



Church of the Holy Spirit
Narbonne Ave, Clapham
www.holyspirit-clapham.org

1 April 2014

Dear

We all hate filling in surveys but the one enclosed is really important and it would be wonderful if you could complete and return it for us. It is COMPLETELY ANONYMOUS.

The reason why it is **so important for all of us** to fill one in is because it will ensure that the amount of money that we as a church pay to the wider Diocese (the quota) is fair. The surveys are used by the Diocese to calculate our Diocesan quota.

The quota is the sum that all Anglican churches pay to support the running of the church throughout the Diocese. (This money pays for clergy, training, central resources and supports poorer parishes who would not be able to survive otherwise.) The sum is different for each church and is based on what that church can pay.

Every three years, all churches are required to complete a survey to re-assess the amount that they are charged.

We understand that no one likes to discuss how much or how little they are paid which is why the Fairer Shares Survey asks the Churchwardens to ascertain ANONYMOUSLY, the income of **all members** of their parish church (you are a member if you are over 16 years old and you come to church at least once a month).

It is vital that those who earn nothing or are in receipt of benefits complete the form as much as those who are in paid employment; as the quota is based on the average earnings of the members of the church.

The Diocese is exploring different ways of calculating our quota payments in the future. However, for now we'd be grateful if you would fill in and complete the enclosed survey.

We are enormously grateful for your generous financial support of CHS. For many years, CHS has been a net giver rather than a net receiver, paying a quota of £81,000 per annum, so your contribution enables us to exist and serve God and our community but also supports the wider church and our brothers and sisters who are struggling in neighbouring parishes – THANK YOU.

If you would like to talk this through with us, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

With love and thanks

Sarah & Ollie

Encs