

Bromley Parish Church

(St.Peter and St.Paul)

Vicar: The Reverend Michael Camp B.Th. M.A.

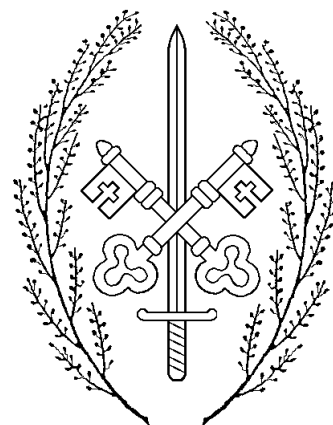
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1 January 2004

It's money again. No surprise there, but you might be surprised to receive this letter right at the start of the year. Previously, I've written to you about the annual Fair Shares (planned giving) campaign in April. However, in order that the PCC can decide how best to cover our running costs, we need to know what we can expect to receive from Fair Shares and Gift Aid, before the start of each year, and you will see from the attached leaflet how we plan to deal with this in future.

Please read the leaflet carefully, and look out for some further information on our income and expenditure in the next edition of The Key. You will see that, despite the success of our TRIO campaign in 2002, and the considerably increased amounts we have raised from Fair Shares and Gift Aid since then, we still have real financial challenges to face in 2004.

I hope you will find the leaflet clear, but it may be helpful, if I add a brief explanation as to why we are having to pay such large increases in the Parish Share (or Quota) to the Diocese when we have our own financial difficulties. One reason is that the Church of England centrally now has a new formula for deciding what central Church funds take from each Diocese. The aim of this has been to ask the more prosperous Dioceses to contribute more in order to support the less prosperous ones. Rochester is, quite rightly, a 'loser' in this process and so the Diocese, in its turn needs to ask the Parishes to pay more.

You should be receiving this letter on 4 January 2004 or very soon after, and I would ask you to complete your pledge and to bring it to the 10.30 service on Sunday 18 January 2004 (even if you are unable to increase your giving this year). This will enable Janet to estimate what we are likely to receive in 2004.

With my thanks and good wishes for 2004.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which reads "Michael Camp". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.