



St Mary's
Christian
Workers
Trust

Giving & Generosity at St Mary's

*A guide to supporting ministry
through the PCC and the Christian
Workers Trust*

This booklet relates to **two separate charities**, each with its own funds and separate governance structures, working in partnership to support gospel ministry at St Mary's:

- **St Mary's Eastrop Parochial Church Council**

Registered Charity No. 1130650

Responsible for the day-to-day ministry and mission of the church.

- **St Mary's Christian Workers Trust**

Registered Charity No. 1186879

Responsible for supporting staff costs, funding mission partners and providing housing for the Associate Minister.

Together, these two charities play distinct but complementary roles in sustaining and strengthening gospel ministry at St Mary's.

Welcome

Everything we do at St Mary's happens because of God's generosity to us in Christ, and because of the generosity of his people. Thank you for your prayers, your service, and your financial support.

This booklet sets out:

- **Why** Christians give.
- **What** your giving enables at St Mary's.
- **How** to give simply and securely.

Our goal is not to pressure anyone. Instead, we invite every member of our church family to consider their giving prayerfully and intentionally.

Why Christians give

- **God is generous** – We give because God has first given to us: *“Though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich”* (2 Corinthians 8:9).
- **Growing to be like God** – Generosity shapes our hearts: *“Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also”* (Matthew 6:21).
- **Growing mission** – evangelism, discipleship, and serving our community are all made possible through God’s people giving together (Philippians 4:17–19).
- **Grace-led** – The New Testament encourages cheerful, joyful and planned giving: *“Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver”* (2 Corinthians 9:7).

What your giving enables

Your giving funds all of St Mary's ministry. Every pound given is turned into ministry opportunities:

- **Word & Teaching** – supporting staff who preach and teach God's Word; resourcing Sundays and midweek gatherings; supporting everything that goes into helping people hear the gospel.
- **Children, Youth & Families** – Sunday children's groups, youth groups, safeguarding, college-age discipleship, support for events.
- **Care & Community** – pastoral care, small group development, prayer, welcome and hospitality, serving the parish, partnerships with local ministries.
- **Mission & Training** – training leaders, pioneering new ministry opportunities, resourcing ministry beyond St Mary's and across the diocese.
- **Buildings & Admin** – utilities, office supplies, insurance, and administration that keep the ministry running.

How St Mary's is funded

Many at St Mary's chose to support in **two different but complementary ways**. Both are vital for sustaining and strengthening gospel ministry at St Mary's, but they are handled through two separate legal entities.

1. The St Mary's PCC

The PCC is responsible for funding the **day-to-day ministry and mission of St Mary's**.

Giving to the PCC goes towards:

- **Supporting the ministry of the church** – the PCC covers the costs of services, midweek groups, small group discipleship, children's and youth work.
- **Covering the cost of clergy** – our giving to the **Common Mission Fund** (see FAQs for an explanation) goes towards paying the salary (or stipend) of our Rector, along with the diocesan HR, safeguarding and legal support.
- **Developing new ministry** – the PCC funds new mission initiatives in our parish, such as new services, community engagement.
- **Running our facilities** – like any household, the church building has energy, utility and insurance costs, which the PCC covers.

2. The Christian Workers Trust

Alongside the PCC's ongoing needs, the **Christian Workers Trust (CWT)** — an entirely separate entity with its own funds and governance works in partnership with the PCC.

Giving to the CWT goes towards:

- **Staff salary costs** — the CWT covers the majority of staff costs, including the Associate Minister, the Associate Minister for Women and Children, the Youth Worker, the Children's Worker, our Operations Director and the Administration staff.
- **Mission Partners** – the CWT gives approximately £40,000 a year to support St Mary's mission partners working in the UK and abroad.
- **Housing** — the CWT provides housing for our Associate Minister.

How to Give

Because the PCC and the Christian Workers Trust are separate charities, there are **two different ways to give**.

1. Giving to the PCC

The PCC relies on the regular giving of church members to sustain ministry. Regular, planned gifts, no matter how large or small, allow the church to fulfil its ministry.

Ways to give:

1. **Standing Order / Bank Transfer** – This is the best way to give regularly (please complete the PCC Response Form so we can check funds are received and recover Gift Aid, if appropriate). Bank details will be provided after completing the online form or after receiving the paper form.
2. **Card Giving** – through the church office (please indicate on the Response Form, and we will arrange this).
3. **Cash or Cheque** – cheques payable to *St Mary's Eastrop PCC*. For Gift Aid, please use a Gift Aid envelope.

