

Introducing Newcastle Diocese Generosity Week

Diocese of Newcastle 
growing church bringing hope



**NEWCASTLE DIOCESE
GENEROSITY WEEK**

26 SEP - 3 OCT 2021

[Click here to download free resources](#)



What is it?

- 8 days where we focus collectively as a diocese on **nurturing and encouraging generosity**, exploring how we can **live more generously** in our daily lives
- An idea originating from parish consultation in 2019 and 2020
- An opportunity to **live out our diocesan vision, values and priorities** as part of our commitment to putting mission at the centre of all that we do
- Dedicated space and time to grow in our ability to be **generous with God's transforming gifts**



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Aims

- To **inspire, encourage and celebrate** how Generous Giving enables our Ministry and Mission to flourish in Newcastle
- To develop and **embed a culture** and lifestyle of generosity all year round
- To **deepen our understanding** of God's generosity towards us and to learn how we can live more generously in our daily lives
- To better identify and **showcase the everyday acts** of generosity we see in our churches and communities.



When is it?

- 8 days from **Sunday 26th September – Sunday 3rd October 2021**
- Timed to tie in with harvest time
- Coincides with the Church of England Generosity Week taking place on the same dates



How to get involved?

- Many ways to participate and this may look different in each church
- Choose to use all of the resources available or just a selection
- E.g. you might have **generosity themed services**, you could take up the “**generosity week challenge**,” or you may choose to organise a **community fundraising event** or hold a **giving review**



Finding Out More

- A dedicated web page and resources hub within the Generous Giving section of the Diocese of Newcastle website linking all available resource and information

Newcastle Diocese Generosity Week



Newcastle Diocese Generosity Week - 26 Sep...
Watch later Share

Watch on YouTube

Newcastle Diocese Generosity Week
26 Sep - 3 Oct 2021

This year we are excited to be supporting a new diocesan wide event which allows us the opportunity to spend 8 days collectively focusing on nurturing and encouraging generosity. The dates have been chosen to coincide with National Generosity Week which also takes place between Sunday 26th September - Sunday 3rd October.

Newcastle Diocese Generosity Week gives us the chance to really live out our diocesan vision, values and priorities. Being generous with God's transforming gifts is key on our journey of transformation, as we seek to put mission at the centre of all that we do.

Mission & Ministry

- About Us
- Authorised Ministries
- Our Faith
- Growing Church Bringing Hope: Next Steps
- Continuing Ministerial Development
- Statistics and Finance for Mission
- Counselling Provision
- Diocesan Advisory Committee for the Care of Churches (DAC)
- Disability Matters
- Discipleship
- Ecumenism
- Environment

Generosity Week Resource Hub




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Central Resources

As part of National Generosity Week, a range of resources have been created by the National Giving Team, all of which can be accessed on the main Church of England website;



Podcasts, Reflections Resources

Mission & Ministry

- About Us
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Central resources

- Full **worship materials** for both Sundays and more:
 - ❖ Eucharist to celebrate Generosity
 - ❖ Eucharist to celebrate Gratitude
 - ❖ A Service of the Word to celebrate Generosity
 - ❖ A Service of the Word to celebrate Gratitude
 - ❖ A Narrative of Generosity through Morning Prayer
 - ❖ Service Content Packs



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Central resources

- Series of **8 podcasts** exploring generosity stories from different churches across the country
- Series of **daily reflections** on themes of generosity
- Daily **generosity activity** to complete
- Short series of **discipleship material**
- Guidance on **how to engage the wider community**
- Free **social media and marketing toolkit** to help you promote the week



Other resources

- **Printable stories of generosity** from the Diocese of Newcastle which can be used with activities to help your church discover and share its own generous stories
- A **printable leaflet** explaining the concept and need for **parish share** in the Diocese of Newcastle



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STORIES OF GENEROSITY

Rev Capt Paul Allinson from Ponteland recently held a primary school assembly about 'helping each other.' On his way home from Morning Prayer (and to a Zoom session to celebrate generous giving!), an 8 year old boy approached him and handed over an envelope full of 5p pieces. He had been saving them from his pocket money, and wanted to give them to support the church. Paul told us that the 5p pieces added up to about £7!

