In 2022, the average contactless donation in the Diocese of Newcastle was £5.60*

*Source: Digital Giving Report 2022 (based on 75 parishes)

Long before Covid, the use of cash was on the decline. In the relatively short space of time since restrictions were lifted, well over half of parishes in the Diocese of Newcastle have equipped themselves to accept contactless donations - and for good reason. Offering contactless giving allows churches to:

• capture donations that may not otherwise have been made
• engage with a wider range of visitors, especially those who are not regular churchgoers
• offer greater choice for generous givers
• future-proof for the inevitable further decline of cash

For the purpose of gift aid, contactless gifts are treated like cash so go through the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme (GASDS).

This means that an additional 25% can be claimed on contactless donations, up to the value of £30, without the need for a gift aid declaration (subject to usual GASDS limits).

Which device?

To find the right contactless device for your church, it's always best to register online with Parish Buying. Here you can view a range of solutions and access the lowest purchase price and transaction charges.

In the Diocese of Newcastle, the most popular device for payments is the inexpensive SumUp Air card reader which works in conjunction with the SumUp app. The most popular donation stations are the Payaz Giving Station and the CollecTin More.

A donation station can be left unattended, whilst a card reader is designed primarily for payments so needs someone to operate it.
The Payaz and CollecTin donation stations work in conjunction with an Android app called GiveALittle. Once a GiveALittle account has been registered and connected to a separate SumUp account (the payment processor), contactless donations can be made.

GiveALittle and SumUp accounts are created online. Full, easy to follow step by step set up instructions can be found on our website.

If you have a SumUp Air card reader but don’t feel ready to invest in a Payaz or CollecTin, you can always install the GiveALittle app on your mobile phone or tablet (Android) to create a low cost DIY donation station.

Did you know? Contactless devices are available for churches to loan, simply by contacting the Generous Giving Team.

'GiveALittle' and Contactless

Encouraging Contactless Giving

- Contactless donation stations should be left in a prominent location with appropriate signage to draw visitors’ attention.
- Nearby posters should also share the church vision and remind people that achieving it depends on the generosity of those who visit and worship there.
- Demonstrate new devices to a congregation and encourage them to try it out. Once they understand how it works they will feel confident helping visitors.
- During special services or events, make a point to tell people that contactless giving is available.
- Move it around from time to time – take it to the hall when groups are running, take it where you enjoy refreshments after a service, or make a feature of it at a fundraiser or special event.
- Keep it interesting by changing the images on the screen and creating new ‘campaigns’ for different events.