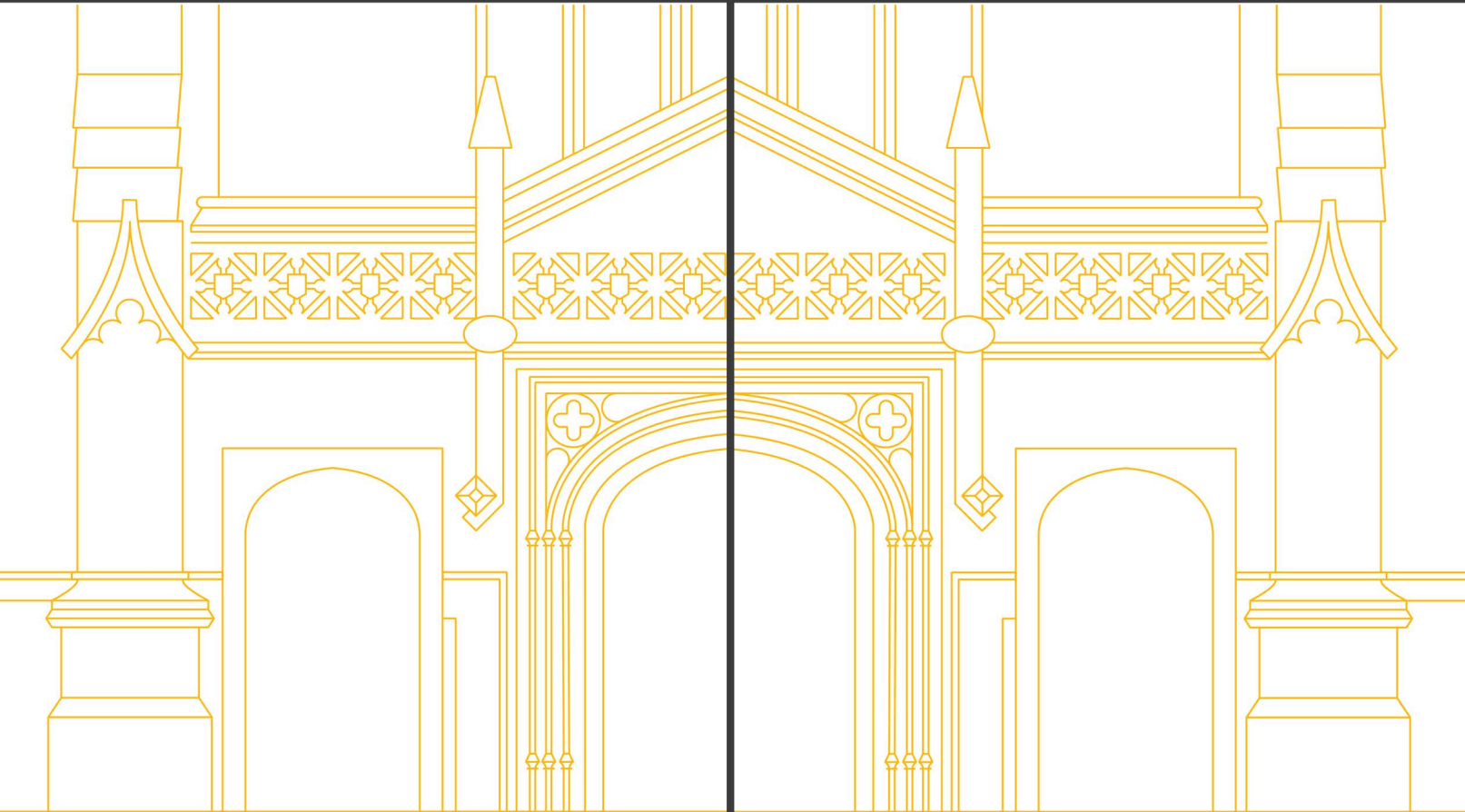




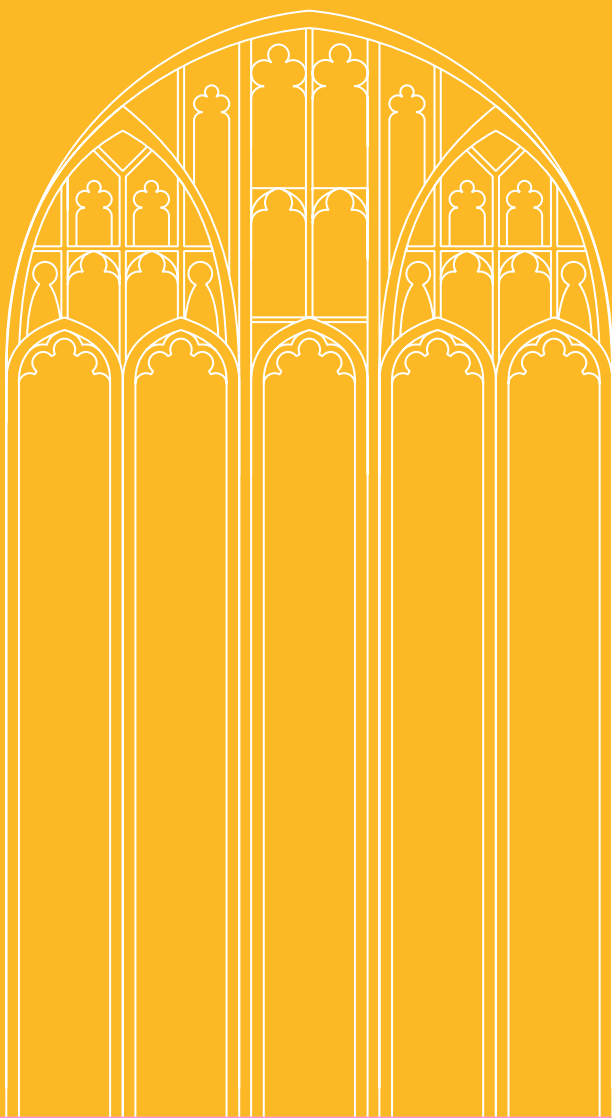
ST MICHAEL  
LE BELFREY

**IMPACT  
BUILDING  
PROJECT**

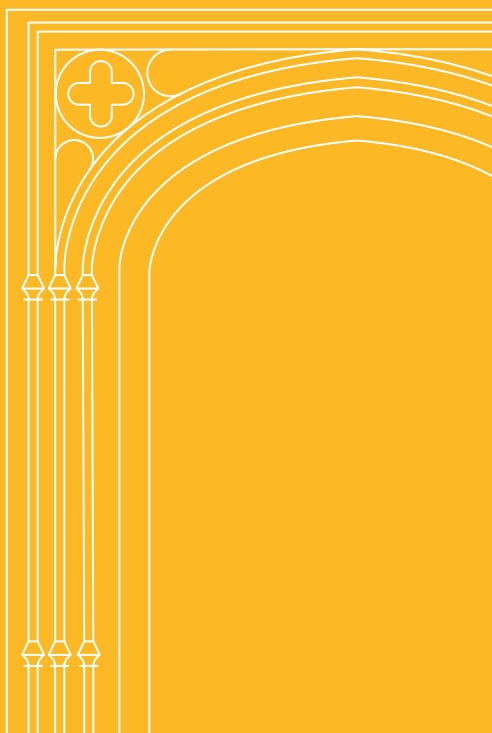


**Each one must give as they have decided in their heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.**

2 Corinthians 9 vs 7



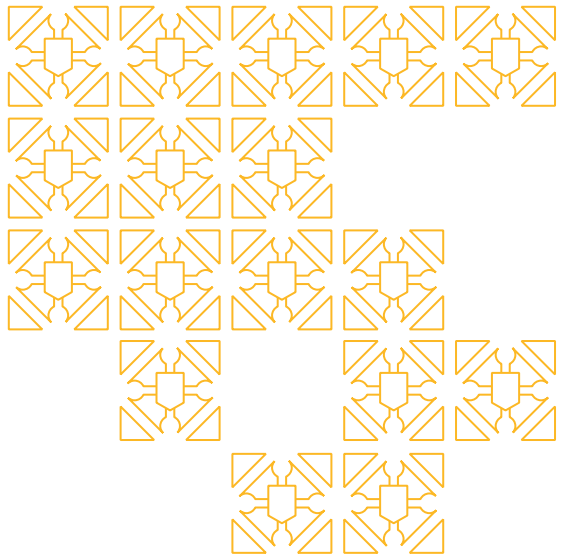
**St Michael le Belfrey is a much loved 500 year old church in the heart of historic York, nestled close to The Minster. It is seeking to undertake one of the most radical and beautiful transformations of a Grade I listed building that repairs and reorders the church for the next 100+ years.**











Matthew Porter and Andy Baker in front of St Michael le Belfrey



# Foreword

Matthew Porter (Vicar)  
& Andy Baker (Associate Vicar)

**For the last fifty years or more the leaders of St Michael le Belfrey Church have wanted to renovate and renew the church building to make it fit for purpose, but for all sorts of good reasons it has never happened. Until now.**

Now the call to mission is particularly pressing, the requirement for flexible space is highly essential and the demand for fabric repairs is critically urgent. The needs are great, the vision is clear, God's call is strong so now is the time for our church's reordering. God's generosity through the major gifts of £7.2m, invites us to make a generous response and ask the church family to contribute a reasonable proportion of what is needed.

