

# ***IN TOUCH***



*Easter Egg Hunt*

**APRIL/MAY 2026**



ST DUBRICIUS CHURCH, PORLOCK

**ANNUAL**

**FETE**

**SATURDAY 20<sup>th</sup> JUNE**

**12.00 – 4.00pm**

**The Rectory Garden, Porlock**

**A Summer Event  
for all the Family**

**Refreshments; Raffle; Tombola;  
Cakes; Books; Plants and Flowers;  
Children's Fun Activities;  
Bric-a-Brac; Pimms, Music and more**

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Admission: Adults £1 Children free

Rector	<b>The Reverend Ann Gibbs</b> porlockposse@gmail.com	863593
Curate	<b>The Reverend Alison Tolson</b> Alison.curate@hotmail.com	07496 248789
Retired Clergy	<b>The Reverend Stephen Humphreys</b> srbh@mac.com Stowey Farm, Timberscombe	841265
Reader Emeritus	<b>Rosemary Ball</b>	862294
Retired Clergy	<b>The Reverend John Rogers</b>	07785 977771
Retired Clergy	<b>The Reverend Colin Burke</b>	
Assistant Treasurer	<b>Peter Fosker</b> Oakwing Office, St Dubricius School, Parsons Street, Porlock	c/o 862284
Assistant Treasurer & Gift Aid Co-ordinator	<b>Bill Ball</b> Oakwing Office, St Dubricius School, Parsons Street, Porlock	c/o 862284
Churchwardens- St Dubricius	<b>Vacant</b>	
Administrator	<b>Rachel Kingdon</b> dubricius465@yahoo.com (Church postal address) Oakwing Office, St Dubricius First School, Parsons Street, Porlock, Minehead. TA24 8QJ	862284

**Church Facebook Page (The Churches of the Porlock Pilgrim's Trail):**  
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61553342729470>

**WEB PAGES:** St Dubricius, Porlock - <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/11306/>  
All Saints', Selworthy - <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/11308/>  
St Mary's, Luccombe - <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/11300/>

## **DATES FOR DIARIES & NOTICES**

**Open Door** meeting every Friday at 11am.

Open Door on Friday mornings at the Castle, Porlock (until the weather gets warmer again when we hold it in St Dubricius Church). Everyone is most welcome to come and join us for a cup of coffee and a chat.

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**Me & U Prayers** – the first Friday of every month at 10.30am in St Dubricius Lady Chapel before Open Door – everybody welcome.

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**Weekday Morning Prayer** – This takes place at 9.00am weekdays at St Dubricius, Porlock or St Mary's, Oare; details each week can be found in the pew sheet.

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### **We pray for...**

Ivor Ellis, Andrew Spence, Rosemary Cape, Nick Simpson, Aaliyah, Ron & Iris Savery, Martin Spence, Dori Dawes, Steve Godfrey, Nicola Madeley, Anthony Rose, John Rogers, Pauline Clarke, Hazel Leeves, Malcolm Bleasby and Holly Bloys



Recently departed: Ivor Jones

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### **Church Giving**

If you wish to give a donation via regular giving, please leave your offering in the chest at the back of the church, or give your envelope to Bill Ball. He will then process the donation in the regular giving register and pay it into the bank.

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### **40 Days Lent Challenge**

A reminder that if you have completed the 40 Days Lent fundraising challenge can you bring what you have raised to church as soon as possible or mail it to the Rectory, Parsons Street, Porlock. TA24 8QL

Thank you,  
Marian

## Thoughts from the curate

There are two particular items that sit on my home desk which I often glance on as I'm working, that is when I'm not being distracted by the 9 photos of our churches on the wall in front of me! Pictures that have been with me since I was offered the curacy here and became my wall of inspiration and encouragement as I finished the last few months at college, pictures that continue to inspire and encourage as I think about the people that have been involved with services and events across those churches.

Anyway, those two items are a plaque that has that lovely prayer on it,

God grant me the Serenity  
to accept the things I cannot change,  
Courage to change the things I can,  
And wisdom to know the difference.

The other is a little soft knitted pineapple with the label that says,

Fine Apple.  
It's fine,  
You're fine,  
Everything's fine.

