THANK YOU for all that you are doing to support mission and ministry in your parish and community. We want to support you by offering some practical suggestions as we all think about the Christian imperative of generosity against the backdrop of this crisis.

Here is a collection of resources to support you as you seek to encourage those engaging with your worship online to give generously.

**Giving through your 'A Church Near You' pages**

**Do keep your pages up to date** - This website gets 38.5 million hits a year - make sure your church is up to date for these virtual visitors.

**Discover your donation page** - it's already there if you have set up acny.com for your parish/es. Activate the donation function by following the 'How to set up your Church for Online Giving Guide' on https://www.stalbans.anglican.org/faith/living-gods-love-at-all-times/

The central church has just released these key resources around ways to give

- An animated video clip about giving that you can personalise and use in your online services or on social media
- Information about online giving including ways to make website links, giving buttons on social media and websites and QR codes (bar codes that can be read by mobile devices and take the user to a giving web page)
- A section on ways to include an Offertory in online worship services including prayers and practical tips
- Online Giving Providers (third party organisations that help collect giving for you)
- Text Giving (via mobile phone text messages) information is here
- If not already registered do register now with Parish Buying - this is the national procurement department for the Church of England and allows your church access to various deals and money saving advice - including deals on online donations. https://www.parishbuying.org.uk/

**The Parish Giving Scheme.**
The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) is a direct-debit system originally developed by the Diocese of Gloucester to provide a professional, effective donation management system to support parishes in funding
their mission and ministry. They can now process new donors for parishes that are already on the scheme over the phone. Follow this link.

If your parish is not on the Parish Giving Scheme and would like to join, we can now process this. Please email Kate - kpeacock@stalbans.anglican.org or call her on 07741628181 to discuss what is needed.

A word on Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme (GASDS)

To questions concerning Gift Aid, HMRC officials have responded: “In respect of GASDS, guidance on the eligibility for donations for inclusion in this scheme is clear in stating that claims can only be made on cash donations of £30 or less; and contactless card donations of £30 or less collected on or after 6 April 2019. The decision over what constitutes an eligible donation is one for the church/charity to make for themselves, rather than for HMRC, but the conditions for something to be considered a ‘small donation’ are clearly set out in legislation. Where it is the case, for example, of separate donations being given in a single envelope, then if the church/charity official is happy these are clearly separate ‘small donations’ (and clearly stated as such) then they will be eligible for GASDS, as is the case where separate envelopes are used”.

HMRC appear to be happy for church treasurers to assess whether these are a series of separate donations and, if so, make a claim accordingly. This is a welcome development.

We suggest that for donors giving multiple small donations, they write on the envelope ‘Donations from *Start Date* to *end date* with their name to Church Name’ therefore indicating clearly that it is not one large donation, rather lots of smaller ones. Many churches are reporting that people are delivering their donation envelopes to their treasurer or administrator. Please encourage this as it will help your cash flow and remind donors that generous giving is still a key part of discipleship.

Here are online resources from the Flourishing Churches team:
If you would like support, now or in the future with giving the Flourishing Churches team can help; please contact the Revd Kate Peacock as above.