**Giving to St Giles’ Cripplegate: questions and answers**

**I get lots of appeals from charities. Why should I give, or give more than I already do, to St Giles’?**

It is not a question of choosing between giving to the church and giving to other charities: the Church of England encourages its members to give to both. Many charities do of course carry out vital work both in this country and overseas. However, the particular claim which St Giles’ has on our giving is that it is the church community to which we all belong. If its members will not support it generously, who else will?

**How much should I give?**

The amount we give depends on our particular circumstances and is a matter of individual conscience. St Paul, however, tells us that our giving should be proportionate to our resources: “*For if the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has - not according to what one does not have*” (2 Cor. 8:12). A guideline (but no more than a guideline) adopted by some Anglican churches is that we should aim to give 5% of our net income to and through the church, and a further 5% to other charities. “*All tithes from the land, whether seed from the ground or the fruit from the tree, are the LORD’s; they are holy to the LORD*” (Leviticus 27:30).

**Who knows how much I give?**

Information about money given to the church is kept strictly confidential. It is disclosed only to those who need to know it - currently David Archer (Treasurer), David Freeman (Assistant Treasurer), Jake Kirner (Parish Administrator) and Mona Henshall (PCC member). The information is not disclosed to the Rector or to the members of the Stewardship Committee.

**How do I set up or amend a standing order?**

You can do this by completing the ‘Bankers Standing Order Mandate’ and returning it to the Parish Administrator at the address stated on the form. The form can also be downloaded from the church website: go to [www.stgilescripplegate.co.uk](http://www.stgilescripplegate.co.uk) and click on ‘Our Stewardship’. Alternatively, if you have access to online banking, you can give the necessary instructions to your bank online (the church’s account details are: St Giles Cripplegate PCC, CAF Bank Limited, Sort Code 40-52-40, Account No. 00034121). If your standing order payments are eligible for Gift Aid, please make sure that you have also completed a Gift Aid form and returned it to the Parish Administrator. The Gift Aid form is available on the St Giles’ website.

**What happens if I set up a standing order and my circumstances change for the worse?**

You remain in complete control and can amend your standing order at any time through your bank.

**Isn’t a lot of the money that is given to St Giles’ paid over to the Diocese?**

St Giles’ is required to contribute to the Diocese, but that is a necessary part of the way the Church of England funds its mission and ministry. Among other things, the money which the Diocese receives from the parishes is put towards the payment of clergy stipends and housing, as well as paying for clergy training and building maintenance.

**Can I talk to someone about giving to St Giles’?**

Please feel free to speak to any of the members of the Stewardship Committee about this. We will be happy to have a friendly, discreet and sympathetic conversation with you about giving to the church and will try our best to answer any questions you may have about the different ways in which you can make your donations. Contact us via the Parish Office: 020 7638 1997, [admin@stgileschurch.com](mailto:admin@stgileschurch.com).