

## 1. Why should I give to the church?

People give because they are asked, because they know where their money goes, and because they believe in what you are doing. Be clear about your vision and mission, including how you engage with the wider community on broader issues of sustainability and social action. Take time as a PCC to pray about giving.

Let visitors and others know how much it costs to run your church, and how that's funded. Many don't realise that it is their gift which maintains the building and churchyard and supports ministry and mission.

People keep giving because they see the impact of their donation, and because you've said thank you!

## 2. Join the Parish Giving Scheme to enable and simplify regular giving

The *Parish Giving Scheme* is free and simple to join. Donors give monthly, quarterly or annually via direct debit. This is paid directly into the PCC's bank account every month, as is any GiftAid collected, which helps with cashflow and treasurer workloads. Givers can easily sign up and manage their gift online (and in other ways), can donate anonymously, and can sign up to be offered an annual inflationary increase, which helps people to review their giving every year and increase it if they can.

*Parish Giving Scheme* QR codes can be put on church noticeboards and pew sheets and in parish magazines, and you can order printed resources which explain the scheme and enable people to sign up. You should also include a link to your PGS page on your church website and *A Church Near You*.

Your *Parish Giving Scheme* webpage takes the text automatically from your *A Church Near You* webpage, so do make sure that that is up-to-date, even if you also have your own church webpage.

## 3. Get a contactless device

Many people don't carry cash. Various card readers are available through *Parish Buying*, whether or not you have a mobile signal or WiFi. The simplest (currently £15 through *Parish Buying*) can be used with a smartphone or tablet to collect donations (including GiftAid) at services and events.

## 4. Enable online donations

Sign up – it's free through [Parish Buying](#) – to *SumUp* and *Give A Little* and even without a contactless device you can generate a QR code for one-off gifts which you can display on noticeboards and in parish magazines etc.. Once set up on *Give A Little* you can enable online donations via *A Church Near You*, as well as collect GiftAid and offer receipts by email.

## 5. Check your website

Every Anglican church has a webpage via *A Church Near You*, and you may also have your own website and social media. Make sure that it's easy to donate via your website, and that it's clear how ministry, mission and maintenance are funded, where the money is spent, and why donations are welcome.

## 6. Save money

Make sure that you are signed up to [Parish Buying](#), to take advantage of savings which have been negotiated by the national church for contactless devices, insurance, green energy suppliers and much much more.

## 7. Encourage tourists

We are a beautiful diocese and a tourist destination. Many churches generate income from donations for snacks and drinks for walkers, home-made jams and chutneys, second-hand books etc., and from sales of mugs, tea towels, postcards etc.. How about a map showing walkers and pilgrims how to get to another church in your benefice, to help encourage more people to visit your local churches?

## 8. Ask for help

Your parish giving and wider diocesan team is on hand to help. Please email [pga@hereford.anglican.org](mailto:pga@hereford.anglican.org).