

Applications for HOTC tithe funds were invited early in 2020 from current mission partners and from local churches with a close connection with St Michael's. The funds can be used for capital costs and/or operating expenses. Bids were considered by a subgroup of MAG and a PCC representative, with input from link people for the mission partners and a member of clergy for the other projects. Five projects were approved by the PCC in May 2020.

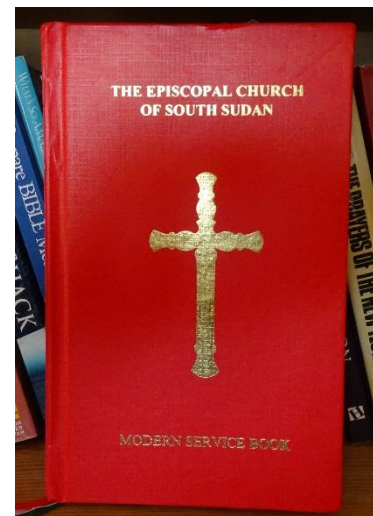
1. Network Counselling, Bristol

An urgent need for funding arose because of restrictions caused by the Coronavirus pandemic, resulting in a lack of new clients and other sources of income. Network's survival was at stake and an emergency appeal to raise £50,000 by mid-May 2020 was set up. St Michael's responded by donating £10,000. This helped Network to achieve its target amount, enabling counselling and training to continue.



2. The Brickworks

To help fund the printing of some new service books written for the Episcopal Church of South Sudan, £2,000 has been given. This will provide 500 books. Matched funding received from a supporter means that 1,000 service books will be printed.



3. Peace & Hope Trust

To provide materials for construction of a new school in the rural community of San Sebastian, Nicaragua, including three classrooms, a library, kitchen and storeroom. The school will be built by a volunteer team from the UK and local residents in San Sebastian. The sum of £16,200 will be sent to Peace & Hope Trust for purchase of materials in Nicaragua, as soon as it is possible for the team to travel there and build the school.



Existing classrooms
(no longer in use)



4. The Hive Community Centre, Peasedown St John, Bath

To contribute to refurbishment of The Hive for use as a Youth Hub and Community Centre by St John's Church (where Tom was a Curate), in partnership with Youth for Christ. The sum of £8,600 for completing a kitchenette and furnishing and equipping the main meeting room will be sent to St John's Church once Coronavirus restrictions permit the refurbishment work to start.



5. St James Church, Mangotsfield

To develop a café and community space within the church, which has recently undergone extensive refurbishment. St James is within the same Deanery as St Michael's (Kingswood and South Gloucestershire). The sum of £10,000 to purchase furniture and equipment will be sent to St James Church once Coronavirus restrictions permit the further development work to start and the furniture and equipment to be purchased.

