**Sustaining Giving**

**Draft Letter to regular givers, particularly those who give by envelope and cash on the Offertory Plate**

***Please note.*** *We do not recommend putting the PCCs Bank Account details in Emails, on websites or on other public platforms unless the PCC has a collections account. Where church members request these details, either post a Standing Order form to them or contact them by phone to provide the necessary details.*

Dear friends,

We find ourselves facing the biggest challenge of most of our lifetimes. In the interests of protecting the NHS, one another, and saving lives, our churches have now been asked to close until further notice. This is difficult for all of us, and while online services allow us to be connected virtually, we recognise that it is not the same as being able to gather in worship with our community.

However, it is important to remember that while our church buildings are closed, the Church remains an anchor of prayer, our mission remains constant, and we are able to offer ourselves to the service of others in our communities. In the words of the Archbishops, we remain alive and active.

Although we are not able to gather in worship for some time, our mission remains constant and that generous giving is still necessary to resource that mission. The practical resource of our giving enables our churches to be places of hope, prayer and support during this difficult time – it enables us to live out our calling to be Christ in the world, and to serve our communities to meet their needs.

At this this time, some will be worried about the financial impact of the current Coronavirus crisis on them and their families. Some may be facing severe financial challenges. However, it is vital that church members continue to give if they are able to do so. This is not only because churches and charities depend on our giving, but also because as we give we respond to the generosity of God who gives us all that we are and have. Through our giving we show our love for God, our neighbour and one another.

We may need to reimagine the ways in which we give to our churches in the coming weeks, whether that be continuing with Standing Orders, offering our cash giving by setting it aside prayerfully at home, or considering transferring to a digital form of giving. If you regularly give by envelope, may we encourage you to consider transferring your gift to Standing Order – this will enable us to continue to receive your weekly gift in a way that is safe and secure. Please do not hesitate to contact us for a Standing Order form or if you need some help with this. Finally, please prayerfully consider whether you can increase your giving at this time.

Thank you, for all you are able to give. My Christ be with us and bless us always.

With prayers and best wishes,

*VICAR, CONTACT DETAILS*