We will lovingly introduce the best of 21st Century architecture and technology into our 16th Century church and 18th Century Parish Centre, carefully crafting the old and the new into spaces that are both beautiful and practical. This will be a huge undertaking, requiring significant time and considerable financing. It will be both amazing and exciting, as well as stretching and demanding. Please read on and see how you can help turn the vision for this Belfrey building project into reality, so together we can better play our part in serving God's transformation of the North.



Looking towards the proposed three doors at the West end entrance



# What is Impact?



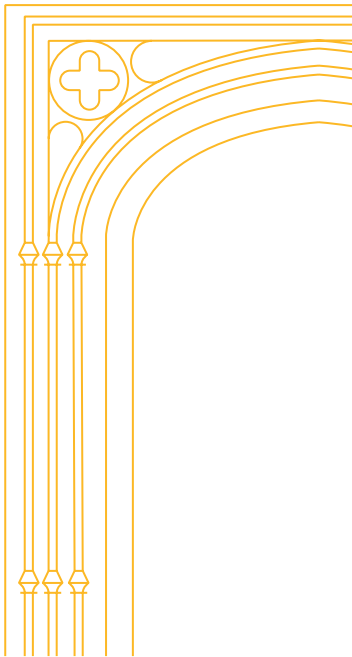
Left: Looking through the three proposed openings from the entrance area



Above: Looking East to the Reredos from the entrance and new servery



Proposed new hydraulically operated baptism pool



**Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labour in vain.**

Psalm 127 v 1

The Belfrey needs to repair and reorder its Grade I listed building to ensure it is fit for purpose practically and spiritually to serve the needs of the people in York, the region, and beyond for generations to come. This project is called Impact and its proposed aim is to carefully repair the historic fabric of our world renowned medieval building, while inserting new, sensitively designed features to deliver a far better equipped church.

The completion of Impact will welcome more people into the building and encourage them to stay for longer, join in our worship, participate in activities and encounter the love and peace of Jesus. We have around £2m to raise, having done our best to minimise the costs through value engineering.

From 2018, a significant consultation with the members of The Belfrey has taken place to understand what they wanted the building project to achieve. The highest priorities raised were flexibility of space, maintain capacity, improve accessibility, and to offer a better welcome. Facilities within the Church building, such as those for hospitality and toilet provision desperately need to be improved, and technology must be updated to support worship, activities, events and conferences. It is exciting that an innovative, full immersion baptism pool has been included within the design. Sustainable design, construction and operation has been carefully considered to ensure The Belfrey does all it can to reduce its carbon footprint.



