

THE PARISH GIVING SCHEME

As members of All Saints' Church, we all give regularly and generously. And we all understand why our gifts are needed: to pay for our minister and for the upkeep of this building, to fund our charitable giving and to support and nourish the fellowship that we all enjoy. It goes without saying that, like every other family, we are always short of money!

The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) is being introduced by the diocese to help our money go just a bit further.

It is a *direct-debit* system. Instead of a standing order, gifts are collected by direct debit on the 1st of every month.

It is *flexible*; we can change the amount we give at any time.

The scheme has a number of significant advantages.

It is *administered centrally*, so that the amount of work that has to be carried out in the parish is dramatically reduced.

It is *free* for the parish; all running costs are met by the diocese.

It is *efficient*; gifts and Gift Aid are returned to the parish within 10 days. (It currently takes a very long time to claim Gift Aid on our donations.)

It allows us to *inflation-proof* our gift. By ticking the box on the form, we can increase our gift automatically each year by the rate of inflation. This is normally a very small increase for individuals, but collectively makes a significant difference to the parish. And we are notified in plenty of time and can decide not to make the increase if our circumstances change.

Moving to the PGS scheme is extremely straightforward. If you wish to take part, you should

1. Complete the form in your pack and send it to *Parish Giving Scheme, Church House, College Green, Gloucester, GL1 2LY*. The starting date for payments is September 1st 2017.
2. Make sure that you cancel any existing standing order *after* the August payment.

In order for the PGS to process the information by September 1st, the form must reach them by August 1st at the latest.

The scheme is entirely voluntary, and you can of course continue to give in the way that you have always done. However, we hope very much that as many people as possible will be able to change to the new scheme, as evidence from other dioceses shows that it has really helped parishes to improve the management of their finances.