



# A GUIDE FOR PCCS

A simple way to give to your church



**Diocese of Canterbury**  
CHANGED LIVES ➔ CHANGING LIVES

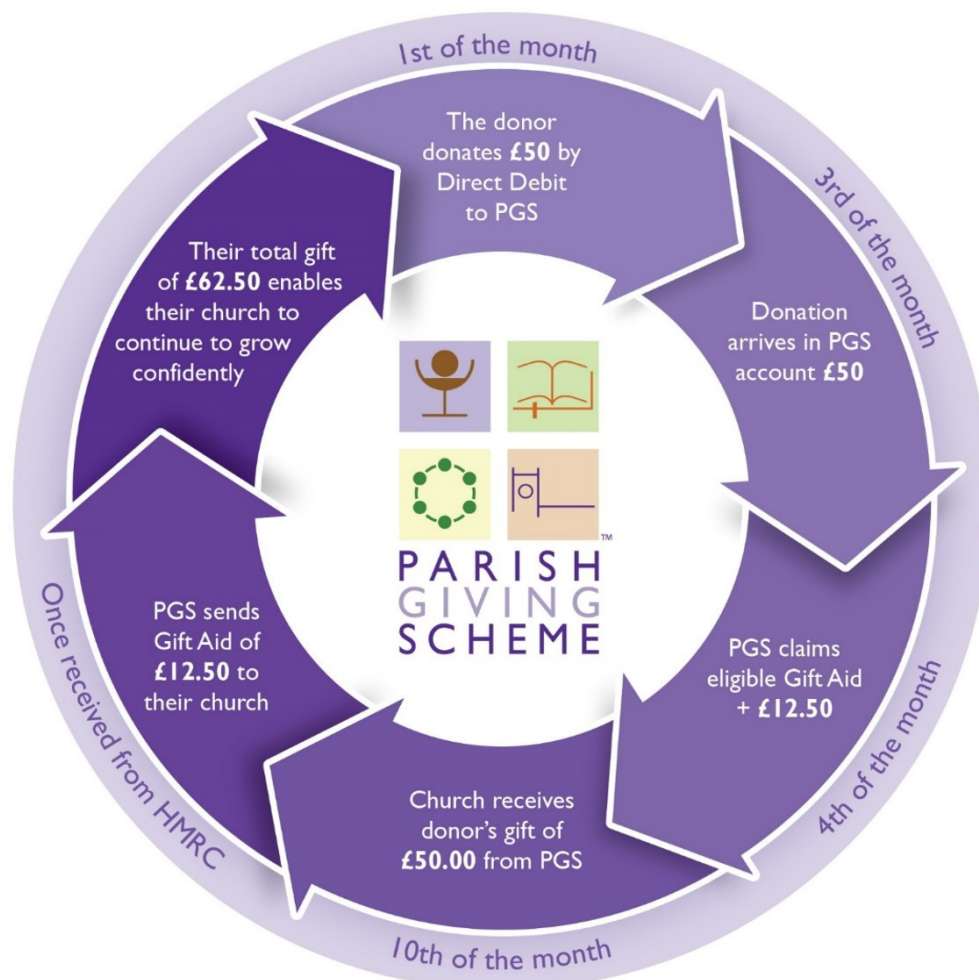
## WHAT IS THE PARISH GIVING SCHEME?

- The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) is a mechanism for parishes to receive donations using direct debits.
- The scheme is a registered charity and is used by most dioceses in the Church of England.

## What are the advantages to your church?

- **Saves time** – with PGS, Gift Aid claims are made automatically using computerized systems.
- **Reduces workload** - using the scheme will reduce the number of bank statement entries and reduce bookkeeping work.
- **Ensures consistency** - If givers use the annual automatic increase facility in line with inflation, this will help to ensure that giving keeps up with rising costs.

## How it works:



Once your church has registered with the PGS, your Statement Receiver (usually your treasurer) will gain access to your online PGS account

## DOWNLOADING STATEMENTS

Your Statement Receiver can download monthly statements from your PGS online account.

Statements include:

- a summary of givers
- gift amounts (+ Gift Aid)
- frequency of gifts
- whether gifts are increased by inflation each year
- a summary of joiners and leavers

## PARISH LANDING PAGE

All churches in the Church of England have a landing page on the PGS website.

This is a page hosting your church's profile, enabling people to give to their intended parish.

Your parish landing pages draw information about your church from A Church Near You.

## What does your church need to do?

### PRAY

Root all decisions about church life in prayer

### PASS A RESOLUTION

This secures the legal agreement between your parish and the PGS, enabling the scheme to handle giving on your behalf

### REGISTER YOUR CHURCH

Your Generous Giving Advisor will provide you with a registration form

### PLAN YOUR GIVING PROGRAMME

The PGS will have greater success if combined with the launch of a giving programme to encourage greater generosity. Contact your Generous Giving Advisor to plan this

**ONCE YOUR PARISH IS REGISTERED  
THERE ARE THREE WAYS FOR PEOPLE TO GIVE:**



**By phone**

**0333 002 1271**



**By post**

**Gift forms are  
available from  
Diocesan House**



**Online**

**[parishgiving.org.uk](http://parishgiving.org.uk)**

Givers will need to have their bank account details, your church name and your PGS parish code to hand. You can also print your unique church QR code so that people can scan this with their smartphones and follow the instructions to set up their gift.

## **Inflation-linked giving**

The Parish Giving Scheme offers a popular option where every giver can choose to increase their gift annually in line with inflation. This is a voluntary decision - but it could have a huge impact on the life and future of your church by maintaining the value of gifts year after year. 30 days before the anniversary of their gift, givers will receive a letter informing them of their increased gift amount. If for any reason they do not wish for that increase to be actioned, they can simply notify the PGS team.



*"God's gifts aim at making us into generous givers, not just fortunate receivers. God gives so that we, in human measure, can be givers too."*

Miroslav Volf

# MAKING IT HAPPEN

## LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Encourage PCC members and members of the church leadership team to commit to join the Parish Giving Scheme.

## CONSIDER HOW YOU WILL ENGAGE YOUR COMMUNITY

Write to all of your planned givers and members on your electoral roll to encourage people to reflect on their giving.

## PRODUCE LOCAL RESOURCES

Locally produced giving materials allow you to promote a local vision for the mission and ministry that will be resourced by giving. Include your PGS QR code on leaflets, posters and order of service.

## LAUNCH WITH A GIVING PROGRAMME

A Giving Programme will help to enable a more fruitful response.

## COMMUNICATE

Include details of the Parish Giving Scheme and a link to your PGS landing page on your parish website and social media. Include a permanent notice in your weekly newsletter about how to join the PGS.

## KEEP UP TO DATE

Updates from the church treasurer during worship, meetings or in written reports will help to ensure a continuing high profile for PGS within your church.

## ENCOURAGE PRAYER AND DISCIPLESHIP

Studying scripture and praying about giving will enrich your Giving Programme.

## TALK ABOUT IT

Ask someone who has signed up as a giver with the scheme to speak briefly about why they chose to do so, how they feel it helps them give and how it helps your church.

## CELEBRATE THE IMPACT

Report on the growth of the Parish Giving Scheme within your church and the difference it's making. Ensure that you make clear links between giving and the mission of your church.



For more information go to  
[www.parishgiving.org.uk](http://www.parishgiving.org.uk)

or contact our Generous Giving Advisor:

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**01227 459401**  
**[sjmartin@diocant.org](mailto:sjmartin@diocant.org)**



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