

THINKING ABOUT LEAVING A GIFT IN YOUR WILL TO ST EUSTACHIUS' CHURCH?

Why Give?

St Eustachius' Parish Church is a **registered charity** (no 1130516) relying on donations to meet all our expenses. These include **church work** such as young people's activities and pastoral care, **running costs** such as administration, utility bills and staff salaries. Exeter diocese asks us to pay a share of its expenses, including clergy stipends (salaries), administrative costs, mission and charitable work.

The **Common Fund** is calculated to reflect the number of people who attend our services and average income. **General maintenance and repair** for our historic building costs thousands of pounds a year.

Recent **special projects** have included refurbishing and updating the parish centre to provide better kitchen and audio-visual facilities, repairing the organ, repairing the church tower, and cleaning the stained glass. Upcoming projects include repairing the roof and ceilings, and improving the use of the space at the back of the church.

God has created us and given us everything that we have. Giving is our heartfelt response to the love of God for all that we have received. "All things come from you and of your own do we give you." 1 Chronicles, 29:14

As Christians we have a prime responsibility to support the life, work and witness of our church, Christ's own body here on earth, both within our own community and elsewhere. "They gave themselves first to the Lord." 2 Corinthians, 8:5

How to Leave Money to the Church

Gladly and willingly, not out of compulsion or duty, but **because our heart is in it**. "Each one should give what they have decided in their heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians, 9:7

The Parochial Church Council has a policy to welcome all gifts in wills. This policy is set out below.

Remembering the church in your will is a wonderful way both to thank God for our blessings and to help the church to meet its needs. Legacy-giving is a natural part of Christian stewardship and has always down the ages been an important way for worshippers to support their church.

The PCC invites you to make or amend your will and, with gratitude to God, remember St Eustachius' church as you do so.

Making a will and including a gift to the church in it can be a simple process and need not cost much. This is explained below.

The St Eustachius' PCC Legacy Policy

At St Eustachius' church, the Parochial Church Council welcomes all gifts in wills, however large or small they may be. In this we are continuing the policy of the church of over seven hundred years.

You may decide to leave a gift in your will to the church for a specific purpose. Examples would be the church's fabric, overseas aid, church music or our work with children or the elderly. In that event, we promise to use your gift for the purposes specified in your will, in consultation with your executors.

Alternatively you may decide to make a gift in your will for use for the general purposes of the church. In that case, we will put it to use in accordance with our priorities at the time. These are set out in our Mission Action Plan, copies of which are available at the Parish Office and on a board at the back of the church. The objectives in the present Mission Action Plan are: to strengthen our work in three key areas; our lay ministry; our ministry for children, families and young people; and our music and worship.

The Priest-in-Charge and the Parochial Church Council promise to use all gifts received by way of legacies to fund significant work in the parish, the ministry, the church building, equipment or staff.

When the time comes, we undertake to discuss the use of your gift with your executors, and we will keep very much in mind your interests as known to the executors, as well as the church's priorities.

You can be confident that your gift will be used to make a real difference to our future mission and ministry. We will acknowledge your gift in whatever way you and your executors feel most suitable. We can make sure your gift remains anonymous if you prefer.

Your Will

Suggested wording to leave a gift to the church by way of a codicil is printed on the back of this leaflet, but **you are strongly advised to seek a solicitor when writing or amending your will.** All Tavistock solicitors are willing to offer advice and to help you write or revise your will.

For their names and addresses or for other general or confidential advice, please ask the Legacy Officer for the Parish Church. He is Dick Eberlie. He would be pleased to offer you any advice you may require or let you have a list of Tavistock solicitors. He may be contacted on 01822 618974 or on eberlie@vigomews.orangehome.co.uk

Helpful Websites

To request a free guide to making your will or for more information on different ways to leave gifts to the church through your will, visit www.churchlegacy.org.uk

A pack of information on making your will may be obtained by emailing pack@churchlegacy.org.uk

To find a solicitor and advice about solicitors, visit www.lawsociety.org.uk

A Codicil

If you have already written your will, a codicil is the easiest way to make a straightforward gift to the Church from your estate after your death. A standard form of codicil is shown below. When filled in, it should be signed and dated in front of two witnesses (who must not be beneficiaries or spouses of beneficiaries).

The witnesses should then each sign the codicil in your presence and in the presence of each other. Once completed the codicil should be kept with the original will.

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I..... (name) of.....(address)
declare this to be the(1st, 2nd,etc) codicil of my will dated.....

I give% of my residuary estate OR a gift of.....(£.....) [choose one of these options, and delete the other. If choosing the second option, insert the amount in figures first and then in words in brackets] free of all taxes, to the Parochial Church Council of St Eustachius' church in the parish of Tavistock in the Diocese of Exeter, for its general purposes OR for the following purposes.....

And I declare that the receipt of an officer of the Council shall be sufficient discharge to my executors and trustees. In all other respects I confirm my will and any previous codicils thereto. In witness whereof I have set my hand on this the(date).

Signature..... This codicil was signed by the above named person in our joint presence and then by us in his/hers.

Signature.....Name.....

Address.....

Signature.....Name.....

Address.....