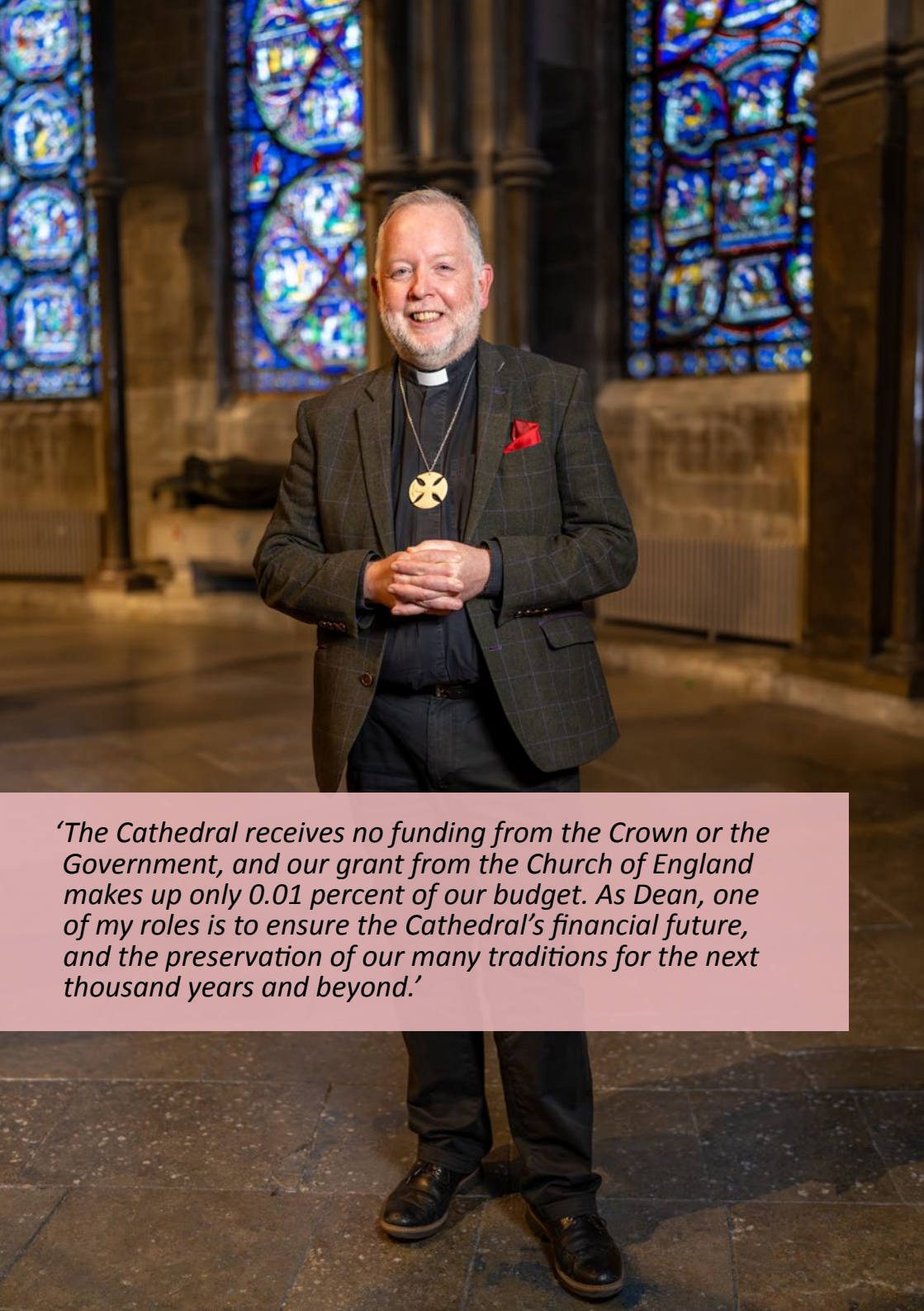




Canterbury Cathedral

For the next thousand years
and beyond:
Leaving a legacy to
Canterbury Cathedral



'The Cathedral receives no funding from the Crown or the Government, and our grant from the Church of England makes up only 0.01 percent of our budget. As Dean, one of my roles is to ensure the Cathedral's financial future, and the preservation of our many traditions for the next thousand years and beyond.'

A message from Dean David

Canterbury Cathedral has stood for almost 1,500 years: the living legacy of St Augustine and those who followed him. Today the Cathedral is a place of faith, pilgrimage, curiosity and inspiration, within whose ancient walls the lives of many millions of people have been indelibly touched.

It is an incredible privilege for me to live, worship and work in a place which carries the weight of history so lightly, but it is also a great responsibility. The Cathedral receives no funding from the Crown or the Government, and our grant from the Church of England makes up only 0.01 percent of our budget. As Dean, one of my roles is to ensure the Cathedral's financial future, and the preservation of our many traditions for the next thousand years and beyond.

That is why I am writing here to ask if you would consider remembering the Cathedral in your will.

At our heart, we remain a Benedictine community, continuing with deep joy the traditions of worship, prayer and welcome which have informed life at the Cathedral for centuries. Our mission and outreach have grown as we now welcome a global congregation to our services, both in person and online. Your bequest will help to safeguard this work and the future of the Cathedral for generations to come.

