



Address1
Address 2
Address3
Address 4

**Letter to the
Congregation**

Make sure you delete
this box before printing!

Date

Dear

I am writing to thank you for all that you have given to **[name of church]** over the years, your time and your talents as well as your financial giving. The ministry of our church changes lives both in our church and in the wider community. There is much for which we as a church can be grateful and we continue to look forward to an exciting and challenging time under God.

This ministry costs money and it is important for all of us who give regularly to the church to review each year our financial commitment here. As a member of our planned giving scheme I am inviting you to review the amount of money you give to God's work here so that together we can:

- Express our thanks to God for all he has blessed us with, in our homes and families
- Give glory to God here in our worship.
- Sustain our activities for our children, our young people and the elderly; extend our care for the wider community, the bereaved and the sick and our welcome to those coming for baptisms, for those we meet in local outreach and help those in need, both home and abroad by giving to mission.
- Pay our bills, for gas and electricity, insurance, and for our clergy through the parish share – our contribution to the cost of our clergy.

To do all of this, and more costs **£xxx** each week. To meet this challenge I am asking each individual and household in the church to do just two things:

1. To review his or her financial commitment to our church.
2. To make that giving effective through Gift Aid if you pay tax and by Standing Order - if that is appropriate.

The Church Council and I will not ask you to do something that we would not do ourselves. We have already committed ourselves individually to review and increase our own personal giving to our church. (*OR Together as a Council we have already committed ourselves to an increase in giving of £xx*). For your part whatever amount of money you decide to give to our church each week, or month, I know you will make your giving decision after prayer and reflection, being realistic, thoughtful and generous.

Thank you for your continued participation in God's work through our church and for all you give in response to this request.

In his love

Vicar

PS. The financial details will be confidential to our planned giving officer but I will be aware of the overall response and will write to thank those who respond. Please do respond even if you are unable to increase your giving at the present time as a sign of your support to our church.