

PARISHGIVINGSCHEME
explained

A PCC introduction to the Parish Giving Scheme

A better way to facilitate giving
in your church

*Generous
Giving*



DIOCESE OF
YORK

Why

The Church of England offers a Christian presence in every community. Together we seek to be at the heart of all our cities, towns and villages, by serving our communities; by sharing our faith; by worshipping together and by welcoming all.

This valuable contribution to our community has a cost, which is largely met by personal giving. For the Church to flourish and grow, we rely on regular donations so that we can plan effectively for the future.

Money contributes to many agendas. We need to address our needs head-on, so that we can move forward with confidence. Embracing our need to receive realistic, long term giving from committed Christians is a fundamental part of developing a thriving, outward-looking church.

What

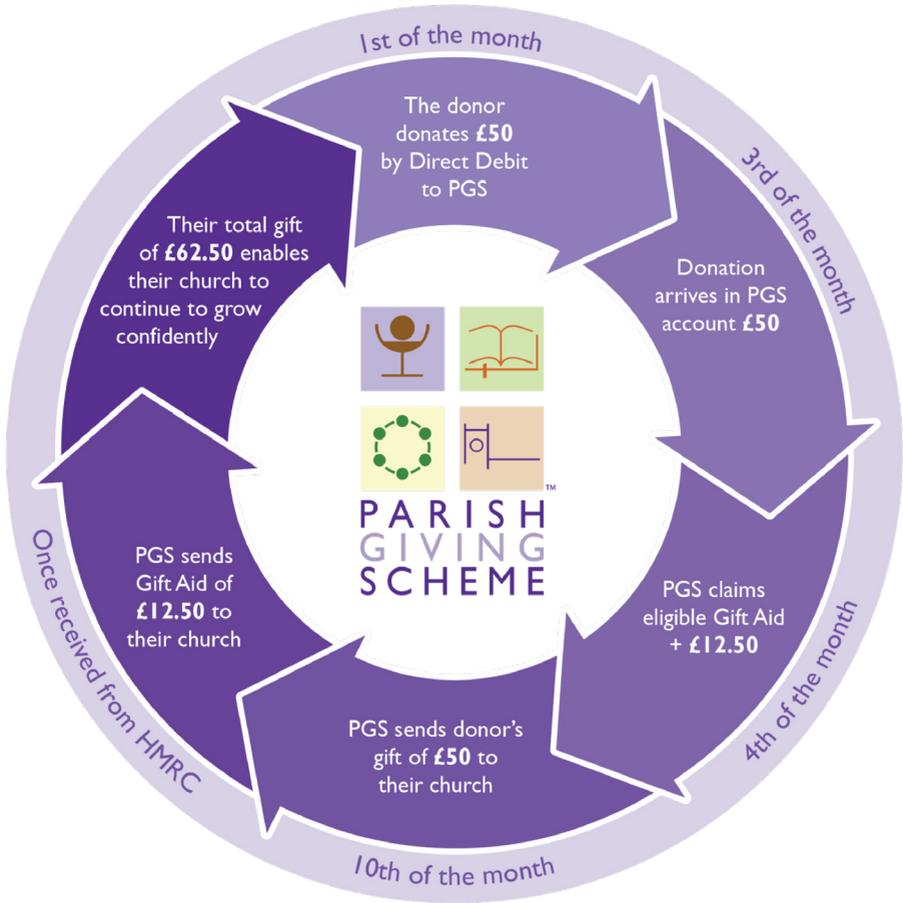
The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) is a 21st Century approach to offset one of the greatest threats to parish income which is static giving. Donations through this Scheme are made by Direct Debit and can be set up by phone or gift form. This can be given on a monthly, quarterly or annual basis. Each donation is directed to that individual's parish church.

If this Scheme becomes the principal giving method for your church, you will be offering inflation-proofed giving, maximising your cash-flow, and minimising your administration. This will release your parish to focus on other important priorities.

The introduction of PGS also provides you with an excellent opportunity to talk about money with the potential to bring about a change in cultural attitudes to giving. To take full advantage of this opportunity it is therefore strongly recommended to introduce PGS alongside an appropriate giving programme.

How does it work?

Based on an example of giving £50 a month



In summary, the Scheme:

- Collects regular donations for your parish
- Claims the Gift Aid entitlement on your behalf
- Sends the gift to your PCC bank account within ten days
- Provides the popular option for donors to increase their donations by inflation and communicates with them annually
- Provides a phone service for donors to sign up in addition to paper gift forms

What does your church need to do?

