

Finance Debrief—1st July 2020



So much information coming through the Inbox it is easy to miss something so we are sending you a debrief of some of the things you might have missed or one or two things you may not know and some of the changes which have been put in place following the Government restrictions on our daily lives.

'Donate Now'

Lots of charities have donate buttons on their websites and we have been working with Data Developments to get a button for the Diocesan website up and running.

We are nearly there but once this has been achieved there will be a link on the Diocesan website that you can direct your donors to and they will be able to select your church from a drop down menu and make a donation but more importantly, you will be able to email us for a link to put on to your own parish website and on to your own "A Church Near You" page to receive donations.

Watch this space, as soon as we are ready to go live there will be communication via the bulletin in the meantime keep your eye on the website!

Start fundraising with
JustGiving

Just Giving is a fantastic resource and a great way to advertise your church to the local Community and for regular congregation to give while the church doors are closed. All setup charges and transactions charges are absorbed by the LDBF so all the money you raise plus Gift Aid goes straight to your church each month. Over 82 parishes have created their own page already generating over £30,000 to parishes including Gift Aid.

Giving Direct

Giving Direct is another way to ensure you receive regular donations monthly with the Gift Aid included. This has become extremely popular, we now have 375 donors and this is generating £20,000 a month including Gift Aid. Please download the form from the Diocesan website and either pop it in the post or if you have the facility scan a copy to finance.



MyFundAccounting On-line

Data Developments have developed an On-line version of their ever popular finance package Finance Coordinator called *MyFundAccounting.On-line* with some free Webinar Training available on Wednesdays and Thursdays for you to sign up for.

<https://www.datadevelopments.co.uk/services/>

A Diocesan Scheme is available to parishes who wish to migrate over to MFAOL or want to take up this new package. Especially designed for Church Treasurers without accounts knowledge with the added advantage of it being accessible by other members of the PCC for reports etc. There is also a compatible package to replace Donations Coordinator called *MyGiving.On-line*.



Parish Share

We are very grateful to our parishes for their response in continuing to paying Parish Share regularly each month and to hold Share at a level each month which will support and help others. We accept that you may need to reduce the amount but it is important to maintain a level of share each month. Thank you to all those who are contributing regularly

Please try to avoid sending cheques to St Mary's House. We are only permitted to enter the premises infrequently during this time. If you would like us to collect payments from you by Direct Debit please go to our Finance and Covid-19 website and download a form. You may email this to us and we can collect any amount on any date during the month. These amounts can vary, you can change them up to 5 working days before the date it is due and we can use this for collecting fees or any other payments due to the Board.

If you would like to send a bank transfer please use Account number 00030004 LDBF Sort Code 30-95-04.

Parochial Fees

The Diocesan Board of Finance previously decided to waive all funeral fees that would otherwise be payable to them under the Parochial Fees Order. This arrangement will continue for funerals of those who die this month, but **fees should be applied again for all funerals of those who die on or after 1st July.**

Return of Parish Finance Forms

We are very grateful to those who have gone online to complete their Annual Return of Parish Finance form. Please do not wait until your accounts have been approved or examined the National Church is keen to collate figures for 2019 now. <https://parishreturns.churchofengland.org/> please go to the website to complete your form. If you require log in details please contact rpf@lichfield.anglican.org.

Hospitality and Leisure Grants

If you have not already received a grant from your Local Council concerning loss of income it may be because you do not pay Business Rates.

Some Local Councils may have discretionary funds to pay towards loss of income for small businesses and charities who do not qualify for Business Rates Grants, so go to the government website and find out whether you are eligible for support.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/financial-support-for-businesses-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

Some councils have already paid out and their discretionary pot is usually on a first come, first served basis, but it may be worth making an application.

The Finance Department

Please be aware that some of our finance department staff may now be on furlough. Those that remain are working from home. Please direct all queries for members of the Finance Team to finance@lichfield.anglican.org and we will ensure it gets to the right person.

We thank you for your patience during these unprecedented times—please remain safe!

Best wishes from The Finance Department

