribes to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity and also declare myself to be a member of the Church of England and I have habitually attended public worship in the parish during the period of six months prior to enrolment.

I declare that the above answers are true and I apply for inclusion on the church electoral roll of the parish.

Signed: _____ Date: _____ See over for notes on completing form