

## **A Bequest**

### **How to help support the mission of our Church, St Mary's Shortlands**

#### **Introduction**

Anyone can help support the ongoing mission of our Church by leaving a bequest in their will.

#### **Types of Bequest**

There are two main types of bequest: A Pecuniary Legacy and a Residual Legacy.

A Pecuniary Legacy is a simple commitment to leave a certain amount to the Church. A Residual Legacy is one where the Church receives what is left of the giver's estate after all other legacies have been paid and all taxes and expenses settled.

#### **How to make a Bequest**

A bequest can be made in two ways. Firstly, by writing a new will, and secondly by writing a "Codicil", which is less expensive. A codicil is an addition to the will and must be properly prepared and witnessed. The wording to use in preparing a codicil is set out below.

#### **Wording for a Codicil for a Pecuniary Legacy**

"I give to the Parish Church of St Mary, Shortlands, (Charity registration number 1130802) 39 Kingswood Road, Bromley, Kent, BR2 0HG, the sum of £....., and I direct that such money may be used for the general purposes of the Parish Church of St Mary, Shortlands. A receipt signed by the Treasurer or other approved person shall be a good and sufficient discharge to my executors for the payment of the said money."

#### **Wording for a Codicil for a Residual Legacy**

"I give, devise, bequeath and appoint the Parish Church of St Mary, Shortlands, (Charity registration number 1130802) 39 Kingswood Road, Bromley, Kent, BR2 0HG, the residue of my estate absolutely and I direct that such assets comprising such a residue may be used for the general purposes of Church of St Mary, Shortlands, whether of an income or capital nature, A receipt signed by the Treasurer or other approved person shall be a good and sufficient discharge to my executors for the payment or transfer of the said assets to the Parish Church of St Mary, Shortlands."

#### **Legal Status**

To ensure any codicil entered into is properly executed and does not invalidate your existing will, it is advisable to seek the help of a solicitor.

If you wish to talk further about any aspect of leaving a bequest, please contact:

Revd Gary Best – [vicar@stmaryshortlands.church](mailto:vicar@stmaryshortlands.church)

Tim Dawson – Treasurer - [treasurer@stmaryshortlands.church](mailto:treasurer@stmaryshortlands.church) or 020 8460 5884.