

# **Supporting our Parish Church**

Our parish church of St James the Great plays a vital role in our lives, in our village and community. It is a place of welcome for all who are seeking God and life's meaning, and for all in need.

Our faith is founded on the generosity of God. In response to that gift we seek to share the good news of God's love and justice with those around us. To do this we need your generous support.

## If you give to St James regularly or occasionally - thank you!

Our beautiful church is open and used every day for worship, quiet, prayer and for other activities. But it costs around £1200 every week to run (in addition to any restoration work). We keep our costs to an absolute minimum but we receive no support from the Diocese, from the state or from any funding body. The cost of running our church has to come from congregational giving, from each of us.

# In 2025 it cost £1200 a week to run St James the Great £62,000 a year



#### Two Ways to Help

Firstly, the best way to increase our congregational giving is to build up our congregation. Please bring your friends and neighbours to join us!

Secondly, please increase the amount of money you give to support the church if you can. Please consider the effect of inflation on our costs in recent years too.

If you are a regular worshipper you know the importance of the church in our lives and our village. There is no price we can place on the abundant life which we share. In the light of all our needs, and of all we have received, please help by giving generously.

#### Regular Giving and The Parish Giving Scheme

Giving is a fundamental part of our life and faith. Please plan your giving, feel happy with what you decide, and give it regularly.

We encourage all members of the Church and its supporters to give regularly through their bank, and we are very grateful to all who already give this way.

We can do this really easily - through the **Parish Giving Scheme**. The Parish Giving Scheme is run by the Church of England and used by parishes across the country. It administers our regular giving, reclaims the Gift Aid on tax-deductible donations and sends it to us promptly, at no cost whatever.

Please use this easy and efficient way to become a regular giver to St James, Stonesfield, whether or not you are a UK taxpayer. Once set up as a Direct Debit, you can change or stop your giving at any time with a quick phone call.

To set up or to change your regular giving through the Parish Giving Scheme use the QR code or simply telephone 0333 002 1271 quoting our

Parish Reference Number: 270627289



#### **How Much Should I Give?**

God loves a generous giver, and Jesus commended a poor widow in the Temple for giving a tiny coin. The amount we give should be generous relative to the money we have to spend on other things. Some might only afford £10 a month, others £100 or much more. Our giving should be generous, whether we have a little or a lot, and there is no limit to the amount you can give!

### **Regular and One-Off Gifts**

If you give regularly by Standing Order and wish to continue giving this way, please update the amount you give, if you can. But to make our administration simpler, please set up your giving through the Parish Giving Scheme and then cancel your existing Standing Order.



Monthly giving from your bank is best. But we are always grateful to receive one-off donations, and this can be by cash, cheque, bank transfer, or through the Parish Giving Scheme. You can still put money into the collection plate too.

You can use this QR code to set up regular giving or to make a one-off gift, and details of all the ways to give are on our website here:

www.stonesfieldparishchurch.org/support-us

#### Gift Aid - Boost your Giving

Every £1 that you give to St James is worth £1.25 if it is given through the Gift Aid Scheme, which allows us to reclaim from the government the tax already paid on the money you give. When speaking to the PGS to arrange your giving, please allow Gift Aid to be reclaimed if you are a UK taxpayer, and allow annual increases for inflation.

### **And finally - Legacies**

Leaving a financial gift to our Church makes a lasting difference for future generations, supporting our work and the presence of the church in the village for many years to come. Please add a gift to St James to your Will if you can. Such gifts are exempt from any inheritance tax payable on your estate. For more information at leaving a legacy to the church, please email:

stewardship@stonesfieldparishchurch.org

There is helpful information about church legacies here too:

www.churchlegacy.org.uk

# Thank you again for your generous support

For more information please email Keith Bellew our Treasurer:

kbellew@btinternet.com or 07884 231074

#### **Church Website:**

www.stonesfieldparishchurch.org

#### Rector

rector@scbenefice.org or 01993 891872



