

NEWSLETTER

May 2020



To all Parish statement receivers

Welcome to our latest newsletter, which features an update on the new telephone service, as well as important information regarding online monthly statements.

Overview

The PGS continues to grow across the Church of England, with 30 member dioceses now registered with the Scheme. We extend a warm welcome in particular to those parishes joining us from our newest member dioceses: Leeds, York and Southwark.

This month, we processed just over **49,000 regular gifts** to parishes through the PGS, with c. **55%** of donors opting to increase their giving annually in line with inflation. We forwarded over **£3.8 million** in gifts alone to **2,884** parishes, with an additional **£900,000** in Gift Aid reclaimed from HMRC.

Launch of telephone service

We were delighted to announce the launch of our new telephone service last month. The service is designed to enable prospective donors to set up a regular Direct Debit donation to their parish over the phone. It has certainly proved very popular - the team received more than 350 calls in the first ten days!

"I found signing up for Parish Giving Scheme over the phone to be extremely easy and efficient. The call lasted ten minutes and the call handler was very polite. I would recommend this to anyone considering signing up to PGS." - Annie Stanford, Treasurer, Holy Trinity Old Hill

To find out more, please visit our website www.parishgivingscheme.org.uk

Online monthly statements

This is a 'heads up' for statement receivers that we will shortly be changing the way in which you access your monthly PGS statements online.

Do keep a look out for an email containing further instructions, to be sent out within the next few days.

CoVid-19 update

The PGS office remains open for business and we are operating with a reduced staffing presence (based on a rota), in order to comply with government guidelines on social distancing.

We continue to receive and process new paper gift forms and to handle administrative queries from donors and parishes in the usual way; however, there may be occasional delays in our response times, due to the revised working arrangements. We do appreciate your patience and support at this time.

With best wishes,

The PGS team