

# GIVING SUNDAY

29<sup>th</sup> October 2018

*'excel in this grace of giving'*

*~ 2 Corinthians. 8:7 ~*

In 2017 we received £40,818 from planned giving (**£52,263** once we've reclaimed Gift Aid). In addition to this **£6,975** were offerings in the collection plate and we received donations of **£2171**.

**Thank you!** We are so thankful for the generosity of those who give financially to support the vision, mission and ministry of St John's. Having the finances available means we can **(1)** invite our community to know Jesus for themselves and grow to maturity in Christ, **(2)** serve our community through funding the many projects and events that we run and/or support, and **(3)** continue with the normal day-to-day running of the parish.

Today we're going to look at how God's generosity towards us results in a mature Christian attitude towards giving that should be **prayerful, planned, and a priority!**

## **Prayerful giving**

Without prayer at the heart of our giving we risk separating money from our Christian discipleship. Thinking, talking and acting well around money is a natural part church life.

The church at Corinth was proud of its spiritual gifts. Paul knew and valued them but was keen that they should add financial generosity to this list of spiritual gifts. He writes, 'Just as you excel in all things - in faith, speech, knowledge...so we want you to excel also in this grace of giving' (2 Cor 8:7).

For Paul giving was not fundraising but the outworking of grace.

## **Planned giving**

Planning our giving is more than how we give our gift; it is about being *intentional* in our giving rather than reacting to appeals or circumstances.

Paul advised setting aside our gifts to God as part of the journey to generous giving (1 Cor. 16:2). Regular, planned giving helps us do the same. The generosity to which we are called in Christ cannot be achieved if we are not disciplined and intentional about our giving.

## **Prioritising giving**

Prayerfully planned giving reflects the intention of making giving a priority and as such it becomes 'a generous gift, not as one grudgingly given' (2 Cor. 9:5). It is also an expression of a thankful heart for the generous grace which God has lavished upon each one of us:

'For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich' (2 Cor. 8:9).

Within this context practising financial generosity reflects our being caught up in the flow of God's gracious giving.

*This ministry  
not only supplies  
the needs of the saints  
but overflows  
with many thanksgivings to God*  
**2 Cor. 9:12**

## Can we excel in this 'grace of giving'?

At St John's, along with the Church of England nationally, we encourage church members to set the target of giving 5% of their income to and through the church.

Weekly income	1%	5%	Monthly income	1%	5%
£100	£1	£5	£1000	£10	£50
£150	£1.50	£7.50	£1500	£15	£75
£250	£2.50	£12.50	£2500	£25	£125
£350	£3.50	£17.50	£3500	£35	£175

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

**2 Cor. 8:11**

### Some questions to consider:

- ❖ Is it time to join the envelope scheme/move to a standing order?
- ❖ Is it time to join the Gift Aid scheme?
- ❖ Is it time to increase what you are currently giving?
- ❖ Is it time to give a percentage of what you receive?

#### Our bank details

**Bank:** NatWest  
**Sort Code:** 01-07-71  
**Account No:** 02596334  
**Account Name:** PCC of St John the Divine  
**Reference:** *Please use your full name*

If you do not currently give through our planned giving scheme and would like to support the work of our parish financially please arrange your own internet banking regular

payments using the details shown below. Alternatively complete a standing order mandate and send it to your bank.

If you do currently give to St John's please consider the amount you give and whether this could be increased.

If you are a tax payer please also fill in a **Gift Aid** declaration form which allows us to reclaim 25%.

-----MY GIVING RESPONSE -----

Please return this by either placing it in the collection plate or handing it to our treasurer

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to join the envelope scheme (*please contact me*)

I will set up a **new** weekly / monthly standing order of

- £5
- £10
- £15
- £20
- other £ \_\_\_\_\_

I will increase my **existing** weekly / monthly / annual giving by:

- £5
- £10
- £15
- £20
- other £ \_\_\_\_\_

Please contact me to arrange this.

I will arrange it myself / complete the standing order form.

-----**GIFT AID DECLARATION**-----

Gift Aid Declaration for St John's Church, Brooklands M33 3PB.

**Signing up for gift aid means that St John's can claim an extra 25% on your giving.**

Please treat as Gift Aid donations all qualifying gifts of money made from the date of this declaration and in the past four years. I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/ or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6th April to 5th April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all charities (including churches) and Community Amateur Sports Clubs that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. I understand the charity will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I give.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return this form to Mike Lawrence, our Gift Aid secretary**

-----**STANDING ORDER FORM**-----

To the Manager of *(your bank or building society)*:

Name of Bank: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Bank: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Postcode of Bank: \_\_\_\_\_

Please pay to: PCC of St John the Divine Standing Orders A/C, Lloyds  
Bank Sort Code 30-90-16, Account No: 01004321

*(If increasing your giving please add this to your existing giving  
amount and include the total in the space below)*

The sum of £ \_\_\_\_\_ every week / month / year\*

*(\*delete as applicable)*

Starting on (DD/MM/YY): \_\_\_\_\_

From my account no: \_\_\_\_\_

Sort Code: \_\_\_\_\_

The account name is: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*This replaces any previous standing order for my church*