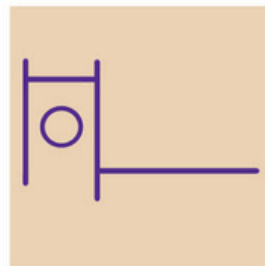
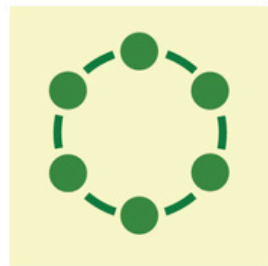


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# PCC GUIDE



TM

PARISH  
GIVING  
SCHEME

A better, easy and safe way to facilitate  
giving in your church.

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**6**  
*We're launching this Scheme which is the simplest and most efficient way for people to give as generously as they can to the work and witness of the Church - so please look into using the Parish Giving Scheme in your parish.*

*Archbishop Stephen Cottrell*

## **ABOUT PGS**

The Parish Giving Scheme is a 21st Century mechanism to facilitate planned giving, enabling effective and efficient regular Direct Debit gifts from individuals to local parish churches.

Giving through this Scheme is made by Direct Debit and can be set up either online, by phone or paper gift form. Gifts can be given on a monthly, quarterly or annual basis, and each gift is directed to that individual's chosen church. If this Scheme becomes the principal giving method for your church, you will be offering inflation-proofed giving, maximising your cash-flow through monthly Gift Aid income, and reducing your administration as PGS claims Gift Aid on your behalf. This will release your parish to focus on other important priorities. The introduction of PGS also provides you with an excellent opportunity to talk about money with the potential to bring about a change in cultural attitudes to giving. To take full advantage of this opportunity it is therefore strongly recommended to introduce PGS alongside an appropriate giving programme.

## **BENEFITS TO YOUR CHURCH**

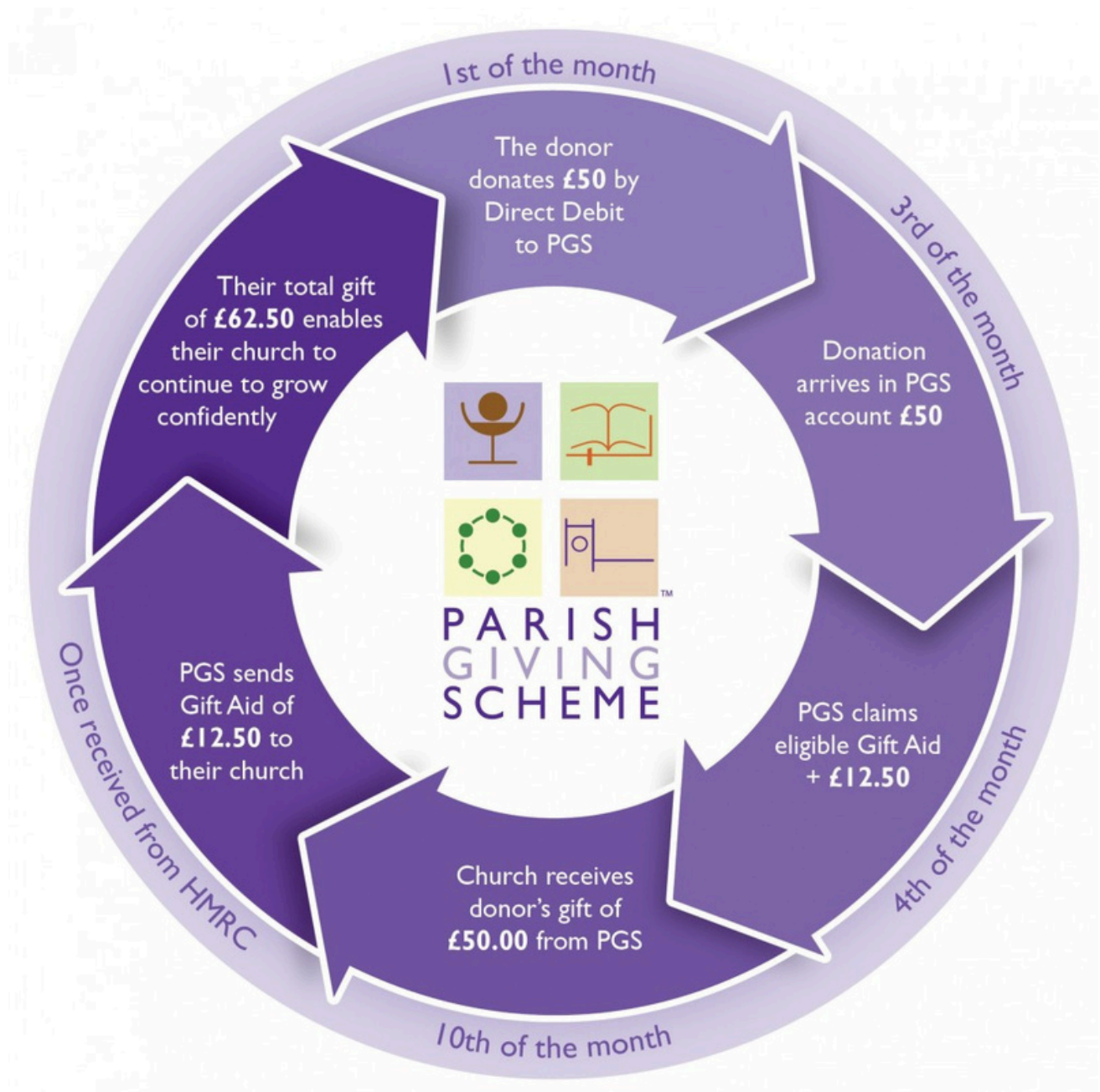
- Less cash giving means lower risk for volunteers, and time spent counting and banking cash is reduced.
- Those joining the Scheme have the option to increase their giving by inflation each year, retaining their gift's value year after year.
- The option to set up gifts online, over the phone or through a paper form makes it really easy for your church to enable people to give.
- With PGS claiming Gift Aid on your church's behalf, administration in your local church is reduced considerably, as well as cash flow increased with Gift Aid being claimed every month.
- The Scheme is offered free of charge to all churches and givers in the Diocese of York.



