

our vision

In the coming year we plan to:

- Welcome our new vicar to continue our outreach into our local community
- Build on our Bronze status eco church
- Expand our children's activities to include Messy Church and a holiday club
- Continue to be a church that is welcoming, inclusive and joyful
- Continue fundraising for our new Parish Centre

To fulfil this vision, each month we will spend:

- £8,500 on our share of clergy costs: stipend, housing, training etc
- £4,900 on our building: insurance, heat, light, staff costs, services
- £1,600 on ministry plans for this year including Charitable Giving

each month we currently receive:

- £11,800 from regular congregational giving, including Gift Aid
- £500 from other donations
- £500 from fees: weddings, funerals etc
- £1,200 from the hall, our fundraising and other income streams

how much?

How do we decide how much to give?

There is no one, easy answer for everyone. We are called to love God and our neighbour and our giving is an expression of that love.

This leaflet gives some clear guidance and there are very practical things we can do:

- ✦ **increase** our giving to meet our church's needs
- ✦ **join** the Planned Giving Scheme
- ✦ **optimise** our giving using Gift Aid if we pay tax
- ✦ **make a legacy gift** when we plan for the future of those we love and care for
- ✦ **give proportionately** – a percentage of our income to fund ministry
- ✦ **consider making a separate gift** for our new Parish Centre

But at the end of the day how much to give is a thoughtful, prayerful decision only you can make. Love is generous, love is kind and love is selfless - we see that in all God gives to us; how will we respond?

For more information, please contact Andrew Poppleton on andrew.poppleton@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk

St John's Church Harpenden



my church
my challenge
my choice

Giving in Grace

our church

Our giving sustains our church **building**, a sacred place dedicated to worship, prayer and witness.

Our giving sustains our **clergy**, here and across our diocese and helps train new clergy.

Our giving sustains our **ministry**, measured by every:

- ✚ sick person visited
- ✚ confirmation course run
- ✚ school assembly taken
- ✚ bereaved family comforted
- ✚ baptism celebrated
- ✚ sermon preached
- ✚ Eucharist celebrated
- ✚ person shown the love of Christ through our care, comfort and compassion

Our giving sustains **mission** both here in the UK and overseas for people we may never meet but to whom we are able to give practical support through our ministry of giving.

*This ministry
not only supplies
the needs of the saints
but overflows
with many thanksgivings to God*

2 Cor 9:12

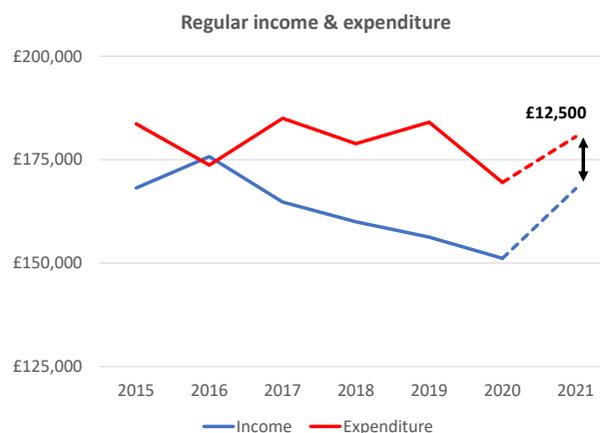
our challenge

To cultivate what St Paul calls the **grace of giving** we need to think carefully about all we receive from God and prayerfully review our giving.

Our church needs £15,000 per month to sustain our building and clergy, our ministry and mission.

For many years, our expenditure has been exceeding our income, with deficits in six of the last seven years.

To bridge our income gap and for our ministry to flourish we need the **grace of giving**.



*But just as you excel in everything
...see that you also excel in this
grace of giving 2 Cor 8:7*

our choices

92 members of St John's make regular planned donations – whether small or large, weekly, monthly or annually. Every little helps

Is it time to join our planned givers?

The Parish Giving Scheme is an efficient way to make a regular payment to St John's

Is it time to review the way you give?

Giving to God's work through the church should be a priority

Is it time to give a little more?

The bible teaches us to give proportionately

*Is it time to give a percentage
of what we receive?*

Proportionate giving table				
Monthly income	Giving (£)			
	1%	3%	5%	10%
£750	£8	£23	£38	£75
£1500	£15	£45	£75	£150
£2500	£25	£75	£125	£250
£3500	£35	£105	£175	£350

*This is a ministry for everyone –
'each according to your means'*

2 Cor 8:11