2. Giving to the CWT

The CWT relies on gifts to support staff, mission partners and housing—all supporting the mission of the church.

Ways to give:

1. **Standing Order / Bank Transfer** – This is the best way to give regularly (please complete the CWT Response Form so we can check funds are received and recover Gift Aid, if appropriate).

Gift Aid – add 25% at no extra cost

If you are making a gift out of taxed income, please complete a Gift Aid declaration. This allows us to reclaim **25p for every £1** you give.

- For **PCC giving**, complete the PCC's Gift Aid declaration (included with the response form).
- For **CWT gifts**, complete the Gift Aid declaration attached to the response form.

Please note: Gift Aid declarations cannot be shared between charities — you must complete one for each if you give to both.

Tax Relief for Higher Rate Taxpayers

If you're a higher-rate taxpayer in the UK (paying 40% or 45% income tax), you can claim additional tax relief when you donate to charity using Gift Aid.

How It Works

- **You donate £100** to a charity.

- **The charity claims Gift Aid**, making your donation worth £125 to them.
- **You claim tax relief** on the £125 gross donation:
 - If you pay 40% tax, you can claim back 20% of £125 = **£25**
 - If you pay 45% tax, you can claim back 25% of £125 = **£31.25**
- This reduces the *effective* cost of your £100 donation to as little as **£68.75**.

How to Claim the Tax Relief

You must claim the additional tax relief yourself—HMRC doesn't do this automatically. You can do so by:

- Completing a **Self Assessment tax return**, or
- Asking HMRC to adjust your **tax code**, which can reduce the tax deducted from your salary or pension.

If you're unsure, a tax adviser or accountant can help ensure you receive the full relief you're entitled to.

This makes charitable giving even more impactful—both for the church and your personal finances, potentially enabling you to give more.

Leaving a Gift in Your Will

After providing for your loved ones, a gift in your will to St Mary's PCC (or to the Christian Workers Trust) can make a lasting difference to gospel ministry.

The PCC tend to use legacy gifts for **unexpected or one-off expenditure** — such as major building projects, new ministry opportunities, or other investments in the future. This means that your gift will make a visible, lasting difference, rather than being absorbed into everyday costs.

Even a small gift can help:

- train and support gospel workers,
- strengthen ministry among children, youth, and families,
- resource outreach and mission, or
- improve our buildings for long-term service.

We recommend gifts be left for **general purposes** so they can be used where most needed, but you can also specify a particular area if you wish.

Suggested wording for your will

“I give to St Mary’s Eastrop PCC (Registered Charity no. 1130650) [or to the Christian Workers Trust, Registered Charity no. 1186879] the sum of £____ / ____% of the residue of my estate for its general charitable purposes, and I declare that the receipt of the Treasurer or other authorised officer shall be a sufficient discharge to my executors.”

We strongly recommend you consult a solicitor when making or revising your will.

Will Aid – make or update your will

Each **November**, many UK solicitors take part in **Will Aid**, waiving their usual fee for a simple will in exchange for a **voluntary donation to charity**. It’s a cheaper and easier way to update your will while supporting others.

You can use Will Aid to include a gift to either the **PCC** or the **Christian Workers Trust**. Both are registered charities and qualify to receive legacies.

Find participating solicitors at www.willaid.org.uk.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Should I give if I'm visiting St Mary's or not a Christian?

A. No. We're delighted you're with us, but giving is for those who consider St Mary's to be their church family.

Q. How much should I give regularly?

A. The Bible gives us principles rather than fixed rules. In the Old Testament, God's people gave a tithe (10%) of their income as a starting point (Leviticus 27:30; Malachi 3:10). In the New Testament, giving is shaped by grace and generosity — often beyond the tithe (see Acts 4:34–35) — as each person decides in their heart (2 Corinthians 9:6–8).

A good practice is to pray, decide on a proportion of your income (for many Christians, 10% is a helpful guide), and then review it yearly or as circumstances change.

Q. Doesn't the Church of England or the government fund the church?

A. No. Neither the government nor the national

Church of England provides funding for the day-to-day ministry of St Mary's. At St Mary's, our ministry is funded almost entirely by the regular giving of our congregation. The only money that comes to us through the diocese is what we give first, through the Parish Share/Common Mission Fund system, which is then used to provide stipends and pensions for clergy.

