St Ann's Church Manchester

The Revd Nigel Ashworth, Rector

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Dear Richard,

St ANN'S ADVERTISEMENTS

I am writing to update you on the on-going repair works at St Ann's. As you know we are now completing the works on the roof over the main body of the building and this week additional scaffolding has been erected around the south and east sides of the building. There had been some delays because of difficulties in funding but the Parochial Church Council has now secured the necessary funds, partly through a very generous private donation.

We have also been granted an extension to the Faculty permission which authorises us to complete the works. The Faculty jurisdiction system is unique to parish churches and is a kind of planning process affecting every aspect of the church and churchyard. I am enclosing a copy of the Faculty which, in the original, is a two-sided document. You will see that there have been two endorsements to extend the scope and time-limit for the works to be completed. The second one, formally granted on July 12th, is the one which allows us to complete works to the whole roof. The end-date which is specified is December 31st 2013.

The contractor is the specialist firm Hill & Rawlinson. If there are absolutely no delays because of inclement weather or discovering additional work which must be done to the sub-structure (which we cannot be sure of until the old slates are stripped away) then the roofing work might be concluded by early November. An additional job which we will have to get in is the installation of a new roof alarm system and that can only be properly done when the roofing contractors are no longer on site.

We therefore expect all the works to be finished by mid to late November. However, at that point the Christmas Market in St Ann's Square will be in full operation and it is not possible to remove scaffolding during the Christmas markets. The scaffolding will therefore be dismantled in the first two weeks of January – immediately after the Faculty expires.

This means that it should be possible to continue the advertisement scheme up until the end of December but not at all after that date.

With my best wishes,

Nigel Ashworth.