



A Giving Review

Generous giving is an integral part of our Christian discipleship. It not only resources God's mission in the world, but is a discipleship response for his generosity to us.

This Giving Review will help your parish to review its approach to giving, generosity and stewardship, and to identify some helpful next steps in a checklist for a giving orientated church. It is recommended that parishes undertake such a review annually.

When did you last hear a sermon that included a message on stewardship, generosity and giving money?

- 6 months
- Last year
- 3 years
- 5 years
- Don't know

Teaching and Preaching on matters of generosity and stewardship are essential if we are to learn to live generously as disciples of Jesus. It's not just about giving nor just about money, but to help us gain insight into the amazing generosity of God.

When thinking about how your church communicates with givers, which of the following do you talk about?

- Giving as a response to God's generosity
- Giving to support a clearly articulated vision for the future
- The impact of giving in enabling the church's mission and ministry
- The costs and financial needs of the church
- Giving in the context of discipleship

It is important to communicate with givers from several different perspectives. All too often, churches focus on their budget shortfall and talk about scarcity rather than abundance.

Our Diocesan vision is characterised by Living Loving and Learning.

LOVING

We experience God's generous love. We respond with gratitude by being generous with what God has given us.

LIVING

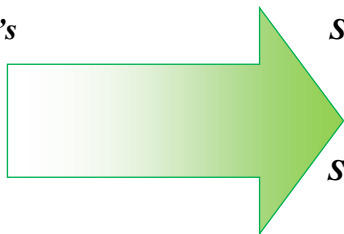
We celebrate the abundance of life and promote human flourishing. We are generous with all our resources and we take responsibility for supporting those who have less.

LEARNING

We listen to God, the world and each other. With a confident humility we seek to be faithful to our calling and responsive to mutual need.

How are these values reflected in your parish's approach to generosity?

Show little generosity in response to God's love
Others will step in to help those in need
Don't seek to learn about God's calling for us to respond to need



Show radical and sacrificial generosity in response to God's love
We care deeply for the lives of others
Seek to actively learn and grow in faith to where God is calling us

One of the ways we walk in faith is on the stewardship path from where we are to where God is calling us.

Where are your congregation on the path?

Supermarket: We pay for the bits we enjoy and find meaningful

Survival: We do our bit when we are asked to help

Support: The church is important to us and we give our support.

Subscription: We are trying to be good disciples with all that it involves

Sacrifice: We are called to be Christ-like and do our best to act accordingly

A Checklist for a Giving Orientated Church

Generous churches are churches which see generosity as a fundamental way of being church. Giving is not something that is focused on once a year but the church constantly encourages people to live generous lives in a wide variety of ways, and provides as many ways to give as possible. "Generosity is a fruit of God's grace, the product of a transformed heart, and it develops in an atmosphere that encourages it, celebrates it, and reproduces it consistently over time" *Contagious Generosity, Chris Willard & Jim Sheppard, Zondervan, 2012*

Display in Church	No	Just about	Good	Brilliantly
Impact of the church is communicated				
Vision of the church is communicated				
Need for giving by the community is communicated				
Giving to mission by the church is communicated				
Opportunities to give one-off gifts				
Opportunities to give regularly				
Opportunities to give tax effectively				
Opportunity to give by contactless card				
Opportunities to be generous with time and talents				
Encouragement for legacy giving				
Ministry team & Treasurer contact details				
Thanks for giving from the church				
Thanks for giving from the diocese				

Website & A Church Near You	No	Just about	Good	Brilliantly
Impact of the church is communicated				
Vision of the church is communicated				
Need for giving by the community is communicated				
Giving to mission by the church is communicated				
Opportunities to give one-off gifts				
Opportunities to give regularly				
Opportunities to give tax effectively				
Opportunities to be generous with time and talents				
Encouragement for legacy giving				
Ministry team & Treasurer contact details				
Thanks for giving from the church				
Thanks for giving from the diocese				

Social Media	No	Just about	Good	Brilliantly
Impact of the church is communicated				
Vision of the church is communicated				
Need for giving by the community is communicated				
Giving to mission by the church is communicated				
Opportunities to give one-off gifts				
Opportunities to give regularly				
Opportunities to give tax effectively				
Opportunities to be generous with time and talents				
Encouragement for legacy giving				
Ministry team & Treasurer contact details				
Thanks for giving from the church				
Thanks for giving from the diocese				

Services etc	More than a year ago	Within 3-12 months	Less than 3 months
Last sermon on generosity or giving			
The impact of the church is communicated			
The giving to mission by the church is communicated			
Giving programme delivered (generosity weeks/toolkits)			
Generosity prayers, bible study and intercessions			
		Yes	No
Guidance in notices/newsletter about how to give			
Members of the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS)			
PGS communicated to wider community/friends scheme			
Use of the Legacy Toolkit			
Welcome pack for new members including how to give			
50/50 collections encouraged for baptisms, weddings and funerals			