

**St John's Church Harpenden
PCC Legacy Policy**

Policy Owner	Treasurer
Last updated	18 July 2019
Last adopted by PCC resolution	18 July 2019

Preamble

A legacy policy allows the PCC to prepare and discuss how they would wish to see a gift used. It can also help to reassure those interested that the PCC has a policy in place.

It is recognised as good practice for PCCs to agree a policy on how potential legacy income will be spent, and then communicate it to the congregation.

If you would like to talk to someone in confidence about a legacy to the parish, and how/if you would like your gift to be applied, please contact the vicar, one of the churchwardens or the treasurer.

Since needs change over the years, it is helpful where legacies are left for the general purposes of the parish rather than for a restricted purpose.

If you would like to make a gift to our church in memory of a loved one, please do come and discuss this with us too.

We strongly advise you to seek professional advice and to see a solicitor when making or revising your will.

Policy

1. At St John's we welcome all gifts in wills, however large or small, and we promise to use such gifts to make a difference in our parish.
2. We will aim to use larger gifts to help fund significant development projects; whether buildings, equipment, or mission. Our current aim is to put any large legacies towards the development of a new, mission-enhancing parish centre (Project Phoenix) after ensuring that we have paid our Parish Share in full on an annual basis.
3. Smaller gifts will normally be spent on general day-to-day running and maintenance costs of the church and grounds.
4. We will make use of the gifts in an appropriate manner if the donor has expressed such a wish. Equally, we will ensure that gifts remain anonymous if the donor prefers.
5. Nothing in this policy overrides the responsibility of the PCC members to act in the best interests of the PCC.
6. Our policy shall be reviewed and approved at least every three years, else more frequently if the PCC determines it is required.