

Giving

"excel in the grace of giving..."

(2 Corinthians 8:7)



Trinity
Churches



Thank you for considering giving to the life of Trinity Churches. We are a thriving community of Christians in Shrewsbury made up of Holy Trinity Meole Brace, Christ the King Radbrook Green and the Church in the Meet Place. We are a Church of England parish with a big heart for people and an even bigger heart for God.

This leaflet has been produced as part of our commitment, as a PCC, to talk regularly and openly about our money, as we do about all other aspects of church life and ministry.



Countless blessings

We have been blessed by people's generosity over many years. The time, talents and energy – as well as regular giving – of hundreds of people play an important part in seeing lives transformed through the ministry and mission of Trinity Churches. From Alpha courses to regular breakfast clubs in Café Connect, from the many opportunities offered by the Trinity Centre to recent initiatives on the Meole Estate, we are a parish who invest generously in "living for Jesus, loving one another and setting a table for the world."



Regular giving and sacrificial generosity are an important part of developing and sustaining this work. Individual giving makes up the vast majority of our income, and people's giving in support of God's work is what makes everything happen across the parish.



God and money?

There are far more verses in the Bible about money than there are about things like faith or prayer. It is the second most talked about thing by Jesus! It's as if he wanted us to know that the way we handle our money has an important effect on our relationship with God. If we treat money God's way, then we will enjoy a closer relationship with him.



There are a number of encouragements the Bible offers in our giving. It is part of our worship, and a response to the generosity of God. It is an act of faith and an integral part of discipleship, a privilege and a responsibility for all of God's people. And – of course – we're only giving back to God what is his in the first place!



How should I give to the local church?

Making a regular financial contribution to the life of the local church is not only biblical but also a very practical way of standing shoulder to shoulder with the whole church in demonstrating your commitment and support.

There are some basic principles we want to live out at Trinity Churches, and would encourage everyone who belongs here to consider:

- **Regularly**... at set times, whether weekly, monthly, or yearly.
- **Individually**... everyone gets to participate, including children and young people. Whilst some may be able to give more and some less, ultimately God looks at the heart of the giver and not the amount.
- **Intentionally**... it is good to think about our giving and to give in a planned way, reviewing it on an annual basis.
- **Locally**... there are many other charities or mission agencies which we might support, but our primary commitment is to the local church.
- **Joyfully**... we are not to give reluctantly or with compulsion, but freely and gladly, for “God loves a cheerful giver.”
- **Sacrificially**... Paul talks about “excelling in the grace of giving”, encouraging us to step out into greater generosity and faith.

Many Christians say that 10% - a “tithe” of our income – is a good starting point in your giving. Whatever sacrificial step of faith you make in giving, God will honour your willingness. If you currently give 5% of your income, ask God to give you the courage to increase that percentage to say 8%. If you already give 8% then ask God to give you faith to increase that to 10%. If 10% then 15%...

What is the best way to give?

This will clearly depend on each person’s particular circumstances, and there are a number of different ways to support God’s work at Trinity Churches.

- **Regular standing Order.** Many people give through regular standing order directly into the church’s bank account.
- **Weekly Envelope Scheme.** Others give regularly by cash or cheque through the numbered envelope scheme, and place their gifts on the collection plate at a Sunday service.
- **Payroll Giving.** Some choose to give through the various Charity Payroll giving schemes like Stewardship, CAF, JustGiving etc.
- **Wills and Legacies.** Some also choose to include Trinity Churches in their will by way of a legacy.

If you are a UK taxpayer you can complete a Gift Aid declaration Form which enables the church to reclaim 25p in every £1 of your donations. This is applicable to all gifts, regular or one-off, provided we can trace the donation and the declaration form has been completed.

Getting going in giving

The best place to start is to pray... and then do something without putting it off!

For many people it is easiest to set up a standing order online, or by writing directly to your bank. Our details are as follows:

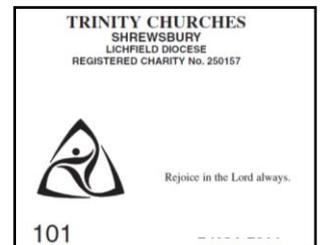
Account Name: PCC H/T Meole Brace Christ King R/Brook
Account Number: 01317554
Sort Code: 30-97-62



To complete a Gift Aid form, go to the www.trinitychurches.org/giftaid where you can download and print the form, which is to be returned to the Church Office.



To be part of the weekly envelope scheme, or to find out more about Payroll Giving or legacies, contact the Church Office by telephone 01743 362399, or email info@trinitychurches.org. One of the stewardship team will then be in touch as soon as possible to discuss things further.



Finding out more?

If you have questions, comments or concerns about your own stewardship or the financial life of the church, please do contact a member of the stewardship group in confidence. The stewardship group is chaired by Rob Surl (10.45 congregation), and its members are across the congregations which make up Trinity Churches. All team members can be contacted via the Church Office on 01743 362399, or email info@trinitychurches.org. Please note that individual financial details will be confidential to members of the stewardship group, but the PCC will be aware of the overall picture.