

ROADSHOW RESOURCES

We're excited to share this collection of resources designed to inspire and strengthen generous giving and Christian stewardship within your parish, and build on the insights from our recent roadshow.

We hope you find them valuable as you continue to grow and nurture your parish's mission.



For help or support contact your local Stewardship Resourcing Officers:

Blackburn Archdeaconry - Christy Sawyer christy.sawyer@blackburn.anglican.org 07483 948381

Lancaster Archdeaconry - Stephanie Rankin stephanie.rankin@blackburn.anglican.org 07717 116483 Vision 2026 calls us to give generously of our time, talents, and money out of love for Jesus.

As disciples, our giving is a sincere way of showing our love for God and a thankful response to His endless care and generosity.

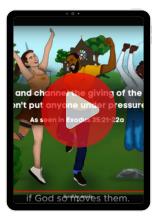
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10 Key Principles for

In July 2023, Blackburn Diocese committed to ten key principles outlining what it is to be a Joyful Generous Steward.

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WATCH NOW



Giving is rooted in the character of God, who is the Giver of all good gifts.

Giving

- 2 God is not a God of scarcity but of abundance.
 - Giving in the New Testament is a response to grace.
- <u>Giving joyfully is part of our worship.</u>
 - Generous giving is part of Christian discipleship – as we grow in the likeness of Jesus, we grow in the grace of giving.
 - Giving is a radical act of faith.

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- In prayer, we seek God's guidance, surrender our worries, and offer gratitude for His provision.
- Giving is being good stewards of God's creation.
 - Giving within the diocese is an expression of our mutual dependence as the Body of Christ.
 - We enable and channel the giving of the willing, we don't put anyone under pressure



Enabling Generosity

Providing Giving mechanisms that enable people to give in ways that are convenient to them

Contactless Devices

Today most visitors don't carry cash, relying on their phone or a debit card. Contactless devices enable people to give a one-off gift with just a tap and are great, especially for visitors attending life events such as baptisms, weddings and funerals. Regardless of whether you have Wi-Fi or a mobile phone signal, we have devices that will suit your needs. Reach out to Christy or Stephanie, and we'll assist you in finding the perfect device for your situation.

Parish Giving Scheme

The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) provides a simple and secure way to give to your church. Donors can set up secure regular donations online, by post or by phone with the option to increase their donation annually in line with inflation. Treasurers and Gift Aid Secretaries benefit from a reduced workload whilst the automatic monthly Gift Aid reclaims improves church cash flow.

Churches can also use PGS to receive one off gifts and the associated Gift Aid through **Digital Giving.**

Digital Giving

Digital giving enables people to give through links on your church website, social media page or by scanning a QR code on pew postcards or posters in the churchyard. This makes it easy for people to give instantly via their debit card, phone or mobile device and helps improve the giving experience.

Enduring Generosity

For many people, leaving a gift in their will is a final opportunity to make a lasting gift to God. Legacies, regardless of their size, have the ability to transform communities. It is important for all churches to provide information about gifts in wills and to inspire members about the difference their gift could make.

There are links below to useful resources for individuals and PCCs which include:

- A draft legacy policy that a PCC can introduce to help people understand how the church might use any legacies
- The ability to write simple wills free of charge using Farewill
- Suggestions for how to talk about legacies in your church using the Christian Aid Faith Will Resources



Embedding Generosity



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SCAN ME!

Inspiring a culture of generosity involves ensuring that our resources of biblical teaching and peaching are appropriate for all ages. Specifically designed for those leading ministry with children and young people, these materials aim to inspire and educate about Christian Stewardship and Generosity. The materials for this resource are are available on the DBE website, visiting the Joyful Generous Stewards page of the Diocesan website or by scanning these QR codes.



SCAN ME

Body



Establishing Generosity

New Local Congregations are dynamic expressions of fellowship and ministry. Establishing Generosity is a dedicated toolbox of flexible and practical resources created specifically for those who are younger or newer to faith in Jesus.. Although created specifically to support new local congregations, this resource can be adapted for other contexts.

Transparent **Generosity**

Transparent Generosity is a tool to help with clear Financial Communication. It is intended for PCCs and Annual Parochial Church Meetings (APCM), aiming to help church members grow in their understanding of the financial position of their church. A simple template enables you to input information from your accounts to produce both a summary document that will give you the information for your finance return and also some charts to help engage the wider church at the APCM. If you would like a copy please email:



s<u>tephanie.rankin</u>@blackburn.anglican.org



Inspiring Generosity

Short 2-4 minute videos intended to inspire and teach about generosity, featuring diverse contributors from across the diocese covering key topics such as 'What Does Generosity Mean to Me?, 'Why Give?' and 'Generosity Stories.'





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The Diocese of Rochester produces weekly short generosity reflections based on the Sunday lectionary readings. These 'seed thoughts' help provide a bridge for preachers wanting to link giving with the set readings for the day and help increase our understanding of money, stewardship, and giving.



Activate Generosity

Annual Giving Programme

These are a great way to promote regular, planned giving by helping a church explore stewardship and generosity by offering a chance to teach about these topics, share the impact of giving, and celebrate together. This strengthens your church's mission and ends with an invitation for the congregation to review their giving and start or increase their regular contributions.

Suggested Steps:

Pray and Review how do people in your parish currently give. Is it accessible?

Plan - Check out <u>Giving In Grace</u> for helpful resources like teaching plans as well as brochure and response form templates.

Share the **vision** for the parish- what is God calling us to do as his people in this parish? **Pray** - encourage the whole church to pray, maybe by writing a parish generosity prayer or having a focused day of prayer.

Teach about God and his generosity.

Invite people to **pledge** their giving on a specific day.

Celebrate the responses.

Remember - a giving programme is not primarily a fundraising opportunity but a **regular moment** in the church calendar to explore generosity and regular giving together.



You can find links to all these resources here

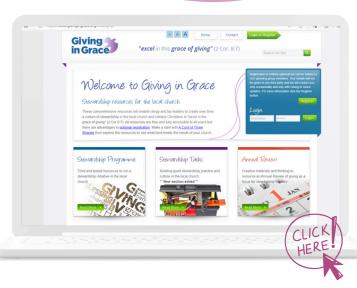
When?

Annual Generosity Week

Eight days of service and worship materials for churches to use to encourage people to live generously.

Harvest or Patronal Festival

Use this opportunity either encourage your church to review their regular giving OR to give a generous freewill offering to a specific project in addition to their usual church giving.



Small Group Resources

New bible study materials will be developed for future years but if you are looking for ideas now then you could try:

- <u>Generosity Gift and Grace</u> 5-week DVD/YouTube based course for small groups developed in this diocese.
- Living Generously 28 week small group course with films and study guides, exploring generosity through Mary and how her love for God enabled her to live a generous life.
- <u>The Generosity Project</u> a book by Tony Payne and Geoff Robson (available online or at Christian Bookshops) aiming to help small groups or individuals change the culture of a church towards one of generosity.

What would you like to do?

It starts with you. What one thing could you start doing in your church?

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Why not take a look at the <u>Generous Church Check Up Tool</u> and see what you could do to start building a Generous church in your community? This is a simple way for your PCC to talk about how you encourage giving and generosity in your church and wider community.



<u>Check out the Joyful Generous Stewards page</u> on the Diocesan website where you will find links to the resources set out in this brochure.



Be Generous!

Show generosity with after service refreshments serve better coffee and don't charge for it!

