

The background of the image is a photograph of a church interior. A large, ornate stained glass window with multiple panels of figures is the central focus. The church has stone walls and a high ceiling. In the foreground, rows of light-colored wooden chairs are arranged on either side of a central aisle. The floor is covered with a pattern of white petals. There are decorative floral arrangements in the corners, including blue and green leaves and white flowers. A large, light green circular graphic is overlaid in the center, containing the main text and a logo.

LET'S GROW GENEROUSLY

Giving in Northallerton, Romanby
and Kirby Sigston churches



WELCOME

Generosity is the heart of the Christian faith, and as we seek to grow our Church, our giving ensures that we pass them on to the next generation in good shape and good heart.

We support all this through our prayers, as we join one another at services and events, with our practical help and by our financial support.

Now, more than ever, whatever you feel able to give will be crucial to our work together and will be used well. Our giving helps to shape the way we offer mission and ministry.

Please pray and reflect on the information in this leaflet, as together we review how we contribute to keeping our church healthy and alive in this community.

Will you join me in reflecting on God's generosity?

Fiona
Vicar



WHY GIVE?

All that we are and all that we have comes from God.

Every moment of the day, God's grace surrounds us, and there is nothing we can do or say to be loved more by God than we already are.

Throughout the Bible, people respond to this love with a joyful giving from what God has given in the first place. They would give a regular gift, as well as one-off gifts, giving the first fruit of a harvest, or a special offering as thanksgiving for a new baby. The Bible asks us to consider how we might do this today; using what we have for others' benefit and for God's glory. Giving in this way helps others, and it is a sign of thankfulness for God's blessings and of our commitment to God's work on earth.



Why not read a relevant passage of scripture and pray for God's guiding grace as you review your giving?

Matthew 25.14-30
2 Corinthians 8 and 9,
and 1 Timothy 6.17-19
Matthew 6.19-21
Acts 2.44-47 and Acts 4.32

Jesus' parable of the talents.
Paul's encouragement to
church members.
Where our treasure is.
How the early church did it.

OUR VISION

Increasingly we are growing together: three churches in one benefice – sharing ministry and mission across our communities. The life and work of our churches continues to grow: from our prayer and worship on Sundays and midweek, to the spiritual and pastoral care of those who are bereaved or in need, to support of local nursing homes, work with schools and young people and pioneer outreach.

Our vision is to grow in the following ways:

- In reach: as we seek to serve our community
- In care: as we support one another
- In joy: as we worship together
- In faith: as we know God more day by day
- In gladness: as we partner with others in our wider church family

We want to live Christ's story in our own place and also alongside our Archbishop in the diocese, beyond our own boundaries, supporting a wider mission particularly in parishes in areas of deprivation.



THE CHALLENGES WE FACE

Across our churches we consistently receive less income each year than we spend, relying on reserves to fill the gap, and reserves won't last forever.



In recent years we have used legacies to support things we would not otherwise have been able to afford, such as routine and major building works. We have also established the invaluable Children and Families ministry, which now needs to be funded from our regular giving rather than through legacies which is unpredictable.

We are also part of the wider church through the Diocese of York. For a while now we have been blessed to be able to give to the common fund of the diocese in such a way that covers the costs of our clergy also contribute to clergy costs in places of deprivation in the diocese, so that churches can flourish.

We would love to have the resources going forward to follow our vision and to grow. For us to be able to care for our historic places of worship, and even to expand their use for our community we need your help: in prayer, in giving your time and skill, and in financial support, that as we share in the joy of generosity, we will see our historic places of worship cared for and used for the wellbeing of the community.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH

At All Saints, in the heart of its community, all are welcome to join in worship, fellowship and prayer. Whether it is worship services, or groups welcoming children and youth, families, prayer groups, music-making, or Mother's Union - there is something for everyone. We use the church to meet together socially, to mark life events, for pastoral care, and to nurture our faith through prayer and study groups. Our building is a place of historic interest, it has had many changing faces over the centuries, and provides a safe space for refuge, to light a candle, or to simply be.

REFLECT

What it is that you appreciate about the life that springs in and from our building?

Whatever it is, you can be part of making sure that life continues for the future.



RESPOND

This year, we're encouraging you to transfer your giving to the Parish Giving Scheme. Once you have decided on your gift amount, simply phone 0333 002 1271 and quote our parish code 430643522. Alternatively, you can visit www.parishgiving.org.uk to set up your gift, or scan the QR code.



ST JAMES CHURCH

Situated in the village of Romanby, between the Green and the Memorial Garden, St James is the smaller church in the parish and has a big heart! We welcome everyone to use our church from joining us at our services and events to providing space for the village post office every Monday! Through generosity and giving we are able to reach out, share and serve our community as our Lord Jesus Christ wanted us to do. We provide space, warmth, peace and a welcome for all.