# Honouring Our Past

**St Michael le Belfrey is situated on the site of a former Roman Principia. The current Grade I listed church was built between 1525-1537. No significant building work has been carried out for over 150 years and the church is now in need of major restoration.**

The Repairs package is approximately 30% of the Project value. It includes the complete replacement of the lead roof and masonry repairs to the walls and Bell Turret, using appropriate materials that conserve the historic fabric for future generations.

Some repairs to the stained glass windows and the surrounding ironwork and masonry are required and environmental protective glazing will be applied to eight of the windows, including all the medieval stained glass. It will protect this nationally significant collection for years to come. A new stained glass window for the north aisle is being commissioned with funding from a legacy.

Display cases within the new gallery will allow for the display of artefacts already found, and uncovered during construction, giving a greater insight into the life of the church through the centuries.

The 18th Century Reredos will be restored so that it can once again be fully appreciated. Ledger stones will be relaid in collections so they are easier to access and appreciate while some wall memorials will undergo repairs and cleaning to ensure their structural integrity. The Queen Anne coat of arms will be relocated to the north side of the Church, providing a closer viewing at both ground and first floor levels.



*Aerial view of St Michael le Belfrey*



*Above: The 14th century East window which predates the current building*



*An illustration of the church as it looked in the 16th century, produced c1810. Note the medieval bench still in the building today*



# Resourcing our Future

Today The Belfrey is home to a thriving Christian congregation of around 550 people, of all ages, offering a variety of services and styles of worship. A resource church for the Church of England, with the responsibility to plant new churches, we serve our city and region and attract 35,000+ visitors annually.



Above: The proposed fully accessible lift and stairs to the Gallery on the North side

Left: The new gallery with retractable bleacher style seating and meeting space



Above: How the new hydraulic baptism pool will look in action



The designs give careful consideration to how the church resources its future effectively and sustainably. Proposed new features include gently sloping access to the exterior of the Church's west end, benches and two new entrances subservient to the main door.

The Belfrey has consulted with York Minster to ensure it will complement the Queen's Square development within their Master Development Plan, while defining The Belfrey's boundaries.

A new gallery will be created with open staircases, a lift and 'bleacher style' seating which will retract to create a meeting space, as well as providing comfortable seating for large services and events. The nave will house a servery, providing refreshments and managing the flow of people around the church so they are safe and comfortable. The ground floor includes an area that also transforms into a second meeting space.

**Commit your work to the Lord and your plans will be established.**

Proverbs 16 vs 3



Removing the pews and providing chairs will create a much more flexible space allowing for configurations of seating in the round, cafe style, horseshoe and landscape, while still providing capacity for c550 people.

A key feature will be the stunning baptism pool with hydraulic operation, offering enhanced access for those who have mobility or visual impairments. Circular in shape, it will sit in the middle of a 'Roman cross' floor pattern and lowers to allow the water to flow in.

Level access is provided throughout and will link to the adjacent building of 12 Minster Yard (our current offices) to provide new meeting rooms and the Vestry. The provision of seven toilets in total including two accessible toilets will improve the experience for all those using the building.

Sustainable features include roof insulation within the roof, an underfloor heating system powered by an air source heat pump, LED lighting and the proposal to source local materials for the external landscaping.



# Empowering our Vision



**Whoever brings blessing will be enriched, and one who waters will themselves be watered.**

Proverbs 11 vs 25

*Below: The Belfrey congregation in celebration*



*Above: All ages are welcome*

The Belfrey's mission is to seek and help serve God's transformation of the North. We have five aims which are to serve the city of York, make and nurture disciples, develop leaders and plant new churches. The repaired and reordered Church building is the key vehicle to support those aims.

