

St John the Baptist Church, Old Sodbury

Charitable Giving Policy

Aim of the policy

- To be transparent about the use of unrestricted donations received into the church's general bank account.
- To advise what proportion of the church income will be used to help those in need.
- To outline the process of choosing charities to support.
- To look at other ways that we can be a 'generous' congregation.

1. Unrestricted Donations.

- a. Anyone giving an unrestricted donation to the church should be notified that charitable gifts will be made from general funds in advance of taking a donation.
- b. The congregation should be made aware throughout the year that the PCC intend to make some charitable donations as part of the work of the church.
- c. Charitable giving is a part of our mission to show God's love in action.

2. Proportionate Giving

We would like to give 5% of the income that we receive annually from our planned giving income to charities locally and overseas each year. (This is money given through the Parish Giving Scheme and by Standing Orders.)

3. Charity Selection

- a. Members of the PCC will nominate different charities to support with donations from our planned giving income.
- b. Due diligence checks on the nominated charities will be carried out and the PCC will need to agree on the selected charities that have been chosen.

4. Being a 'generous' church

Financial giving from our planned income is just one of the ways we can make a difference in our community and our world.

We can also ...

- Hold retiring collections at our Harvest Service and in lieu of a Toy Service in December, so that all the congregation can donate to the work of charities helping the hungry and those in need at these times of the year.
- Make a donation to support local people from some of the proceeds of the Summer Teas.
- Encourage our congregation to be 'generous' with their time and volunteer to help with the local Foodbank, Bible Story Tellers, and other opportunities that arise to be involved with church activities.

'Freely you have received; freely give'.

