



The Parish Giving Scheme - During lockdown

Many are finding that the pressures of lockdown and the likelihood of a phased return to public worship a daunting one in many respects. Being able to plan for an uncertain future is frustratingly difficult in lots of way and finances are no exemption. Many parishes are finding that those who give in a planned weekly or monthly way are still able to contribute to the life and work of the church – in fact those on secure incomes may find they have more money as expenses like petrol or going out or going on holiday have, in the main, stopped.

The Parish Giving Scheme offers a convenient and efficient way to give to the church through direct debit.

“If this scheme becomes the principal funding method for your Church, you will have inflation-proofed your giving, maximized your cash-flow and minimised your administration. This will free up your parish to focus on other important priorities.

The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) is a 21st century solution to offset one of the greatest threats to parish income which is static giving. Donations made through this scheme use a Direct Debit. This can be made on a monthly, quarterly or annual basis. Each donation is restricted to a parish church.” You can read more here: <https://www.parishgivingscheme.org.uk/>

98 churches in our diocese are already members of the scheme; none have reported a reduction in giving since lockdown for donors using PGS.

To join the Parish Giving Scheme

1. Agree with your PCC to join the Parish Giving Scheme – you need to send an email to confirm this has happened copying in all PCC members (email [the Flourishing Churches Team Administrator here](#)).
2. We will reply and send you a parish registration form. Please complete the form, sign it and send back a scanned copy of the form, along with a copy of your bank’s paying in slip. **NB This is vital, as we have to verify your bank details.**
3. We will then register you on to the PGS scheme with the team at Gloucester, and tell you your church’s unique PGS code.
4. The PGS Team at Gloucester will set you up as a parish and contact you to confirm.

Donors Can sign up by Phone

Donors can now join by simply phoning the new PGS donor phone line:
0333 002 1271

One of the PGS administrators will take new donors through the sign-up process – this normally takes around 15 minutes. They will need to have the following information to hand:

- Personal bank account details of the donor.
- The name of the parish they wish to donate to.
- The PGS code for their parish. **NB: This code is supplied to the parish by the Flourishing Church's Administrator when the parish registers.**
- They will need to confirm if they want to increase their gift in line with inflation each year.
- They will also need to confirm if they are eligible for Gift Aid.

To help you get the most out of joining the PGS we recommend a focus throughout the parish on giving, with preaching and advertising. Here is a toolkit to help you with that: [Resourcing for Mission](#)

To discuss the PGS further, please email Revd. Kate Peacock kpeacock@stalbans.anglican.org or call 07741628181.

