



The Parish of St Paul Rondebosch

(The Anglican Church of Southern Africa)

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APPEAL FOR DONATION TOWARDS OUR FENCE FUND

We greet you in the name of God our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer.

St. Paul's Anglican Church in Rondebosch was built 188 years ago from a design by Sophie Grey. Built of stone and made resplendent with beautiful stained glass windows it has provided a spiritual haven for the residents of Cape Town for nearly two decades. As with many churches the cost of maintenance has risen while the age of the congregation has done the same. This has made the required cost of upkeep increasingly unaffordable. The support structure of the bell has corroded making it too dangerous to ring because of the possibility of it falling down.

When the Covid-19 pandemic caused a cessation of attended church services not only did this affect the income for the church it also caused increased unemployment and rising crime statistics.

The crime resulted in massive damage to the church as criminals tore sections of the roof apart to reach marketable metal. All the rainwater downpipes also disappeared. Damage to parked vehicles and attacks on members of the congregation increased the sense of insecurity.

The Parish Council decided to install alarm systems and motion detecting beams around the church. While this has reduced the number of incidents of damage and vandalism it has not made the people feel safe coming to church. A number of homeless and mentally ill folk use the graveyard as a place to sleep. They also can become quite belligerent in their demands for food and money.

This sense of unease is increased when attending evening services and meetings.

The advice given to the Parish Council by security and law-enforcement professionals is to install a secure perimeter fence. This will cost about R1 million to erect. Permission has to be obtained from City Council, Heritage Society and the Diocese. In the meantime, while this time-consuming exercise is occurring, an intensive fundraising drive has been started. So far the amount raised is half the amount needed, assuming costs do not increase during the time taken to raise the remainder.

The race is only half way to the finish line. This is an appeal for further donations from anyone who has fond memories of time at St. Paul's or who would like to help us preserve a very special building.

You can help by donating even a small amount towards the target. This can be done by EFT to the Standard Bank Rondebosch
A/c 071488928
Beneficiary St. Paul's Church Rondebosch Fence Fund

For international contributors the SWIFT/BIC code for the Standard Bank is SBZAJJ

Or contact the church secretary at 021-6894720(mornings only) or at stpauls@netdial.co.za

Blessings

The Clergy and Parish Council

RLMulder

Rev Reeva Mulder
Rector