



Dear Friends,

May 2020

Covid-19 and Parish Finances

First of all, a big thank you for committed membership to your parishes and churches within the Edgemoor Group. We thank God for you all and pray for you in this difficult time.

The immediate effects of the Coronavirus on the nation's health and economy are not to be underestimated and are obviously uppermost in our minds. But there are longer term consequences for us all that we also need to address.

Our Clergy, Treasurers and PCC's have received a letter from the Exeter Diocesan Director of Finance, Neil Williams, raising concerns about the continuing funding of our life and mission in the Diocese. With the churches closed and with no services happening it has become difficult for many of us to give regularly towards the costs of running our local churches. The necessarily cancelled fund-raising events will also leave holes in our finances.

Our local costs include administration, fabric and churchyard upkeep, heating and lighting, insurances, ministry team expenses and charitable giving. In addition, each church makes annual contributions to the Deanery and the Diocese. The Diocesan contribution in particular goes towards covering costs in excess of £900,000 per month.

Our biggest concern is one of cash flow and we would therefore be very grateful if you could consider a number of options to help us:

1. Set up a weekly or monthly Standing Order into your church account
2. Gift Aid your contribution, ensuring another 20p in the pound for the church
3. Join the Parish Giving Scheme if it is operating in your parish
4. Increase your contribution if you have not been able to do so recently.

A list of Treasurers, by parish, is attached. Please do feel free to talk to them if you have need of clarification on anything. They will help you with the practicalities of any decision you make. There are also forms attached for opening a Standing Order, for Gift Aiding and for joining a Parish Giving Scheme.

With our gratitude for your fellowship and support.

Yours warmly,

David, Alastair, Sally

Revd David Baker	Team Rector
Revd Alastair Forman	Team Vicar
Mrs Sally Wilson	Team Treasurer

“Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” 2 Corinthians 9:7

Parish Treasurers

*Please contact the Edgemoor Group Administrator –
edgemoorgroupparishes@gmail.com for contact details of your parish's treasurer*