Q. What is the Common Mission Fund (or Parish Share), and why do we contribute?

A. Every Church of England parish is invited to contribute to the **Common Mission Fund (CMF)**, often called the **Parish Share**. This covers the stipend, housing, and pension of clergy, as well as training new ministers along with all the diocesan support services (such as legal, safeguarding and HR). At St Mary's, our share first pays for the costs of our Rector, then covers diocesan support services to the church and then any further contribution supports wider gospel ministry across the diocese.

Q. I'm concerned about the direction of the Church of England. How can I be sure my giving isn't used in ways I don't support?

A. We share this concern and want to reassure you. Our contribution towards the Common Mission Fund is entirely directed through the Ephesian Fund, which

ensures resources go specifically to parishes who are orthodox in their teaching and committed to gospel ministry. So, your giving sustains ministry here at St Mary's and strengthens faithful churches elsewhere. Find out more: www.ephesianfund.org.uk

Q. Can I give to both the PCC and the CWT?

A. Yes. Many at St Mary's choose to give to both the PCC and the CWT. They work in partnership to support the overall mission of the church. Just remember: they are legally separate structures, so the gifts must be kept separate.

Q. Can I give to just the PCC or CWT?

A. Of course, any gifts are welcome. Both trusts support the mission of the church in distinct but complementary ways.

How to Respond

1. For the PCC:

- Complete the PCC Response Form at the end of this booklet (or the online version — scan the QR code or visit stmarys-basingstoke.org.uk/about-us/giving).
- Complete the PCC Gift Aid declaration, if eligible.
- Arrange a Standing Order (bank details will be shown after completing the online form or supplied after receiving the paper form).



2. For the CWT:

- Complete a CWT Response form at the end of this booklet.
- Complete the CWT Gift Aid declaration, if eligible.

Thank You

Thank you for considering how you can support the gospel ministry of St Mary's through your giving.

- Your **regular giving to the PCC** funds the ongoing ministry and mission.
- Your **giving to the Christian Workers Trust** supports staff costs and mission partners.

Together, supporting these trusts, means St Mary's is equipped both for today and for generations to come.

PCC Response Form

St Mary's Eastrop Parochial Church Council (Charity No. 1130650)

Your details

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____ Email: _____

Phone: _____

My/Our response (tick all that apply):

- ☐ I/we* will start / adjust a **Standing Order**: £ _____ per month / quarter / year. **delete whichever does not apply*
- ☐ I/we will make a **one-off gift** of £ _____ to the PCC.
- ☐ I/we would like information about **leaving a gift in my/our will**.
- ☐ I/we would like to discuss giving confidentially with the Treasurer / Stewardship Secretary.

How I/we plan to give (tick all that apply):

☐ Standing Order ☐ Online/Card ☐ Cheque ☐ Cash

Gift Aid Declaration (PCC)

I want to Gift Aid my donation and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past four years to **St Mary's Eastrop**

PCC (Registered Charity No. 1130650).

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year, it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Title_____ Full name_____

Address_____

_____ Postcode_____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Your details will be stored securely and used only for the administration of your giving. For confidentiality, giving records are seen only by the two nominated stewardship secretaries. Neither the whole PCC, clergy, nor the Treasurer have access to individual giving information.

Please return this form via the church office to the **PCC Stewardship Secretary**, St Mary's Church Centre, Goat Lane, Basingstoke, RG21 7PZ.

Christian Workers Trust Response Form

St Mary's Christian Workers Trust (Registered Charity No. 1186879)

Your details

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____ Email: _____

Phone: _____

My/Our response

- ☐ I/we* will start / adjust a **Standing Order**: £ _____ per month / quarter / year. **delete whichever does not apply*
- ☐ I/we will make a **one-off gift** of £ _____ to the CWT.
- ☐ I/we would like to discuss giving confidentially with the CWT Treasurer.

Gift Aid Declaration (CWT)

I want to Gift Aid my donation and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past four years to **St Mary's Christian Workers Trust (Registered Charity No. 1186879)**.

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year, it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Title_____ Full name_____

Address_____

_____ Postcode_____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Your details will be stored securely and used only for CWT administration and communication about your giving. They will not be shared outside the CWT.

Please notify the CWT if you want to cancel this declaration, change your name or address or no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains.

Please return forms **marked for "Duncan Reid, CWT Treasurer"** to the Church Office, St Mary's Church Centre, Goat Lane, Basingstoke, RG21 7PZ. Forms will be passed securely to the CWT Treasurer.