RESPOND

This year, we're encouraging you to transfer your giving to the Parish Giving Scheme. Once you have decided on your gift amount, simply phone 0333 002 1271 and quote our parish code 430643523. Alternatively, you can visit www.paritygiving.org.uk to set up your gift, or scan the QR code.



ST LAWRENCES' CHURCH

St Lawrence Church has been here for the community of Kirby Sigston for generations. That so many in our community value the place is shown by the commitment of volunteers in the regular care of the church and its grounds.

REFLECT

Our church is an anchor for our community, the PCC would love to hear from you – what do you want from the church and where do you see it in the future?



RESPOND

This year, we're encouraging you to transfer your giving to the Parish Giving Scheme. Once you have decided on your gift amount, simply phone 0333 002 1271 and quote our parish code 430643521. Alternatively, you can visit www.parishgiving.org.uk to set up your gift, or scan the QR code.



PRAYER

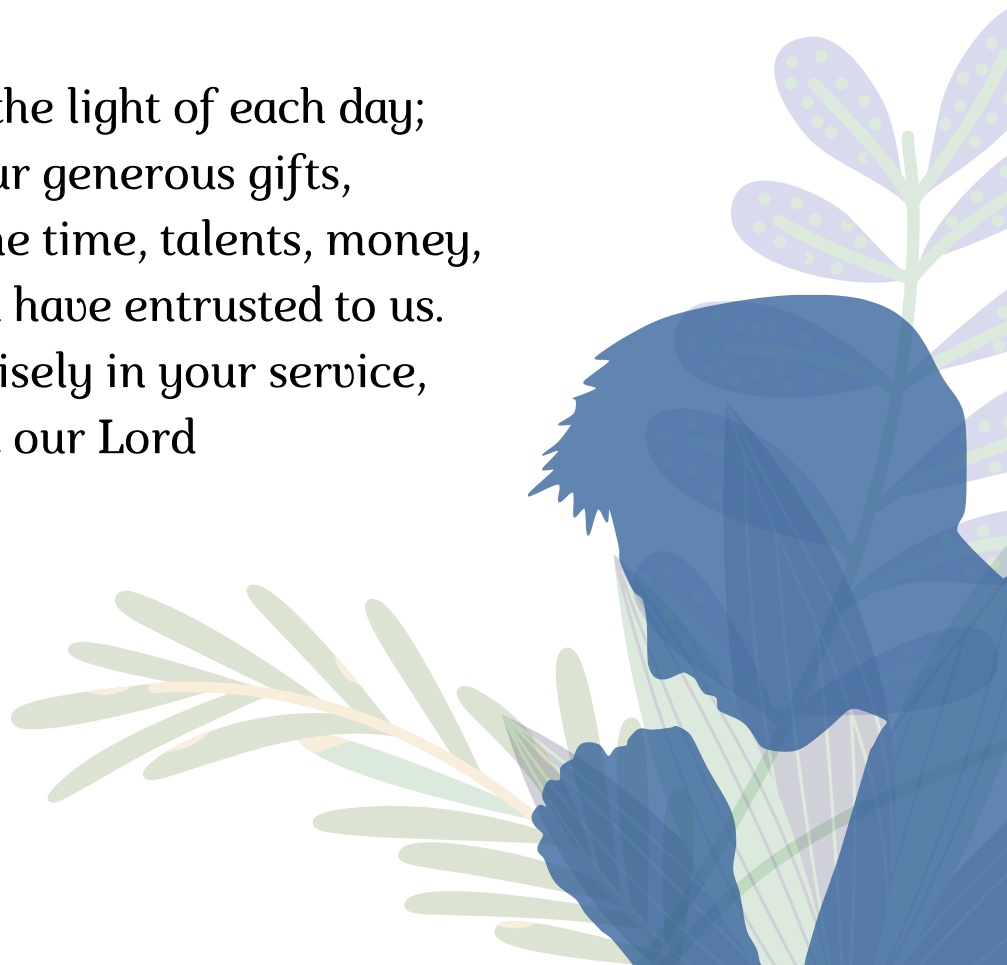
‘For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.’

Matthew 6.21

Prayer is the foundation of Christian discipleship, as we grow in relationship with God and open ourselves more deeply to the transforming grace of God. In the context of generosity, prayer enables us to give thanks to God for all that we are blessed with, and helps us to discern what we are being called to give. As part of our journey of generosity as a community, we encourage you to pray this prayer in the coming weeks, as together we learn more of the generous nature of God and respond in offering our own gifts and resources.

