

Planned GIVING 2022–23



So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen,
since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

2 CORINTHIANS 4:18

Planned Giving 2022–23

No sooner have the difficulties of Covid started to pass than another, in the form of a significant rise in the cost of living, has presented itself. For some, the security of their finances and quality of lives will remain under strain. As usual, the Planned Giving Committee asks each of us to reflect on how we can support the work of the parish and the Diocese.

We are fortunate in having many who support this work. Your generosity makes a difference. The well maintained church yards are a welcome space for many, schemes such as FiSH and Glass Door help people directly. And never underestimate the quiet pastoral support of our clergy. If you are not a member of the Planned Giving Scheme, please consider joining.

A message from Bishop Christopher of Southwark Diocese

Whatever our parish's resources, may we strive to be generous and 'not forget to do good and to share with others' (Hebrews 13:16).

My friends, may we in these challenging times, with the Lord being our helper, continue to walk together with generous hearts, Christ-Centred and Outward-focused.

A message from the Treasurer

We continue to be REALLY grateful for all of your donations. And as an accountant I am especially grateful to those in the Giving Scheme. It is this scheme that enables us to spread the load and look ahead with some confidence.

I'd also like you to spare a thought for the Southwark Diocese finance team (much of our giving goes to them). They are (in my opinion!) a diligent, professional department supporting the Parishes with seminars, briefings and ad hoc help as well as running a budget of close to £24,000,000 per annum, 80% of which is to finance the Clergy stipends, pensions, housing and education for the 356 churches.

And a word for the volunteers. You can't put a price on the time and effort put in voluntarily – there's non-stipendiary clergy, lay readers, wardens, musicians, consultatives – the list goes on... good work!

None of this would happen without generous giving (and I'd say good value giving!). So it's a WELL DONE AND THANK YOU to you and, of course, to everyone else!

To find out more about the Diocese finances and the work that goes on, google both Southwark Diocese Annual Report and Southwark Diocese Parish Support Fund – I'm sure you'll be impressed.

Likely outcome from the parish General Accounts for 2022

Income highlights

- Total amount raised by Planned Giving, including gift aid: £330,000 (no change)
- Other donations and collections (excluding legacies): £15,000
- Houses letting income: £40,000

Expenses highlights

- Payment to parish support fund: £283,000
- Clergy stipend contribution: £15,000
- Mission: £21,000
- Running expenses, staff costs, insurance, house and church upkeep: £86,000

Overall outcome

Earlier in the year the PCC approved the annual budget for 2022 showing a £17,000 deficit. The latest estimate is that we will incur a deficit in the order of £20,000. (As yet unclear how increased lighting and heating costs will impact).

Observation

The Parish is forecasting a deficit for the third year running. However, in the background the churches have been recipients of very generous legacies that don't appear in the parish budget. So there is still no need to panic. But, depending on the state of the energy market, we may need to get used to wearing warmer clothing to Church! The figures given above are estimates. For more detail on the actual historic finances please contact the Parish Office for a copy of the 2021 accounts.

If you are not in the Planned Giving scheme, please join. And talking of legacies:



Have you considered including the church in your will?

A legacy to the church would help the parish continue its important work.

Our Charity Commission number is 1132303

Questions and answers

What is planned giving?

Planned giving is a commitment by a member of the church to give an amount of money to the church on a regular basis. For the vast majority, this involves paying an amount into the parish bank account each month. About 70% of the parish's income comes from planned giving and associated gift aid supplement from HMRC. The commitment and regularity allows the church to plan with confidence.

How much should I give?

Nobody should give more than they can afford. In the past, the church indicated five per cent of net income as an aspiration.

What is the parish support scheme?

One of the great things about the Church of England is that we work together. Rather than each church paying for its own vicar and all the other costs of ministry, we pool resources, with richer parishes supporting poorer ones. This means we can put clergy in the places where they are needed most. Parishes are asked to make a pledge (that is a commitment to pay a certain amount for the year) which is realistic but challenging with a spirit of generosity.

Do members of the clergy know who is in the giving scheme?

No. The planned giving representative for each church knows for their own church only and the parish treasurer keeps records across all three churches in the parish.

If you have any further questions, please contact your own church representative:



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