

Ways to Celebrate



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Senior Stewardship Officer



GENEROSITY WEEK 2023

24 September – 1 October

Generosity Week takes place during the Harvest season so that as we thank God for his generosity to us, we also have the opportunity to think about how we might respond to that generosity.



What is Generosity Week?



- 8 days to focus on **nurturing** and **encouraging** generosity as we explore how we can live more generously in our daily lives
- An opportunity to live out our Christian values by **reflecting** the generosity we've been shown by **our Generous God** in our own actions and words

Aims of Generosity Week

- To deepen our **understanding of God's generosity** towards us and learn how we can respond by living more generous lives
- To inspire and **encourage a culture** and lifestyle of generosity all year round
- To **celebrate** the everyday acts of generosity we see in our churches and communities
- To **give thanks** to all who give so generously and enable mission and ministry to flourish



Get Involved with



- ✓ Generosity Week is flexible to suit all types of church
- ✓ Pick a week that suits your church best
- ✓ Contact your Stewardship Team for help and advice
- ✓ Look at [summary of resources](#) available and choose what to do
- ✓ Make sure you have enough people to help you
- ✓ Plan your two Sundays! One to explore **Generosity** & one for **Gratitude!**

Generosity Week Resources 2022

All resources are available on the website (linked below)
Generosity Week | The Church of England

1. Promoting Generosity Week

However you want to promote Generosity Week, we hope you'll find these customisable resources helpful:

Promotional flyer

Generosity Week video using the video generator on A Church Near You

Graphics and copy for Church's own **social media** accounts.

Branded **email signatures**

Branded **Powerpoint template**.

2. Reflections and activities

Eight downloadable podcasts look in some depth at what the Bible has to say about Generosity. There are also reflections and activities – ways to put learning into action.

3. Resources

New for 2022 – Liverpool Diocese has developed fun resources to help leaders explore generosity with young people

New for 2022 – resources to help engage the wider community with Generosity Week

The Diocese of Leeds has developed materials for exploring generosity and stewardship with **children and young people**.

Celebrating our Legacy – exploring the legacy we have received from the generosity of others, and what our role might be in passing on that legacy to future generations. Leaders' guide and participants' booklet available.

4. Liturgy

There is a selection of service outlines, sermon starters and forms of prayer for churches to adapt and use, including:

Eight daily **morning prayer** services

Weekly **service material** on both Grace and Gratitude

Eucharist celebrating Generosity

Eucharist celebrating Gratitude

Service of the Word celebrating Generosity

Service of the Word celebrating Gratitude

Service content packs covering both Generosity and Gratitude.

5. What happens next?

Generosity doesn't end after Generosity Week. These resources are designed to build on the interest and make generosity an integral part of church life. The following resources are designed to help guide churches through their next steps.

Generous Church Toolkit – for the PCC to reflect on, highlighting what's going well and where the learning points are

Generosity Fika – a half day programme for small groups to explore God's generosity to us

Generous Church Review – for the PCC or Finance Committee to annual review generosity.

And don't forget.... There will be a National Online Eucharist to celebrate generosity on Sunday 24th September 2023

 THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

 **GENEROSITY WEEK**

[Find GW 2022 resources on Diocesan Website](#)

[Find GW 2022 resources on CofE website](#)

[How to Run GW recorded Webinar \(2022\)](#)

 THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Leeds

Ways to Get Involved with



Consider these as activities for your church:

- Themed services on generosity and gratitude
- Activities for children & young people to explore generosity
- Fundraising event or Giving Campaign
- Celebration & Thanksgiving event
- “Social media takeover” to share stories of generosity from your own church and beyond
- Workshops exploring how to build a generous church



Generosity Week Resources

The National Giving Team | Church of England



Celebrating Generosity Week in the wider community

Generosity Week is a celebration of God's generosity that is lived out in our churches and parishes. It gives us an opportunity to engage with and support the wider community as we celebrate the generosity found. This isn't a celebration of 'our' generosity but God's, which is found within the church and outside of it.