Creator God

maker and giver of the light of each day;
we bless you for your generous gifts,
and thank you for the time, talents, money,
and possessions you have entrusted to us.
May we use them wisely in your service,
through Jesus Christ our Lord
Amen.



MONEY MATTERS

A way to think about Financial Giving

Regular planned giving is a commitment as part of our own discipleship, as we respond to the generosity of God. These are gifts which are given freely, willingly and joyfully, as we participate in the story of our church and the mission of God. Planned, regular giving the easiest and most effective way to give, and it gives greater certainty about what is coming in month by month. Please consider joining the Parish Giving Scheme to make this even easier - where possible it would be a great help to the PCC if you could consider this means of giving. Whatever you can give as part of our mutual care for our church and life together is appreciated, and will help hugely.

Restricted Funds and Legacies

We do have reserves that have built up over recent years that have been received from legacies. However, these are largely tied up either in property such as the curate's house, or are funds that are restricted as to their use, in accordance with the wishes of the respective donors.

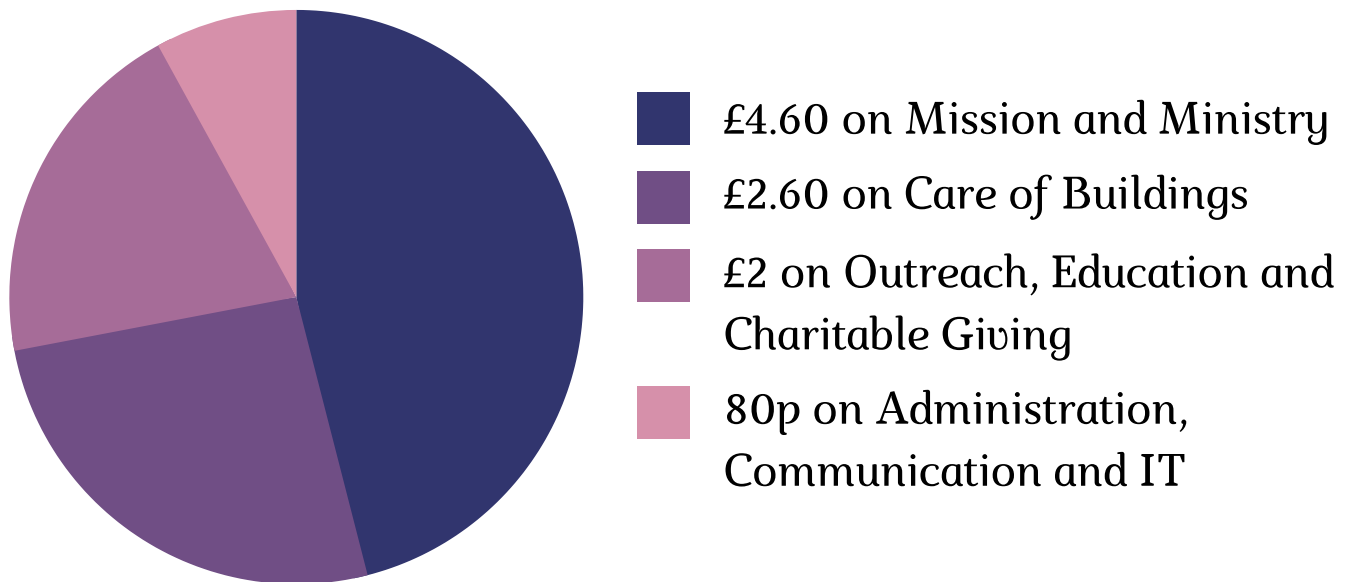
If you are thinking about leaving a gift to the PCC in your will please discuss this with the Vicar and consider requesting that it be unrestricted as a freely given gift for the mission of the church.



MONEY MATTERS

All Saints and St James

The PCC has regular fabric costs of very nearly £1,000 a week. For every £10 the PCC receives we spend:



St Lawrence

- We spend around £620 per month on ministry and worship.
- Our regular building costs are about £270 per month. All maintenance and care costs are extra.
- Our regular income falls short of our regular expenditure by more than a third.
- Fundraising supports this but has not happened for the past two years. Regular planned giving would really help redress the situation.



THANK YOU

Thank you for your response to the information in this booklet and for being part of the life of our churches; whether that's by membership of the electoral roll, by joining in services and activities in our buildings each week, or by helping these things to happen.

We have different reasons for belonging to a church family: it's a place to find friendship; to grow in faith; to value tradition and history.

Thank-you for helping us to grow generously!

If you would like discuss anything further,
please contact the Vicar:

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www.cofe-northallerton.org.uk