Whether you choose to leave a bequest to the Cathedral or to the Friends, there are many ways your gift can make a difference. You might wish to support our rich choral tradition or give to the next generation of craft in the stone masonry or stained glass teams; your legacy might help our outreach with young clergy in the Anglican Communion or indeed, you might simply want to help us keep the lights on!

If you do decide to remember us in your Will, please let us know. It is always such a joy to be able to thank a legator in their lifetime for their generosity. I look forward to welcoming you to Canterbury Cathedral very soon.

David Monteith

At Canterbury Cathedral, there are two registered charities which can receive legacies. Your bequest can support the Cathedral directly or be given to The Friends of Canterbury Cathedral.

Canterbury Cathedral & The Augustine Society

Registered Charity Number 1206913

You might choose to give your gift directly to the Cathedral, which will allow us to allocate your gift immediately to the area of greatest need (if your legacy is unrestricted) or to the activity you wish to support. The Fundraising Team would be very pleased to speak to you about your donation and how you wish for it to be used.

If you have decided to make a bequest to the Cathedral, we would be delighted to welcome you to the Augustine Society – the Cathedral's legacy circle. Named after Saint Augustine of Canterbury, who arrived in Kent in 597 and became the first Archbishop of Canterbury, the Augustine Society allows the Cathedral to thank you for your support during your lifetime and legators are welcomed to a number of private events throughout the year.

The Friends of Canterbury Cathedral & The 1927 Club

Registered Charity Number 1210093

The Friends of Canterbury Cathedral, the first organisation of its kind in the UK, was created in 1927 to generate funds to help maintain the Cathedral. Today, The Friends maintain the Cathedral's fan club of like-minded individuals. The Friends are a separate charity from the Cathedral and funds are given to the Cathedral through a grant-making process. Your legacy can be unrestricted or restricted to support a specific project, but The Friends cannot fund salary costs. The Friends will work with the Cathedral to ensure your legacy is used in accordance with your wishes.

If you have decided to remember The Friends of Canterbury Cathedral in your will, we would be delighted to give you membership of the 1927 Club, which is a way for the Friends to thank you for your support in your lifetime. This group meets annually for a small private gathering to allow the Trustees of the Friends to thank them for their generosity.



Types of Legacies

Pecuniary gifts leave a specific amount of money to an organisation. These gifts can devalue over time with inflation if a will is not kept updated.

Residuary legacies will give the remainder or a percentage of an estate to a charity or person after other legacy requests and expenses have been covered. A residuary gift is not affected by inflation like a pecuniary gift is. For this reason, we would encourage you to consider using residuary wording if you feel able to.

Specific gifts usually refer to a particular item such as an artwork or a personal effect but can also include property and shares.

Conditional/ Contingent requests in a legacy will specify a beneficiary to receive funds if all other beneficiaries have already died. This can be used as backstop to ensure your estate is not subject to intestacy.

Tax Benefits

Your legacy to the Cathedral or The Friends of Canterbury Cathedral is free of Inheritance Tax (IHT). If you leave at least 10% of your net estate to charities, the IHT rate on the remainder reduces from 40% to 36%.

If you have already allocated a proportion of your estate under 10% to charity, talk to your solicitor as you may be able to increase this to the 10% threshold without costing your beneficiaries any money. This is because the inheritance tax saving will compensate for the increased charitable giving.

Please note that Canterbury Cathedral includes this information as reference only and is unable to provide tax advice. For full legal advice, please contact a solicitor who will be able to help you fully understand any advantages as well as the nuances of IHT.



Your Legacy

When writing a will, you can choose to leave a bequest which is restricted to support a specific project or area of the Cathedral, or to leave an unrestricted gift.

Unrestricted legacies are always enormously welcome as they can be directed to the area of greatest need at the time they are received. The Cathedral is always evolving to reflect the needs of the building, our congregation and society.

For example, in the last few years, unrestricted legacies have been used to support urgent conservation repairs to the Christ Church Gate; to underpin the costs of our music outreach work in local schools; and to support the costs of reaching our international congregation by streaming all of our services.

Suggested wording for an unrestricted legacy:

"I/we give free of tax to Canterbury Cathedral (Registered Charity No. 1206913)/ The Friends of Canterbury Cathedral (Registered Charity No. 1210093) the residue/a proportion of the residue of my estate/the sum of [x] percent to be used as they see fit."

Please be in touch with the Fundraising Team if you would like to discuss making a legacy to support a specific project or area.



Next Steps

Please be in touch with us, in confidence, with any queries you have about the specifics of your gift. We can help you with details of departments for restricted legacies or talk through the pros and cons of the various types of legacy with you.

Work with a solicitor to help you write your Will or make use of The Church of England's free will writing service through Farewill (link below).

farewill.com/cofe-web

Once your Will has been written and if you are comfortable sharing the information with us confidentially, we would love to know about your generous gift to thank you personally. We would be delighted to invite you to join one of the legacy groups and come to events at the Cathedral. Please contact us directly or complete one of our legacy pledge forms.

Please note that neither the Cathedral nor The Friends can provide legal advice and it is always best to use a solicitor for any estate planning requirements.

Canterbury
Cathedral

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Charity no. 1206913

The FRIENDS of
Canterbury
Cathedral

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Charity no. 1210093