**PARISH  
GIVING  
SCHEME**

## HOW IT WORKS

*Based on an example of £50 per month.*



*PGS has major advantages in terms of ease of use, saving volunteer time, security, and of course in a COVID environment you're not having to handle cash - and that's been a consideration too, and a real advantage of it.*

*Vicar, Diocese of York*



## MANAGING PGS FOR YOUR CHURCH

Once your church has registered with PGS, your Statement Receiver (usually your Treasurer) will gain access to your online PGS account.

## DOWNLOADING STATEMENTS

Your Statement Receiver will be able to download monthly statements from your PGS online account. Statements include a summary of people giving to your church, the amounts they give and the Gift Aid connected with their gift. They also indicate the frequency of gifts (monthly, quarterly or annual), whether gifts are increased by inflation each year, and a summary of joiners and leavers to the Scheme.

## PARISH LANDING PAGE

All churches in the Church of England have a landing page on the PGS website - this is a page hosting your church's profile, enabling people to give to their intended parish. Parish landing pages draw information about your church from A Church Near You, so it's helpful to liaise with the person who holds permissions for ACNY within your parish if you want to make any amendments.



*"When we seek to raise funds we are not saying 'please could you help us out because lately it has been hard,' rather we are declaring, 'We have a vision that is amazing and exciting. We are inviting you to invest yourself through the resources God has given you - your energy, your prayers and your money - in this work to which God has called us.'"*

*Henri Nouwen, The Spirituality of Fundraising*

### 3 WAYS TO GIVE

Once your church has registered with PGS, individuals can set up their gifts. There are three easy and secure ways for people to give to your church: online, by phone, or complete a Gift Form by post. Givers will need to have their bank account details, your church name and your PGS parish code to hand. Your church might also want to use your unique QR code that people can simply scan with their smartphones and follow the instructions on screen to set up your regular gifts.

- Give online by visiting **www.parishgiving.org.uk**, find your church using the search function and follow the quick and easy steps to set up regular giving.
- Give by phone by calling **0333 002 1271** between Monday and Friday 9am - 5pm, making sure your church's PGS Parish Code is to hand.
- Give by a **paper Gift Form**, supplied by your parish to givers. Simply fill in the details and return to PGS by post.

