



# Support your Church

## Find out how you can support the work of this Church.

If you wish to help us maintain and support the work of this church as a regular contributor, we use the Parish Giving scheme which you can read about in this leaflet.

If you are just passing through and wish to donate to show your appreciation as a one-off gift, then please use our Giving Station where you can tap your card to give.

Whatever you choose – Thank You.

# Please read the following to join the Parish Giving Scheme and support this church

## Why are regular gifts so important to our Church?

The Church of England provides a Christian presence at the heart of all our communities: by our wonderful buildings; by worshipping together; by serving our communities and by sharing our faith and values. This valuable contribution to our community has a cost, of which 75% is met by personal gifts. For our Church to survive and grow, we rely on regular gifts so that we can plan confidently for the future.

## What is the Parish Giving Scheme?

The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) has been set up to help us best manage regular gifts. It is run as a partnership between dioceses on a cost sharing basis.

## How does it work?

Gifts can be made on a monthly, quarterly or annual basis, by registering with the Parish Giving Scheme. Even though gifts are made to the PGS, they are restricted to our parish. Your gift will be passed back to us by the 10th of each month. Where eligible, Gift Aid will be received separately once the PGS has received it from HMRC.

## What are the main benefits?

The main beneficiary of this scheme will be our church. Through your generous commitment, we can be assured of a regular, tax-efficient source of income which has the capacity to increase with the cost of living yet involves virtually no administration for our local volunteers. You will benefit from a system that is secure, confidential and easy to use, while supporting our church today and for the future.

## How do I sign up to the scheme?

It's simple to do online. Use the QR code or address below to connect directly to Christ Church's giving page.



<https://www.paritygiving.org.uk/donors/fin d-your-parish/swindon-christchurch-st-mary-swindon>

If you prefer you can telephone the PGS on 0333 002 1260 or <mailto:info@paritygiving.org.uk>

Our parish reference code is **050605176**  
Swindon ChristChurch & St Mary.

## Confidential Help and advice

If you would like help, contact **Stephen Grosvenor our Gift Aid Secretary on 07885 217077**  
<mailto:Stephen@Christchurchswindon.co.uk>

## What happens once I sign up?

Within 10 working days you will receive a letter confirming your personal details, the amount, frequency and date of your first gift and the parish you wish to restrict it to. Please check this letter thoroughly to ensure that all the details are correct. In this letter you will receive a **PGS reference number** (located below the address) which you need to keep, and quote in any future communication you have with the Parish Giving Scheme. There will also be a bank reference code which begins with 'PGS Thank You' and ends with a unique number code. This is the description which will appear on your bank statement when each gift is given.

## I currently give by standing order; how do I stop this?

Unfortunately, the PGS is unable to cancel a standing order for you, **only you may do this**. If you bank online, it is very simple to do through your online account, otherwise you will need to contact your bank directly.

## How do I change my gift in the future?

We know that circumstances change and your ability to give may increase or decrease over time. If you wish to make a change, please notify the Parish Giving Scheme using one of the methods provided in the contact information box below quoting:

- Your PGS reference number (found below your address on PGS correspondence)
- How much your existing gift is for

- What you would like it changed to
- When you would like this change to be brought into effect

Should you wish to have a confidential conversation about your options in changing your gift, please don't hesitate to contact Stephen Grosvenor our parish giving representative or the Parish Giving Scheme

Note: For administrative reasons the Parish Giving Scheme cannot make any changes within 10 working days of the next gift date.

## Who do I contact at the PGS for help?

Parish Giving Scheme, 76 Kingsholm Road, Gloucester GL1 3BD

Tel: 0333 002 1260 |

Email: [info@parishgiving.org.uk](mailto:info@parishgiving.org.uk)

## Website

<https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/swindon-christchurch-st-mary-swindon>

# Frequently Asked Questions

## **Who is responsible for my personal information?**

Although the PGS has been set up to help us manage gifts, it is a separate legal entity from our parish and must comply with data protection law. By returning the gift form you consent to the PGS using your information for the purposes of the Parish Giving Scheme

## **Why can't our parish offer direct debit?**

Direct Debiting is a highly regulated system and is only offered by Banks for established businesses or organisations who are considered financially sound and reputable with proven internal control systems.

## **Will our parish be charged for this scheme?**

There is no direct charge to us for using the Parish Giving Scheme or processing your gift. The annual running cost of the scheme is met by our diocese.

## **Why am I donating to the PGS?**

To claim Gift Aid and manage your gift on behalf of our parish, it is necessary that your gift is legally given to the PGS who are handling all the administration on our behalf. The gift is restricted to our parish and cannot be used by the PGS for any other purposes.

## **Can I choose the day my gift is collected?**

Unfortunately, not. In minimising costs, it is important that all gifts are collected on the same day each month, which has been agreed as the 1st.

## **What rate of inflation will be used if I agree to increase my gift automatically each year?**

If you choose to index link your gift the applicable Retail Prices Index (RPI) will be used as an independent and well-known measure. The scheme will increase all relevant gifts using the rate for January of that year (if this rate is unavailable the rate for the previous January will be used for consistency).

## **What if I say yes to an inflationary increase, but my circumstances change?**

We fully understand that circumstances can change; please rest assured that you will be written to 30 days in advance of any increase with the revised amount. If you are unable to meet it simply let us know