



STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES 2024

As I prepare to leave St Mark's this is my last Stewardship letter so I am going to encourage you to be as generous as you possibly can. We know that some people offer time rather than money and we are grateful to you for that. This letter is an appeal for financial support because we are seeing a reduction in our regular giving which is having an impact on what we are able to achieve.

If you are able to make a commitment to a regular monthly amount, however large or small, that is helpful; we can then plan our expenditure more effectively. We give away 10% of our **regular given income** to local and international groups and charities but because our regular given income has reduced, so has the amount we can give away. We also give generously to the diocese. They would like us to give more but understand why at the moment we can't. This year our budget falls short of our expenditure so we are appealing to you for an extra £10,000 to cover the shortfall. Can you help?

**However you choose to contribute to St Mark's,
please let us know how much you will be giving in 2024.**

**It costs about £5,000 per week to run St Mark's
which is why we need to appeal to you for financial support.**

Our expenditure is mostly covered by your donations with a few grants, but these are hard to get.

- The building and grounds, which we love, need maintaining and this is one of the highest annual expenses. Our Diamond Anniversary Appeal has raised over £6,000 to help with the secondary glazing and new heating system in the upper room but we will need a lot more to finish the whole church.
- The heating of the church continues to be a challenge, despite the wonderfully generous work of David Tayler and Stuart Stubbs whose digital heating controls have made such a difference to our costs.
- We employ several staff to support the activities of the church:
 - Full-time Associate Vicar and Liberal Theologian
 - Part-time Operations Coordinator, Families' Worker, Cleaner, Caretaker & Director of Music.

The post of Director of Music has been funded partly by the congregation's giving and partly by a legacy. The legacy has been used up and so the PCC has decided to cover the full costs ourselves. We can only do this if our income increases.

Please help support the music at St Mark's which is such a rich part of our life together.

Please continue to give your prayerful consideration to how you are able to contribute to this vibrant and life-giving community. If you have some time to spare please email Zoë in the office. Thank you.

May this church be blessed and continue to be a blessing to others.

With my warmest wishes for the weeks and months ahead.

Revd Sue Hammersley, Vicar;
David Armstrong, Treasurer; James Oliver and Dilys Noble, Churchwardens,

The following information describes the different ways of giving.

I. Occasional Giver

According to our records you do not currently make regular donations to St Mark's and we hope that you will consider starting to do so. Our preference is for people to join **the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS)** as this is the most efficient system and reduces the amount of admin required from volunteers at St Marks. Donations can be set up simply and quickly either online or by their telephone service. The phone service receives very positive feedback.

The scheme supports an option for annual inflationary increases. If you agree to this your donation will be increased each year in line with inflation. You will be notified in advance of the change with the option to not increase. This works well for many people, allowing their giving to remain constant in real terms.

As an alternative you can give by **Standing Order**. If you use internet banking you should be able to set this up online. Alternatively, you can complete the standing order form on page 4 of this letter. If you are a tax payer you can significantly increase the value of your donation if you can Gift Aid it. This allows St Mark's to recover the tax that was paid on the donation, it makes what you give worth even more. A gift aid declaration is on page 3 of this letter.

2. Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) – with inflation

You make your regular donations to St Mark's through the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS).

This is the most efficient method reducing the admin required from volunteers at St Marks, thank you.

You also selected for your regular donation to be increased by PGS each year in line with inflation. You will be notified each year around the anniversary of you joining the scheme with details of the increase. You always control how much you give and you do not have to agree to the increase proposed by PGS. If you want to change how much you give you can do this by contacting PGS.

3. PGS – without inflation

You make your regular donations to St Mark's through the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS). This is the most efficient method reducing the admin required from volunteers at St Marks, thank you.

You selected to not increase your regular donation automatically. So, your donation only changes when **you notify PGS** that you want to change.

4. Standing Order

You make your regular donations to St Marks through a standing order (SO). Your support is very much appreciated but making donations this way does require more admin from St Mark's volunteers than if you were able to give by the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS). We understand that the PGS does not work for everybody. To increase your giving you need to contact your bank to adjust the standing order.

Most banks support amendments to standing orders through their online banking service. You can also send them a form with the revised details. This form needs to go to your bank but if you give it to the treasurer they will arrange for it to be sent. A copy of a standing order form is page 4 of this letter.

The Parish Giving Scheme can be contacted:

- through their website - <https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/home/>
- by email - info@parishgiving.org.uk
- by phone - 0333 002 1271

St Marks parish reference is 350 635 056

In order to manage our finances effectively we need to know what you are able to give.

Please reply either using the electronic form that can be accessed from [this link](#)

Or by completing the form that makes up page 5 of this letter.

Thankyou.

Gift Aid Declaration

Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate

Gift Aid is reclaimed by the charity from the tax you pay for the current tax year. Your address is needed to identify you as a current UK taxpayer.

I want to Gift Aid any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years to:
St Marks Church, Broomhill, Sheffield S10 2SE

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

My Details

Full name	
Full address	
Postcode	
Date	

Please notify the charity if you:

- want to cancel this declaration
- change your name or home address
- no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains

If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.

The PCC of St Mark's Church, Broomhill, Sheffield

Standing Order form

To: _____ (your bank or building society)

Address: _____

Post code: _____

Your Account No: _____ Sort Code: _____

Please pay to HSBC UK, to the account of St Marks PCC

(Sort code 40-41-18, Account number 80724548)

The sum of £_____:

On the _____ day of _____ (month) _____ (year)

and a like sum each month/quarter/year* until further notice

(* - delete as appropriate)

Please note: This replaces any previous standing order declarations

Signed _____ Date: _____

Note: Once completed please send to your bank.



STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES 2024 - Response

Further to Sue's letter please use this form to let the treasurer know how much you expect to be able to contribute towards St Mark's finances in 2024. All donations are received with thanks and all will help St Mark's to have the financial resources it needs to thrive and grow. Please be reassured that if your circumstances change at any time we understand that you may need to adjust your giving.

How often will I give? (please circle your response)

Weekly

Monthly

Other _____

How much will I give?

£ _____. ____

How will I give? (please circle your response)

Parish Giving Scheme

Standing Order

Other _____

Your name

Thank you for completing this form.

All donations are received with thanks and will help support St Mark's.

All responses are confidential and will only be seen by the church treasurer.

Please either post this form in the box at the back of church or give it to David Armstrong the church treasurer.