

## For further information

The Giving Team at Southwark Diocese are here to support you. Please do contact us with any questions, or for any resources.

Tel: 020 7939 9400

Email: [gabby.parikh@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:gabby.parikh@southwark.anglican.org)

### Resources to help PCCs

- A leaflet for PCCs including a sample Legacy Policy.
- A leaflet for individuals about making a will and leaving a legacy.
- A leaflet about making a will for free, though the Farewill partnership with the Church of England.

[www.southwark.anglican.org/legacies](http://www.southwark.anglican.org/legacies)

[www.churchofengland.com/legacy](http://www.churchofengland.com/legacy)

[www.farewill.com/southwarkdiocese](http://www.farewill.com/southwarkdiocese)

At **St Mary's Merton**, the Parish Legacy Coordinator ensures information about legacies is consistently available and provides a confidential listening ear for any questions. He works with the vicar to ensure names are remembered (in line with family wishes) in a liturgy of remembrance each November.

Ian says: "Making a will ensures a person's wishes are respected after their death and gives peace of mind for their loved ones. My church has benefitted from gifts in wills, enabling us to meet the cost of a public address system in church and helping to pay for significant improvements to the church hall, a great asset enjoyed by people in our part of London." Legacies have also enabled St Mary's to support organ scholars, provide a new churchyard gate and install a modern kitchen in their hall.



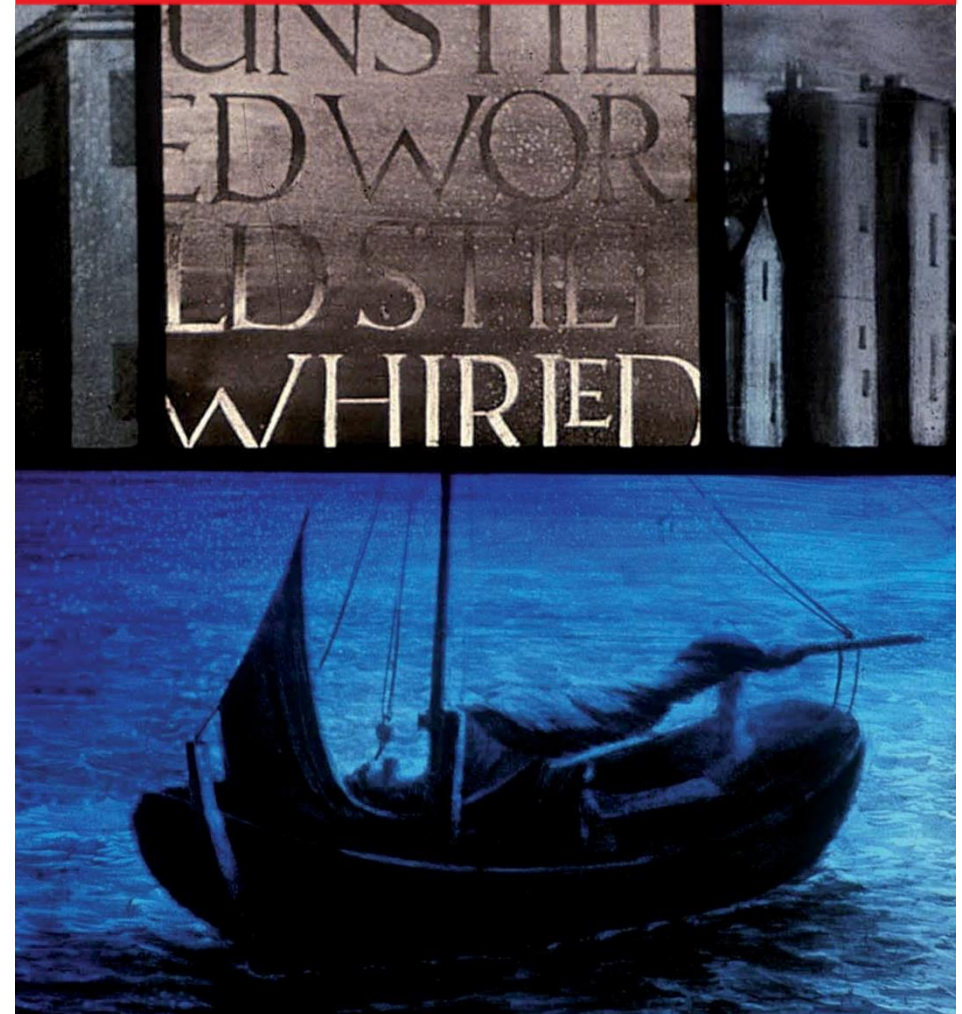
The Diocese of  
**Southwark**

This leaflet is produced by the Diocese of Southwark and is based on material produced by Parish Resources from the Church of England.

Images reproduced with kind permission of the Dear and Chapter of Southwark.

## Parish Legacy Co-ordinator

How you can support your church  
by encouraging wills and legacies



The Diocese of  
**Southwark**

## Your role

The role of a Parish Legacy Co-ordinator is to act as the main point of contact for legacies (also known as gifts in wills) within a church. This involves encouraging church members to keep their wills up to date and consider the difference a gift in their will could make to their local church.

You will provide a friendly, supportive and confidential ear to church members who want to talk about writing their wills or leaving legacies.

### Main objectives:

To help the parish community:

1. Understand the importance of writing a will as an act of Christian stewardship;
2. Encourage gifts in wills to further resource the church's ministry and mission.

### Core tasks include:

- Encourage the PCC to make and communicate a PCC Legacy Policy (see our PCC leaflet about legacies).
- Work with clergy to launch and communicate the policy with the congregation. This could include clergy preaching on the theme.
- Act as the main point of contact in the parish for all legacy enquiries.
- Ensuring the church honours and thanks families when legacies are received. This could include an annual service of thanksgiving.
- Being available for individuals who want to talk about legacies.

Many people know it's a good idea to write a will, but never quite get around to it!

To help make it easier, the Church of England has partnered with **Farewill**, the nation's favourite will-writer, to enable you to write your will online, in as little as 30 minutes, for free.

Visit [www.farewill.com/southwarkdiocese](http://www.farewill.com/southwarkdiocese) to find out more or make a start. Contact [giving@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:giving@southwark.anglican.org) for some free leaflets to share with the congregation.

## Personal Specification

- Sensitive to people and able to maintain totally personal confidentiality.
- A good listener.
- Well organised, used to dealing with paperwork.
- Well respected, liked and trusted within the church community.
- Enthusiastic about giving to resource God's mission.
- Preferably has made their own will including a charitable legacy.
- Desirable but not essential: knowledge of financial and legal affairs.

Your role is not to give advice but to signpost to further information and appropriate professionals, so you don't need specialist knowledge.

### Approach

- Don't be afraid to talk about the importance of gifts in wills; they can transform a church's ministry and mission!
- Never disclose confidential information to a third party, including the clergy.
- Make information about legacies and wills available in a low key, sensitive way over the long term.
- Pray, listen and speak with love, hope and understanding.



Last Will  
AND TESTAMENT