

PRESS RELEASE



St John the Baptist Church Holland Road secures Heritage Lottery Fund

St John the Baptist Church in Holland Road has received a confirmed grant of £271,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

The funds represent a significant step in enabling the completion of restoration work to this beautiful Grade 1 listed building. The project will build on a successful first stage campaign to restore the roof, and will transform the west end of the church.

The plans include:

- Creation of two new community rooms enabling the space to be used as a hub and sanctuary for all local people
- Provision of new kitchen and toilet facilities and making the building fully accessible for all
- Repairs to some of the windows and stonework.

The church, sometimes described as a mini cathedral, began construction in the 1880s and was completed by 1910. The church was built for the Anglo-

Catholic tradition of the Church of England and worship in this tradition is held here on Sunday evenings. It contains many interesting features including a hidden chapel where some of the high church practices formerly discouraged could take place. It also has an historic organ and great acoustics.

On Sunday mornings the Church is home to a community of Eritrean Christians, and the crypt is let to a Nursery school.

The Priest-in-Charge Fr James Heard said “We are delighted and very grateful to Heritage Lottery Fund for supporting our work and helping to realise our wider vision. The area around the church lacks a centre for community and cultural activity and we hope that St John’s can become a beacon of welcome, focus, and tranquillity in this busy part of London. We look forward to working with the local community to involve them in our development plans.”

All are welcome to join us at our Open days on Saturday 12 March (10am until 1pm) and Wednesday 16 March (5pm until 8pm) where we will share more detail about our plans accompanied by music and refreshments.”

ENDS

Notes to Editors

About the Heritage Lottery Fund

Thanks to National Lottery players, we invest money to help people across the UK explore, enjoy and protect the heritage they care about - from the archaeology under our feet to the historic parks and buildings we love, from precious memories and collections to rare wildlife. www.hlf.org.uk
@heritagelottery

About St John the Baptist, Holland Road

1. St John the Baptist Church, Holland Road, LONDON W14 8AH is part of the United Benefice of Holland Park. Located on busy Holland Road and a stone’s throw away from Westfield Shopping Centre.
2. The Church was awarded Grade 1 listed status in 2015.
3. Previous fundraising including support from HLF secured a new roof and a service of thanksgiving and party for local residents was held in June 2015.

For further information, images and interviews please contact:

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