

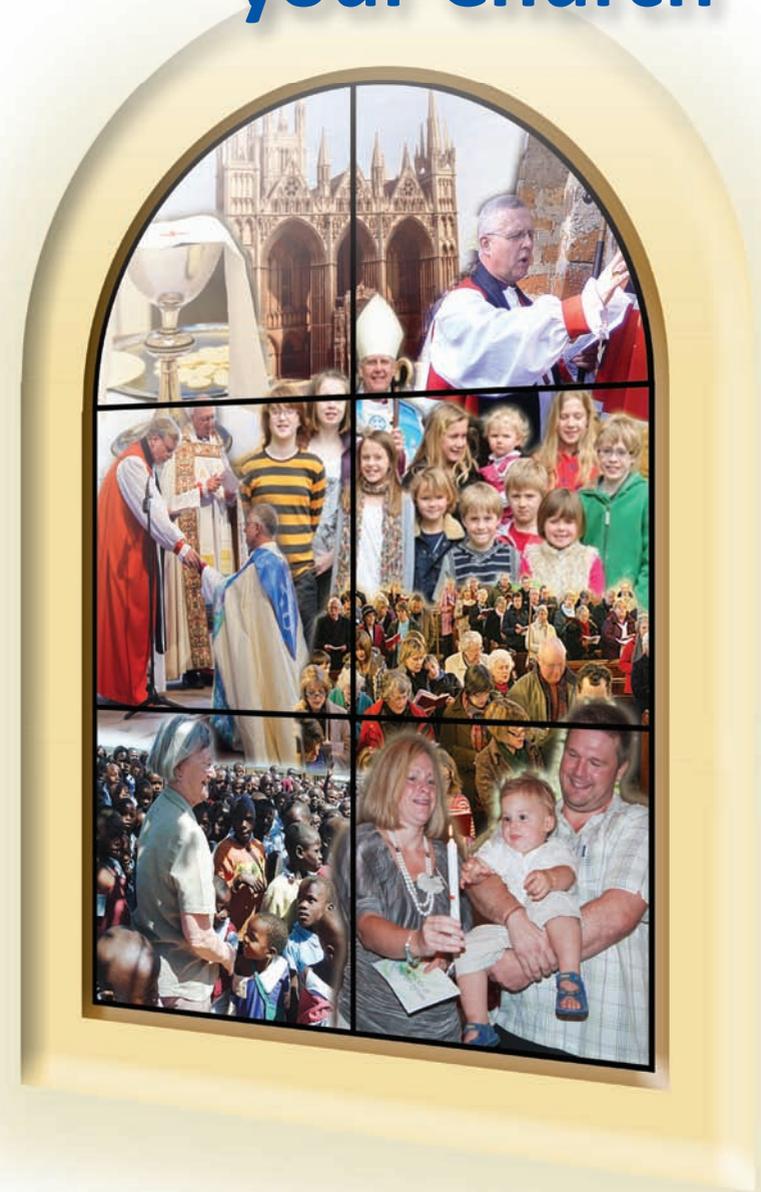
How you can make a
lasting difference
to the work of
your Church



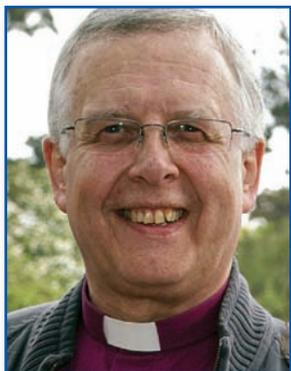
For more information, call the Church Legacy and Wills
Information Line on 08445 870875 or visit
www.churchlegacy.org.uk

You can order a free pack from this Legacy Line including a
simple guide to making a Will and ideas for different ways to
support the Church with a gift in your Will.

Produced by the Diocese of Peterborough
Registered Charity Number 250569



First and foremost...



Over 5,000 people each year leave gifts in their Wills to support the work of the Church. These gifts make a significant impact on our mission and ministry here in the Diocese of Peterborough. They help us to keep our clergy, maintain our parish churches, and invest in exciting new mission projects. For example the Café Connections project at Bozeat, where people can be introduced to Jesus over breakfast and the Sunday papers; or the

Xpect youth work intern programme, which places trainees in parishes to learn essential skills and work with young people in some of our most needy communities.

This leaflet tells you more about the difference you could make simply by leaving a gift to your church in your Will. Leaving something to the church when you die goes hand in hand with your regular giving: it is an important part of our Christian Stewardship.

Making a Will and reviewing it regularly is good stewardship too. If you don't make a valid Will, your loved ones could face significant trouble and expense after your death, and a court will decide how to distribute your estate and who looks after your dependents.

Making a Will and including a gift to your church can be simple to do and have a tremendous impact on the future life of our church.

I would like to encourage you to read this leaflet and think seriously about acting on it.

+ Donald

To request a free guide to making a Will or for more information on different ways to leave gifts to the Church through your Will, phone the Church's Legacy & Wills Information Line on 08445 870875 or visit www.churchlegacy.org.uk.

