

How can *my legacy* help *my church* best?

It is most helpful if your gift is left to the church without strings on how it can be used, as the PCC should have a clear idea of what work is most important

However, if you do wish to specify how it is to be used, it is better to describe general areas of work such as 'children's work' or 'church music'. If you are too specific, you may restrict how your gift can be used more than you intend and cause problems for those you are trying to help. You might like to discuss this in advance with your minister

You have the choice of leaving either a specific amount or a proportion of your estate (perhaps after gifts to your family) which is called a residual legacy. Time can make a generous specific amount seem quite small after a few years, whereas residual legacies keep pace with inflation

If you don't want to give all your money to your parish church, you could consider helping work in the Diocese or the national church

*By leaving a legacy
you are **thanking God**
for all his generosity
to you*



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For help and further information please speak to your
Gift Aid secretary, or Parish Giving Director.

or you can contact

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Could *my will* help *my Church?*



Just think what leaving something in your will could do to help *your church*

Perhaps...

- Develop work with children
- Get that new noticeboard at last
- Install an improved sound system
- Help get the finances in order so the real work can be done
- Replace those old worn out hymn books
- Finally cure that damp patch behind the altar
- Get a new, more efficient heating boiler

The list of things most churches would like in order to improve their work in the community and to glorify God is almost endless but we know that the resources to do this are limited

Leaving a legacy to your church could make some of these things possible...

Why write a will?

Writing a will is the **only** way to make sure your wishes are carried out after your death

If you don't leave a will, your estate will be divided according to certain rules laid down in law. These may not be what you intended

It is not very expensive. Most solicitors will prepare a straightforward will for less than you might think

You make it much easier for those you leave behind to manage your affairs after your death

A will may help your family pay less Inheritance Tax

By making a gift to your church or another charity you make something possible that wouldn't happen otherwise

Why is leaving a legacy particularly right for Christians?

We believe in seeing death in a positive way

The Bible encourages us to share not only our **income** but our **wealth**, in gratitude for all God has brought to our lives

We should leave our affairs tidily and in order, in love for the family that we leave behind. The Prayer Book tells us we should do this

There is so much work God calls His church to undertake, and leaving a legacy can help this be done



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