

OCTOBER 2025

MONEY MATTERS



Introduction to Laura Taylor

I am delighted to introduce myself as the new Parish Giving Officer for the Diocese of Leicester. I am excited to begin working alongside you and your Parishes as we continue to grow a culture of generosity that sustains and strengthens the mission and ministry of the Church.

My role is to help equip churches with guidance, tools and encouragement to financially resource ministry, including offering support around stewardship, digital giving tools and Parish Contributions.

As a Licensed Lay Minister and Church Treasurer in my local Church, I have a keen interest in the Church and their communities grow in numbers and in discipleship. I look forward to learning about your given contexts and working together to encourage our Churches to grow in discipleship and generosity.

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I'm interested in hearing the stories of the communities where you serve and considering how I can support your churches to encourage generosity, confidently talk about money and support preaching about giving.

I look forward to getting to know you all in the coming few months

If you would like to contact me, please use the details below:

laura.taylor@leicestercofe.org
07897003488

[Book a meeting with me](#)





Church Financial Year

The financial year looks very different in the Church of England than in a business. To assist you in planning your role as treasurer, we have prepared a summary of the Church Financial Year.

[You can download this resource on the hub here](#) or email me for a copy (laura.taylor@leicestercofe.org)

Improvements to the PGS website

PGS are approaching the launch of its new digital platform. They have contacted givers directly to inform them about the changes happening. PGS have sent the following guidance to support the changeover of platforms:

Gift changes for November

To allow the PGS team time to process any changes ahead of the switchover, the last date for givers to manage their November giving is 3pm on Monday 13 October.

Download your statements

If you need copies of past statements, please make sure to download them before the website is temporarily offline from Monday 13 October. While the data itself will appear in the new dynamic reports, historical statements will not be transferred over to the new website.

Remind givers to share an email address with us

If your givers have not provided PGS with an email address, now is a great time to encourage them to register one to stay connected and benefit from the enhanced system.

These changes are infrastructure updates only, and won't affect how people give through PGS. We'll still be here to support givers just as we always have, whether they give online, via a paper gift form or over the phone.

- Will you start charging for regular giving?
- No. Running costs for the regular giving service are funded by the generosity of the Church Commissioners, so there will be no fees for regular giving.
- Can you distinguish parish payments between regular giving and Gift Aid?
- Yes. From October onwards, Gift Aid payments will be named accordingly to ensure it's clear which payment is linked to which statement.
- For further information about these changes, please contact the PGS team:
- Phone: 0333 002 1260
- Email: info@parishgiving.org.uk





Free funding for your church



How your church can get free funding



It's really simple. The church signs up and then every time a church member goes online shopping, money will appear in your church account! I certainly would recommend it. We are a very small rural congregation, and we've raised over £400 so far.

Tony, St Marks



Thousands of churches across the UK are benefiting from extra funding, thanks to their congregation simply shopping online. To help make sure churches in our diocese don't miss out, we've partnered with [easyfundraising](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/diocese-of-leicester) to give you a free, easy, and secure way to get your entire congregation raising funds at no extra cost, or effort.

More than 8,000 of the biggest retailers are standing by to donate to your church. The funding is completely unrestricted and raised each time a member of your congregation and wider community shop with them.

There's no additional cost to anyone and it's a completely secure and effective way of raising funds towards maintaining your building, introducing new activities or events for your community and buying resources. Whatever your church needs funding for this year and beyond.

How your church can start raising straight away

Over £2m has been raised for churches and religious groups across the country so far, and we'd encourage all of our members to register as soon as possible.

- Register your church for free here: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/diocese-of-leicester>
- Ask your congregation to join as supporters for free – they just need an email address to do so
- They simply shop online with their favourite retailers via the easyfundraising app or website.
- They'll collect cashback donations for your church, courtesy of the retailer, with every purchase!

Find out more

Becky Coleman is running a free online session to show you how to get the best out of easyfundraising. In the webinar you will get:

- A live demo of how easyfundraising works
- Step-by-step guidance on how to join the free platform
- Top tips to help you raise as much as possible
- A chance to ask Becky your questions in a Q&A session

When: Thursday 23rd Oct at 6.30pm – 7.30pm

Where: Online via Zoom

[Book your space here](#)

Treasurer Networking Events

Next year, I would like to set up some networking events for treasurers at different churches around the Diocese. These sessions would include a short training session, time to ask me or the finance team any questions, and time to network with other treasurers in your area.

If you are interested in this type of event, or your church could offer space to run an event, please complete the form by [clicking here](#).

Photo by Dylan Gillis on Unsplash



External Training Opportunities

Getting the Most out of Contactless Giving

7th October at 10:00-11:00 am

Explore the ways to get the most out of your contactless device: top tips from successful churches, advice on reporting and Gift Aid, and more.

[Register here](#)

Digital Giving at Christmas

14th October at 12:00-1:00 pm

How to maximise your digital giving during the Advent period, the Church of England's Christmas theme for 2025 and be inspired as we share some Christmassy campaign ideas.

[Register here](#)



Treasurer Training

6th, 13th, 20th and 27th October at 5:00-6:00 p.m.

Explore the different aspects of the role of church treasurer in a series of online courses.

[Register here](#)

Gift Aid Secretaries

10th, 17th and 24th October at 1:00-2:00 pm

Explore the different aspects of being a church gift aid secretary in a series of online courses.

[Register here](#)



Parish Contributions

Thank you to all those who have sent their Parish Contribution offers.

If you haven't submitted your offer, please send your form to parish.contribution@leicestercofe.org. If you require any support with this process, please get in contact.

Ecclesiastical Church Fundraising hub

Ecclesiastical have a dedicated Fundraising Hub, which can be at [Church Fundraising Hub | Ecclesiastical](#).

There is an extensive range of resources and guidance for churches to freely download to support in developing successful fundraising campaigns.



Diocese Training Opportunities

OCT
11

PREPARING A BUDGET (IN PERSON)

How to prepare and monitor your church budget. Bring along your church accounts.

10 AM - 12 PM - St Martin's House

[Register here](#)

OCT
13

PREPARING A BUDGET (ONLINE WEBINAR)

How to prepare and monitor your church budget. Bring along your church accounts.

7 - 8:30 PM - Online Webinar

[Register here](#)

OCT
23

MEET THE FUNDER - EASYFUNDRAISING

How your congregation, clergy and community can raise free donations for your church every time you shop online.

6:30 - 7:30 PM - Online

[Register here](#)

OCT
30

ENABLING GENEROSITY AT CHRISTMAS

This webinar explores how we can cultivate a spirit of generosity in our churches during the Christmas season.

7 - 8:30 PM - Online

[Register here](#)

NOV
24

GIFT AID: MAXIMISING THE BENEFITS AND REDUCING THE PITFALLS (ACAT)

Explore the complexities of gift aid and GASDS

6:45 - 8:45 PM - Online

[Register here](#)