|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| A picture containing text, sign  Description automatically generated |  |



**Template for Legacy Giving page**

Leaving a gift in your will is an amazing opportunity to make a final gift to God. This will make a lasting difference to the future of (insert name of church), and its ministry and mission in our local community.

No matter how big or small, every gift in every will can make a significant impact. Gifts in wills are an important part of Christian giving, and leaving a gift to your church is a way to thank God for all the blessings you have received in your lifetime.

Legacy gifts can be used to fund mission and ministry projects, help to maintain church buildings, and ensure faithful people can be at the heart of this community for years to come. Parishes in the Church of England benefit from over 5,000 people each year who have decided to leave a gift in their wills. This means over £50 million in legacy gifts is left to the church each year.

At (insert name of church) we welcome all legacy gifts, and we promise to use them to make a difference.

**Our legacy policy**

The Parochial Church Council’s (PCC) policy is to use legacy gifts to fund development projects inside our church buildings and wider parish. This could be building maintenance and improvements, purchasing new equipment, or investing in people.

It is a great help if legacy gifts are left for general purposes, and not for a specific appeal or project which has an end date. The PCC can discuss with the executors of your will how your gifts can be utilised at that time, considering areas of the church’s work that were of interest to you. For example, this could be music, buildings and facilities, or children’s work.

**How to leave a legacy gift**

* **Write your will for free online**

Will writing can often seem time-consuming and expensive, reasons why many people put it off. To ease the process, the Church of England has partnered with award-winning online will-writing company, Farewill, to offer a free online will-writing service. This normally costs £100 for a single will or £160 for couples. You can also complete it from the comfort of your home in less than 30 minutes.

Making a will and keeping it updated is the only way to make sure your wishes are carried out after your death, giving you peace of mind that you can continue to support the family, friends, and charities you love.

If you live in England or Wales, you can redeem your free online will by clicking the link below:

[**https://farewill.com/manchesterchurches**](https://farewill.com/manchesterchurches)

*Disclaimer: by participating in this will writing scheme, your details will not be shared with the Church of England. If you use the Church of England will writing scheme, there is no obligation to leave a gift to a church in your will. Your loved ones should always come first. If you do choose to remember your local or a favourite church, thank you. Every gift, great or small will make a real difference to that church and its mission and ministry in your community for future generations.*

* **Need to write a will?**

We strongly advise you to seek professional advice and see a solicitor when making or revising your will. If you need help finding a local Solicitor, [please click here.](https://www.churchofengland.org/our-faith/lasting-gift-your-church/writing-your-will/find-will-writer)

You may wish to write a Letter of Wishes to sit alongside your will. Click here to download [the Church of England's Letter of Wishes template.](https://www.churchofengland.org/our-faith/lasting-gift-your-church/writing-your-will)

A standard will costs around £199 + VAT, and the Solicitor should outline the cost upfront before you visit them. You may find [the Church of England’s 'Preparing to visit your Solicitor](https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2021-06/preparing-to-visit-your-solicitor.pdf)’ document helpful.

* **Made a will already?**

It is a simple process to make an amendment to an existing will to leave a legacy to our church. This is done via a Codicil (an amendment document) to your existing Will at no cost. A template Codicil can be [downloaded here](https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2021-06/a-codicil.pdf). If your will is more complicated, please make sure you consult a solicitor to ensure your wishes are recorded accurately.

If you wish to speak to a representative from (insert name of church) in greater detail about this in confidence, please contact (insert the name of the person or their job title).