

**THE CHURCH OF ST MAGNUS THE MARTYR BY LONDON BRIDGE
LOWER THAMES STREET, LONDON, EC3 6DN**

Charity Registration Number 1130590

PRESERVING AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE CHURCH'S HERITAGE

St Magnus the Martyr owns an attractive and rare set of 16 mahogany chairs dating from the third quarter of the 18th century, comprising 14 side and 2 armchairs. Although an original bill has not been found, it is most likely that the Church commissioned the chairs to be made for the Vestry Room where meetings of the Vestry, who were all powerful in local affairs at the period, would have taken place. In the opinion of the Diocesan Advisory Committee 'these chairs are a significant part of the social history of the Church and therefore its historic character'.

The set is well made and large in scale for 18th century gentlemen and the chairs have unusual double side stretchers for extra sturdiness. Although no similar back design appears in any of the contemporary pattern books, a number of other chairs with the same distinctive Gothic splat are recorded, probably made in different workshops.

It is nothing short of amazing that the chairs have all survived, but unfortunately over time they had fallen into a very poor state of repair, as can be seen from the photograph below, and without urgent restoration would not have survived. They had been reupholstered several times, resulting in damage to the seat rails. Many joints had failed and the polish had perished. A colony of moths took up residence in the upholstery, which therefore had to be removed.



CAN YOU HELP TO RESTORE AN IMPORTANT PART OF ST MAGNUS THE MARTYR'S HERITAGE?

Following a tender and approval by the Diocese, the Parochial Church Council selected West Dean College, the internationally-renowned centre near Chichester, to undertake the necessary work, subject to raising the necessary funds of up to £20,000. The church's normal resources are not sufficient to cover a project of this kind and St Magnus is therefore appealing for external assistance. Funds of around £9,500 have so far been raised and to date eight chairs have been restored. We are now seeking to raise enough funds to complete the work, including traditional upholstery using a horsehair top cover.





Donations of any size towards the restoration of St Magnus the Martyr's Georgian Vestry chairs would be very gratefully received. Please make your cheque payable to 'St Magnus the Martyr PCC' and send with the slip below (and gift aid declaration if applicable) to:-

The Treasurer
The Church of St Magnus the Martyr
Lower Thames Street
London
EC3R 6DN

Alternatively payments can be made by bankers order using the attached form.

ST MAGNUS THE MARTYR – CHAIRS RESTORATION APPEAL

Name (please print) _____

Address _____

_____ Postcode _____

I enclose a donation to the appeal to restore St Magnus the Martyr's Georgian chairs.

Signed _____ Date _____

GIFT AID DECLARATION

Please treat the enclosed gift of £ _____ as a Gift Aid donation.

Note: You must pay an amount of income tax and/or capital gains tax in each tax year at least equal to the tax that St Magnus the Martyr PCC will claim from HM Revenue & Customs on your Gift Aid donation. Please notify St Magnus the Martyr PCC if you no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains.

Donor's details:-

Name _____

Home address _____

_____ Postcode _____

Signed _____ Date _____

St Magnus will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 you give.

If you pay income tax at the higher rate, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self Assessment tax return if you want to receive the additional tax relief due to you.

BANKERS ORDER

To the Manager _____ (name of bank)

Address _____

Please pay to the Parochial Church Council of St Magnus the Martyr at HBSC, 20 Eastcheap, London EC3M 1ED, sort code 40-02-31, Account Number 01203754, the sum of £ _____ and debit my account with this payment.

Name _____

Address _____

_____ Postcode _____

Signed _____ Date _____

Account Name _____

Sort Code _____

Account Number _____