We care deeply about the community of York and, through our social action programme, we work in partnership with a range of charities and other organisations to offer support to people who are disadvantaged, particularly families and young people, those in poverty, and struggling with mental health. The Impact project will increase the opportunities to provide worship, prayer and ministry, better supporting the activities and facilities offered to numerous groups.

The reordered Church building will provide an impressive mid sized city centre venue which is fully accessible and a flexible space that will suit concerts, theatre, creative media installations and exhibitions. It will allow us to host educational visits that are informative, fun and safe.

The Belfrey will be better equipped to expand its leadership development programmes, to support the Christian community in the North and local initiatives. We will continue to work with national organisations to deliver conferences and events throughout the year.

The full immersion baptism pool increases the opportunity for The Belfrey to offer regular baptisms and very importantly to share the facility with the Diocese of York and other Christian churches in the region.

Through the project we pray that the Church building will fulfil, uphold and better enable us to deliver The Belfrey's values of Generosity, Festivity, Simplicity and Humility.

*Below: Contemporary musical worship is central to the life of The Belfrey*

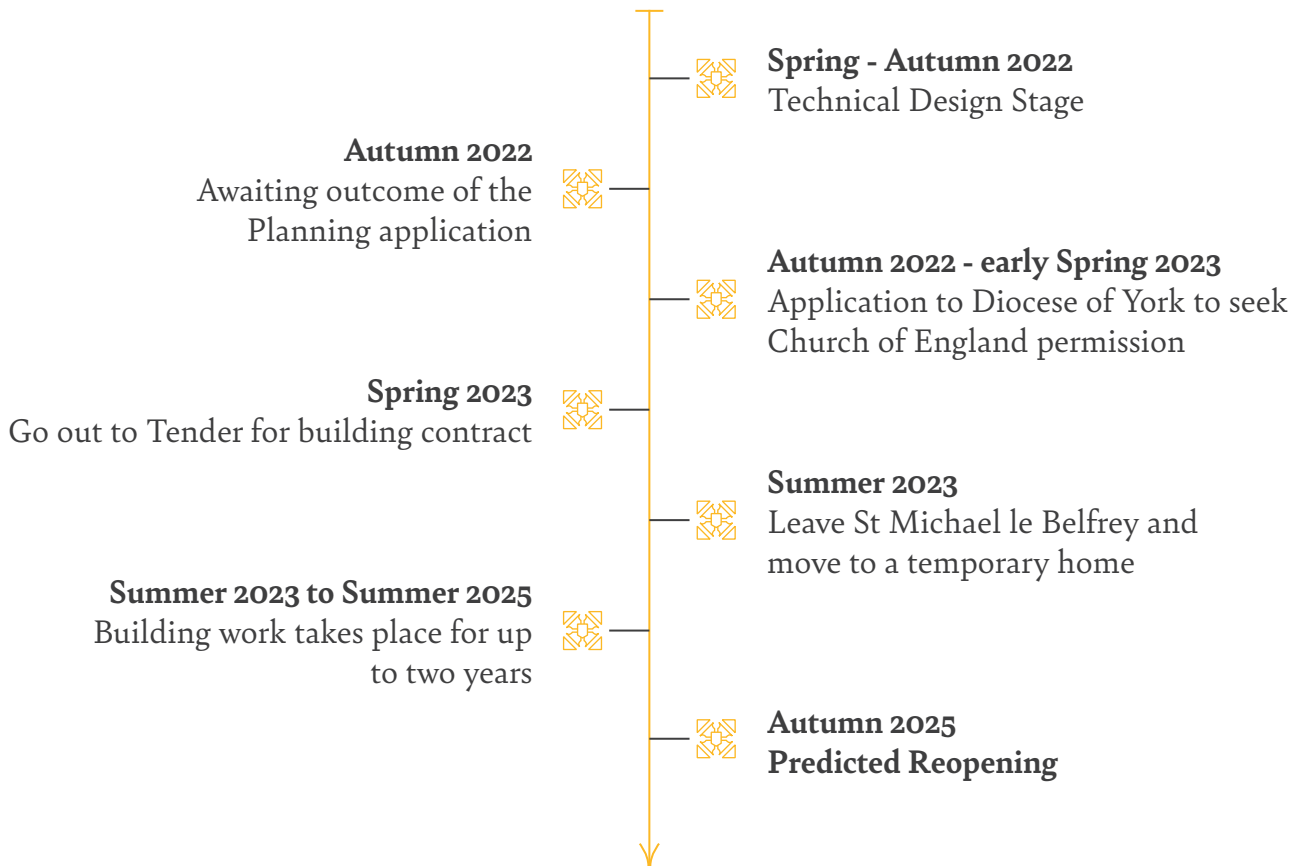






Looking down from the new gallery onto the nave, new staging and Reredos

# Proposed Timescales



Our applications are at the final stages of an intensive and positive consultation process with key stakeholders including York Diocesan Advisory Committee, Church Buildings Council, Historic England and City of York Council.



# How to Give

This is our first major building project in well over a century, which is costly and necessary. We want to deliver a beautiful transformation that will bless our local community, businesses, visitors and worshippers alike. We have been blessed with two large donations but still have around £2m to raise to bring this project to fruition.

To offer a pledge to the project, paying a one off or regular gift, complete the Pledge Form enclosed and return it to: Melissa Bryan, The Belfrey Finance Manager, The Parish Centre, 11 Minster Yard, York, YO1 7HH or email [impactgiving@belfrey.org](mailto:impactgiving@belfrey.org). Tel: 01904 624190.

