



Painting by Tom Bower from Littlemore Congregation

Our church of St Mary and St Nicholas, Littlemore, Oxford, was built in 1836 by John Henry Newman, key member of the Oxford Movement, theologian and poet.



183 years later, St. Mary and St. Nicholas is a vital centre for worship, music and community. But in our current state we lack some of the basics. We are now in the process of implementing our mission statement, *'To renew Newman's vision for the 21st century; and to transform a simple church into a spiritual, cultural and social meeting place, in order to serve the needs of the diverse community of Littlemore.'*

## What are the issues in Littlemore?

Littlemore is ranked in the bottom 10% Parishes in the National Index of Multiple Deprivation (NIMD)

It has pockets with high levels of poverty and unemployment, along with low skills and low educational achievement.

- 30% of children in Littlemore are living in poverty.
- 36% of households with children are headed by a lone parent.
- 26% of working adults have no qualifications.
- Some 40% of the population aged over 60 are considered to be income deprived and one of the four wards of Littlemore has the highest loneliness indicator for the over 65s.

We are determined to make our church a meeting place for the community where all can flourish.



**Together, we can make a difference.**

## The design

You won't be able to see any changes from the outside, as we are going to preserve its historic beauty. The changes will all be on the inside.

### In the Newman Meeting Place:

- near the front door: kitchen and toilet
- above: gallery for organ and musicians
- new heating, lighting and sound system
- flexible seating and complete redecoration
- heritage and educational facilities

### Vestry area:

merge the two small rooms into one large meeting space and install toilet

### Sanctuary:

renovate the reredos and renew kneelers



Please watch our project film on any of these websites:

### The project website:

[www.newmanmeetingplace.org.uk](http://www.newmanmeetingplace.org.uk)

### Newman and Littlemore:

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

### General church website:

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

### Vision for our church in Littlemore:

*Our vision is to be an inclusive, seven-day church that embodies the love of God in the community.*

### Our three values:

*Openness, Creativity and Authenticity*

### Littlemore Parish Prayer:

*Loving Lord, may your shining light fill the hearts of all who live, work and worship here in Littlemore. Amen.*

### Project Prayer:

*Generous God, lead us with your kindly light along the path of faith and trust, as we pray for your help and resources to complete our building project, to your glory. Amen.*

**PCC Littlemore is an exempt charity registered with HMRC: number XN16019**

### Rev Margreet Armitstead

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### What will the project deliver?

We already have our regular services, including many baptisms, weddings and funerals. We host family activities, including a Community Breakfast, St Nicholas Festival, an annual community Harvest of Talents art exhibition and a number of concerts.

However, we are also planning:

- Coffee Shop sessions three mornings a week
- monthly over 60s tea and cake with live music and dancing
- weekly parent and toddler sessions
- regular drop-in befriending sessions
- an information stand for Newman pilgrims
- Godly play sessions for the John Henry Newman Academy (primary school)
- sessions for mental health clients
- new seasonal family activities
- education material for all ages about the history of the church



### How much will the project cost?

We need to raise £622k for the building costs and £115k for non-building costs.

We have raised over half of the building costs and are hoping to build in 2019!

### How could you help us transform the Newman Meeting Place?

First of all, by passing this leaflet on to anyone you think might be interested!

Secondly by donating money:

1. by cheque, made payable to 'Littlemore PCC Appeal Account' and sent to c/o Rev Margreet Armitstead, The Vicarage, St Nicholas Road, Littlemore, Oxford, OX4 4PP.
2. online through our website donation page [www.newmanmeetingplace.org.uk](http://www.newmanmeetingplace.org.uk).
3. by BACS (electronic bank transfer).  
Barclays Bank  
Sort Code: 20-65-18  
Account Number: 80559261  
Name: Littlemore PCC Appeal Account



Community Breakfast