

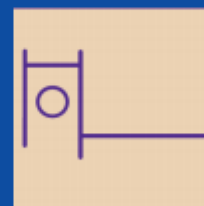
## THE PARISH GIVING SCHEME

The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS ) is a direct debit system that helps parishes in the Diocese of Exeter to manage their regular donations. Over 200 parishes are registered in our diocese and more than 2,500 donors give regularly to a parish through this scheme.

We hope we have provided all the information you need, but feel free to contact us if you have any questions that are not answered on the FAQ's document.



# A better way to help your local church



PARISHGIVINGScheme  
*explained*

## Why

The Church of England offers a Christian presence in every community, seeking to be at the heart of all our cities, towns and villages; by serving our communities; by sharing our faith and values; by worshipping together and by our wonderful buildings. This valuable contribution to our community has a cost, which is largely met by personal donations. For the Church to survive and grow, we rely on regular donations so that we can plan confidently for the future.

'Money' dominates too many agendas in our Church. We need to tackle this problem head-on, so that we can move forward with confidence. Successfully addressing the Church's need to receive realistic, long term giving from committed Christians is a fundamental part of developing a thriving, outward looking church.

## What

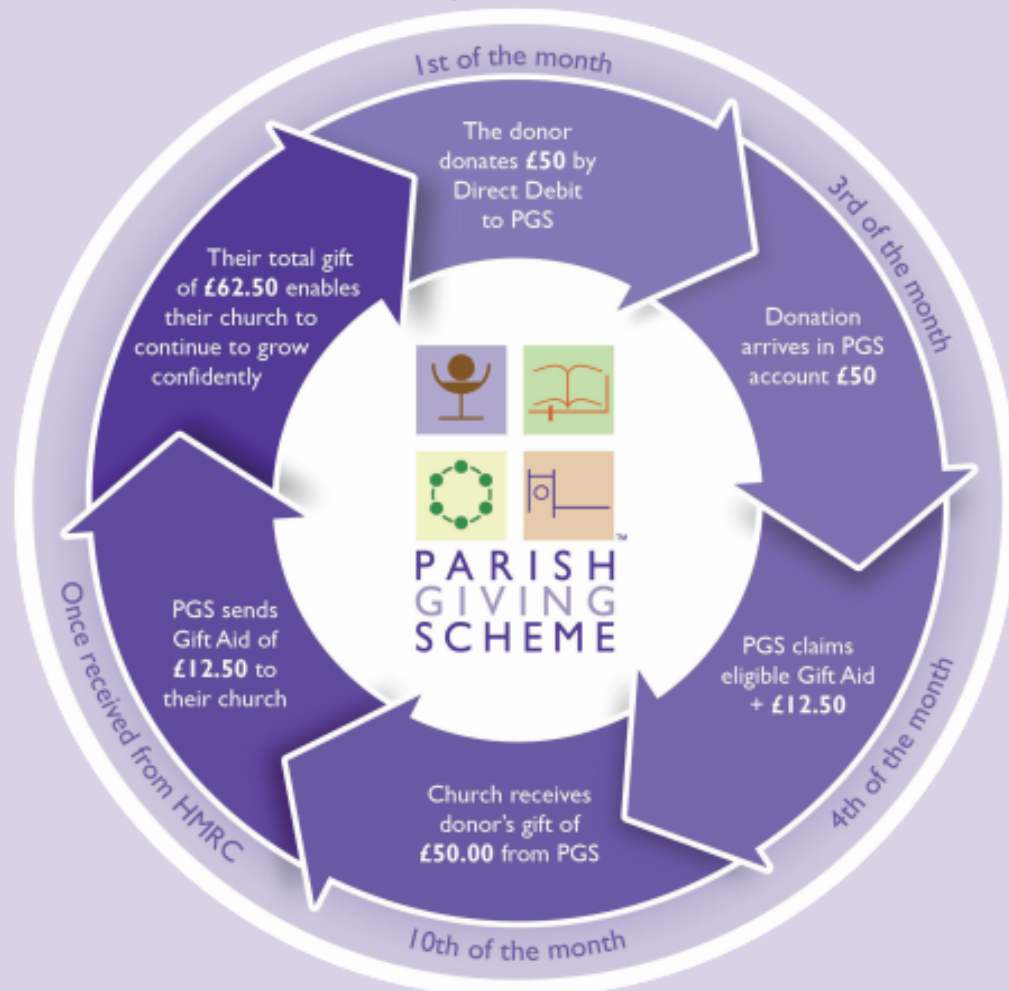
The **Parish Giving Scheme** (PGS) is a 21st century solution to offset one of the greatest problems of local church income – 'static' giving. Donations made through PGS use a Direct Debit. This can be made on a monthly, quarterly or annual basis. The full donations – plus any associated Gift Aid – come straight back to the local church, thus saving quite a lot of administrative time at local level.

If you tick the 'inflation option', your giving is automatically adjusted each year, so it becomes 'inflation proofed'. Then the PGS will collect 'odd amounts' which nobody would normally think of giving, but cumulatively make a huge difference to local church finances. The PGS also makes life easier for your local church's administration team, and improves their cash flow. This will free up their energies to focus on other important church priorities and not be so worried about money.

**Your local church council has to sign up your church to the PGS** – and then if you would like to join the scheme as a donor, simply ask your Treasurer or Giving Officer for a Gift Form.

How does it work?

- based on an example of £50 a month



*In summary, the PGS*

- Collects your donation by Direct Debit
- Claims the Gift Aid entitlement
- Pays the donations into the local church's bank account with the Gift Aid paid as soon as received from HMRC
- Offers you a helpline number to call if you have any questions
- Provides the (popular) option to automatically increase your donation each year to keep in line with inflation

## Why is keeping track of inflation so important?

If church giving had kept pace with inflation since the year 2000, look how it would have increased:

Year	2000	2005	2010	2015
Gift	£40.00	£45.35	£52.32	£61.32

The PGS makes it easy for you to agree, in principle, to increase your donation in line with inflation each year. Just tick the box when you get the form. So far, nearly two thirds of PGS donors have opted for this annual increase.

You can be reassured that, if your circumstances change, it is easy to decline the increase when the annual inflationary letter arrives.

If you choose, you can remain **anonymous** to your local church. The PGS have your name and address, so they can reclaim the Gift Aid, but details are not passed on to your local church.

## What have other people said about PGS?

"PGS has greatly helped our cash flow and budgeting"

*Paul, PCC Treasurer*

"This scheme makes it so much more efficient to collect the tax back"

*Rosemary, Church Warden*

"No weekly hassle with envelopes or change"

*Colin, Parishioner*

## What next?

If you would like to find out more about the Parish Giving Scheme, contact your local church Treasurer or Giving Officer, whose details are below:

**Bob Redwood - Churchwarden**  
Tel: 01769 572079  
email: [stmmchurch@btinternet.com](mailto:stmmchurch@btinternet.com)

**PLEASE NOTE:** If you are unable to Gift Aid you can still give use the Parish Giving Scheme to make your regular giving.