

PGS Testimonials – St Edmundsbury & Ipswich

"I'm not quite sure who to thank, but we are incredibly grateful to the Diocese for introducing the parish giving scheme... It's definitely **improved giving** in our churches without a lot of effort ... everyone finds having the gift aid as we go along much easier for **cashflow** and PCC members generally have reported that it's much **easier to give** than it used to be. It has cheered our treasurers immensely after the initial workload."

Tiffer Robinson, Rural Dean (Lavenham)

".....our early experience at St Mary's Combs is encouraging. Our bank account was credited on the 10th with the donations and the Gift Aid was received just a few days later. We've been pleased with the overall reception of the idea of **paying by Direct Debit to ensure a regular cash flow to the church...**"

Lawrence Smith, PGS Project Leader (St Mary, Combs)

"Since introducing the Parish Giving Scheme **our regular weekly giving has increased**. We kept it simple and just sent a letter to those we felt appropriate and then followed up with a reminder. That was all - oh and thank you letters to those who gave! It worked for us. Why not give it a try?"

David Fison, Treasurer (St John the Baptist, Butley)

"...nearly every donor increased their giving when they joined the scheme and in virtually **every case their regular giving is now index-linked**. This is a great improvement on the situation compared with pre-PGS! About half of our regular donors now give through PGS and it certainly reduces the monthly recording of donations on my part. It will also **reduce the task of completing the Gift Aid claim** each year..."

Les Weeks, Treasurer (St Giles, Risby)

"The **members of the PCC** have all taken a pack, and we have also **approached the congregation directly**. We're exploring other strategies; having packs available in the church and village shop, utilising the village **social media** and making attendees to the **other fundraising events** aware of the Scheme."

Steve Hurford, Treasurer (All Saints, Hitcham)

"The Diocese are promoting Parish Giving Scheme which encourages people to switch to Direct Debits plus option to index link their gift. Added advantage is that **tax reclaim is done automatically and is in bank account within a few days of the donation each month** which all helps with cash flow. PGS certainly helps the Treasurer!"

David Bryant, Treasurer (St Mary's Haughley)

"... people have either **switched from their monthly standing order or from the weekly giving envelopes**. The scheme is easy to use – the joining pack is very easy to understand, and the donor just has to complete one direct debit form and declare whether they are able to Gift Aid or not. **Monthly statements are made available to the treasurer via the PGS website and the money is transferred to the nominated account promptly. Gift Aid this is collected on a monthly basis** and transferred a couple of weeks later.

Stephen Went, Treasurer (Holy Trinity St Mary, Bungay)