



Launch of the Parish Giving Scheme at St John's

Dear friend,

Generous giving is an important part of our discipleship as we follow Jesus. It costs well over £1500 a week to run St John's and this cost is met primarily by donations from church members and friends. For our Church to survive and grow, we rely on regular gifts so that we can plan confidently for the future.

The launch of the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) is an opportunity to either start giving to the work of St John's or to review your current giving.

Why does it cost so much to run St John's Church?

The largest expenditure is called the Parish Share. This is the amount our church pays to the Diocese and it is used to pay for clergy, training, housing and pensions and contributes to the costs incurred by the Diocese. Basically, if parishes want clergy and support from the Diocese, then they need to pay parish share. This year the parish share for Elmswell is £75,000. Then, there are the day-to-day running costs of the church.

What is the Parish Giving Scheme?

The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) has been set up to help manage regular giving in a more efficient manner than the current Standing Order system. Gifts can still be made on a monthly, quarterly or annual basis, but can now be managed online, by telephone or by using a paper form.

PGS allows you to opt in to increase your Direct Debit annually in line with inflation. Whilst this is a voluntary decision, it is one that could potentially have a huge impact on the life and future of our church. Each year, you are notified whether you would like to proceed with this.

PGS can also be used to make one-off gifts online, accessed from our web site or, for mobile phone users, by scanning the QR code to the right.



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. You will benefit from a system that is secure, confidential and easy to use, while supporting our church today and for the future.

I already give using a Standing Order – do I have to switch?

You do not have to, but it would make the treasurer's job a lot easier. The steps involved are to (i) request your bank to cancel your current standing order to St John's and (ii) set up a direct debit through PGS, either by filling in the paper form at church or online (click the Donate Online button on the home page of <http://www.stjohnselmswell.org.uk>).

Thank you

I would like to thank every person for their support in giving, both financially and in serving in volunteer roles at St John's. Your partnership in God's mission here at St John's Elmswell is greatly appreciated. May you know the peace of Christ and God's blessing.

In Christ,
Peter