We can often be acutely aware of what we haven't got, focusing on the scarcity of some things, rather than celebrating what we do have, the abundance of God's generosity in our lives. This 'abundance' mindset provides real encouragement and a desire to grow the generosity we already see. These acts don't need to be big and dramatic acts of generosity and kindness, but the simple acts that add so much to our daily lives. Generosity Week can help us 're-set' our perspective, so we spend time celebrating the way God's generosity is seen in our churches and communities.



GENEROSITY WEEK

Material to start to explore stewardship with Children and Young People



THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Leeds

GENEROSITY WEEK



A Eucharist to celebrate Generosity

The First Sunday Service



THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

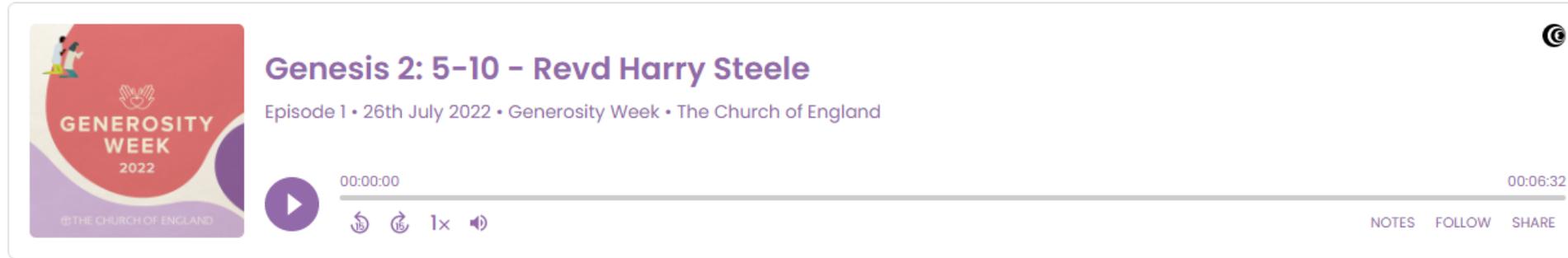
Choosing What to Do

- *Commuters or young people?*
Link to our podcasts on your social media feeds.
- *Fabulous historic building?*
Run a Celebrating our Legacy morning.
- *Small congregation?*
Consider ways of drawing in the wider community.
- *Young people or children?*
Have a Generosity session in Sunday school.
- *Homegroups?*
Any small group could have a half day Fika – exploring God's generosity to us.
- *Public morning or evening prayer or compline?*
Use the generosity liturgies.



Generosity Week Resources - Podcasts

Day One: Humanity's place in God's world



The image shows a podcast player interface. On the left is a red and purple square cover with the text 'GENEROSITY WEEK 2022' and '© THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND'. To the right of the cover, the title 'Genesis 2: 5-10 - Revd Harry Steele' is displayed in purple, followed by the subtitle 'Episode 1 • 26th July 2022 • Generosity Week • The Church of England'. Below the title is a play button icon, a progress bar showing '00:00:00' at the start and '00:06:32' at the end, and icons for volume, repeat, and speed. On the far right, there are icons for 'NOTES', 'FOLLOW', and 'SHARE', and a copyright symbol.

A good person produces good from the good treasure of his heart...because the mouth speaks from the overflow of the heart.

Luke 6:45

Reflection +

Activity -

Are your words full of grace and kindness, truth and hope? Ask God to fill you afresh. Then pick up the phone to a hurting friend. Or greet a lonely neighbour. Bless them today with life giving, Christ centred words.

