

SHADOW Industrial Infrared

CASE STUDY

TEMPORARY HEATING ST MARY'S, STAINES

St Mary's Church needed an urgent heating solution when its existing boiler unexpectedly failed shortly before Christmas, one of the busiest and most important times in the church calendar.

With only a few weeks remaining before its Christmas services, the church needed to provide a more comfortable environment for its congregation while exploring the options for a permanent replacement system.

Four Shadow Solace heaters were installed on freestanding supports as a temporary solution, just in time for the Christmas period.

The Shadow Solace

The Shadow Solace brings together the timeless elegance of our Chandelier heater with the versatility of a modular, linear format.

Using the same advanced long-wave infrared technology, it delivers gentle, comfortable heat with minimal warm-up time and very little energy waste, providing an efficient and sustainable solution for sensitive interiors.

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“The heaters made a real difference, providing much-needed warmth while complementing the appearance and character of the church.”

A representative from St Mary's Church



The Challenge

Finding a long-term solution was not straightforward. The church needed to consider its available electrical capacity, the cost of upgrading the supply, diocesan requirements, the appearance of any new equipment and how different areas of the building are used.

Several permanent heating options were considered, including a replacement oil boiler, an electric boiler, under-pew heating and suspended infrared chandeliers. Each presented different practical, financial and electrical considerations.

The Outcome

Despite the limitations of the existing electrical supply, the four Shadow Solace heaters made a noticeable difference during services. Members of the congregation could feel the benefit when seated or standing near the heaters, helping the church remain welcoming throughout the colder months.

The church also felt that the heaters complemented the appearance of the building, with no complaints about their visual impact.

The temporary system gave the church valuable breathing space following the boiler failure. Rather than rushing into a major investment, it could continue holding services over a cold period while carefully considering the most appropriate permanent heating solution.

A Flexible Response to an Urgent Heating Problem

The installation at St Mary's demonstrates how freestanding Shadow Solace heaters can provide a fast, flexible and visually sympathetic temporary solution when an existing church heating system fails.

For churches facing an unexpected boiler failure or requiring temporary warmth while a larger heating project is planned, freestanding infrared heaters can provide an effective interim solution without requiring immediate, permanent changes to the building.



THE SYSTEM

To provide warmth while these options were being assessed, four Shadow Solace infrared heaters were installed on freestanding supports within the nave.

The church's existing single-phase electrical supply limited the number of heaters that could be operated, with each unit needing to use a separate socket. However, the four-heater arrangement provided a practical temporary solution that could be introduced quickly without permanently altering the historic building.

Unlike conventional systems that attempt to heat all the air within a large, high-ceilinged church, Shadow Solace heaters provide radiant warmth to the people and surfaces within their reach. This made them particularly suitable for creating localised areas of comfort around the congregation.

The freestanding installation also gave the church greater flexibility while avoiding a long-term commitment before its permanent heating plans had been finalised.

Contact Us:
info@shadowindustrial.co.uk

