

## STANDING ORDERS & GIFT AID

### PLANNED GIVING BY STANDING ORDER TO YOUR PARISH

Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic our Churches have been hit hard by a lack of income and we have been thinking of ways in which this can, to a degree, be prevented in the future. All contributions made by parishioners are very much appreciated at any time, but the generosity of those of you who have continued to give via Online Banking and Standing Order, during this difficult time, has been valued greatly.

Many parishioners contribute through Planned Giving Envelopes or loose plate and we are asking you, if your circumstances allow, to re-consider your way of giving and use either Online Banking or, if you are not online, the paper standing order method – form to be obtained from, completed and returned to your parish.

The advantages to this are:

- Usually free of charge for both payer and payee
- Quick and easy to set up
- Useful for making recurring contributions
- Helps the Parish to have a reliable income each month to assist in forward planning
- You can increase or decrease your offering at any time by contacting your bank
- Less cash handling within the parish
- Increased security as less cash being kept on Church premises and being taken to the bank

#### **Online Banking – Standing Order Set Up**

If you have internet access and your bank account is online, setting up your standing order is much simpler, and you would need only to include the parish bank details (these details can be obtained from your Parish Priest or Parish Office) and Reference z (followed by your surname and first initial) alongside your own details.

If you do not have access to Online Banking but you still wish to contribute by standing order, please either request a form from your Parish Office and:

- Complete the form in full
- Include the parish bank details - if they are not already included on the form - (this information can be obtained from the parish priest or parish office)
- Include the reference: (followed by your surname and first initial)
- Let your Parish Priest/Parish Secretary have a copy for parish use
- Take to your bank or send them to parish office and then we will be happy send them to your bank.

### **GIFT AID DECLARATION FORMS FOR TAXPAYERS**

Please also remember that, if you are a taxpayer paying as much as or more than the sum claimed, Gift Aid can be claimed for your donations e.g. : if you donate £20.00 per month this would become £25.00 at no extra cost to yourself. If you wish to do this please request a form from and return it to your Parish Office. Your declaration can then be included on the system and going forward all your donations, once submitted to HMRC, can receive gift aid.

### **Gift Aid For Cash Donations After The Re-Opening Of Churches**

HMRC have responded to a request from CLAS (Churches Legislation Advisory Service) for temporary flexibility in the GASDS Scheme. It would be helpful if all parishes can advertise please through their newsletters or on their websites, that once their church re-opens, all small donations (loose plate) given to cover the missing weeks since the lockdown, should be given in separate envelopes and marked accordingly as separate donations. This will enable GASDS to be claimed even if the donation is over the usual £30 limit. This is a temporary measure only, allowed by HMRC due to the closure of our Churches.