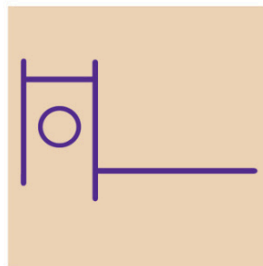
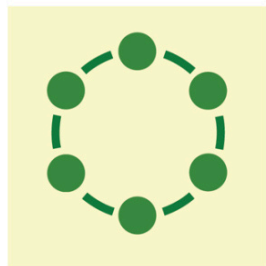

PCC GUIDE



TM

PARISH
GIVING
SCHEME

A better, easy and safe way to facilitate giving in your church.

66
We're launching this Scheme which is the simplest and most efficient way for people to give as generously as they can to the work and witness of the Church - so please look into using the Parish Giving Scheme in your parish.

Archbishop Stephen Cottrell

ABOUT PGS

The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) is an established service for managing One-Off and Direct Debit giving, designed to support churches to fund their mission and ministry. It reduces the burden of work on church volunteers and provides a simple and secure service to givers.

The service is freely available to all parishes, their churches and donors, within dioceses that have chosen to participate. Uptake is growing every year, with the majority of dioceses in the Church of England - and many of their parishes - now members of PGS and experiencing the benefits.

The PGS makes it possible for givers to:

- Give One-Off amounts by Credit/Debit cards and Apple/Google pay wallets
- Give monthly, quarterly or annually by Direct Debit
- Sign up to inflation-linked giving annually
- Enhance your gift to your church by having Gift Aid at 25% added to your giving
- Give securely and donate anonymously, if one prefers

BENEFITS TO YOUR CHURCH

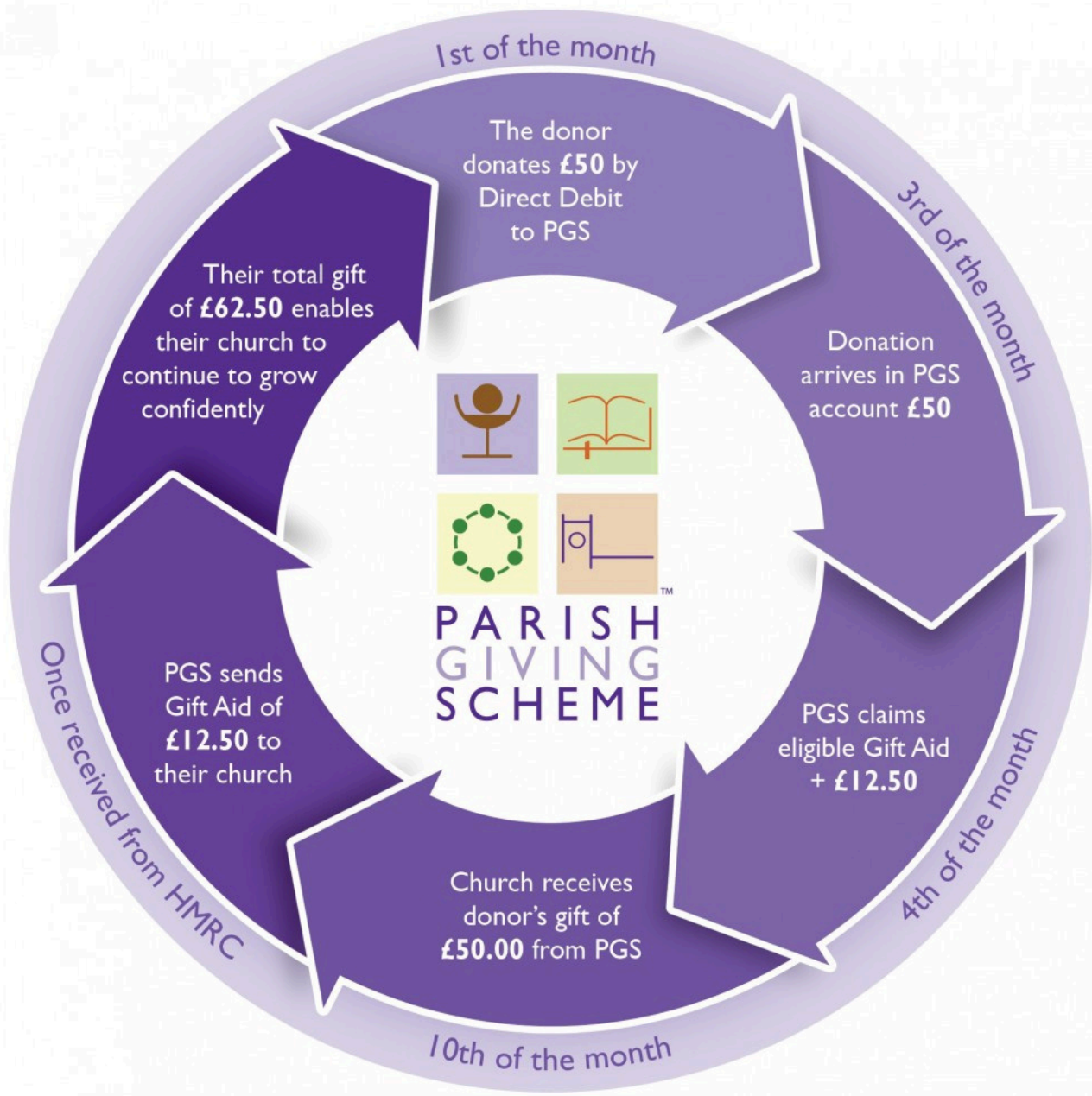
- The Scheme is offered free of charge to all churches and givers in the Diocese of York.
- Less cash giving means lower risk for volunteers, and time spent counting and banking cash is reduced.
- Those joining the Scheme have the option to increase their giving by inflation each year, retaining their gift's value year after year.
- The option to set up gifts online, over the phone or through a paper form makes it really easy for your church to enable people to give.
- With PGS claiming Gift Aid on your church's behalf, administration in your local church is reduced considerably, as well as cash flow increased with Gift Aid being claimed every month.