## **Donations should be paid using the Impact bank account:**

St Michael le Belfrey PCC Impact Account

Sort code: 16-34-80

Account no: 11289130

**Thank you for your valuable support.**

**You can also donate to the project using the QR code below:**



Alternatively see the Belfrey website for an online form [\*\*www.belfrey.org/impact\*\*](http://www.belfrey.org/impact)

For any questions or guidance please contact Melissa or a member of the clergy.



# Impact Project Pledge Form



To pledge a one-off or regular gift to the Impact project over a period of up to 3 years, or both, please complete the form below and Gift Aid if you can:

Name:

Address:

Tel:

Email:

**I/We wish to financially support the repairs and reordering of St Michael le Belfrey Church with (complete one or more options below as appropriate):**

- a one-off gift of £\_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ (date)
- monthly gifts of £\_\_\_\_\_ over \_\_\_\_\_ years (1-3 years as preferable\*) from \_\_\_\_\_ (date)
- annual gifts of £\_\_\_\_\_ over \_\_\_\_\_ years (1-3 years as preferable\*) from \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

*\*Please talk to Melissa if you'd like to discuss different payment options*

I would like to Gift Aid my donation. (I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.)

Signed:

By completing your details above you permit us to contact you with relevant information and updates about the Impact Project. If you do not wish to be contacted please tick here

We understand that your circumstances may change. This is a commitment - not a contract.

**Please complete the form above and return by the end of October, if possible, to:**

Melissa Bryan, The Belfrey Finance Manager, The Parish Centre, 11 Minster Yard, York, YO1 7HH.

Tel: 01904 624190 or email [impactgiving@belfrey.org](mailto:impactgiving@belfrey.org).

(Alternatively see the online form on the Belfrey website)

**Donations should be paid using the Impact bank account:**

St Michael le Belfrey PCC Impact Account

Sort code: 16-34-80

Account no: 11289130

All pledges and donations are strictly confidential between you and the Finance Manager.





If you would like to contribute by helping with any Fundraising initiatives,  
please contact Heidi Folland at [fundraising@belfrey.org](mailto:fundraising@belfrey.org)

St Michael le Belfrey Church, The Parish Centre 11/12 Minster Yard, York YO1 7HH  
Charity number 1130866 | [www.belfrey.org/impact](http://www.belfrey.org/impact)