



## **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/>

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

If you would like to join the PGS please follow these steps:

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 (address at the foot of this sheet)
2. Once we have that email we will send you the parish registration form - please complete that and sign it and send a scanned copy back. ALSO (this is vital) a copy of your bank's paying in slip, so we can verify bank details.
3. We will then send this on to the PGS team at Gloucester.
4. They will contact you and set you up.

For donors to join it is best for them to join using the new PGS phone line

**0333 002 1271**

One of the PGS administrators will take them 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
- The name of the parish they wish to donate to
- They will need to confirm if they want to increase their gift in line with inflation each year
- Confirm if they are eligible for Gift Aid
- The PGS code for their parish (usually 9 digits in length) \*

***\*Note: This is the one piece of information that the donor will not have. Please ensure they have this information, to guarantee the gift goes to the correct parish. The code is supplied to the parish when they sign up.***

There is a Gift Form that new donors can fill in and mail back to the PGS office.

To help you get the most out of joining the PGS we recommend a focus throughout the parish on giving, with preaching and advertising. A toolkit to help you with that is here:

<https://www.stalbans.anglican.org/wp-content/uploads/2-Resourcing-for-Mission-2019.pdf>

To receive the forms or discuss the PGS please email: Revd. Kate Peacock [kpeacock@stalbands.anglican.org](mailto:kpeacock@stalbands.anglican.org) or for a conversation please call 07741628181