### INFLATIONARY GIVING

A unique feature of the Parish Giving Scheme is the popular option for each giver to increase their gift annually in line with inflation. While this is a voluntary decision, it is one that could potentially have a huge impact on the life and future of the church - it combats static giving by maintaining the value of gifts year after year. Thirty days before the anniversary of people's gifts, givers will receive a letter informing them of their increased gift amount - if for any reason they do not wish for that increase to be actioned, simply notify PGS.

*2020 = £50.00 + £12.50 Gift Aid = £62.50 per month*

*Gift increases in line with Retail Price Index (RPI)\**

*2030 = £64.00 + £16.00 Gift Aid = £80.00 per month*

*\*assumed at 2.5% per year*



The PGS team are lovely to chat to and well informed, it was all done in a clear and concise way - its ease of use will give everyone confidence that it's the right thing to do.

Treasurer,  
Diocese of York



## WHAT DOES YOUR CHURCH NEED TO DO?

### **Pray**

All decisions about our church life should be rooted and grounded in prayer.

### **Pass a resolution**

This secures the legal agreement between your parish and PGS, enabling the Scheme to handle giving on your behalf.

### **Register your church**

A Registration Form will be provided by your Diocesan Giving Adviser. This must be completed before people can start giving to your church through the Scheme.

### **Plan your Giving Programme**

PGS is an excellent mechanism to help your church to facilitate giving and administer Gift Aid, but it needs to be paired with a motivational tool to encourage greater generosity.

It is therefore highly recommended that your church runs a Giving Programme alongside your launch of PGS, to take advantage of the opportunity to engage people in prayer and discipleship when reflecting on giving.

Your Diocesan Giving Adviser can guide you through the process of planning and facilitating your Giving Programme and can be contacted through [dioceseofyork.org.uk/pgs](http://dioceseofyork.org.uk/pgs), or through the details at the end of this booklet.

*For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.  
Matthew 6.21*

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## MAKING IT HAPPEN

### 1. Lead by example

Encourage PCC members and members of the church leadership team to commit to join the Parish Giving Scheme.

### 2. Launch with a Giving Programme

Launching the Parish Giving Scheme as part of a Giving Programme within your church enables a more fruitful response.

### 3. Encourage prayer and discipleship

Including themed worship, preaching, teaching and prayer in your Giving Programme will give a fuller and more meaningful context to the Parish Giving Scheme, as part of discipleship and faith.

### 4. Consider how you will engage your community

Write to all your planned givers and to members on your Electoral Roll, to encourage people to reflect on their giving.

### 5. Produce local resources

Locally produced giving materials will allow you to promote a local vision for mission and ministry, which giving through the Parish Giving Scheme helps to resource. Include your PGS QR code on any materials where you can, including leaflets, posters and orders of service.

### 6. Communicate

- Include details of the Parish Giving Scheme on your parish website and social media pages, including your PGS parish code and a link to your PGS landing page.
- Include a permanent notice in your weekly newsletter about how givers can join the Parish Giving Scheme, with your PGS QR code.
- Write a short article for your church magazine about the importance of regular giving to your church, including details of the Parish Giving Scheme, and how people can join locally.

### 7. Talk about it

Ask someone who has joined the Parish Giving Scheme to speak briefly about why they chose to join the Scheme, how they feel it helps them to give, and how helps your church.

### 8. Keep up to date

Updates from the church Treasurer during worship, meetings or written reports will help to keep up a regular stream of communication and ensure a continuing high profile for the Parish Giving Scheme within your church.

### 9. Celebrate the impact

Report on the growth of the Parish Giving Scheme within your church and the difference it is making. Ensure that you make clear links between giving and the mission of your local church.

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# PARISH GIVING SCHEME

*"Giving is a fundamental part of our discipleship, and enables the mission and ministry in our churches. The Parish Giving Scheme is a simple and secure system for processing our gifts; it helps Treasurers and reduces administrative burdens to churches as a whole. We actively encourage participation in PGS across the diocese, and will support parishes as best we can in launching this inspired Scheme."*

*The Rt. Revd. Paul Ferguson  
Bishop of Whitby*

*Generous  
Giving*



DIOCESE OF  
**YORK**

[www.dioceseofyork.org.uk/pgs](http://www.dioceseofyork.org.uk/pgs)

[www.parishgiving.org.uk](http://www.parishgiving.org.uk)

[info@parishgiving.org.uk](mailto:info@parishgiving.org.uk) | 0333 002 1260