

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH



GIVING IN GRACE



**A programme of challenge and renewal  
for members of All Saints' Church  
Croxley Green  
in 2011**

# GIVING IN GRACE

Giving in Grace is an initiative which has been used by many parishes throughout the country. It is designed to help Christians make the connections between

- the call to generous giving
- their own personal journey in faith
- our giving and the ministry and mission needs of the church.

All Saints' Church celebrates a long history of worshipping God. We are very grateful for the support you have given; through your time, talents and financial giving over the years. However to ensure our church continues to work and witness within this community we need to review our financial situation.

This brochure contains important information about where we are, as a church, spiritually and financially. It also gives information about recent outreach activities. Please take the time to read it so that you can have a clear understanding of how we plan to develop further the mission and ministry of this church.

Please note that the figures in this document only relate to the income and running expenses of the church and do not include income or expenses relating to the hall.

We would be grateful if you could hold our Giving in Grace programme in your prayers. You may find the prayer below helpful.

**We thank you Father, for All Saints' Church, for all who have served you through our church in the past, as well as those who offer that service today.**

**We ask for your blessing on our *Giving in Grace* Programme, as we prepare to dedicate ourselves anew in our service of you through our church.**

**We pray for the people of Croxley Green and our Christian witness to them. For Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.**

## **SECTION ONE**

### **What makes our church 'Living Church' is the body of people who make up our Community at All Saints'**

#### **STRENGTHS, WEAKNESSES AND PLANS**

##### **Strengths of our Church**

1. Our loyal regular congregation are welcoming to visitors.
2. The congregation have agreed a Mission Action Plan. Information sharing is effective. Activities are advertised in the Parish Magazine. The congregation is active in the community.
3. We have a good committed team at All Saints' with a diverse range of skills.
4. Our ministry among the young families is increasing. Our quarterly Children's Workshops are well attended. The Family Services regularly draw in 50+ people. 17 families have asked for 20 children to be baptised in the last twelve months.
5. Our Outreach to older people within the parish has increased through teas, lunches and outings.

##### **Main weaknesses in our Church**

1. We need to grow in understanding and expressing our Christian faith.
2. We have a congregation who are experienced and wise. However a significant percentage are older members, and we lack 'recently retired' members which limits what we are able to do.
3. We have not been able to carry out as much visiting as we would like.
4. We would like more people under 50 in our church community.
5. Our Ministry is severely limited by lack of funds.

##### **Our agreed plans for ministry and mission over the next 2-3 years**

1. Review our style of worship and fellowship events and ensure that they are relevant for people of all ages.
2. Enhance our spiritual growth.
3. Increase the frequency of Family Services.
4. Further develop our support of older people
5. Maintain and improve the fabric of the Church Building.

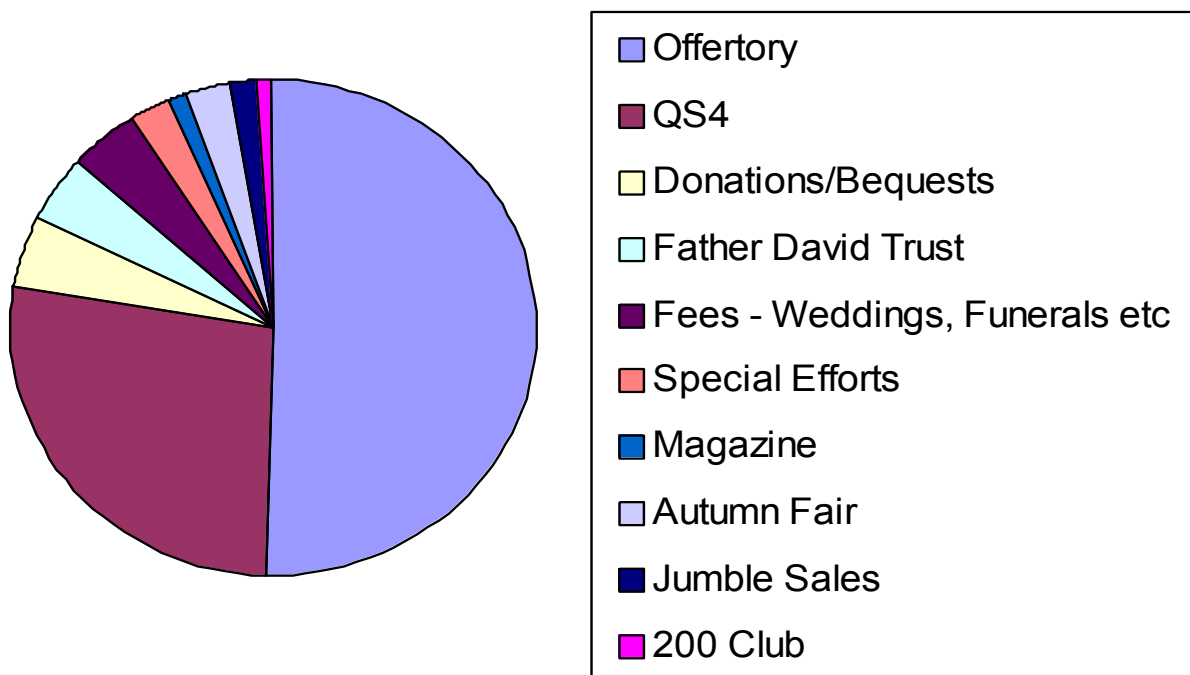
## SECTION TWO A

### Giving Patterns

This table shows the total givers and the average amount of weekly giving.