As I come to write this article, fully intent on reflecting on my third Holy Week amongst you and to look forward to services to come, I do so preparing to travel to Derbyshire for the installation of one of my cohort of ordinands as they take up their new role as Priest in Charge. They like me, had completed the necessary training and had been signed off by the Bishop as ready to take up a position of independent responsibility. I know my position here is something many of you have asked about, and I am truly moved by the support I, Nick and the little ones receive from across our churches. All I can say is that the prayer and the little label are my constant friend as I and others discern my path ahead. My license to minister amongst you does not expire until January 2027 – and I am in no rush and fully intend to continue to do the best that I can as I continue to enjoy the privilege of ministering amongst you.

Which brings me nicely to the joys of Holy Week, which started with that tremendous privilege of baptising Greer amongst the loving support of her family and the wider church community. I was also greatly encouraged by two sermons, the first by Bishop Fiona, as she talked about undertaking ministry in

the spirit of thankfulness, faithfulness and hopefulness, the second by Rev Ann on Easter Day, as she reminded us that although the story was the same as last year, we come to it as different people. As we move forward, we can certainly do so with a spring in our step amongst the various uncertainties that loom around some corners.

Thinking about the road ahead, I do encourage you all to consider maybe spreading your wings and joining us for some of the extra services that are planned. It's been so good to offer something a little different and to see the effect they have on people. Look out for further information about the Lambing Service at Culbone on 26<sup>th</sup> April, Rogation Sunday Service at Oare on 10<sup>th</sup> May, Ascension Day at Stoke Pero on 14<sup>th</sup> May and finally for now, the Joint Benefices service on 31<sup>st</sup> May at St Mary's Luccombe.

Please do not hesitate to speak to Rev Ann or myself if you need any further information, or assistance in getting to a venue.

If you're still reading this, THANK YOU for being you!

Reverend Alison

## **Benefice Services (& Culbone and Oare) – April 2026**

### **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April**

*(W) Acts 2.14a,36-41, 1 Peter 1.17-23, Luke 24.13-35*

Lynch	8.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
St Dubricius	10.30am	Morning Prayer (followed by St Dubricius APCM)
All Saints' Selworthy	11.00am	Holy Communion (BCP) (Joint service with Luccombe)
St. Mary's, Oare.	11.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
St. Dubricius.	6.00pm	Holy Communion with anointing and laying on of hands

### **Easter 3**

### **Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April**

*(W) Acts 2.42-47, 1 Peter 2.19-25, John 10.1-10*

St Dubricius	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
St. Mary's, Luccombe.	9.30am	Morning Prayer (CW) (Joint service with Selworthy)
Methodist Church	10.45am	Celebrate
St Mary's, Oare	11.00am	Morning Prayer (BCP)
St Bueno's, Culbone	3.00pm	Lambing Service

### **Easter 4**

## **Benefice Services (& Culbone and Oare) – May 2026**

### **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May**

*(W) Acts 7.55-60, 1 Peter 2.2-10, John 14.1-14*

St Dubricius	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
St Dubricius	10.30am	Holy Communion (CW)
All Saints' Selworthy	11.00am	Matins (BCP) (Joint service with Luccombe)
St Bueno's, Culbone	11.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
St Mary's, Oare	3.00pm	Evensong

### **Easter 5**

### **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May**

*(W) Acts 17.22-31, 1 Peter 3.13-22, John 14.15-21*

St Dubricius	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
St Mary's Luccombe	9.30am	Holy Communion (CW) (Joint service with Selworthy)
St Dubricius	10.30am	Holy Communion (CW)
St Mary's, Oare	3.00pm	Rogation Service

### **Easter 6**

## **Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May**

*(W) Acts 1.1-11 or Daniel 7.9-14, Ephesians 1.15-23 or Acts 1.1-11, Luke 24.44-53*

Stoke Pero

6.00am

## **Ascension Day**

Ascension Day early Service

## **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May**

*(W) Acts 1.6-14, 1 Peter 4.12-14; 5.6-11, John 17.1-11*

Lynch

8.30am

St Dubricius

10.30am

All Saints' Selworthy

11.00am

St. Mary's, Oare.

11.00am

St. Dubricius.

