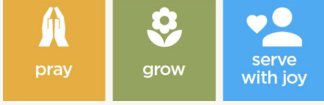




Legacies



Legacies are part of our Christian faith. 1 Chronicles 29 tells us "Everything comes from you and we have given you only what comes from your hand"

Churches depend on the generosity of legacies. Every year PCC's across the country receive around £45 million from legacy giving, that's an average of £3,000 per parish. Legacies make a huge difference to the mission and ministry of churches.

Leaving a legacy will be a lasting commitment to regular giving and a lasting gift to God. Where church has been a regular part of peoples lives, leaving a legacy can start something truly special that enables the church to serve the next generation



Will Writing

Making a will and updating it regularly is the only way to make sure your wishes are fulfilled, giving you peace of mind. A simple will, drawn up by a solicitor, could cost around £200 +VAT.

The Church encourages everyone to have a will to ensure your estate goes to who you want and disputes are avoided. As well as setting out your wishes you can include a charitable legacy to your church.

Top Tips



- Make information available through newsletters or on your website to inspire members about the difference leaving a legacy can make.
- Gifts can be made to churches, Dioceses and Cathedrals
- All churches hold charitable status; all charitable gifts to the Church of England are exempt from Inheritance Tax.
- Make a legacy policy available and encourage unrestricted gifts
- Talk about, or share on your website, how you have used legacies to further your mission and ministry.
- Include legacies in sermons or run a special campaign. Wills month happens in March and October
- The [Church Legacy](#) website also has a leaflet you can personalise and guidance about preparing a will.
- Even if someone has already written their will, they can include a legacy to the church by adding a codicil or a letter of wishes. A template is available from the Church Legacy website
- Parish Resources have [4 Steps to Encourage Legacies](#), including a toolkit for PCC's.
- St Michael's and All Angels Alphington have created a [vimeo](#) explaining the blessing, the responsibility and the impact of a legacy on the life of the church and the people who worship there.
- Saying 'Thank you' is so important and appreciated. Perhaps the greatest expression of thanks is showing the impact a legacy has made.