

How much do I give?

Only you can answer that one. You may want to look at Paul's teaching in 1 Corinthians 16:1-3 or much longer in 2 Corinthians 8:1-15. The key thing is that we do think and pray about what we give. Perhaps these questions are helpful:

- *Is my giving realistic when I consider the financial needs of my church?*
- *Is my giving an affair of the head or of the heart?*
- *Is my giving generous when I think of my income, of all God gives to me?*
- *Is my giving a priority or something I do when the rest is taken care of?*
- *Is my giving about fixed amounts or as a proportion of my income?*
- *How much of me - my life, my blessings, my priorities, my lifestyle - is reflected in what I give?*

'Excel in this grace of giving'
2 Cor. 8:5

Giving and worship

If you decide to give by Standing Order then there is no need to put anything on the collection plate. You and God know your planned giving and that is what matters.

However, when we thank God for the gifts in church we want to feel that our gift is included. The offering of our money is an important part of the worship and a sign of us offering our lives to God.

At services small giving cards can be placed in the offertory plate to represent our giving as we pray together, "all things come from you, and of your own do we give you".

For more Gift Aid guidance, speak to our Gift Aid Secretary or Treasurer.

Growing Generous Giving

Planned Giving
by
Standing Order



Thank you!

Thank you for asking about giving to the life, ministry and mission of our church by Standing Order. You may already give by weekly envelopes or by gifts on our offertory plate. Or this may be the first time you have considered giving regularly to our church. Whatever your journey of generosity, thank you.

Planned giving means that we decide in advance how much we will give and how we will make our gift. Such regular, committed, generous giving is the financial heartbeat of our church. This planned giving sustains our church, our worship, our ministry and mission.

If we use Standing Orders (and Direct Debits) to pay many household bills then a Standing Order is a really helpful and practical way for us to make our gifts to God's work in our church.

Giving by Standing Order really helps those looking after church finances:

- **much easier** to manage than cash, cheques and weekly envelopes,
- more **secure** than taking cash to the bank which is ever more difficult,
- keeps income **steady** even when we can't be in church, say at holiday time,
- enables **Gift Aid** to be claimed, where eligible, by the church.

Helping us to give

Giving by Standing Order is helpful for our church administration and church finances. It's also really helpful for us as we plan our giving. In 1 Corinthians 16:2 Paul's guidance is that our giving as Christians should be:

priority giving: a first call on our income, not what is left over when everything else is done.

planned giving: set aside; careful and considered like all our financial decisions.

proportionate giving: a gift that reflects all that God has given to us.

practical giving: saving it up so there are no rushed, last minute, embarrassed offerings.



Giving by Standing Order is a modern way of putting ancient biblical wisdom into practice. We manage our giving with the same care with which we attend to all our financial matters.

No more last minute searching for cash before Church. Indeed, as most of us use cash much less often Standing Orders are an appropriate and most helpful way for us to give generously.

Your Questions

How do I set up a Standing Order?

Simply complete the enclosed form and send it to your bank or to our treasurer. Or use the details to visit your bank or set it up on internet banking.

Will anyone know what I give?

Our treasurer will know from the bank statement, which is the record of your giving. Our Gift Aid secretary will know in order to make a tax reclaim (and possibly even if you cannot Gift Aid) but this information is not shared with anyone else.

Will my new Standing Order affect Gift Aid?

Not at all. If you already Gift Aid to this church you do not need to complete another declaration. We will continue to write each year to thank you and say how much tax we have been able to claim.

How do I increase my Standing Order?

You can change your Standing Order any time and as needed by online banking, phone or in branch. You don't need to tell anyone at Church.

Can I cancel my Standing Order?

Of course. Just contact your bank or cancel by online banking. It would help if you let us know you have cancelled. There may be other helpful ways for you to give instead.