

Suggested options on how to make monetary donations to St George's Church

All parish churches are required to contribute to their local diocese by way of a "Parish share". The Parish Share is the amount of money that each parish is asked to contribute to support the mission and ministry of the Church in the Diocese. It is in effect the amount St George's makes to the Church to help meet the overall cost of having a priest in residence, pensions, training of new curates, ongoing training for clergy, diocesan expenses and helping support parishes in more deprived areas.

In 2020 our parish share was set at £74,000 but the PCC felt unable to meet this and committed to contributing £65,000. We were asked to contribute the same in 2021 but we had to again reduce our commitment and this year our "Parish Share" was set at £55,000 which is £4583 per month. This is not the only cost the church has every month. We have all the normal bills, gas, electric, phone & broadband, printing, insurance, maintenance of fire extinguishers, repair of the dishwasher, I could keep going. Excluding a legacy donation we received and the cost of the new doors which was donated pre-pandemic, so far this year our monthly outgoings have been £6758 and our income only £5143.

Our income has been hit by not having hall bookings, our concerts, and other fundraising events. This means we are drawing on our reserves leaving our financial resources in a precarious position, insufficient to keep going for more than 2 years, this is despite generous donations from some members of the congregation, of which we are most grateful.

How can we all help?

If you are a tax payer: Why not consider joining the **Parish Giving Scheme**, opting for an annual inflationary increase. Forms are available at the back of the church and on completion should be sent to the Parish Giving Scheme office in Gloucester. *The address is on the form.* This will enable a direct debit to be set up from your bank account. All money comes to St George's and Gift Aid will automatically be claimed and paid into the church bank account. *Claiming Gift Aid gives the church an extra 25% on your donation.*

Standing Order -If you already contribute by standing order and wish to continue with this method, please consider making a small increase. This can be done by contacting your bank or by online banking.

Collection Plate - Since the church reopened after the first lockdown, we have not been permitted to hand round the collection plate during the service. Donations whether in cash or cheque may be left on the plate at the back of church.

Any donation that is £30 or less in cash is eligible for GASDS (gift aid). However, if you are a taxpayer then it is more beneficial to use a **Yellow Envelope**, also available at the back of the church, particularly if a larger donation is being made. Please ensure the front of the envelope has been completed so we know who the donation is from to claim gift aid.

Cheques – If you are a **taxpayer** please insert into a completed Yellow Envelope. Cheques should be made out to **St George's Church**

Our bank account No.is: Sort Code 20-20-62 A/C No. 60766844

If you are like me and rarely have any cash on you and I don't keep my cheque book on me as a rule any more, we now have a contactless unit at the back of the church which you can make donations on.



How to use:

The screen requires the user to touch the amount to be given - £3, £5 or £10 followed by tapping their card on the top of the unit. The transaction has then been made and the screen will indicate that it has been accepted. Thank you!

If a donation is to be more than £10 the orange-coloured lid should be lifted and the amount to be donated keyed in. Replace the lid and tap the card on the top, *as above*.

If the donor requires a receipt, to be sent to the donor's mobile phone, immediately after tapping the card touch the icon on the front screen and key in the user's email address. In a short period of time the receipt will have been sent to the donor's mobile.

Blue Envelope Giving – If you are **not** a tax payer an alternative is to request a set of **blue envelopes** from the Treasurer. Donations of **up to £30** in cash enables gift aid to be claimed under the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme (GASDS). Using the envelope system allows you to budget for a weekly donation and more than one envelope may be handed in if perhaps you are not able to attend church on a weekly basis. This system is intended for donations not exceeding £30.

Anonymous Donation – If you would like to make an anonymous donation of more than £30 and are a tax payer, your donation could be increased by 25%. Please let the Treasurer know your details. The donation would still remain anonymous to everyone else.

Amazon Smile - Making purchases from Amazon could enable the church to benefit from the purchase also. Just search for Amazon Smile and enter our **charity number: 1133301**, Charity name|:**The Parochial Church Council Of The Ecclesiastical Parish Of Whyke, St George With Rumboldswyke, St Mary And Portfield, All Saints** or our website, see below. It should work in exactly the same way as the normal Amazon website but Amazon will pay the church 0.5% of the net price for most goods being purchased. A small percentage but if everyone uses it, we could receive quite a bit of extra funding. Please share this information with your family and friends.

Website <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1133301-0>

If you would like to discuss any part of this document please don't hesitate to contact our **Treasurer, Alison Davis** on email: treasurer@whyke.info or **07824 994946**.