6.00pm

## **Sunday after Ascension**

Holy Communion (BCP)

Morning Prayer

Holy Communion (BCP)

(Joint service with Luccombe)

Holy Communion (BCP)

Holy Communion with anointing  
and laying on of hands

## **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May**

*(R) Acts 2.1-21 or Numbers 11.24-30, 1 Corinthians 12.3b-13 or Acts 2.1-21, John 20.19-23 or John 7.37-39*

St Dubricius

8.00am

St. Mary's, Luccombe.

9.30am

St Dubricius

10.45am

St Mary's, Oare

11.00am

## **Pentecost**

Holy Communion (BCP)

Morning Prayer (CW)

(Joint service with Selworthy)

Celebrate

Morning Prayer (BCP)

## **Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May**

*(W) Isaiah 40.12-17,27-31, 2 Corinthians 13.11-13, Matthew 28.16-20*

St Dubricius

8.00am

St Mary's, Luccombe

10.00am

## **Trinity Sunday**

Holy Communion (BCP)

Joint Benefices Trinity

Holy Communion Service

## **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June**

*(G) (P5) Genesis 12.1-9, Romans 4.13-25, Matthew 9.9-13,18-26*

St Dubricius

8.00am

St Dubricius

10.30am

All Saints' Selworthy

11.00am

St Bueno's, Culbone

11.00am

St Mary's, Oare

3.00pm

## **1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Trinity**

Holy Communion (BCP)

Holy Communion (CW)

Matins (BCP)

(Joint service with Luccombe)

Holy Communion (BCP)

Compline

## **I Looked for Love**

**I looked for Love upon the road,  
But he had gone before me.  
He bound the wounds of a broken man  
And left him in my doorway.**

**I looked for Love upon the shore,  
But he had sailed before me.  
The little waves called out to me  
“He calmed our rage and fury”.**

**I looked for Love where nothing grew,  
No tree, no herb, no flower.  
But he had seen my greatest need  
And shattered Satan’s power.**

**I looked for Love in dead of night  
But he had been betrayed.  
I slept a deep and troubled sleep  
While he was led away.**

**I looked for Love in dusty streets,  
But he had gone before.  
He carried the burden of my sin  
Upon the cross he bore.**

**I found Love upon a cross,  
I was too late to save him.  
He had suffered there and died,  
All for the love he gave me.**

**I looked for Love among the flowers,  
Beneath the olive trees.  
I turned around and he was there,  
For he had sought and found me.**

*Marilynn, 25.03.2026*

## **Easter Egg Hunt 4th April 2026**

This year 35 children were booked on our Easter Egg Hunt . This is about double our usual number. It was lovely to hear parents of regulars telling new parents that it was “going to be great fun - always is. 😊”. Lots of parents and grandparents attended too. The children enjoyed themselves very much and were very good at helping each other. The older children acted as helpers and looked after the little ones. It was lovely to have the opportunity to get to know new families and keep up with our regulars. All our children left with an age appropriate book of the real Easter story. Many thanks to our volunteers: Emer, Sue and Merry, Marian and Peter and of course the older children Sonny, Oliver, Èlodie and Scarlett. Ann Spence - Children’s Activities Organiser.



## CHARITY OF THE MONTH - APRIL 2026

### National Children's Air Ambulance

**We hope you'll never need us.  
But if you do, we'll be ready.**

The National Children's Air Ambulance transfers sick children, infants, and babies to specialist care teams across England, Scotland, and Wales.

Our mission? Simple.

To help children grow up, adults live longer, and families stay together—because losing someone to trauma should be rare. Every service under our banner works flat out to deliver critical care. On the ground. In the air. Wherever and whenever we're needed.

The National Children's Air Ambulance is a UK-wide service, dedicated to transferring critically ill babies and children between hospitals. When specialist care is miles away, we bring it closer, fast. Our helicopters are flying intensive care units. Purpose-built. Clinically equipped. Ready to go.

We work with **11 NHS paediatric retrieval teams** across the country. They bring their expertise. We bring the aircraft. Together, we transfer young patients safely between hospitals.

If a child is too unwell to move, we fly the clinical team to them instead. Moving critically ill babies and children between hospitals is never without risk. The longer they're in transit, the greater the danger.

Our helicopters cut that time dramatically, flying around **four times faster** than a land ambulance. That speed helps reduce risk and gives young patients a better chance.

