



## Church finances explained

### What's different about 2019?

Over the last two years, we have deliberately spent considerably more than we've received – to enable us to get our mission priority areas off the ground. As we look ahead to 2019, the picture needs to be different. We will spend less – mainly by not reappointing a Local Mission Coach after Nigel retires at the end of 2018. Our commitment to mission – locally and internationally – remains strong, and we will find other ways of supporting our mission priority areas over the coming months.

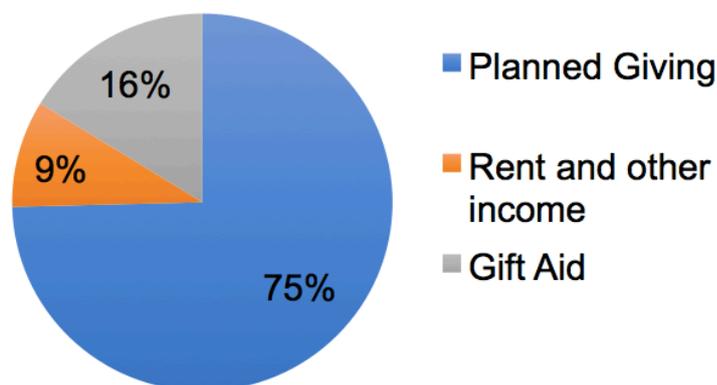
However, the fact of the matter is that even if we wanted to replace Nigel immediately, we could not afford to do so. A number of generous donors have left our congregation over recent years. Would you be able to increase the percentage of your income that you give so that in the future we will be able to appoint someone to help our mission priority areas flourish still further?

### Where does our income come from?

We are funded almost entirely from the **sacrificial giving of our members**. We are very grateful to those who give to enable our mission and ministry to happen.

It is helpful for our planning if people's giving can be planned rather than spontaneous. The best way for this to happen is by Standing Order.

#### Projected income: £253,000

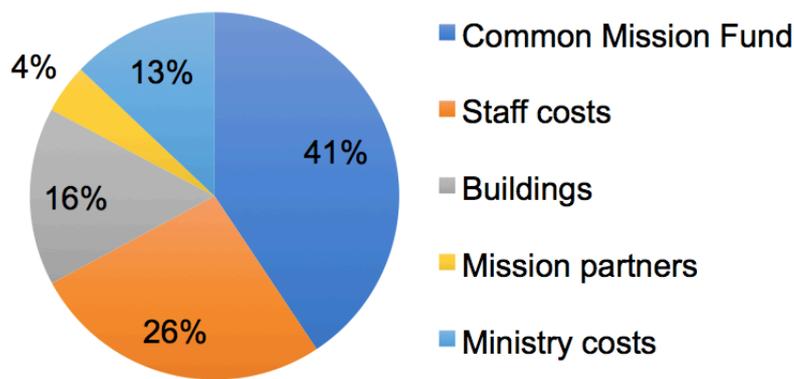


Those who are tax-payers should fill in a Gift Aid form, if they have not already done so, to enable us to get extra income from the Government, at no additional cost to the giver.

### What will we spend the money on?

As part of the Church of England, we contribute to a '**diocesan common mission fund**' – some of which benefits our parish directly; and some of which helps fund the work of other C of E churches in the area which aren't as blessed financially as we are.

## Projected expenditure: £255,000



Our **staff costs** will pay for our youth work, schools and children's work and administration and office work.

Our **mission partner** donations go to: SAFE, SCRATCH, CMS, Andrew Leake (Argentina), A Rocha, Busoga Uganda link.

Our **buildings costs** pay for the maintenance, cleaning, utilities

bills and insurance of our 4 buildings. We have made the decision to sell St John's as a step towards reducing our buildings costs. The proceeds from that will be earmarked for renovation work on St James' by the Park and/or the Parish Hall.

## Further information

If you have any questions about our finances, please contact our Treasurer, David Phillips, on 8077 4307 or [david.phillips@stjamesbythepark.org](mailto:david.phillips@stjamesbythepark.org)

## Some Biblical principles

The Bible gives lots of practical guidance on handling money, touching on subjects like budgeting, saving, greed and giving. Money is seen a blessing from the Lord. Jesus teaches that it should be a tool we can use to invest in building God's kingdom, not something which enslaves us (Matt 6.19-24).

If you struggle with managing your personal finances, or face a crippling debt burden, we would be happy to recommend people or courses which will be able to help you. We also have a small 'Care Fund' (for those who cannot afford immediate essential expenses) and a 'Pickle Fund' (for those with a cash-flow problem who need a small loan.).

When it comes to giving, the Bible encourages us to be prayerful, cheerful and free (2 Cor 9.7). It encourages us to give "first to the Lord" (2 Cor 8.5), in a manner that is planned and proportional to our income (1 Cor 16.2); and to give sacrificially (2 Cor 8.2-4). Our pattern in this is the "Lord Jesus Christ [who] though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich" (2 Cor 8.9).

When it comes to giving, it is not the size of the gift that matters but the attitude of the heart (Luke 21.1-4).

It is a good discipline to review your finances (including your giving) at least annually. If, having reviewed and prayed over your finances, you wish to decrease or increase your giving to St James' by the Park, or start giving regularly, please use the attached forms.

# Financial Commitment to St James' by the Park

Having reviewed my giving, my / our financial commitment to St James' by the Park will be:

£ \_\_\_\_\_ per month / quarter / annually\*

I will give this by: bank transfer / envelopes / collection plate\*

\* *Please delete as appropriate*

Please tick any of the following that apply:

- My commitment is remaining the same as previously.
- I have already instructed my bank to start this as a new standing order.
- I have already instructed my bank to amend my existing standing order.
- I have filled in the Standing Order form overleaf; please contact my bank on my behalf.
- I would like more information on leaving a gift in my will

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

## Gift Aid

If you are a UK taxpayer and eligible to Gift Aid your donation, please complete the form below and give it back to the Church Office:

This will increase your gift by 25p for every £1 given (at current rate), at no extra cost to you or us. Thank you. *Please treat as Gift Aid donations all qualifying gifts of money made from the date of this declaration and in the past four years*

*I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.*

## Other important points to note:

1. Please notify the church if you
  - Want to cancel this declaration
  - Change your name or home address
  - No longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains. Gift Aid is linked to basic rate tax. Basic rate tax is currently 20%, which currently allows charities to reclaim 25p for every £1 donated.
2. If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code

The PCC of Shirley (St. James' by the Park) is a Charity Registered in England and Wales No. 1130875

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Standing Order form

- This is a new standing order to St. James' by the Park ("Shirley PCC")  
 This is an amendment to an existing standing order

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your bank name and address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Your bank sort code: \_\_\_\_\_

Your bank account number: \_\_\_\_\_

Please pay: **PCC of Shirley**

Sort code: **55 50 23**

Account number: **69481377**

Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of first payment: \_\_\_\_\_

Frequency:    Monthly     Quarterly     Yearly

until further notice.

**Signature:**

**Date:**