

‘...one of the finest Gothic Revival churches anywhere...’

Pevsner

St James the Less was built by three sisters, in memory of their father, and designed by G.E. Street who was *‘universally admitted to be the first architect of the day’*, (Bloomfield).

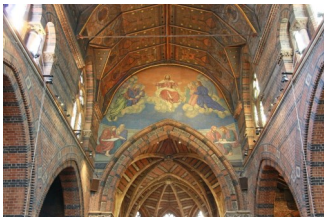
This is a remarkable building, from its polychromatic use of London brick, to the highly decorative interior, with close attention to detail so typical of Street.

St James the Less is a work of art in itself, combining the artistic talents of some of the greatest artists of its day:

G.F. Watts’ painted the original fresco of Christ in Glory, which is now a mural in venetian glass.

Clayton and Bell designed the windows and painted the ceiling.

Thomas Earp carved the pulpit and the capitals on the top of the pillars.



Everything is rich in iconography and everything tells a story. Architect and artists knew that this building served an area where the people needed beauty to lift their eyes out of the mire, and images to lead them to God.

When the church was consecrated, The Illustrated London News wrote:

‘There has been built in one of the poorer parts of Westminster, St James the Less church, as ‘a lily among the weeds’

How will the Friends of St James the Less make a difference?

The Friends of SJTL will, in conjunction with the PCC, help conserve, restore, maintain, and improve the fabric, furnishings and fittings of St James the Less, Westminster.

As a Friend you will be able to:

- Serve on the Friends of SJTL Committee, which is a sub-committee of the PCC (subject to elections).

The Committee can raise funds, receive grants and donations, collect annual subscriptions and organise fundraising events, including an Annual Lecture, with the aim of:

- ◆ Raising the public profile of SJTL
- ◆ Extending the Friends network
- ◆ Helping towards the restoration, preservation and development of the church

■ The elements of the renovation project will be to:

- Restore Street’s ironwork.
- Replace and insulate the church roof, while also restoring and cleaning the Clayton and Bell ceilings.
- Clean all the internal brick and stonework.
- Lift and restore the tiled flooring, installing underfloor heating, to return the church to Street’s original plan.
- Install a fire detection and alarm system and CCTV cameras.
- Install new lighting and AV systems.

Sign me up!

Please fill in the form below and on the back, returning the top half to SJTL Parish Office and the bottom half to your bank. This will set up a Standing Order for your membership of the Friends of St James the Less and enrol you as member. Let us know which sort of membership you are interested in and whether you have skills you would like to share with us in this important task, by filling in the short form below:

Friend of St James the Less

Friend of St James the Less in Mission

I have the following skills that I would like to share/I could be involved in the following ways.....

.....

.....

.....

.....



Your details, our details and setting up a standing order

Name

Address

.....Postcode.....

Tel Email

Gift Aid Declaration – St James the Less PCC

- I am a UK taxpayer and wish all my donations made in the six years prior to this declaration and all future donations, until I notify you otherwise, to be treated as Gift Aid donations.
- I will inform you if my circumstances change and I no longer pay an amount in income tax and/or capital gains tax that at least equals the tax reclaimed on my donations.
- I will notify you if I change my name or address.

Signed Date

Standing Order Mandate

To the Manager of Bank/Building Society

Address

..... Post Code

Please pay to the credit of: **St James the Less Renewal Fund**

Bank: Lloyds Bank

Sort Code: 30-90-69

Account Number: 00879488

The sum of £..... in words on the day of month 20... and on the same day in each succeeding year until further notice, and debit my account accordingly.

Name of my Account

Sort CodeAccount No

My Name

Address

..... Post Code

Signed Date

How can I become a Friend of St James the Less?

Anyone is welcome to become a Friend. We particularly welcome former members of St James the Less and St James the Less School, parishioners, local residents and anyone interested in Victorian architecture.

What is involved?

- Helping ensure this remarkable building is used to the full, and preserved for future generations as a functioning church
- Encouraging people to visit and discover the remarkable craftsmanship of high Victorian gothic architecture
- Contributing to keeping the church in good decorative working order
- Regular updates from the Friends Committee
- Information on, and participation in, our fundraising.
- An opportunity to learn about conservation work, and hands-on involvement where possible
- Invitation to annual lecture about St James the Less' architecture or history, run by the Friends Committee

How much does it cost?

The annual membership fee is just £10.

You can join by Standing order set up via this form, or online via the website: www.sjtl.org

Can I support the current life & mission of the church?

If you wish, you can, at no extra cost, also become part of **Friends of St James the Less in Mission**. You will then receive an additional Prayer Letter every six months, with news of our current activities as a church serving the parish.

You can also make a donation by scanning the QR code.



St James the Less



The Friends of St James the Less, Westminster