We don't receive government or National Lottery funding.



Each mission costs around **£5,500**, and every penny comes from people like you. Your support keeps us flying and gives families the chance to hope.

**Together, we save more lives.**



# CHARITY OF THE MONTH

MAY 2026



## “LOVE MUSGROVE”

Love Musgrove is the charity for Musgrove Park Hospital and they fund things above and beyond what the NHS covers, so they can continue to improve the experience of patients admitted to hospital or who are outpatients. They help to create a comfortable, engaging environment for patients as well as supporting their family and friends.

Love Musgrove also provides staff with training and development opportunities; provides state of the art equipment and enables wards to buy items which will make the patient’s stay more comfortable.

Musgrove Park Hospital serves a population of over 544,000 people across Somerset, with over 740 beds, 34 wards, 15 operating theatres, a fully equipped imaging department and purpose build cancer treatment centre. This centre is currently being used by friends known to us and others in our congregation. We have been impressed with the care and attention of the staff and the equipment available.

Projects have included:

State of the art equipment

Improving patient stays with toiletries for older patients and play materials for children

Improvements to staff rooms right across the hospital.

There are more projects including helping with specialist equipment in the current ongoing building works which are no longer being government funded.

We have asked them to put the money we raise to their “Better everywhere fund” going where it is needed most.

# **ST. DUBRICIUS CHARITIES COMMITTEE 2025**

I thought you would like to see the yearly total to provide confirmation of what has been raised through our Charity of the Month scheme.

<b>Food Cupboard, Alcombe</b>	<b>January 2025</b>	<b>£ 145.</b>
<b>Friends of Minehead Hos.</b>	<b>February 2025</b>	<b>£ 100.</b>
<b>Book Aid Charitable Trust</b>	<b>March 2025</b>	<b>£ 89.</b>
<b>Children's Hospice S.West</b>	<b>April 2025</b>	<b>£ 155.</b>
<b>Christian Aid</b>	<b>May 2025</b>	<b>£ 115.</b>
<b>Dementia UK</b>	<b>June 2025</b>	<b>£ 135.</b>
<b>Coast Watch</b>	<b>July 2025</b>	<b>£ 75.</b>
<b>Camphill Village Trust</b>	<b>August 2025</b>	<b>£ 105.</b>
<b>MacMillan Cancer Support</b>	<b>September 2025</b>	<b>£ 210.</b>
<b>Hamelin Fistula</b>	<b>October 2025</b>	<b>£ 85.</b>
<b>Red Cross (Ukraine)</b>	<b>November 2025</b>	<b>£ 240.</b>
<b>Wizz Kids</b>	<b>December 2025</b>	<b>£ 170.</b>

**Total: £ 1,624.**

On behalf of all these charities, thank you so very much for your generosity and a thank you too, to all those members of our congregation who have put a charity forward to the Committee and obtained information to enable these charities to be promoted.

Rosemary Ball

On behalf of the Charities Committee

## Porlock Parish Finance 2026

**You may have read a slightly different version of this before, but please read it again, it's vital if we want our church life to continue and flourish**

This is primarily for the St. Dubricius congregation but could be useful to members in Selworthy and Luccombe too who want to support their parishes?

**St Dubricius needs more money for general Church funds, and for our Spire Project.**

### CHURCH FUNDS

Some of you will remember - about 15 years ago St Dubricius ran out of money. With some help / guidance from the Diocese a campaign was run to increase giving and reduce costs. There was a short period of reduced parish share, and everything got back on track. Income just exceeded spend each year until Covid. A small reserve was built up.

Covid meant slightly reduced spend, but much reduced income. Donations by standing order continued, thanks to everyone for that. But:- No collections at services. No visitor donations. No sales of booklets. No Fete, Gift Day, or Flower Festival. Big shortfalls each year. By a couple of years after Covid income had just about recovered to the previous level, but by then costs had increased. Since then income has increased a little year on year, but costs grew more, so we have had a shortfall every year since Covid. The reserves have almost gone again.

