

OUR CHOICES

Some people find it helpful to give to the church using a regular standing order from their bank account. Other people give regularly by using a set of envelopes. *If you do not use one of these methods, is now the time for you to consider becoming a planned giver?*

If you are already a member, is it time to consider increasing your giving?

The church gets considerable benefit from the Gift Aid Scheme whereby each £1.00 given is enhanced by 25p from the Inland Revenue. *If you pay tax, please consider using Gift Aid.*

'Sow sparingly, and you will reap sparingly; sow bountifully, and you will reap bountifully. Each person should give as he has decided for himself; there should be no reluctance, no sense of compulsion; God loves a cheerful giver.'

2 Corinthians 9: 6-7

How to decide how much to give?

It is no great sacrifice to put the things we love first. There is no easy formula to help us decide how much to give; instead we are commanded to love God and our neighbour as ourselves. It is helpful to ask 'Does our giving reflect our love for God and our neighbour?'

Love is generous, love is kind, love is selfless - we see that in all God gives to us and we are invited to reflect that in our response.

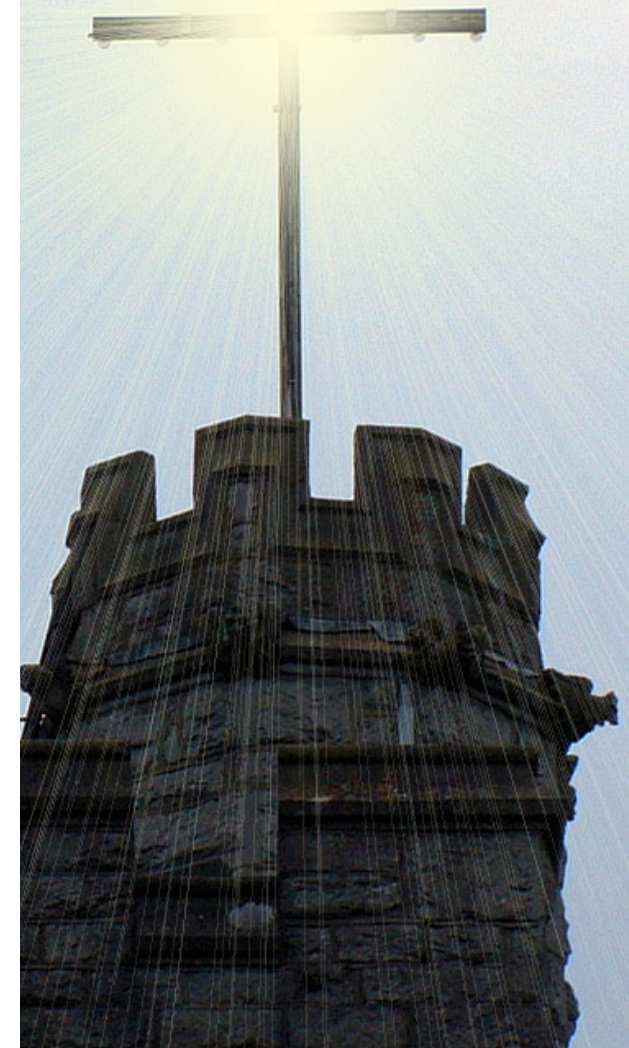
As a church, we need to consider how we respond:

- By increasing our giving?
- By joining the planned giving scheme?
- By using Gift Aid if we pay tax?
- By giving realistically and proportionately?

What is a modest gift from one may be truly sacrificial and generous from another.

St Patrick's

OUR CHURCH
OUR CHALLENGE
OUR CHOICES



OUR CHURCH

Like the illuminated cross that brings comfort to many people, St Patrick's seeks to make God visible and shine out with the message of the cross.

Our giving supports ...

our beautiful building - a sacred place, dedicated to worship, prayer and witness. It also maintains the churchyard where people find great peace and enjoyment, and where generations of local people are remembered.

Our giving supports ...

our parish clergy - both here and in the wider family of the church. It helps train people who are being called to lay and ordained ministry so that the life of the church can go on.

Our giving supports ...

our parish ministry - measured by the needy visited, the bereaved cared and prayed for, weddings, baptisms, Eucharists celebrated, schools supported, the story of God told to the next generation, community life enriched and people shown the love of God through our care, comfort and compassion.

But in 2009
this cost £26,800 ...

... and our income
to support the mission
and ministry of our
church was £22,780.

In 2010 we estimate
our expenses to be
£28,000 (and in 2011
approximately £30,000,
which would mean a
shortfall of over £7000)



OUR CHALLENGE

*'To cultivate the grace
of giving'.*

God gives to us abundantly and graciously and, in return, we need to consider carefully our response.

The DCC has been thinking and praying about how we can sustain all that we have at St Patrick's Church and carry out the improvements that we would love to see. We thank God for the way that people have already responded to the situation.

Our financial situation would be dramatically different if we could encourage more people to give a regular amount to support the church each week or month. The table below illustrates how we could meet our shortfall through additional planned, regular giving and also plan for the future.

This many people	Giving this amount each week	in a year would amount to
5	£2.50	£650.00
7	£5.00	£1,820.00
5	£10.00	£2,600.00
2	£15.00	£1,560.00
1	£20.00	£1,040.00
		£7,670.00