



“Thank you for taking an interest in your church joining the PGS. We are deeply encouraged and humbled to see the impact of PGS on church finances across the country through times of change, whether a pandemic or cost-of-living crisis. Our organisation is rooted through our values of generosity, relationship in community, learning and excellence. I’m confident that you will see us living these out as we serve each parish, making it safe and efficient for givers to contribute, generously, as we advance regular giving in every church. **”**

Grant Forrest, Chief Executive of PGS

www.parishgiving.org.uk

How does PGS help our church?

PGS provides a safe way for people to give to their church, as well as offering benefits for everyone involved.

The giver benefits from:

- Retaining control of how much they give, how often and to which church
- Using a simple giving method that helping their church to receive regular financial support
- The option to increase a regular gift annually to protect their gift against inflation
- Anonymity, if preferred
- Peace of mind that the Direct Debit Guarantee Scheme protects their regular gifts

The treasurer benefits from:

- Reduced administration and paperwork
- Easy access to monthly and annual (both tax and calendar year) statements
- Saving time for themselves, bookkeepers and those who count cash gifts
- One trusted provider for regular and one-off giving, instead of managing multiple platforms

- The church benefits from:
 - Stable and often increased regular giving
 - Providing a platform to encourage generosity when launching PGS alongside a Giving Programme or review
 - Efficient and regular reclaim of Gift Aid, improving cashflow
 - Protection against static giving, by offering givers the option to index-link their gift
 - Managing multiple gifts in just a couple of transactions, reducing bank charges
 - The administrative cost of operating the Scheme is covered by the National Church Institutions of the Church of England, making the regular giving service free to use for churches and givers, and a very low charge for one-off gifts

Your Diocesan team is on hand to guide churches through the process of joining the Scheme.

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PGS Registered Charity 1156606

Introducing the



to the parishes and churches of



**Diocese of
Leicester**
Shaped by God

Advancing regular giving in every church.

A better way to encourage giving in your church.

To put it simply, the Parish Giving Scheme, or PGS for short, is a mechanism for anyone to give to their chosen church safely and efficiently.

PGS is unlike any other giving platform, we are designed by the Church, for the Church. Together with all our member dioceses, we are committed to advancing regular giving in every church by making giving easy, and helping to overcome one of the greatest challenges to church income, static giving.

How does it work?

Every church or parish within the Church of England can choose to join the Scheme.

At the heart of the PGS service is a secure and simple way for people to give regularly to their chosen church by Direct Debit. To provide churches, their communities and visitors with flexibility, it is also possible to make a one-off gift using a debit or credit card, or by using Apple or Google Pay.

The processes for setting up regular giving or making a one-off gift are different, but both are straightforward for the giver and the church receiving the gift.

What does it cost to join and run the Scheme?

The annual running cost of the scheme is paid for by the National Church Institution of the Church of England, so there is no charge for churches or givers to join PGS and use the regular giving service. That means the entirety of regular gifts and Gift Aid are passed to the church.

Every church that is registered with PGS can also make use of the one-off giving service. To cover the card payment processor costs, PGS charges 1.5% of the gift's value, but passes the full value of HMRC's Gift Aid contribution back to the church.

Simple to join

You'll find the contact details for your Diocesan Giving Adviser at the end of this leaflet. They'll be your main point of contact, taking you through a couple of simple steps to join the Scheme.

First, to give permission to PGS to process gifts on the church's behalf, the PCC of the church pass and minute a resolution to allow this. Then, there's just a simple form to complete. That's all it takes to join the Scheme! Then, you're ready to introduce PGS to your church community.

Setting up a regular gift

There are three secure ways to set up a regular gift by Direct Debit with PGS:

1. online at www.parishgiving.org.uk or by scanning the QR code on this leaflet
2. by telephone on 0333 002 1271
3. or by completing a gift form and posting it to PGS

Givers can easily opt in to Gift Aid, if they are eligible, and can choose to increase their giving annually in line with inflation.

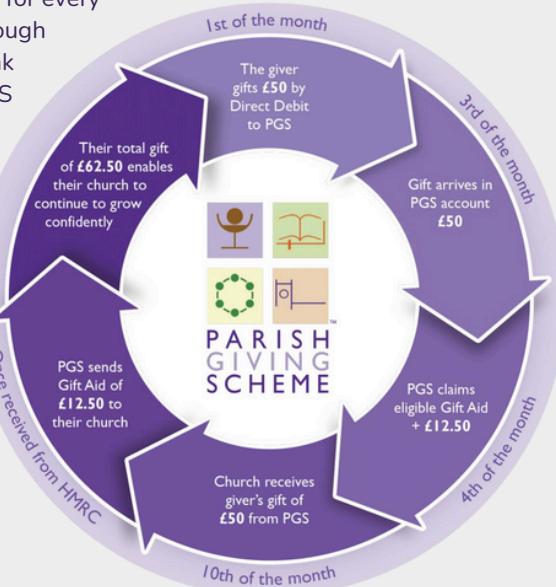
Making a one-off gift

A one-off gift is made in a single transaction using a debit or credit card, or Apple or Google Pay, through the secure PGS website. Every church using the PGS is provided with a unique QR code linked to their PGS account, making it easy to get started wherever you display it. The giver simply scans the QR code using their smartphone and can complete the transaction securely in a few short steps.

Receiving your regular gifts.

As the diagram shows, regular gifts through Direct Debit are received initially by PGS, who then claims the Gift Aid, where eligible, on the church's behalf. The entirety of the gifts for every person who is giving to your church through PGS is sent directly into your parish bank account in a single transaction on the 10th of the month. All of the Gift Aid contributions arrive in a separate single transaction as soon as they've been processed by HMRC.

Here's an example of how it would work for a regular gift of £50:



Receiving your one-off gifts.

Similarly, gifts made in a single debit or credit card transaction are received initially by PGS, and the team will process any Gift Aid claims. The designated parish bank account will then receive all gifts from the previous month in one transaction, and any Gift Aid contributions in another single transaction.