

## **Coronavirus: The Financial Impact**

Whilst a reasonable proportion of our income from Giving is made by Standing Order, a substantial amount of giving is by Cash or Cheque - either placed in a brown Gift Aid envelope or straight onto the giving plate or bag at Sunday services.

Clearly with no services being held in Church on a Sunday for the foreseeable future it will no longer be possible to do that. This is a prime example of why for a long time I have asked that people switch to Standing Order! I am very grateful for those who do give in this way.

The potential loss of the money given via the collection plate presents a very big threat to our ability to meet the cost of our outgoings, which do not diminish just because services are suspended. It is vital that we continue to receive as much money as possible from church members and as regularly as possible.

With this in mind I outline some options for those people who do not currently give by standing order:

- Set a Standing Order up! If you have access to online banking this is very easy to do from home. Otherwise, complete the Standing Order form in the attached leaflet and post it to your bank ASAP. The Pledge and Gift Aid section of the leaflet should also be completed and posted to the Church Office.
- If you have Online Banking, but do not wish to set up a Standing Order, make your giving using the bank transfer facility. The church bank account number and sort code are shown in the attached leaflet. Please show your name as the payment reference so we can identify who it has come from.
- If you have a bank account but do not have an online facility, please post a cheque to the Church Office – made payable to “St. Paul’s Parish”.
- Should you be in a position where you have no choice but to use Cash **PLEASE DO NOT POST IT TO US** as that is a very unsecure method and it could get stolen. Instead save it up and then put it on the collection plate once we are allowed to hold services in church again.

I appreciate these are difficult times, but this Coronavirus crisis does not diminish the need for Giving to also be increased beyond what people had been paying until now. The underlying issues we faced and which gave rise to the plea for an increase in Giving have not gone away.

Should you have any concerns, need help with setting anything up, or need more information, then please do telephone me – 01753 677709 or 07765 882969.

The address for the Church Office is:

St. Pauls Church Office, 130 Stoke Road, Slough, SL2 5AS

Thank You and God Bless You.

**Ray Lewis**

Treasurer