



Living Generously

Growing giving in your church through news, ideas, support and encouragement.

Issue 4: April 2024



Generosity Week 2024

Sunday 29th September - Sunday 6th October

Generosity Week allows us to explore God's generosity towards us and our response to that generosity. This year's Generosity Week will be from Sunday 29th September - Sunday 6th October.

Generosity Week Resources

Resources will be available from 30th April 2024.

If you want to get going now, you can undertake a [Generous Church Check-up](#).

This simple tool celebrates successes and identifies areas of improvement without placing too much of a burden on the leadership of the church.

Please download and share [this flyer](#) (right) and visit the [Generosity Week webpage](#) for more ideas and resources to support your efforts this autumn.



GENEROSITY WEEK 2024

Save the Date

Year's Generosity Week will be Sunday 29 September until Sunday 6 October. We will have two Sundays to give churches double the opportunity to explore generosity. They meet on a Sunday morning – one to consider God's generosity to us, and the other to prayerfully work out our response to that generosity.

will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, and you will produce thanksgiving to God through us.' 2 Corinthians 9:11

What happens next?

Resources for Generosity Week 2024 will be available by 30 April 2024 and there will be follow up mailings at the end of each month until Generosity Week.

If you want to get going now, why not undertake a [Generous Church Check-up](#).

This simple tool focuses on celebrating successes and identifying areas of improvement and is designed to create a plan for the coming year, without placing too much of a burden on the leadership of the church. If you do a check-up now, you'll know where to focus your efforts during Generosity Week.

giving@churchofengland.org
churchofengland.org/generosity

Online Workshops

We've developed a schedule of online support sessions covering a range of topics relating to the work of treasurers, giving secretaries and anyone working to develop generosity in your church.

Forthcoming sessions include The Role of the PCC Treasurer, Budget Setting for PCCs and Developing Legacy Giving.

For the full schedule of sessions, and to book a place on one of these online workshops, please **[click or tap this link](#)**.

Drop-In Sessions

We are out and about across the Diocese, coming to meet you face to face! Each month we will be visiting four LMPs and warmly invite you to drop-in to see us.

If you have a question, need some information or advice, or would just welcome a general chat about generosity in your parish, we'd love to see you!



The full schedule of drop-in sessions and online workshops can be found on our webpages by **[visiting this link](#)** or scanning the QR code above.

'Know Your Customer' Requests From Your Bank

This is just a reminder of the importance of completing any 'Know Your Customer' (KYC) requests from your church's bank, if you receive one.

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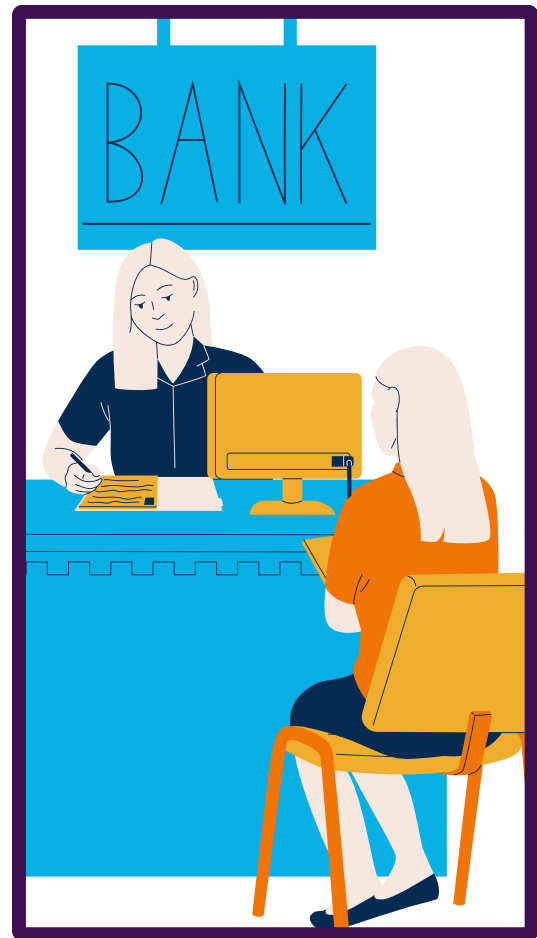
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If your account does get frozen, any bounced payments to your church made through the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) will be held onto by PGS and they will inform both the receiving church and the Generous Living team.

KYC requests are worth keeping an eye open for and responding promptly!



Contactless Giving Rollout: An Update

We were delighted to be able to assign 70 contactless donation devices to parishes right across the Diocese.

Having received almost 100 applications for these subsidised devices, we have been busy supporting parishes set up their GiveALittle and SumUp accounts in preparation for receiving and using their device.

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Having received almost 100 applications for these subsidised devices, we have been busy supporting parishes set up their GiveALittle and SumUp accounts in preparation for receiving their device, so that they are ready to start using them straightaway.

In an increasingly cashless society, contactless and online donations can enable visitors to your church, be they tourists, or attending baptisms/weddings/funerals, or festival services, to support your work, alongside regular, planned giving from church members.

A number of neighbouring parishes have chosen to share a contactless donation device between them, as gifts can be itemised by parish and paid direct into the intended parish's bank account all from one donation device.

As a result, a total of 84 churches will benefit directly from this project.

For more information on contactless and online giving, please contact us or sign up for our **online session this autumn.**



Voluntary Organisation Banking Guide To Be Launched

A new website is being launched soon to help churches and other charities navigate the UK banking system. UK Finance, a government agency, is bringing together banks and charities to address issues experienced when opening and servicing community-specific bank accounts.

There is currently a mismatch between the needs/nature of charities and the regulatory process requirements for banks.

Voluntary sector organisations and banks are working to find common solutions in order to improve the overall quality of service for customers.

A guide will bring together information that is specific to charity and community groups. It will provide training, knowledge and awareness of the sector and how it operates available to both bank staff and to their customers. The guide will host several tools, aimed at helping customers choose, open, and maintain a bank account. A number of C of E treasurers will be testing the draft guide to comment upon whether the guidance is sufficient for PCCs.

Parish Buying, the C of E's procurement service, is also looking into which banking services are currently available to PCCs. The banks involved in this project include Barclays, Charities Aid Foundation (CAF), Danske, HSBC, Lloyds, Metrobank, NatWest, Reliance Bank, Santander, The Co-operative Bank, TSB, Unity Trust and Virgin Money.

Let us hope and pray that through this project and the involvement of Church Treasurers, PCC will experience improved access to UK banking service in the near future, through greater mutual understanding of the two sectors' respective needs and requirements. We will share more information with you as it emerges.

Prayers for Generosity

Giving God,
we receive so much from you,
and therefore have much to give.
Help us to share in the blessings of giving
as well as the happiness of receiving,
that your love may be more widely,
shared through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Lord Jesus, teach me to be generous;
teach me to serve you as you deserve,
to give and not to count the cost,
to fight and not to heed the wounds,
to toil and not to seek for rest,
to labour and not to seek reward,
except that of knowing that I do your will.
Amen.



St. Ignatius Loyola

Faith Will

Gifts in wills are a powerful way for faith to live on and create lasting change, but they can be difficult to talk about – for everyone, including those wanting to leave a gift.

This autumn, and coinciding with Generosity Week, the Church of England will join with the Church of Scotland and the Quakers to be part of Christian Aid's Faith Will initiative.

You can use this Faith Will link to sign up for free resources to help you talk about legacies in your church. There's a film, posters, leaflets and worship materials.