



## Regular giving

### How much should I be aiming to give?

For church members, we should plan our giving, carefully and prayerfully, as a considered proportion of our income.

Of course, people's circumstances vary widely (especially in today's difficult economic climate) and may change.

The biblical pattern is traditionally to give 10% of our income. The Church of England recommends that we aim for at least 5% (of net income after deductions of tax and national insurance).

Whatever we give, we need to review our giving regularly.

### What's the most efficient way to give?

"Planned giving" is the most convenient - for the giver and the church:

Standing Orders (weekly or monthly) are ideal, as they are simple, regular and avoid cash. And they can be easily amended or stopped, if required. Forms are always available at both churches, from the Treasurer or the Church Office

Our 'flexible' Envelope Scheme is another way to give regularly.

## What about Gift Aid?

Gift Aid is a blessing in itself! If you are a UK tax payer, you can sign a simple form which enables the church to claim an extra 25% from the Inland Revenue, at no further cost to the giver. Forms for this are also always available.

### Here to advise...

If you would like to contribute in some way, or change your pattern of giving, or just get more advice, please speak to any of the team:

Rector: Mike Turnbull (01270 665742)

Treasurer: Daphne Gregory

Parish Giving Officer: Andrea Bartholomew

Thank you so much for your involvement at St Mary's & St Luke's, and your concern for God's work here.

"Rejoice in the Lord always!"  
(Philippians 4:4)



# Information on Giving at St Mary's & St Luke's

[stmaryswistaston.org.uk](http://stmaryswistaston.org.uk)

[facebook.com/stmaryandstluke](https://www.facebook.com/stmaryandstluke)

@maryandluke

# We give thanks to God for His provision in our lives and for our congregations and churches in Wistaston & Willaston...



It's our privilege and responsibility to support and maintain St Luke's & St Mary's, and all of us who use the church at different times have opportunities to play our part.

There are, of course, many ways in which we can give to God - through giving of our time and talents, through prayer, and so on.

This leaflet is concentrating on the crucial issue of financial giving, with suggestions for different ways in which this can be done. It costs around £100,000 a year to keep things up and running at our

churches, and all of it has to be raised locally. It's a challenge that relies on the generosity of many people and a big thank you for all who currently give. We offer here some general Christian principles about giving, and also provide some practical information. We hope very much you will find it helpful and encouraging.

*Please take this leaflet home, and consider how you could join in and help to maintain the ministry of the church in this community.*

This leaflet has been put together to encourage all members and friends to share in the vital task of supporting God's work at our churches through giving.



## Principles and Guidelines What does the Bible teach us?

"All things come from you, and of your own do we give you" (1 Chronicles 29:14)  
"Everyone should give what they have decided in their heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7)  
"It is more blessed to give than to receive." (Acts 20:35)

### Some basic principles

- Everything comes from God - we are just giving some back!
- For Christians, God takes priority in our financial planning
- Giving (inc time, talents & money) is a spiritual issue!
- Being in a position to share is a privilege

For church members, regular financial giving is an intrinsic part of our Christian discipleship. But friends in the wider community can also play a very significant part in supporting God's work here, by making a donation, or leaving a legacy.

### Occasional giving

#### Leaving a Gift in your Will

Making a will is always a prudent step for any of us to take, and leaving a gift to the church as part of that process can make a huge difference to the work we are able to do in our parish, and is an excellent way to help provide for the next generation. We are greatly indebted to those who remember the church in this way.

#### Making a donation

Making a donation to church is also a wonderful way to give thanks to God for all his blessings, perhaps marking a particular moment in our lives,

or offering part of a gift we have ourselves received.

#### Gift Aid

Of course, the added benefit of Gift Aid here can also make a substantial difference (see over)

#### Easyfundraising.org.uk

You can also give as you shop online without it costing you a penny! Simply go to the website above and search for St Mary's Wistaston PCC and nominate us as your favourite cause, then each time you shop online at the likes of Amazon, Argos, John Lewis, Apple, eBay and many other big retailers a percentage of the sale is paid to St Mary's! Simple!