

How much should I give?

Only you can answer that one! How much to give is a personal decision. The important thing is that we do actually think about what to give. Perhaps these questions might help your thinking.

- Is my giving realistic when I consider the financial needs of the church?
- Is my giving a priority for my expenditure or is it usually what is left at the end of the week?
- Should I be thinking of giving in terms of a proportion of my income rather than just an amount? This is a big step to take, but it is the Biblical principle of giving.
- Does what I give really reflect me – my life, my blessings, my priorities, my lifestyle? Is there anything of me in what I give?



How Standing Orders can help the church

Giving by standing order is enormously helpful to the church and treasurer :

- It makes administration much easier by not having to open, count and record envelopes – and keep them for six years.
- It is more secure than taking cash to the bank.
- It helps the treasurer judge the cash flow of the church making the job easier and minimises bank charges.
- It keeps income steady even when people cannot be in church.

My offering is made directly to the church in thanksgiving to God and to support the work, ministry and mission here

"God loves a cheerful giver"
2 Cor 8

Forms and further details are available from:

Stewardship Recorder
Church Office (Gift Aid)
Church Lane
Cranleigh
Surrey
GU6 8AR

v 09/2012



St Nicolas Church
Cranleigh

PLANNED GIVING

BY

STANDING ORDER

Thank you for thinking about giving

Planned giving is about more than money; it is the heartbeat of the church's ministry in our parish. Giving makes possible all that we are and do as a church – our worship, ministry and mission.

Giving is also about gratitude – our thanks to God for all he has done for us and all he has given to us. When we give our time, our talents and our treasure, we are caught up in God's continual giving to us. We are blessed, those around us are blessed and God the giver is honoured and glorified.

Practical giving

In 1 Corinthians 16:2 Paul gave some very practical advice to the Christians of Corinth. He wanted their giving to be:

- **A priority:** giving as a first call on our blessings not what is left over
- **Planned:** careful and considered as we would deal with all important matters
- **Proportionate:** a gift that reflects who we are and what we have from God
- **Practical:** Paul advises against last minute, embarrassed catch-up collections from unprepared Christians in Corinth!

How Standing Orders can help your giving

A Standing Order is simply an instruction to your bank to pay the Church a certain amount of money on a fixed day of the month, quarter or year.

They are simple to set up and run until you ask your bank to stop.

In today's busy world, they make giving to your Church extremely simple.

You may already use standing orders and direct debits to pay your household bills. Giving by standing order is also a very practical way to donate to your church.

- It underlines the importance of our giving by making it a priority alongside all our other important financial commitments.
- It helps us plan our giving as part of our normal expenditure. We know that we are giving what we decided to give.
- It helps us plan our giving in relation to what we receive or earn.
- Standing orders mean no more last minute desperate searches for cash to put in the envelopes.
- If you cannot be in church for any reason you know that your giving is up to date

Your Questions Answered

How do I set up a Standing Order?

Simply complete a Standing Order form and a Gift Aid declaration if you're able and willing to.. (Both forms are available from the Stewardship Recorder or why not visit the office overleaf.)

Who will know what I give?

The treasurer will know because he will see your donation appear on the church's bank statement.. The Stewardship Recorder will also know, if you choose to sign up to Gift Aid, so that a claim can be submitted to reclaim the tax you have already paid.

How do I increase my Standing Order?

Simply contact your bank and ask them to increase the amount. You do not need to tell anyone at the church.

Can I cancel the Order ?

Again just contact the bank to cancel. It would really help if you let us know you have cancelled, but it's not essential. If you wish to move to other methods of planned giving pick up a leaflet in Church or contact the Stewardship Recorder for details of the other schemes.

Is a standing order right for me?

If you are paid weekly, receive a fortnightly Giro, or can't commit to a regular amount, one of our giving envelopes schemes might be a better option. If you'd prefer not to have to manage your giving and have a regular amount paid straight from your bank Standing Orders are probably best. You're not limited to either option and are welcome to use a combination if you wish to.