

Leaving a Legacy



“No matter how large or small, every gift in every will makes a difference”



A lasting gift to our church



THE PARISH OF
CHANDLERS FORD

Introduction

Making a Will and keeping it reasonably up-to-date, makes good financial sense for your family, friends and dependents as well as your own peace of mind. But it is also part of Christian discipleship.

If you do make a Will then why not think a bit further than that and consider a legacy.

Many church members would like to know how they can leave a gift to the parish, although they be reticent about asking. This leaflet provides information about how you can do this and how a legacy will be used.

In our parish of Chandler's Ford we welcome all gifts in wills, however large or small and we promise to use your gift to make a significant difference to our parish.

Christian Stewardship

As a Christian, and member of our parish many of us have been giving regularly to the mission and ministry of the parish. But we are stewards of everything we own not just our income, and gifts in wills are a natural part of Christian giving.

Sometimes parish life can feel like an endless cycle of raising money to pay the bills. A gift in your will is different. The PCC have a written Legacy Policy confirming that, they will use your gift to make a real difference to our future mission and ministry.

Christians practise stewardship throughout their lives, recognising that everything we have is from God. As stewards of all that we have been given, it is our responsibility to use our gifts and abilities wisely for the good of God's world, including our family and our church family. Giving of time, talents or money should always be a joyful act, motivated by our love for God and a deep desire to make Him known to others rather than through any sense of compulsion.

Christian Stewardship is simply about how we manage the resources, wealth and possessions that have been entrusted to us. Gifts in wills are a natural part of this and are a way of giving thanks to God for the gifts of our lifetime and to provide for the continuing witness and work of the church after death.



The theme of inheritance is a strong one that runs throughout the Bible, from Genesis where we witness Esau exchanging his birth right (inheritance) for some stew, right up to God's glorious promise in granting the family of believers the privilege of being 'co-heirs' with Jesus Christ.

Our Legacy Policy

The PCC have a written Legacy Policy that:

- gives confidence that they will use your gift to make a real and lasting difference in the parish;
- encourage gifts be left for the general purposes of the parish;
- ensures discussion with executors about the most appropriate use of your gift in the light of current projects and any specific area you had a personal interest in;
- seeks to avoid gifts which are unnecessarily restrictive, as often the gift will not be received for some time and needs change over time;
- It will not be used to meet everyday expenditure of the parish;
- it cannot undertake to name a particular project in memory of a donor;
- it will ensure that all gifts are properly recorded.



In the past gifts have been used to:

- provide new hymn books and Bibles;
- install a projection screen at St. Boniface;
- Refurbish and redecorate parts of our churches;
- Provide facilities for children and young people.

What type of gift can I leave?

There are three types of gift. Your gift can be:

1. a specific amount of money;
2. a percentage of your estate; or
3. the residue of your estate after payment of any legacies to individuals.

Will I pay tax on my gift?

No. Your gift is exempt from Inheritance Tax. This is a significant tax benefit which can even reduce the amount of tax your estate has to pay.

Do I need to use a solicitor?

To leave a gift you will need to make or update your Will. There are certain requirements to make sure that your Will is valid and your wishes will be respected, so it is usually best to speak to a solicitor and discuss the type of gift you might like to leave to give you the most peace of mind.

Should you decide to make a gift some suggested wording for a will clause is set out below:

“I give% of my residuary estate **OR** “I give the sum of £ (write the amount in numbers and then in words) free of all taxes to the Parochial Church Council of the Parish of Chandler’s Ford (registered charity number 1131152) in the Diocese of Winchester for its general purposes, and I declare that the receipt of an officer of the Parochial Church Council shall be a sufficient discharge to my executors and trustees.”

Advice

We hope that this leaflet has been helpful and has provided you with all the information which you needed. If you would like to speak to someone to discuss this further, please contact a member of the clergy, Treasurer or the Gift Aid Administrator.

“Lord our God, all this abundance that we have provided for building you a temple or your Holy Name comes from your hand, and all of it belongs to you.” (I Chronicles 29)