New Podcasts for 2023

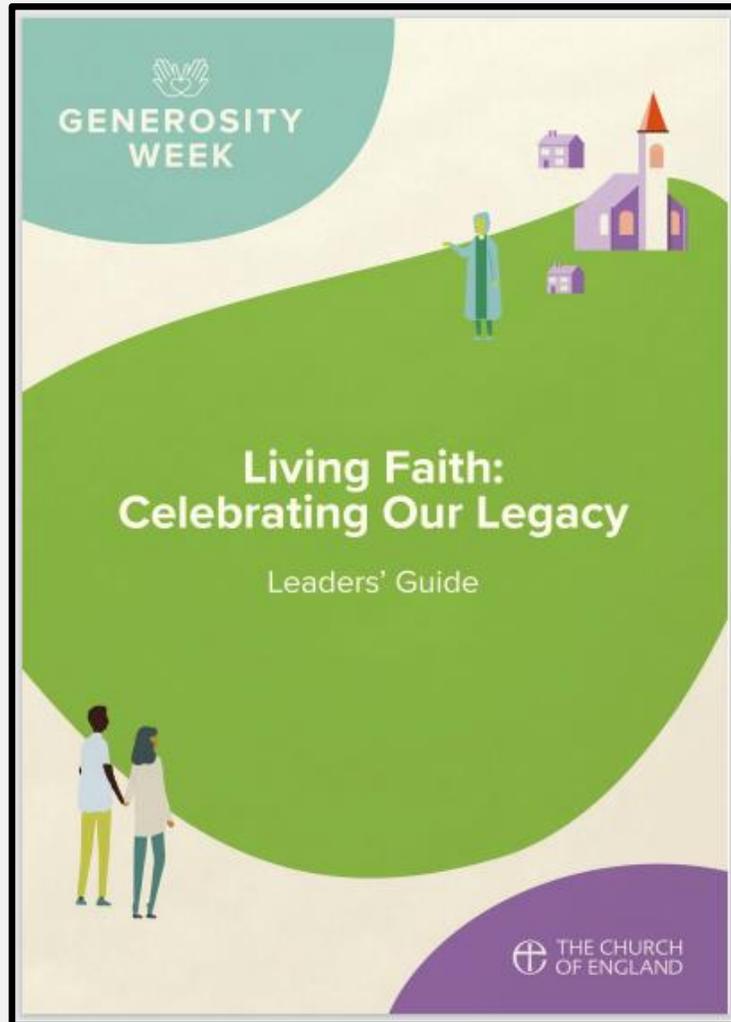




"Our faith starts with the most generous gift of all – God's gift to us of life itself and new life and new hope in Jesus Christ. What we call 'generosity' is just our response to these great gifts. I'm therefore delighted to commend these resources that help us explore God's amazing generosity. This is what Generosity Week is all about. The stories in these podcasts, reflections and resources are moving, inspiring and encouraging. Just like in the parable of the sower, where the seed that falls on good soil grows a crop a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown, we see that every generous act grows further generosity."

The Right Reverend Stephen Cottrell, Archbishop of York

Generosity Week Resources – *Legacies*



Run a Celebrating our Legacy Morning

Encourage reflection on historical & spiritual value of church building



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New Resources for 2023

- Digital service on 24 September
- Intercessions
- Morning prayer
- Podcasts & reflections
- Generosity Sunday
- Canva templates to make your own leaflets and posters

Choosing What to Do

- **Commuters or young people?**
Link to our podcasts on your social media feeds.
- **Fabulous historic building?**
Run a Celebrating our Legacy morning.
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Consider ways of drawing in the wider community.
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- **Homegroups?**
Any small group could have a half day Fika – exploring God's generosity to us.
- **Public morning or evening prayer or compline?**
Use the generosity liturgies.

Generosity Week is deliberately flexible to suit all types of church. If you want to join in this year, here's how to start:

- 1 Pick a week**
the national week runs from Sunday 24 September until Sunday 1 October, but if another time works better for you, do it then.
- 2 Contact your Diocesan Giving Advisor**
for help and advice.
- 3 Choose what to do**
by looking at the summary of resources available through the link at the bottom of this page. Make sure you have enough people to help out with the initiatives you want to do.
- 4 Plan your Sundays**
two Sundays works well as it gives you one chance to explore gratitude and one for generosity. To get you started there are service outlines, sermon starters and prayers – all generosity themed.

To receive a monthly newsletter between now and September with links to new resources as they are developed, sign up [here](#).

