Living Generously

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

DIOCESE OF LINCOLN

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Thank you!

Thank you! That's the first thing that we want to say to you.
Very often when we visit churches and engage with PCC members and volunteers we ask, *"What are some of the things you do here in your church?"* Invariably the answer is, *"Oh, not very much."* With probing, it emerges that the list of things that you're doing for your congregation and the surrounding community is a long one.

Maybe, it's because you've been doing it for so long, it's no longer remarkable to you. However, to the people you serve, it's a remarkable lifeline and a great example of the love and grace of Our Father. That famous quote by Dr Seuss or Bill Wilson, founder of Alcoholics Anonymous (depending on who you listen to) sums it up: *"To the world you may be one person but to one person you may be the world."* You wish that you had more members in your congregation, more volunteers, more money, more families, more young people, more children. You may not think that what you are doing is making that much of an impact as it is, in your view, 'not very much'.

Of course, that's a worthwhile aspiration, but to the person, you are showing love to, listening to, being kind to, being present with, making that cup of tea for and sharing with, you are their world.



So, you are making significant impact and we will continue saying, *"Thank you!"* We will do that while continuing to support you to fund your mission and ministry.

Thank you and God bless you!

Love & Blessings

Colin Tomlin
Head of Generosity

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Digital Giving Update

Give a Little: logging in

If your contactless device used the Give a Little software (CollecTin or PayAz), you may have recently noticed that you were logged out and have had to log back in again. This is known as re-authentication and this has happened because the option to log in using your SumUp credentials has been removed. This is nothing to worry about. You will now just have to log back in using your Give a Little Credentials, and all should be well.

Old and new devices

If your parish was an 'early adopter' of contactless technology, then you may be finding that your original device is starting to get slow, glitch or even pack up altogether. Even those devices which we supplied during the Contactless Roll-Out in 2024 are now over two years old. At some point you may decide that it's time to replace the device. With most devices bringing in well over £1,000 a year, and some much more that that, a new device will be a good investment still.



There are several new devices on the market, as well as the ones that you are currently using. The best prices and transaction rates can be acquired by buying the device through Parish Buying, the Church of England's procurement service. You may find that it's worth considering devices which can take offline donations, such as the GWD Lite II. This can be particularly useful if you are struggling with connectivity. Donations are made offline and the device is then taken to a WiFi link every few days to upload any donations made. No WiFi, no SIM card!

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Digital Giving Update (cntd...)

If your church has a contactless donation device which uses a SIM card for connectivity, at some point your data contract will need to be renewed. There are currently three options which use multi-network SIMs for these purposes, all of which can be accessed through the Parish Buying service:

O2 for Business (formerly known as Daisy Communications)

PayAz - can be used in any device, not just PayAz machines
(12Gb for 12 months £50+vat or 24Gb for 24 months £90+vat)

CollecTin- who now supply their own SIM deal
(£60 a year for 1GB per month)



Cornerstone- a data-led platform to develop your parish's giving and generosity

Want to know more about Cornerstone? Watch this short introductory video.



Grants Database

Are you looking for funding for a mission or building project? Cornerstone also includes a searchable database of sources of grant funding. If your church would like access to this tool, please contact us here: **generosity@lincoln.anglican.org**

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Giving at Christmas

Christmas is a time of giving, and therefore the ideal time to reflect on God's generosity and our own. There are a number of resources available to help you highlight opportunities for generosity this Christmas.

The Joy of Christmas

The Church of England selects a new Christmas theme each year. This year's theme is The Joy of Christmas. There are a range of reflections, images, resources and activity sheets available to support this theme which you can find here

Cornerstone Pathway

If your parish is a Cornerstone user then take a look at the Pathway called Getting Ready for Giving at Christmas. This also includes links to resources and suggestions to help your church be ready for a generous Christmas. For more information on Cornerstone contact the Generous Living Team

Digital Resources

if you are a Canva user you may wish to make use of a number of digital resources provided by the A Church Near You website. These include screen images for contactless donation devices including GWD, CollecTin and PayAz devices. They can be found here

Giving and Hoping

This is a series of four reflections on generosity from the point of view of different characters in the nativity story. Suitable for individuals, couples or groups, there are five downloadable documents, one for each character and an introductory document includng guidance for group leaders. Visit this page to download these resources.

Celebrating a Generous Christmas

Finally, for some general advice on developing giving in your church this Christmas take a look at this page

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Parish Giving Scheme

Following a change of address for PGS, a new, revised Gift Form has been designed. Electronic versions of the new form can be supplied on request by contacting us on generosity@lincoln.anglican.org Paper forms will no longer be supplied by us.
The old forms are still valid until the end of January 2027. Remember, gifts can also be set up either through the PGS website or by telephone on 0333 002 1271.

If your parish is interested in joining the Parish Giving Scheme visit this page

PARISHGIVINGSCHEME

Covenant Pledge 2027

A huge thank you to all those parishes which have submitted their Covenant Pledge for 2027. We recognise that the timescale for this process was very tight this year and that many of you have had to wait for, or convene, a PCC meeting in order to make a decision. Thank you for your efforts in making this happen.

Covenant Pledge is the process whereby we receive contributions from parishes towards the cost of providing stipendiary ministry in your area, including stipend, housing, pension costs and training. Receiving these pledges in a timely manner is vital for us as we seek to set a budget for the following year and make certain decisions on priorities and deployment.

If your parish has yet to submit its pledge for 2027 please could you do so as soon as possible using the link to the online pledge form below.

Covenant Pledge 2027