

## GIFT AID GUIDANCE

Friends of Capel Church Gift Aid ref: XT29224

Charitable causes can reclaim tax paid on donations made under the Gift Aid scheme. The tax amount paid by a donor in a given tax year (6 April to 5 April) from Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax must at least equal the tax amount claimed by all the charities and Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) to whom the donor donates in that tax year.

Only the tax arising from income applies to Gift Aid. Other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify.

**£2 + gift aid = £2.50**

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*The church's dedication was changed to St. Thomas à Becket after his murder at Canterbury Cathedral in 1170. The church was on one of the pilgrimage routes to Canterbury. The Saint is said to have taken his last open air service under the old yew in the churchyard.*

*The church is used for six Church of England services per year, plus funerals and weddings when requested.*

The Friends of Capel Church support the work of the Churches Conservation Trust and work in partnership with them to:-

- Increase interest in the church
- Keep it welcoming and open to visitors
- Organise events and occasional services
- Raise funds
- Undertake maintenance.

Without your support the future of the church may be insecure. As an historic monument it could be kept locked and mothballed. The Friends help keep it alive and loved.

A further role of the Friends is to provide a pool of volunteers to assist the Trust's official key-holder to care for the church and its contents.

The minimum membership fee is £1 per annum, though we encourage members to give more if they can afford it, with a suggested amount of £5.

All members are entitled to vote at the Annual General Meeting and receive newsletters keeping them informed of events and Friends' projects.

## ST THOMAS à BECKET CHURCH CHURCH LANE, CAPEL, TN12 6SX

*An invitation to join*

### THE FRIENDS OF CAPEL CHURCH



For over 30 generations this picturesque church has been central to the lives of the people of Capel. Following closure in 1986 it is now in the care of the Churches Conservation Trust, a national charity that looks after over three hundred historically and architecturally important redundant churches – including 16 in Kent. Listed Grade 1 on account of its important wall paintings, St Thomas à Becket church remains a consecrated building and provides a peaceful haven for residents and visitors alike.

[www.capelchurch.uk](http://www.capelchurch.uk)

## THE WORK OF THE FRIENDS GROUP

Since its inauguration in 2009, the Friends Group has achieved the following:

- Ensured the church is opened every day by forming a key-holder group and rota.
- Raised funds to have the church bell (forged in 1670) restored to working condition
- Re-laid the French drain which protects the North Wall with the wall paintings
- Redecorated and repaired the ceiling of the vestry
- Carried out a temperature and humidity survey for twelve months to determine the best way to ventilate the church
- Arranged the redecoration of the Porch
- Replaced the louvres in the tower windows with new oak planks.
- Removed moss from the tower stonework.
- Improved water storage for the graveyard.
- Arranged a regular working party to clear and maintain the old churchyard, and to create a register of graves.
- Held a series of events which not only raise funds for the church but encourage local people to keep the church alive, including Flower Festivals, Weddings Through the Ages event, Art, Craft, and Music Festivals, WWI and WWII commemorations.

## THE FUTURE WORK PLAN

The challenges for the future include:

- Keeping the church open daily
- Fund raising
- Restoration of the Commandment Boards and other decorative boards in the church.
- Re-decoration of the Nave
- Remedial work to the Wall Paintings
- Regular checks on the condition of the Wall Paintings in the future.
- Repairs to the stained glass window
- Regular maintenance of the churchyard
- Cleaning and preparation of the church prior to services.

Enquiries to [info@capelchurch.uk](mailto:info@capelchurch.uk)

[www.capelchurch.uk](http://www.capelchurch.uk)



## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Title and Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Post code \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to apply for membership of the Friends of Capel Church and attach my annual subscription (minimum £1, suggested amount £5).

Cheques payable to The Friends of Capel Church.

Membership runs from 1<sup>st</sup> January each year. New members after 1<sup>st</sup> October run through the next year.

### GIFT AID

If you are a taxpayer (see over for guidance) please tick here and sign below to allow us to reclaim tax on your donation.

I am a UK taxpayer, please treat the enclosed gift plus any other donations I have or will make to the Friends of Capel Trust as a Gift Aid donation. I

understand that the charity will reclaim 25p tax on every £1 I have given.

Signature: .....

Send form to: FoCC Membership Secretary  
12 Ellis Close, Five Oak Green,  
Tonbridge, TN12 6PQ