The Diocese changed the basis for Parish Share for 2025 onwards, and not in our favour. The arrangement used to be that the amount asked for was largely based on congregation size, and an assessment of parish affluence, hence what it should be able to afford. Independently from that, clergy were placed where it was felt they were needed most. In the new scheme there is more emphasis on parish share being based on how many clergy the parish has, and the Diocesan aim is that the parish should pay those costs. Affluence, poverty and need don't seem to come into the calculations much now. Our Benefice does not contribute enough to the Diocese to cover the full cost of our Rector. In the future this might mean further re-organisation of parishes and Benefices and different allocation of clergy. That would mean lay people being expected to do much more.

The accounts for 2025 are not yet complete, but will definitely show a deficit again. For previous years the deficits of unrestricted funds were:

2024	£9700
2023	£5000
2022	£5000 if a generous legacy is discounted
2021	£11750
2020	£4500
2019	£2000

We need an average 25% increase in everyone's giving to just get us to break-even point. If we want to keep our Rector and maintain our church we need more than that. Yes that's a very big increase, but we have to face reality. Costs keep increasing, and the costs the church has to pay are not immune. Lots of people give regularly, but have not increased their giving for a while. If you can possibly manage 25% please do. If you can manage even more please do. BUT, if you really can't, that's OK too, we know some people are struggling with living costs, and some have incomes which don't increase much.

We would like to encourage people to move to a Diocesan run giving scheme (PGS) which is based on Direct Debits. It has two main advantages. 1) The Diocese do the paperwork. 2) Donors are invited to agree to an automatic annual increase in line with inflation, so we hopefully will not fall into the same difficulties again. If you agree to this when you sign up, PGS will contact you each year before implementing the increase, and you can change your mind if you need to.

A PGS form you can use is attached. You can apply on line if you prefer at <https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/> and search for Porlock. You will need the Parish code 010601475. If you presently give by Standing Order you will need to cancel that. Please don't do that too soon, the PGS scheme is a bit slow to get started. If you end up giving twice in a month we can arrange a refund, just let Peter or Bill know.

Using the card machine for regular payments is discouraged as we have to pay a small fee on those. But if you particularly prefer to donate that way, please do.

Any and every donation is welcome however it is made, however large or small. Lots of small donations add up to a big one. Please Gift Aid if you can, so we get back the income tax you have paid on your donation. That's at least 25% extra to the church.

Our old posters still say we spend £1000/week. But in 2025 it cost £1260 per week to run our three parish churches. Half of that goes to the Diocese, even though we are sending them a lot less than they ask for each year.

## **SPIRE FUNDS**

The plan two years ago was a project to include the spire, a quarter of the church roof and the porch roof, Solar panels, Reredos conservation, and glass outer doors for the porch to reduce the draughts and make the church look more welcoming. Cost was estimated to be just over £1.56 million. That did not include a new heating system.

We could not get planning approval for the doors, so they are no longer in the plan. Heating has become more urgent, so we've added that, and it costs a lot more than the doors would have. Other costs have gone up too. Project cost now is just under £1.67m. Up just over £100k. But the biggest hit is that we used to be able to reclaim the

VAT spent on repairs. That scheme has been abruptly shut down by the government. So £200k+ we expected to claim back, we now can't. So there is a gap of £300,000 that needs filling.

The Heritage Fund have said to us that we need to show that we are trying really hard to raise a contribution towards that cost increase. If we do, definitely no promises but they will try to find the rest (Assuming we get any grant of course). So we said we would do what we could, and set a stretch target of £50k. We've raised £17k so far over the last year or so, and we are still trying for more. Even if we get the £50k target we will still be asking the Lottery for around a quarter of a million pounds more than we and they originally expected. Even they don't have bottomless pockets. The more we can contribute the higher the chance that the Heritage Fund will be able to give us the main grant we hope for.

For the spire we ask for donations however you can, whatever you can afford. Please be sure to mark it as being for the spire project.

We have to tell the Heritage Lottery the amount raised very early in June, shortly before they decide on our application, so donations as soon as possible please.

### **One final thought**

The only reason we were able to delay asking for increased giving until now is two generous legacies received in 2022/23. Without those the parish would have technically been bankrupt a couple of years ago. We don't like to use legacies for general costs, but we had little choice. Please think about whether you could leave a legacy to the church in your will. Bill or Peter can advise how.