£ weekly	Number of gifts	Total paid	Weekly total	Percentage of income
20+	2	£4,190.00	£80.58	17.14%
15.01—20.00	4	£3,692.00	£71.00	15.10%
10.01—15.00	4	£2,477.00	£47.63	10.13%
5.01—10.00	18	£6,931.05	£133.29	28.35%
2.51—5.00	27	£5,242.57	£100.82	21.44%
Up to 2.50	58	£1,917.82	£36.88	7.84%
<b>2010 Total</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>£24,450.44</b>	<b>£470.20</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

### 2010 Church Income



## SECTION TWO B 2010 Accounts

(figures are subject to end of year ratification and have been rounded up or down)

### RECEIPTS

<b>Sunday Offertories</b>	<b>£</b>	
Offertory envelopes	17,343	
Cash Collections	5,737	
<b>Sub total</b>		<b>23,080</b>
Bank Payments		3,786
Other Service Collections		717
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<b>Total offertories</b>		<b>27,583</b>
<b>QS4 (rental from telephone mast)</b>		<b>15,000</b>
<b>Donations / Bequests</b>		<b>2,633</b>
<b>Other</b>		
Fees - Weddings, Funerals etc.		2,500
Father David Trust		2,439
Magazine		646
Autumn Fair		1,414
Jumble Sales		1,042
Special Efforts		1,342
200 Club		400
<b>Total for Other Receipts</b>		<b>9,783</b>
<b>Receipts Total</b>		<b>£54,999</b>

### PAYMENTS

	<b>£</b>		
<b>Parish Share</b>	<b>50,565</b>	Wages	1,590
Ministry Expenses	1,677	Heat Light and water	4,192
Churches Together	170	Insurance	2,227
Church Music	2,884	Repairs and Maintenance	198
Senior Citizens and Youth	71	Cleaning Equipment	108
Sanctuary Expenses	383	Parish Office	4,912
Pastoral and Evangelism	583	Flowers	152
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,768</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>13,379</b>

**Payments Total** **£69,712**

## **SECTION THREE      Financial Conclusions**

### **Do we need to increase giving?**

**Yes**, we're not breaking even at the year end and over recent years have had to use savings to meet the financial shortfall. These savings have now dwindled to the point that there are insufficient funds to continue this way of managing our finances.

**Yes**, we're struggling to pay essential bills such as the Parish Share, gas and electricity and unable to develop the outreach and ministry of the church.

**Every week on average we spend            £1,341**

**Our average weekly income                £1,058**

**This leaves a short fall of over £250 per week. So to ensure that we have enough money to develop we need an extra £300 p.w.**

- Our pattern of weekly giving shows that 6 people are responsible for **32%** of giving.
- We use our capital reserves each year to balance the account and there is barely anything left.
- Open Plate Giving is approximately £100 p.w. from cash in collections. Additional small amounts from baptism, wedding and funeral services.
- Mission Charity Giving is £1,500 – roughly 2.5 % of our annual income. This giving is fragmented, with several different charities supported with no overall focus.

### **Principal Financial Issues**

- Only six people give by standing order, if this number was increased, the parish would have a more reliable indication of guaranteed income.
- Proportionate giving: six people are responsible for a third of the giving. 58 people give less the £2.50 per week.
- Gift Aid is a good way of giving; many people do this but there is still room for improvement.
- We need to consider prayerfully our Missionary Giving, perhaps giving to fewer charities, but a larger amount to each.

## SECTION FOUR

### Meeting the Challenge

#### How can you help?

<b>This many people</b>	<b>Increase weekly giving by</b>	<b>Equals this income each week</b>
25	£1.00	£25
25	£2.00	£50
24	£2.50	£60
23	£5.00	£115
5	£10.00	£50
<b>102</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>£300</b>

#### Gift Aid

If you are a UK tax payer, the most cost effective way of increasing your giving is by adding gift aid. We can claim an extra 28% of your giving back from the government revenue and customs department.

#### Bank Payments

Some people give their collection money through their bank as this ensures that even if they miss a Sunday service due to holiday or illness etc, their collection for that week is still received by the church.

## SECTION FIVE

### What Next?



The focus of Giving in Grace is our Christian responsibility to give generously and proportionally of all that God blesses us with. The programme helps us to make the connection between the call to generous giving and our own personal journey of faith. It also helps us to make connections between our giving and the ministry of the church. In recognition of this, Giving in Grace is underpinned by a programme of teaching through sermons and within small groups and prayer.

The PCC is excited by the potential of Giving in Grace and has already agreed unanimously to review their own giving.

During March 2011, each person on the electoral roll will receive a copy of this booklet and a letter outlining what we are doing. The letter will include a response form which we would like you to return at or before a Thanksgiving Service to be held on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2011 which is Pentecost Sunday.

During Lent and May opportunity will be given for the Cell Groups and ad hoc small groups to study and discuss selected Biblical passages on Giving to God. Everyone will be invited to join one of these groups, which Sally Parry is organising.

You can also expect a visit, in April or May, from a member of the Giving in Grace team. This will give you an opportunity for clarification and discussion of the programme. Sally Parry is coordinating the visiting programme.

Finally the absolute bedrock of this programme is prayer. Please keep the Giving in Grace programme in your prayers. There is a prayer at the front of this booklet that you may like to use.

**Thank you,** for your time in reading and studying this brochure, our response will determine whether the existing work and activity at All Saints' can be maintained.