

Finance – Legacies Policy

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1 Thanksgiving

- 1.1 Jesus said, 'Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.' (Luke 12.34)
- 1.2 The PCC confirms that we welcome all gifts in Wills, however large or small, and we promise to use gifts to make a difference in our parish.
- 1.3 A legacy gift is an expression of gratitude and thanksgiving towards God that will support the work of Christ Church and help transform its future.

2 How we use legacy gifts

- 2.1 On receipt of a legacy gift (or similar) the funds will be allocated to a designated fund within the parish accounting system.
- 2.2 The PCC will use such gifts to help fund projects and initiatives; this could be related to pump-priming missional work, taking on new staff, buying new equipment (e.g. new website, kitchen upgrade or audio-visual kit) or associated with our place in the community (e.g. the solar panels as part of our Eco Church commitment).
- 2.3 Since needs change over the years, we encourage gifts in Wills for the general purposes of the parish rather than for a restricted purpose. We will discuss possible uses of gifts with executors when the time comes, bearing in mind the donor's known areas of interest in the church (e.g. music, buildings, children and youth, overseas mission or aid) and the church's priorities at the time. Donors can be confident that gifts will be used, after prayer and due consideration, to make a significant difference to our future mission and ministry.
- 2.4 The PCC will be the decision making body regarding the use of legacies.

3 Acknowledgement

- 3.1 We will acknowledge gifts in whatever way the donor and/or his/her executors feel most appropriate. Equally, we can make sure that gifts remain anonymous if the donor prefers.
- 3.2 The vicar or treasurer are available to talk in confidence about how/if you would like your gift to be acknowledged, and the sorts of purposes your gift might fund.

Appendix A – Sample wording for use in a Will

- A.1 The words to be used in a Will reflect the nature of the intended gift but please make sure that the gift is to the PCC of Christ Church; sample wording is set out below.
- A.2 Anyone who wants to make a gift to our church in memory of a loved one, is encouraged to discuss this with us too.
- A.3 **To leave a share of your estate**
‘I give ____ % of my residuary estate free of all taxes to the Parochial Church Council of the ecclesiastical parish of Christ Church Selly Park (registered charity number 1127755) in the Church of England Birmingham 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.’
- A.4 **To leave a fixed sum of money**
‘I give the sum of £ ____ free of all taxes to the Parochial Church Council of the ecclesiastical parish of Christ Church Selly Park (registered charity number 1127755) in the Church of England Birmingham 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.’