Please think and pray and dig as deep as you can, for church and spire. Every donation helps. Whether one big one or lots of smaller ones, all will be very gratefully received.

And - Thank You for reading all of this, possibly for a second time.

# An introduction to the Parish Giving Scheme

## Why are regular gifts so important to our Church?

The Church of England offers a Christian presence in every community. Together we seek to make this Christian presence the heart of all our cities, towns and villages: by our wonderful buildings; by worshipping together; by serving our communities and by sharing our faith and values. This valuable contribution to our community has a cost, of which 75% is met by personal gifts. For our Church to survive and grow, we rely on regular gifts so that we can plan confidently for the future.

## What is the Parish Giving Scheme?

The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) has been set up to help us best manage regular gifts. It is a charity that is owned and funded by the National Church Institutions of the Church of England.

## How does it work?

Gifts can be made on a monthly, quarterly or annual basis, using the attached gift form and Direct Debit instruction. Even though gifts are made to the Parish Giving Scheme, they are restricted to our parish, giving you peace of mind that your gift cannot be used elsewhere. Unlike a utility bill you are always in charge of what you give. Your gift will be passed back to our parish by the 10th of the month. Gift Aid will be received separately once PGS has received it from HMRC. The unique feature of this scheme is the option for you to commit in principle to increase your gift annually in line with inflation. Whilst this is a voluntary decision, it is one that could potentially have a huge impact on the life and future of our church.

## What are the main benefits?

The main beneficiary of this scheme will be our church. Through your generous commitment, we can be assured of a regular, tax-efficient source of income which has the capacity to increase with the cost of living, yet involves virtually no administration. You will benefit from a system that is secure, confidential and easy to use, while supporting our church today and for the future.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Who is responsible for my personal information?

Although PGS has been set up to help us manage gifts, it is a separate legal entity from our parish and must comply with data protection law. By returning the gift form you consent to PGS using your information for the purposes of the Parish Giving Scheme. For more information please see PGS's privacy notice available on the PGS website [www.parishgiving.org.uk/privacy-policy](http://www.parishgiving.org.uk/privacy-policy). Alternatively, please call PGS on 0333 002 1260 for a copy of the privacy notice.

### Why can't our parish offer Direct Debit?

Direct Debiting is a highly regulated system, and is only offered by Banks for established businesses or organisations who are considered financially sound and reputable with proven internal control systems.

### Will our parish be charged for this scheme?

There is no direct charge to us for using the Parish Giving Scheme or processing your gift. The annual running cost of the scheme is met by the National Church Institution of the Church of England.

### Why am I giving to PGS?

In order to claim Gift Aid and manage your gift on behalf of our parish, it is necessary that your gift is legally given to PGS who are handling all the administration on our behalf. The gift is restricted to our parish and cannot be used by PGS for any other purposes.

### Can I choose the day my gift is collected?

Unfortunately not. In minimising costs it is important that all gifts are collected on the same day each month, which has been agreed as the 1st.

### What rate of inflation will be used?

If you opt-in to increase your gift annually, we will use the Consumer Price Index (CPI) as an independent and well known measure of inflation. As your giving anniversary approaches, we will calculate your increased gift using the most recently published monthly CPI data.

### What if I say yes to an inflationary increase, but my circumstances change?

We fully understand that circumstances can change; please rest assured that you will be written to 30 days in advance of any increase with the revised amount. If you are unable to meet it simply let us know.

# What next?

## How do I go about signing up to the scheme?

Fill out the form opposite, with as much detail as possible using a black pen in BLOCK CAPITALS.

Detach it from this leaflet following the cutting line and post it to the address given below.

**Important:** It is essential to complete all sections of the gift form in particular 'Church / Parish name; Diocese of; and PGS Parish code'. Without this information in full PGS cannot process your gift.

**Note:** We welcome gifts from couples, so if you wish to make a joint gift please write 'Mr & Mrs' in the 'other' box. For the purpose of Gift Aid however they need the signature of just one individual who pays sufficient tax to cover the gift. Please add your title in the Gift Aid signature box so they know which individual the declaration belongs to.

