

Some Biblical principles

Giving is a by-product of faith. It is an outward expression of priorities and heart. If you put God first in your life, your finances will be open to Him. The miracle of stewardship is that the more you give, the more you receive. You won't always receive in kind, but what you receive is more precious than what you give, because God's gift to you is greater than your gifts to Him.

Giving regularly: The Bible teaches us to give 'on the first day of every week'. While money may be tight during some periods of our lives, for the most part, the failure to give is a spiritual problem (1 Corinthians 16:2 and 2 Corinthians 9:8).

Give cheerfully: Receiving is wonderful, but the joy is greater when we are able to give to another person. The Holy Spirit uses our giving to deepen our faith in Christ (2 Corinthians 9:7).

Give proportionately: Give in proportion to our income - not a specific pound amount. Proportionate giving challenges all of us, irrespective of our financial situation.

Tithe: Tithing is the practice of honouring God with one tenth (10%) of our income. God is not concerned about the size of the gift, but the motive for it (Genesis 28:10-22). Tithing is giving God a portion of our best, not our leftovers.

Give sacrificially: At times God asks us to give until we truly feel the giving. Giving sacrificially may include, rearranging our priorities, a change in lifestyle or forfeiting something of great value. When we give sacrificially, we give our best (2 Corinthians 8:2-3).

Give first fruits: Give God the first portions of our income. By doing that we are constantly reminded of God's ownership (Proverbs 3:9).

How to Give

The most helpful way to support your Parish is to regularly give either by setting up a monthly Standing Order from your bank or using the envelope scheme.

Standing Orders: Many church members now give regularly by monthly standing order. Forms are available from the back of our churches or the church website. This saves you time, means that you don't forget when life is busy and, significantly, it helps the church with its financial planning.

Envelopes: We take an offering at each of our services. If you want to give regularly on a Sunday there are a supply of dated envelopes at the back of church to help you with this.

One-off payments: One-off gifts can be made via cheque (made out to *Rushen PCC*) or electronically to the bank (use same bank details as for standing orders). If your gift is intended for a special fund rather than for general giving, write this on the back of the cheque or indicate it in the payment reference.

Legacies: When you make a will you may like to consider including Rushen Parish as a beneficiary as a way of investing in God's future work on the island.

Rushen Parish

Your Giving



**Thank you for helping
to make this happen !**



Kirk Christ with
St. Catherine's (Port Erin),
St. Mary's (Port St. Mary),
and St. Peter's (Cregneish)

**Our Vision is to be
at the Heart of the Community
revealing the Heart of God**

www.rushenparish.org.uk

Our Vision

Rushen Parish has an exciting and challenging vision: **to be at the heart of the community revealing the heart of God.** Much of which needs financial support to make it happen.



Supporting the Vision

Your giving goes towards the many ministry and mission opportunities that we are actively engaged in. These include:

Clergy: our share of clergy costs: stipend, housing, training of lay and ordained ministers (all this via the Diocesan Shared Ministry Fund).

Worship: we place a high priority on worship and part of your giving enables us to have a Director of Music for the Parish and organists at each of our main services.

Children and families: we have growing numbers of children and young people attending our churches, our youth groups, and our thriving Messy Church. We continue to forge strong links with the local schools through assemblies and *Godly Play* sessions. Your giving supports these ministries with resources and training.

Community and Buildings: we are blessed with four church buildings (and two church halls) that are used both for worship and for many community-facing opportunities. Your money goes towards maintaining and developing these facilities for current and future generations. This includes insurance, lighting, heating and repairs.

Support services: the ministry of the church is supported by people who contribute to the cleaning of our buildings, the administration, as well as photocopying costs, etc.

Our Challenge

To cultivate the grace of giving we need to think carefully about all we receive from God and how we sustain all that we have in the Parish of Rushen. In 2016 our Parish needs around **£2440** per week to sustain its current ministry and mission to the community, and to maintain the fabric of the buildings and grounds.

Our ordinary income amounts to around **£1700**. A shortfall of some **£740** per week. The following table gives an example of how we can make up this shortfall.

| This many people | Additional weekly giving | Equals this much extra income |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 65 | £2 | £130 |
| 30 | £5 | £150 |
| 16 | £10 | £160 |
| 10 | £15 | £150 |
| 6 | £25 | £150 |
| To meet our target of | | £740 |

We need every church member to review the amount they give and to give regularly. Our vision for the Parish is achievable but requires sustained financial support.



What can I do ?

God calls us to offer our whole lives to Him (Romans 12:1-2). Here are some of the ways that you can do this.

Give Thanks: Give thanks for everything with which God has blessed you and we will realise how much we've been given.

Give Regularly: Commit or re-commit to giving money regularly to the church. Review your giving in other areas, such as time and hospitality.

Give Generously: General Synod has challenged church members as an *initial* target to give 5% (or £1 in £20) of their income (after tax) to and through the Church, and a similar amount to other work that helps to build God's kingdom (e.g. local and overseas charities).

Give Yourself: Be involved with the organisations you support. Keep up to date with what they are doing so that your prayers and your giving are properly informed.