CODICIL

A codicil is the easiest way to include a straightforward gift to your church if you have already written your Will. Complete a codicil in the form below and sign and date it in front of 2 witnesses (who must not be a beneficiary or the spouse of a beneficiary). The witnesses should then each sign the codicil in your presence and in the presence of each other. Once completed, the codicil should be kept with your original Will. If in doubt, you should seek advice from a solicitor.

CODICIL	
I, _____ (name) of _____ (address)	
declare this to be the _____ (1st/2nd/3rd etc) Codicil to my Will dated _____ (date). I give: _____ % of my residuary estate OR a gift of £ _____ (_____)	
<i>[choose one of these options and delete the other. If choosing the latter option, insert amount in numbers then, in the brackets, in words]</i> free of all taxes to the Parochial Church Council of the parish of _____ in the diocese of _____ for its general purposes and I declare that the receipt of an officer of the Council shall be a sufficient discharge to my executors and trustees. In all other respects I confirm my Will and any previous codicils thereto. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand on this the _____ (date).	
Signature _____ (the testator/rix).	
This codicil was signed by the above named person in our joint presence, and then by us in his/hers.	
Signature _____ Name _____	
Address _____	
Signature _____ Name _____	
Address _____	

How to make a will

Making a Will and including a gift to your church in it can be a simple process and need not cost much. Some solicitors do it for free, in return for a donation to charity, during Will Aid Week each November.



Phone the Church Legacy & Wills Information Line on 08445 870875 and ask for a free pack to guide you through visiting your solicitor and making a Will. If you already have a Will but would like to add a gift to your church, you may prefer to use the codicil form opposite.

Suggested wording to leave a gift to your church in your Will

We strongly advise you to see an independent solicitor when writing or amending your Will.

“I give _____ % of my residuary estate free of all taxes to the Parochial Church Council of the parish of _____ in the diocese of _____ for its general purposes, and I declare that the receipt of an officer of the Parochial Church Council shall be a sufficient discharge to my executors and trustees.”



If you prefer to give a fixed amount of money rather than a share of your estate, replace the words in blue above with ‘I give the sum of £ _____ (_____) free of all taxes...’ Write the amount in numbers and then in words in the brackets, for clarity.

It can be difficult to know how much or how little we will have to leave. Dividing your estate into shares instead of fixed amounts of money can ensure your Will continues to reflect your wishes, and is in tune with the Church’s teaching on proportionate giving.



Your church in the Diocese of Peterborough

Your parish is within the Diocese of Peterborough, which has around 190 clergy, over 130 readers and in excess of 16,000 regular worshippers meeting in almost 380 churches. In addition, over 15,000 young people attend church schools throughout the Diocese.

That is not the whole story; many parishes support and benefit from a growing number of youth and children’s workers. There are many different chaplaincies in hospitals, prisons, education and other areas as well as numerous community projects providing Christian mission and ministry to all sorts of people every day of the week.

A gift in your Will can help your church carry on its vital work day after day, year after year. It can also make a lasting difference by enabling your church to achieve something that it would not normally be able to do. If you want to, you can channel your gift to mission or



community projects, to maintenance of the church fabric, to youth work or music or to any other aspect of church life that matters to you.

Your local church may have produced a policy on how it will use legacies. This should help you see how a gift in your Will can make a significant difference to its longer-term mission and ministry.



What difference will your gift make?



A legacy gift can make a real difference.

A legacy left to the Parish of All Hallows, Hargrave has enabled them to begin a project to install a new toilet and servery, along with a new ringing chamber.

Once the work is completed the church will become much more useable, not just for the congregation but also for the wider community that the church wishes to serve.



As a result of a generous legacy St Matthew's Church in Northampton will be employing a new Children and Families Worker. This will enable their work with children on Sundays to flourish and grow. It will also help them to forge strong links between the church and a nearby school.

Your Will matters

- Thinking about life after death should not be difficult for Christians! Make sure you are prepared practically as well as spiritually, whatever your age; write a Will and keep it up to date.
- Having a Will can save your loved ones a lot of trouble. Without one, a court will decide how to divide your estate and who should look after your dependants.
- Many Christians give regularly and proportionately from their income. Why not give proportionately from your estate too?
- A gift to your church in your Will helps your church live out its mission in your community and can make its dreams come true.
- It is a way to thank God for all the gifts of your lifetime, and to hand on the legacy we have received from generations of Christians past (our building, our faith) to Christians of the future.
- Leaving a gift in your Will is tax efficient and can reduce the amount of inheritance tax you pay. Gifts to charity are themselves free from inheritance tax, and the 2011 budget announced that if you leave 10% or more of your estate to charity (which includes the church), any inheritance tax due on the rest of the estate will be charged at a lower rate.

“Yours, LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendour, for everything in heaven and earth is yours.

LORD our God, all this abundance that we have provided for building you a temple for your Holy Name comes from your hand, and all of it belongs to you.”
(1 Chronicles 29)

When leaving gifts in your Will you might like to consider dividing your estate into ‘shares’ rather than specific cash amounts.

This has a number of benefits; it can help you provide for your family and friends first and share what is left over between your church and other charities that you care about; it reflects the Church’s teaching on proportionate giving; and the value of your gift will not be eroded by inflation over time. Your solicitor will be able to help you with this.