

*“Everything in heaven and on earth is yours. All things come from you, and of your own do we give you.”*

1 Chronicles 29:11 and Common Worship.

This makes Christian Giving a special kind of giving as we are giving back to God what was his in the first place.

God knows the circumstances of all of us. He measures what we hold back for our own use, not what we decide to give back to him.

Stewardship reviews used to take place every 4/5 years. It is now recommended that these take place every year. This gives an opportunity to adjust our giving according to variations in circumstances. If you have considered everything in this leaflet and prayed to God about it, and as a result find that you cannot make a change, please continue as before. Others may want to adjust their giving gradually over a period of years, to attain a target based on a percentage of income and possessions.

The church writes a budget to include whatever may be necessary to bring God’s Kingdom on earth that much closer: can you do your part in contributing to that budget?

By this means the Vision for God’s Mission for our church can be directly linked to the giving necessary to carry out that Vision.

*Writing of a will.* This is enjoined upon us in the Book of Common Prayer. If you do not do so, it is almost certain that your money will not go to the people or charities you would like.

*Give joyfully.* There is a certain sense that you can be free of the worries of money if you are generous, and who better to give a present to than our creator himself, who has been most generous to us?

## ADDITIONAL POINTS

- What does my weekly giving represent in terms of ordinary things I buy, such as a return bus ride to the nearest big town, a meal out or a weekend away?
- Have I done everything I can to reclaim tax on my giving? (Don't forget tax deducted on Building Society interest).

### Final checks

- Have I signed a commitment form?
- Have I signed a gift-aid declaration?
- Have I updated my Bank/Building Society standing order?
- Should I join a regular giving scheme?

*“Each person should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver ”*

2 Corinthians 9:7

*“A chequebook is a theological document - it shows who and what you worship”*

Billy Graham

Issued by:  
The Diocesan Stewardship Support Group

Chairman: Martyn Saunders  
Telephone no: 01480 301068  
e-mail [martyn.saunders@ely.anglican.org](mailto:martyn.saunders@ely.anglican.org)

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## **GIVING FOR LIFE: NOTES ON CHRISTIAN GIVING**

*“For God so loved the world that he **gave** his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal **life**”*

John 3:16

### **WHY SHOULD WE GIVE?**

- God our Father has created us, gives us infinite love and everything to enjoy our life on earth (1 Cor 8:6, Psalm 24:1).
- His greatest gift is Jesus Christ who in turn gave himself for us (John 3:16, Gal 2:20).
- The Macedonians gave themselves first to the Lord in their collection for the church in Jerusalem. By committing themselves to Christ they showed their generosity to the full. (2 Corinthians 8)