

WHY SHOULD I GIVE?

The purpose of this leaflet is to help parishioners to think how much to give to the Church each week/month/or year.

The ministry of St Mary's in Julian Road is delivered at our historic listed Church built in 1880.

The Catholic Community is the sole source of income **for St Mary's**, we receive no financial support from the state or local government.

Our Community is important as it witnesses to Christ in the north of Bath, especially through the celebrations of the Sacraments. Over 390 adults and children attend our Church each Sunday. We baptise 40 people each year. All this means our Parish is thriving, providing us with a vibrant community which is worth preserving.

To support itself the Parish relies on the money generated from the Sunday collections and regular giving.

COST OF RUNNING THE PARISH

St Mary's costs roughly £2,300 per week to run. With about 300 adults attending Church each Sunday that means a cost of slightly over £7.50 per week per adult (£15 per married couple). Our current income is about £300 less than our running costs. We would like all parishioners to be aware of

these costs and you are most welcome to ask for details from our Treasurer (the costs are also displayed on our website and at the back of the Church).

HOW MUCH SHOULD I GIVE?

The Church leaves it to our conscience, consequently we must all ask ourselves how important the Church **and St Mary's Parish are** to our life and give accordingly.

You may wish to consider your giving in relation to your income and relate that to an hourly rate. It might be suggested that we should give one hour's income to our parish weekly. For example, if your household income is as the table below, your household giving might be:

Annual Income £pa	Weekly Income £pw	Suggested giving £pw
£20,000	£400	£10
£25,000	£500	£13
£30,000	£600	£16
£35,000	£700	£19
£40,000	£800	£21
£45,000	£900	£24

HOW SHOULD I GIVE?

One advantage in giving directly from your bank account by **STANDING ORDER** is that no cash has to be counted and banked. If you pay by standing order and like to put something in the offertory, at the back of the Church are blue cards, which can be picked up as you come into Church. They can be placed in the offertory basket and will be recycled for the following week.

You can also join our **ENVELOPE SCHEME**. If you wish to give by this method, we will give you a set of envelopes for the year to use each Sunday.

Whether giving by standing order or by our envelope scheme, you are committed to nothing. You can increase, reduce or stop the amount you give at any time without informing the parish. With a standing order you only have to communicate with your bank.

If you wish to give by cheque they should be made payable to St Mary's Catholic Church, Bath.

If you are a UK tax payer, we can increase any donation of yours by 25p for every £1 given, by reclaiming the tax that you have already paid. You need to sign a gift aid declaration and give by standing order or our envelope scheme.

LEGACIES

A very welcome source of funds is from legacies. If you are making a will, or wish to add to an existing will, a suggested wording is available from the Treasurer or on our website.

HOW CAN I INCREASE MY GIVING?

If you give by standing order, just contact your bank (over the internet if you use internet banking).

If you give by envelope just increase the amount you give.

In both cases you do not need to inform the Parish.

If you would like to pay your offertory by standing order or by envelope, just contact the **Parish Office** as set out below.

MORE INFORMATION

More details of all the information in this leaflet can be obtained from our Gift Aid Administrator or the Parish Administrator (our Parish office is in the parish centre and the address is: 4 Harley St., Bath BA1 2SF), or by e-mail to ga.bath.stmary@cliftondiocese.org.uk or by phone at 01225 314114. Further information on our finances is available on our website, www.stmarysbath.org.uk. The Treasurer welcomes questions on our finances.

Thank you for carefully considering the information in this leaflet.

Prepared March 2019

**PARISH OF ST MARY'S,
(Our Lady Help of Christians),
Julian Road, BATH, BA1 2SF**

Diocesan Charity number: 1170168

HOW MUCH SHOULD I GIVE?

Guidance on regular Church
giving