Generosity Week Newsletter

Sign up [here](#) to receive your monthly Generosity Week newsletter between now and September

Get links to **New Resources** as they are developed

Launch/Relaunch



in Generosity Week

Launching during Harvest Festival is an appropriate time as we give thanks to God's generosity to us

More likely for PGS to have a greater impact as GW focus on reviewing "Giving"

Chance to introduce a new mechanism to enable regular giving : helping ministry to grow & flourish

The PGS fully supports [Generosity Week & promotional resources](#) are available for key messaging

To register for the PGS & for more information visit [here](#)



HOW TO LAUNCH PGS FOR THE FIRST TIME

A guide for PCCs and churches



HOW TO LAUNCH PGS FOR THE FIRST TIME

[Click Here](#)
For PGS
Registration
& Information

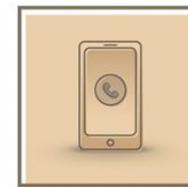


Growing God's Kingdom through Generosity

Through the actions of radical generosity, generosity as taught through the Gospels, our communities are being enriched by the life of the Church.

The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) is a vessel for generosity. Uniquely formed by the Church, for the Church, PGS is dedicated to helping you live life generously, by making it safe and simple to give regularly to your church.

Gifts can be set up online, by phone, or by post.



Most people who give through PGS opt to increase their gift annually by inflation, helping churches to plan for their future.

If you're eligible, please consider saying yes to 'Gift Aid', and we'll ensure your church benefits.

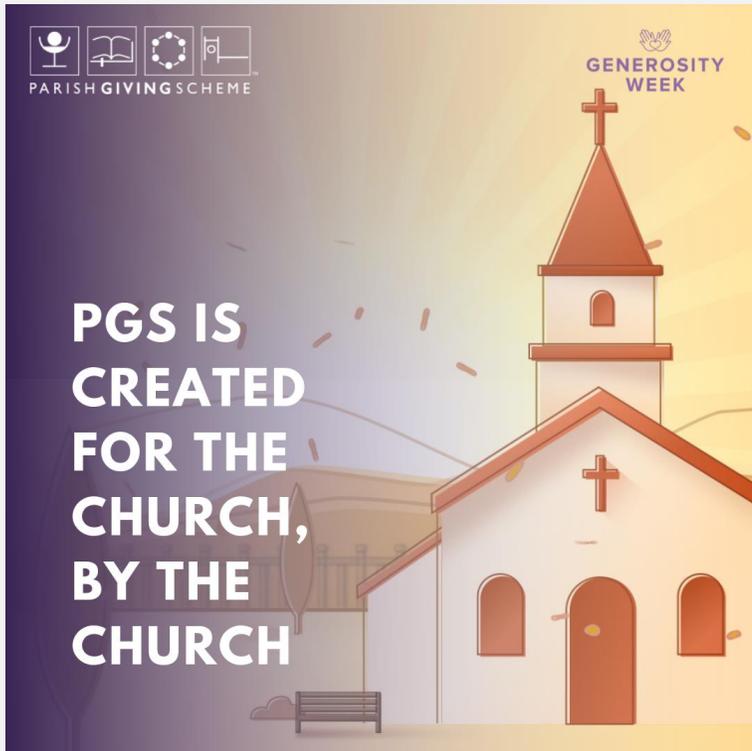


Together, every act of generosity is growing the Kingdom of God.

Thank you, from everyone at PGS, for all the ways that you live life generously within our communities.

