

# **THANK YOU AND UPDATE ON THE PARISH PLANNED GIVING, AND STEWARDSHIP, 2024.**

**Dear Brothers and Sisters,**

**We just to want to thank you. Thank you for all you have done to support the Parish in 2024. The Planned giving was a huge success and we are here to say thank you and to give you some updates.**

In the last financial year 2023 the total combined offertory income from both churches was £55,000.00. This sum continued to be less than its annual outgoings which were rising and made worse both by the cost-of-living crisis and essential parish repairs etc. Parish legacies were continually being used to offset the difference which drove down reserves. This was unsustainable and hence, we embarked on the planned giving drive in March this year.

Now, some 8 months after the conclusion of the 'Drive' sufficient time has gone past to enable us to provide the parish with an 'interim' report spanning both finance and parishioner volunteering.

Based on the 8 months April – November 2024:

- The number of regular donors using envelopes and standing orders have both doubled i.e. up by 110%.
- The total number of regular donors and the total number giving through gift aid is also up by over 90%.
- In addition to the number of parishioners giving, the amount of the donations has also increased for envelopes, standing orders and for cheques and card donations.
- Offertory cash donations have fallen minimally,
- 63 parishioners volunteered their skills and talents, some in more than one volunteering category.
- The income from the collection for the full year April 2024 – March 2025 is estimated to be around £75,000.00 (this figure does not include gift aid).
- In respect of volunteering, 63 parishioners (existing and new) returned completed forms spanning Liturgy, handing on of our Faith, Caring For One Another and 'Other' Parish Ministries. These offers are currently being analysed and taken forward.

**Along with the parish clergy we would like to thank everyone who has given most generously of their income, time & talents to our Planned Giving Drive during 2024. Without your commitment there would be no parish. May God Bless you All for your generosity of heart and may we wish you a very Happy & Holy Christmas and New Year.**

A PRAYER FOR OUR PLANNED GIVING DRIVE St Paul writes in 2 Corinthians 9: Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of us should give what we have decided in our hearts to give, not reluctantly, or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound in us, so that in all things, at all times, having all you need, we shall abound in every good work. Amen.