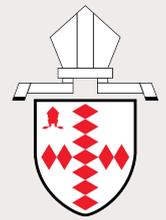


# Finance and Generous Giving Update June 2020



Dear Colleagues

Thank you for your continued and dedicated work in your church roles during this crisis. We are so grateful to all the volunteers working to support our church, and bless our communities. We understand that many of you are concerned about the well-being of your family, friends and world as well as your parish finances. Thank you to all the parishes which have been trying to pay their pledges and offering support across Southwark Diocese.

We thought it might be helpful to highlight some of the latest guidance and new initiatives to help your finances and encourage giving, as we adapt to our new environment.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries.

With kind regards

**Gabby and Tony**

## Don't forget the offering! Be creative in encouraging generosity in online worship.

Let us continue to give thanks to God and encourage our congregations in their generosity by using offering prayers and other appropriate liturgy and/or the new animated film on giving from the CoFE.

The national giving team have produced a short animated film for use during virtual services, meetings and on social media that encourages people to give. Click the image below.



This has proved really popular, helping those who are reticent to 'make the ask' themselves. The film can be customised, as shown here on...

A Church Near You

...so editors can add their own church name and donation details.

Here is a case study from Holy Spirit, Clapham, which personalised its film – and has received several unexpected and generous donations.



## Have you seen our recent information bulletins? Click the icons to read more...



Six Top Tips for encouraging generous giving



FAQs on Finance, PSF and Giving



Giving update: Four new features to encourage online donations

## New deadline for Return of Parish Finance (RPF)

The deadline for receipt of online returns is now extended to 31 July 2020. More information will be available on the Diocesan website.

*Walking  
Welcoming  
Growing*

## Foster a generous church – write to your congregation!

People appreciate being contacted, included and invited to help.



We have sample letters on our website for you to use. The Revd Katie Thomas from New Malden sent one of these out and received extra donations to cover lost rentals enabling her church to make their pledge payments for three months. Giving is important to enable our churches to be sustainable, and whilst we need to be sensitive to people's different financial circumstances, please encourage church members to continue to give, or move to giving by standing order or online if they can, even though our church buildings are closed.

## Generous giving online!

St Peter, Walworth set up a giving page and raised a similar amount in April to its normal cash donations from the plate and envelopes. Clergy allow time for the offering during services and hold up a piece of paper reminding people of the link – so low-tech can work too!



Take a look at St Peter's Facebook page to watch interesting interviews and a video on how to encourage 'Easyfundraising'.

## Good news with GASDs

HMRC has agreed some temporary flexibility to allow cash donations to be eligible for Gift Aid Small Donations scheme (GASDs) relating to the lockdown period.

*"During the COVID-19 crisis HMRC would accept separate weekly envelopes containing £30 or less given when the Churches re open as eligible for GASDs. Alternatively one envelope with a declaration which clearly states how much was being donated each week would also be eligible."*

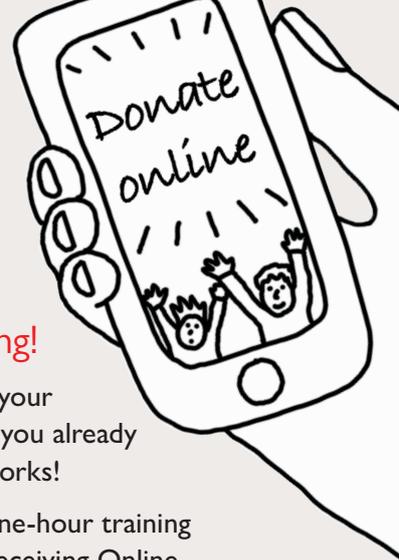
## List of emergency grant funders

Ecclesiastical has a new fundraising hub with a very helpful list of emergency grant funders. Do take a look!



## Make it easy for people to give – use online giving!

Add an online donation link to your website and Facebook pages. If you already have one please check that it works!



- The Church of England has one-hour training webinars to help you with 'Receiving Online Donations', run by the Digital and Giving teams. There is also a chance to ask questions. Book here: 

- Please read the web guidance on encouraging online donations on the Parish Resources website here  which covers all aspects of how to encourage online giving. The site also



has a list of providers with current rates and benefits.

A step-by-step video explains how to set up an online giving account.

- Parish Buying has a promotion for online giving with SumUp with free Gift Aid capability until the end of the year. 
- Every church now has an online giving page on A Church Near You, as well as a 'give now' button to make it easier to give. 
- Are you an exempted charity? The ACNY certificate is accepted by several online donation sites as proof of your status. 

## Would you like help with financial tasks?

Some members of the finance team from one of our larger parishes have offered help with financial tasks such as forecasting at this difficult time. If you would like some help please do contact Tony.

For more information please contact:

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