**PARISH
GIVING
SCHEME**

HOW IT WORKS

Based on an example of £50 per month.



PGS has major advantages in terms of ease of use, saving volunteer time, security, and of course in a COVID environment you're not having to handle cash - and that's been a consideration too, and a real advantage of it.

Vicar, Diocese of York

MANAGING PGS FOR YOUR CHURCH

Once your church has registered with PGS, your Statement Receiver (usually your Treasurer) will gain access to your online PGS account.

DOWNLOADING STATEMENTS

Your Statement Receiver will be able to download monthly statements from your PGS online account. Statements include a summary of people giving to your church, the amounts they give and the Gift Aid connected with their gift. They also indicate the frequency of gifts (monthly, quarterly or annual), whether gifts are increased by inflation each year, and a summary of joiners and leavers to the Scheme.

PARISH LANDING PAGE

All churches in the Church of England have a landing page on the PGS website - this is a page hosting your church's profile, enabling people to give to their intended parish. Parish landing pages draw information about your church from A Church Near You, so it's helpful to liaise with the person who holds permissions for ACNY within your parish if you want to make any amendments.



"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

3 WAYS TO GIVE

Once your church has registered with PGS, individuals can set up their gifts. There are three easy and secure ways for people to give to your church: online, by phone, or complete a Gift Form by post. Givers will need to have their bank account details, your church name and your PGS parish code to hand. Your church might also want to use your unique QR code that people can simply scan with their smartphones and follow the instructions on screen to set up your regular gifts.

- Give online by visiting **www.parishgiving.org.uk**, find your church using the search function and follow the quick and easy steps to set up regular giving.
- Give by phone by calling **0333 002 1271** between Monday and Friday 9am - 5pm, making sure your church's PGS Parish Code is to hand.
- Give by a **paper Gift Form**, supplied by your parish to givers. Simply fill in the details and return to PGS by post.

INFLATIONARY GIVING

If you opt to increase your gift annually, PGS will write to you and advise you of the new amount. If this is acceptable you don't need to do anything, but you can choose to add more or to decrease the amount if you wish. If the majority of planned givers were to opt for this, it would have a huge impact on the finances of our churches.

One of the problems many churches face is that of 'static giving', often through inertia rather than intention.

ONE-OFF GIVING

It is also possible to make a one-off gift online and add Gift Aid if you are eligible. Instead of setting up a new Direct Debit, you use a debit or credit card, Apple Pay or Google Pay.





'Moving to PGS has been great for us. It frees up volunteer time claiming Gift Aid and any bank changes are simplified as donors don't have to change who they give to.'

It is simple for donors to use, and it's free. It works!'

*Rev Paul
Diocese of York*

WHAT DOES YOUR CHURCH NEED TO DO?

Pray

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

Pass a resolution

This secures the legal agreement between your parish and PGS, enabling the Scheme to handle giving on your behalf.

Register your church

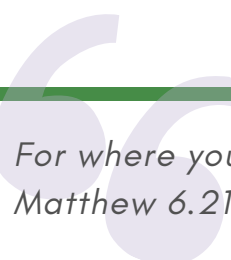
A Registration Form will be provided by your Diocesan Giving Adviser. This must be completed before people can start giving to your church through the Scheme.

Plan your Giving Programme

PGS is an excellent mechanism to help your church to facilitate giving and administer Gift Aid, but it needs to be paired with a motivational tool to encourage greater generosity.

It is therefore highly recommended that your church runs 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 Giving Adviser can guide you through the process of planning and facilitating your Giving Programme and can be contacted through dioceseofyork.org.uk/pgs, or through the details at the end of this booklet.



*For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.
Matthew 6.21*

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 your 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. Include your PGS QR code on any materials where you can, including leaflets, posters and orders of service.

6. Communicate

- Include details of the Parish Giving Scheme on your parish website and social media pages, including your PGS parish code and a link to your PGS landing page.
- Include a permanent notice in your weekly newsletter about how givers can join the Parish Giving Scheme, with your PGS QR code.
- 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.

7. Talk about it

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

8. Keep up to date

Updates from the church Treasurer during worship, meetings or written reports 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.



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PARISH GIVING SCHEME

"Giving is part of our response to the generosity of God and enables the mission and ministry in our churches. The Parish Giving Scheme has been a fundamental part of giving in the Diocese of York since 2020 as it offers so many advantages to both the church and the giver. We recommend participation in PGS across the diocese and would encourage parishes to launch The Parish Giving Scheme."

*The Rt. Revd. Dr. Eleanor Sanderson
Bishop of Hull*

*Generous
Giving*

<https://dioceseofyork.org.uk/support/for-churches/generous-giving>

www.parishgiving.org.uk

info@parishgiving.org.uk | 0333 002 1260



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