**Regular donations through the Parish Giving Scheme**

Regular donations are essential to our church’s effective ministry. Because we know we have a reliable stream of income, St Michael’s is able to pay for our vicar and curate, by sending money to the Diocese; to pay for our staff; to maintain our church building; and to play our part by contributing to world mission.

What is the Parish Giving Scheme?

The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) has been set up to help churches manage regular donations well. PGS is a registered charity, financially sound, and used by most Church of England Dioceses.

How does it work?

Donations can be made on a monthly, quarterly, or annual basis. Church members use the Direct Debit system to instruct their bank to make donations to PGS - their system restricts your gift to St Michael’s, giving you peace of mind that your gift cannot be used elsewhere. Unlike a utility bill you are always in control of what you give. Your gift goes to PGS on the 1st day of the month and is passed back to St Michael’s by the 10th day of the month. Gift Aid will be received separately once the PGS has received it from HMRC.

The unique feature of this scheme is the option for you to commit in principle to increase your gift annually in line with inflation. Whilst this is a voluntary decision, it is one that will have a major impact on the life and future of our church.

What are the main benefits?

The main beneficiary of this scheme will be our church. Through your generous commitment, we can be assured of a regular, tax-efficient source of income which has the capacity to increase with the cost of living, yet involves virtually no administration. You will benefit from a system that is secure, confidential, and easy to use, while supporting our church today and in the future.

Then what can I expect?

After your application form has been submitted, within 10 working days you will receive a letter confirming your personal details, the value, frequency, and date of your first gift and confirmation that your gift is restricted to St Michael’s. Please check this letter thoroughly to ensure that all the details are correct. In this letter you will receive a PGS reference number (located below the address) which needs to be retained by you, and quoted in any future communication you have with the PGS.

There will also be a bank reference code which begins with ‘PGS Thank You’, and ends with a unique number code. This is the description which will appear on your bank statement when each gift is made.

How will St Michael’s be notified of my donation?

Our church Treasurer receives a monthly statement detailing the names of those who have donated, and the amounts of their gifts made through the PGS, and verifying your postal address.

I am currently giving by standing order; how do I stop this?

Unfortunately, PGS is unable to cancel a standing order for you - only you can do this. It is very simple to do this through your online account; otherwise you will need to contact your bank direct.

How do I go about changing my gift in the future?

We know that circumstances change and your ability to give may increase or decrease over time. If you wish to make a change please notify PGS using one of the methods provided in the contact information box below quoting:

• Your PGS reference number (found below your address on PGS correspondence)

• How much your existing gift is for

• What you would like it changed to

• When you would like this change to be brought into effect

Should you wish to have a confidential conversation about your options in changing your gift, please don’t hesitate to contact PGS at this address: Parish Giving Scheme, 76 Kingsholm Road, Gloucester GL1 3BD. Telephone: 0333 002 1260. Email: info@parishgivingschem.org.uk.

Note: For administrative reasons PGS cannot make any changes within 10 working days of the next gift date.

If you have any question about the scheme please contact David Harrison (Planned Giving Officer) on either 07973 290 250 or dhc@btinternet.com.

For more information please see the PGS privacy notice available on the PGS website www.parishgivingscheme.org.uk/for-donors/howwe-use-your-personal-data. Alternatively, please call the PGS on 0333 002 1260 for a copy of the privacy notice.

 

Giving

to

St Michael’s