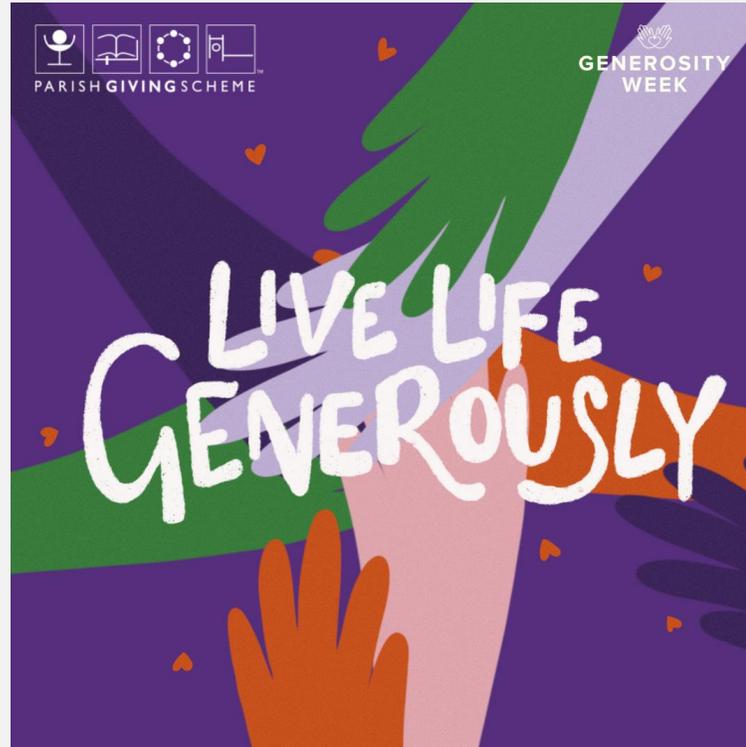
Give by phone: 0333 002 1271
Give online: www.parishgiving.org.uk

PGS resources for Generosity Week 2022



Every pound gifted is received by your church

The PGS is trusted by so many givers



Committed team helping us to build a generous church and grow a generous culture





GENEROSITY WEEK 2023

New Resources for 2023

- Digital service on 24 September
- Intercessions
- Morning prayer
- Podcasts & reflections
- Generosity Sunday
- Canva templates to make your own leaflets and posters

National Online Eucharist to celebrate generosity on Sunday 24th September 2023

After.... Generosity Week Resources

Generosity Fika facilitator guide.mp4
The National Giving Team

Facilitating a Generosity Fika
Jonathan de Bernhardt Wood
National Advisor for Giving and Income Generation

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

00:01

vimeo

Generosity Fika event
Conversation, Coffee & Cake!

Generosity Check – up Template

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Giving Review

Encouraging Giving in our Church

We believe in a generous God, a God who gave up everything for us and gave us everything we could ever need. God calls us to be generous in response to this generosity and to share it with others. We should not see the money we have (either personally or as a church) as ours, but rather as God's and we are called to receive these gifts and to sensibly manage them.

Jesus and Money
We see through the life of Jesus that money, wealth, and possessions should not be a subject we are afraid to explore. In the Bible we find more verses on it than of 'faith' or 'prayer' and it is only the subject of 'love' that we see more frequently.

The way we handle our money and our assets should be wholly integrated into our life as a follower of Jesus and our desire and calling to be Christ-like. Our generosity, in all aspects of life, is a hallmark of a lived-out faith and a testament to it.

We are called to be generous.

And yet, so many of us find it difficult to talk about giving and generosity.

This document is a simple way for you as a PCC to talk about how you encourage giving and generosity in your church and wider community. By working through these questions and activities, you should find yourself in a position to be able to encourage a healthy and challenging exploration of giving.

Giving Culture

The first area to explore is your culture of giving and generosity. Spend a couple of minutes discussing the following questions, either as a group or in small break-out groups:

- 1. Why should I give to this church?**
There are many reasons why people give to their church. Discuss what makes your church distinctive (location, style of worship, missional activities etc...) and try to encourage one another to share how and why you first started giving to the church.
- 2. Do we have a budget? Do we pay attention to it?**
Budgets help you stay financially secure and enable you to respond to God's call of mission and generosity to your community. They also help build trust in the way you run your finances and this can encourage giving. If you don't have a budget, how might you go about creating one?
- 3. Culture of generosity...**
Using the scales below, where would you place your church.

At risk financially	←————→	Financially secure
Not very generous	←————→	Very generous
Little faith God will provide	←————→	Great faith God will provide
Few givers	←————→	Many givers

Generosity Week encourages us to:



Celebrate God's generosity lived out in churches and parishes

Reflect on what we are each thankful and grateful for

Reflect on how we can live generously as individuals and as a church community

Reflect on our own giving in money, time and talents

Focus on reviewing our giving and how we can give

Any questions?