Pray

All decisions about our church life should be rooted in prayer.

Pass a resolution

This secures the legal agreement between your parish and PGS to enable the money to flow from the donor to the parish through the Scheme.

Register your church

A Registration Form will be provided by your Diocesan Giving Adviser or from dioceseofyork.org.uk/pgs

Plan your Giving Programme

PGS is an excellent tool to help your church to process giving and administer Gift Aid, but it is not of itself a motivational tool to encourage greater generosity.

It is therefore highly recommended that you run a Giving Programme alongside your launch of PGS, to take advantage of the opportunity to engage people in prayer and discipleship when reflecting on giving.

Your Diocesan Adviser can guide you through the process of planning and facilitating your Giving Programme and can be contacted through dioceseofyork.org.uk/pgs, or the details at the end of this booklet.

*“For where your treasure is,
there your heart will be also”
Matthew 6:21*

Parish Action List

Action	Person Responsible	Date Completed
Put PGS on PCC agenda and invite Diocesan Giving Adviser		
Pass resolution at PCC		
Complete Registration Form and send to your Diocesan Adviser		
Discuss running a Giving Programme to launch PGS		
Agree launch date for PGS and Giving Programme		
Nominate team to plan, promote and facilitate the Programme and PGS		
Receive resources from your Diocesan Adviser		
Run your Giving Programme, inviting planned givers to join PGS		
Evaluate your Programme, reviewing the take-up of PGS		
Reflect on ongoing promotion		

Making it happen

1. Lead by example

Encourage PCC members and members of the church leadership team to commit to join the Parish Giving Scheme.

2. Launch with a Giving Programme

Launching the Parish Giving Scheme as part of a Giving Programme within your church enables a more fruitful response.

3. Encourage prayer and discipleship

Including themed worship, preaching, teaching and prayer in your Giving Programme will give a fuller and more meaningful context to the Parish Giving Scheme, as part of discipleship and faith.

4. Consider how you will engage your community

Write to all your planned givers and to members on the Electoral Roll, to encourage people to reflect on their giving.

5. Produce local resources

Locally produced giving materials will allow you to promote a local vision for mission and ministry, which giving through the Parish Giving Scheme helps to resource.

6. Communicate

- Include details of the Parish Giving Scheme on your parish website and social media pages, including your PGS parish code.
- Include a permanent notice in your weekly newsletter about how givers can join the Parish Giving Scheme.
- Write a short article for your church magazine about the importance of regular giving to your church, including details of the Parish Giving Scheme, and how people can join locally. A template is available from your Diocesan Giving Adviser.

7. Talk about it

Ask someone who has joined the Parish Giving Scheme to speak briefly within worship about why they chose to join the Scheme, and how they feel it helps them to give, and helps your church.

8. Keep up to date

Updates from the church Treasurer during worship, meetings or written updates will help to keep up a regular stream of communication and ensure a continuing high profile for the Parish Giving Scheme within your church.

9. Celebrate the impact

Report on the growth of the Parish Giving Scheme within your church and the difference it is making. Ensure that you make clear links between giving and the mission of your local church.

Who

The Scheme is operated as a partnership between PGS and each Church of England diocese that has joined, to ensure that it can be delivered locally and administered as cost-effectively as possible. It has been in operation since 2008 and is making a huge impact in our churches.

“They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.”
1 Timothy 6:18-19

Example of how the Parish Giving Scheme could impact your parish income

2020 = £50.00 + £12.50 Gift Aid = £62.50 per month

*Gift increases in line with Retail Price Index (RPI)**

2030 = £64.00 + £16.00 Gift Aid = £80.00 per month

*By 2030, an extra **£210.00** (28%) a year for no effort*

** assumed at 2.5% per year*

“Giving is a fundamental part of our discipleship, and enables the mission and ministry in our churches. The Parish Giving Scheme is a simple and secure system for processing our gifts; it helps Treasurers and reduces administrative burdens to churches as a whole. We actively encourage participation in PGS across the diocese, and will support parishes as best we can in launching this inspired Scheme.”

The Rt. Revd. Paul Ferguson - Bishop of Whitby

What Next?

If you want to find out more about how your parish can begin to offer the Parish Giving Scheme, alongside an appropriate Giving Programme, please contact:

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