

What are the advantages of the Parish Giving Scheme?

We believe that the Scheme offers our local churches the following advantages over other methods for donors to make regular donations to their local churches (e.g., Standing Orders, envelope schemes):

- it is an efficient method for donors to make regular donations,
- it improves the cashflow,
- it reduces the administrative workload for volunteers,
- if donors accept the annual inflationary increase, it overcomes 'static giving', and
- it is effective regardless of the size of the local church.

What happens at the Offertory?

We can provide donors who have joined the Scheme with PGS tokens (as illustrated) which can be placed on the plate or in the collection bag at the Offertory. The PGS tokens enable them to participate in the Offertory.



What materials are available to local churches?

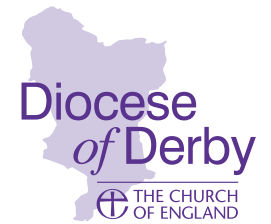
A range of materials is available to local churches in our diocese. In addition to this 'Frequently Asked Questions' leaflet (A5 format), the range includes an Implementation Handbook (A4), PGS Gift Forms (A5) for donors who are ready to join the Scheme, a leaflet explaining the PGS to existing donors (e.g., 'planned givers') (A5), and pro-forma letters for local churches to send to existing donors and potential donors (A5).

What's the next step?

Local churches need to register for the Parish Giving Scheme. Full details are given in the Implementation Handbook which is downloadable from www.derby.anglican.org/church-admin/pgs.html

Where can I get more information?

David Meredith and David Mundy, Parish Resource Officers in the Diocese of Derby, are supporting the Parish Giving Scheme. They can be contacted by e-mail at pgs@derby.anglican.org or by 'phone on 07917 182294 or 07710 094948



Diocese of Derby Frequently Asked Questions by PCCs



October 2017

Why is the Parish Giving Scheme a good thing?

The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) uses Direct Debits to provide donors with a modern, convenient, elegant and secure method of making regular donations to their local church. By using Direct Debits, the Scheme offers donors the option to increase automatically their donations by inflation each year. This is a 21st century solution to offset one of the greatest problems of local church income – ‘static giving’. Also, donors can remain anonymous if they prefer.

Are some donors scared of Direct Debits?

Yes – and we need to overcome this fear! Donors are protected by the Direct Debit Guarantee which makes it a very safe system. More information is available at www.directdebit.co.uk or www.financial-ombudsman.org.uk (search for ‘direct debit’).

Why are we promoting the PGS in our diocese?

The PGS helps not only our local churches but also the volunteers in our local churches who manage parish finances and planned giving schemes – our PCC Treasurers, our Planned Giving Secretaries.

How does the PGS help PCC Treasurers?

The PGS deposits money directly to the local church’s bank account on the 10th of each month. The amount remitted is the total for all the PGS donors in the local church. The PGS also automatically reclaims any Gift Aid from HMRC and remits this as soon as it is received. The PCC Treasurer receives a report from the PGS showing the details of the donations (see example report below).

Parish name: Dibley
 Parish reference: 088-DIBY
 Date of donation: 1st October 2011
 Claim generated: 5th October 2011

Transaction Donor Ref	Contact ID	Donation Received	Gift Aid	Total	Freq.	Inflat.
Miss Scarlet	DBF THANK YOU-1158	4032	10.00	2.50	12.50	M N
Revd Green	DBF THANK YOU-1150	4023	35.00	8.75	43.75	M Y
Mrs White	DBF THANK YOU-1144	1257	15.00	3.75	18.75	M Y
Colonel Mustard	DBF THANK YOU-1598	4591	8.00	2.00	10.00	M N
Anonymous	DBF THANK YOU-1148	4018	40.00	10.00	50.00	Q Y
Prof Plum	DBF THANK YOU-1143	4011	30.00	7.50	37.50	M Y
Lady Peacock	DBF THANK YOU-1264	4988	1000.00	250.00	1250.00	A Y
Anonymous	DBF THANK YOU-1364	5203	25.00	6.25	31.25	Q Y
Dr Black	DBF THANK YOU-1365	5204	25.00	0.00	25.00	M Y
		1188.00	290.75	1478.75		

Joiners (Contact ID)	Leavers (Contact ID)
5203	3988
5204	

Key: Freq = Frequency	M = Monthly
	Q = Quarterly
	A = Annual
Inflat = Annual Gift Inflationary Increase	Y = Inflationary increase
	N = No inflationary increase

How else does the PGS help local churches?

As more and more donors switch to the PGS, it will save many hours of administrative time for our local churches. Donations made through the PGS are much easier for the PCC Treasurer to reconcile than Standing Orders or cash (e.g., through envelope schemes). Gift Aid is received each month, improving cashflow. Furthermore, with the option for an annual inflationary increase in donations (which the majority of PGS donors accept), local church income increases year on year.

What measure of inflation is used?

The PGS applies the most recently published January RPI on the anniversary of the donor’s gift through PGS. This increase is only applied to those donors who have ‘opted in’ – which is the majority of donors.

Why is inflation so important?

One of the biggest problems faced by local churches is that of ‘static giving’. If giving had kept track with inflation since the year 2000, it would have increased by over 50%

Year	2000	2005	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Gift Amount (example)	£50	£56.69	£65.73	£68.73	£71.43	£73.78	£75.81	£76.65

Who operates the Parish Giving Scheme?

The PGS was initially developed, operated and managed by the Diocese of Gloucester. Now seventeen Church of England dioceses actively participate in the Scheme. With the backing of The Archbishops’ Council, the Scheme became a church-run not-for-profit company in 2014 (Registered Charity 1156606). With nearly ten years’ experience, the Scheme is well ‘bedded in’.

How much does it cost to participate?

The Diocese of Derby pays the marginal costs of participating in the Scheme. There are NO additional costs for local churches to participate in the Scheme.

How long does it take for donations to be remitted?

The PGS collects money from donors’ bank accounts on the 1st of each month, and the total collected is remitted to PCC bank accounts on or before the 10th of each month. The PGS remits the Gift Aid reclaim to PCC bank accounts as soon as it is received from HMRC.

