



PARISH GIVING SCHEME  
explained

# A better way to give to your local church

The Parish Giving Scheme offers an easy and efficient way for you to make regular donations to your local church.



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**YORK**

## Tell me more

The Parish Giving Scheme is a 21st Century approach to planned giving, enabling effective and efficient Direct Debit gifts to local parish churches.

### Benefits to you, the giver:

- Your gifts are given electronically, avoiding the need for cash giving during a church service.
- You can choose to give monthly, quarterly, or annually.
- You can alter the amount of your gift at any time if your circumstances change.
- The full value of your donation is given directly to support your local church.
- The Parish Giving Scheme is covered by the Direct Debit Guarantee which assures your piece of mind.
- You can choose to make your gifts anonymously if you prefer.
- You have an option automatically to increase your giving to your church each year by the rate of inflation (RPI).

### Benefits to your local church:

- Fewer cash donations means it is lower risk for volunteers, and time spent counting and banking cash donations is reduced.
- A steady income makes budgeting and planning in your local church more effective.
- Those joining the Scheme have the option to increase their donation annually in line with the rate of inflation, so that your church's mission and ministry remains sustainable.
- With Gift Aid claimed through the Scheme, administration for your local church is reduced considerably, saving time and work. If you don't qualify for Gift Aid, you can still give through the Parish Giving Scheme and enjoy its other benefits.
- The Scheme is offered free of charge to churches and donors.

# Frequently Asked Questions

## **Q Why is regular giving important?**

**A** Our giving is, primarily, a response to God's generosity to us. As we give, our actions point beyond themselves to the glory of God. This commitment reveals our faith, and enables us to grow as disciples.

## **Q Why are regular donations so important to your church?**

**A** 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 has a cost which is largely met by regular personal donations. Regular giving is vitally important for churches to flourish and grow, and to plan confidently for the future.

## **Q How can I set up my donation?**

**A** The PGS offers a telephone service as well as gift forms. Donors are able to set up their Direct Debit through the direct phone line and individuals can easily manage their donations through this line of support.

## **Q Will my personal details be safe?**

**A** Your giving will have the security of the Direct Debit Guarantee. The Parish Giving Scheme has a secure database that is regularly updated and security tested. All data is handled in line with the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation (2018).

## **Q What happens if I tick the box to increase my giving in line with inflation?**

**A** Thirty days before the anniversary of your gift, you will receive a letter informing you of your increased gift amount. If for any reason you do not wish for that increase to be actioned, simply notify the Scheme.

**Q Can I choose the day my gift is collected?**

**A** All donations are collected on the first day of each month. This follows the principle of offering our First Fruits (Deut. 26) as our commitment to the life and mission of our churches.

**Q When will the church receive my donation?**

**A** Your church will receive all donations on the 10th day of each month. Gift Aid claimed in connection with your donation follows soon afterwards.

**Q Can I still participate in the church offering during worship?**

**A** Your giving is a matter between you and God. However, depending on local practice, a token may be available for you to place in the plate or basket during the offering.

**Q What do I do about my existing gift?**

**A** Please do not cancel your current Standing Order or giving envelope until you receive confirmation of your new giving arrangements from the Parish Giving Scheme.

*“When we seek to raise funds we are not saying ‘please could you help us out because lately it has been hard,’ ... rather we are declaring, ‘We have a vision that is amazing and exciting. We are inviting you to invest yourself through the resources God has given you - your energy, your prayers and your money - in this work to which God has called us.’”*

*Henri Nouwen, The Spirituality of Fundraising*

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