Rev Tom Birch, Vicar of the united benefice of Ovingham and Wylam tells how the scale and speed of generosity in their communities funded the purchase of 17 laptops in just 36 hours for children of Ovingham Middle School who were home-schooling during lockdown. It began when the school approached the chair of Ovingham Parish Council for help to fund a single laptop. She in turn approached St Mary the Virgin, Ovingham for support and the initiative snowballed. Funds were donated by the Parish Councils of both Wylam and Ovington, from charitable church funds, from generous donations by community groups and from 10 individual parishioners!



Rev Rachel Hudson from the benefice of Scremerston, Spittal and Tweedmouth told us of an idea their church had to offer gifts to some of the most in need families just before Christmas last year. Rachel was overwhelmed by the number of cash donations dropping through her letterbox and in fact received £1,200 in total which enabled 30 families to receive £40 in Tesco vouchers. With the help of local Head Teachers they were able to identify families and enable the gifts to be given anonymously, simply with a card from the church.



Rev John Vilaseca in Whitley Bay told us about a homeless man who had joined his church. To begin with, this man stayed for about ten minutes of the service. Then, maybe as his confidence grew, he began to stay for the whole service.

The homeless man had been a window cleaner in a past life, and now offered to wash the parish centre windows. The windows washed, the homeless man then asked if he could be baptised.

Rev Sarah Lunn shared a story about her church in rural Northumberland. For Valentine's Day, members of Sarah's church delivered heart-shaped chocolates to every door in the parish. The chocolate hearts were accompanied by a simple message about being loved by God. The team then volunteered their time again to deliver Easter eggs to the same homes. On Easter Day Sarah was delighted that 36 people were moved to attend an open air service!

Fr David Twomey ministers in Ashington, home to a significant number of refugees and asylum seekers. Since 2018, St Andrew's church has been involved in a number of support groups including the Learn English Together (LET project), which teaches English to those newly arrived. LET is a church led group with volunteers from St Andrew's and neighbouring church Holy Sepulchre, Ashington. Members of the two congregations lend support to families in practical ways, such as organising furniture and clothing when needed as well as offering a place of welcome for worship.



Fr David tells how the response from their refugee congregation has also been one of abundant generosity, not least by contributing to the life of the church by offering up time for maintenance projects around the church and surrounding community. Earlier this year, St Andrew's were blessed to welcome Bishop Glyn Webster who baptised and confirmed five refugee candidates in a wonderfully joyful service!



PARISH SHARE

Many people ask about Parish Share. These questions often focus on the level of Parish Share, the use of Parish Share and why parishes are asked to contribute towards it. This short note begins to address these questions.

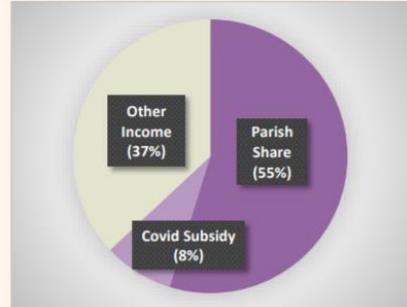
So, let's begin with what is Parish Share?

Parish Share is the financial expression of what it means to be part of God's mission in this part of the Church of England. Every year, parishes are asked to support the cost of ministry across this wonderful diocese, a family of 236 churches in 172 parishes in 12 deaneries.

Without the financial support from Parish Share we would not be able to pay for our clergy or provide the support for mission and ministry. In 2021, Parish Share makes up 63% of total diocesan income (55% from parishes and 8% subsidy to assist COVID recovery).

Other income (37%) comes from grants (primarily from the national church), clergy fees (weddings and funerals), rental of property and income from investments.

What is Parish Share used for?



Category	Percentage
Parish Share	55%
Other Income	37%
Covid Subsidy	8%

2021 Total Income (£7.1m)

Our resources

- Details about how to order **free customised flyers** from the Church Print Hub
- Newcastle Diocese Generosity Week **logo and email signature**
- Copy presentation **Introducing Newcastle Diocese Generosity Week**
- Links to book onto **summer webinar**



Further Information

- For further information please contact **Generous Giving:**

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