## Then what can I expect?

Within 10 working days you will receive a letter confirming your personal details, the level, frequency and date of your first gift and the parish you wish to restrict it to. Please check this letter thoroughly to ensure that all the details are correct. In this letter you will receive a PGS reference number (located below the address) which needs to be retained by you, and quoted in any future communication you have with the Parish Giving Scheme. There will also be a bank reference code which begins with 'PGS Thank You', and ends with a unique number code. This is the description which will appear on your bank statement when each gift is given.

## How will our parish be notified of my gift?

We will receive your gift in our parish bank account by the 10th of the month and Gift Aid will be received separately once PGS has received it from HMRC. Our parish's Planned Giving Representative receives a statement detailing the names of those who have given gifts through PGS. PGS will provide our parish's Planned Giving Representative with your postal address, however you can decide to remain anonymous by ticking the box on the right. If you decide to remain anonymous only the amount of the gift will be shared with our Representative. We wish to encourage you to remain known to us, so that we can thank you and tell you more about how you can support us and to avoid mistakenly approaching you in the future to consider a regular gift to our church.

## I currently give by standing order; how do I stop this?

Unfortunately PGS is unable to cancel a standing order for you, only you may do this. If you bank online it is very simple to do through your online account, otherwise you will need to contact your bank direct.

## How do I go about changing my gift in the future?

We know that circumstances change and your ability to give may increase or decrease over time. If you wish to make a change please notify the Parish Giving Scheme using one of the methods provided in the contact information box below quoting:

- Your PGS reference number (found below your address on PGS correspondence)
- How much your existing gift is for
- What you would like it changed to
- When you would like this change to be brought into effect

Should you wish to have a confidential conversation about your options in changing your gift, please don't hesitate to contact our Parish Giving Representative or the Parish Giving Scheme at the address below.

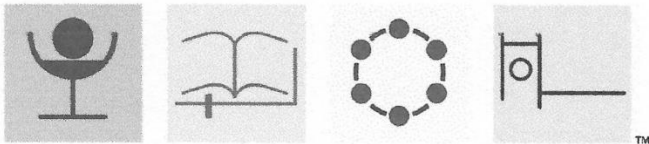
**Note:** For administrative reasons the Parish Giving Scheme cannot make any changes within 10 working days of the next gift date..

## Who do I contact for help?

Parish Giving Scheme, 76 Kingsholm Road, Gloucester GL1 3BD

Tel: 0333 002 1260 Email: [info@parishgiving.org.uk](mailto:info@parishgiving.org.uk)

[www.parishgiving.org.uk](http://www.parishgiving.org.uk)



# PARISH GIVING SCHEME

Title: Mr  Mrs  Miss  Ms  Other

First name(s):

Surname(s):

Full home address:

Postcode:

Telephone:

Email:

I wish to give

Please tick one **per month**  **quarter**  **year**

**to the Parish Giving Scheme** Registered Charity Number: 1156606

**Starting on the 1st\* of ..... (month) ..... (year)**

\*Please allow one month from today

NB: Only you can cancel your existing Standing Order

I wish to remain anonymous to my parish's **Planned Giving Representative** (please carefully read 'How will our parish be notified of my gift?' on page 2)

# Gift Form

**I wish to give a regular gift for my church**

Please tick to confirm you have read and understood the information on pages 1 and 2, including the Frequently Asked Questions.

**I wish my gift to be used solely for the benefit of:**

Church / Parish name St Dubricius

PGS Parish code 010601475

In the village / town / city of Porlock

In the Diocese of Bath & Wells

**I wish to support my parish in the future by agreeing to an annual inflationary increase on my gift.** Please tick **Yes**

*I understand that the new amount will be communicated to me by letter 30 days prior to the gift donation date. I have the right to opt out of this arrangement at any point in the future by communicating my wishes by letter, email or phone to the Parish Giving Scheme.*

**I wish to Gift Aid my donation** *giftaid it*

**Gift Aid makes every £1 worth £1.25**

*Please treat as Gift Aid donations all qualifying gifts of money made from the date of my first gift on this declaration and in the future. I am a UK tax payer and understand that if I pay less income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference. I understand the charity will reclaim 25p for every £1 that I give.*

Signature  Title:

## Instruction to your Bank or Building Society to pay by Direct Debit

Name and full postal address of your Bank/Building Society

To: The Manager Bank/Building Society

Address:

Postcode:

Name(s) of Account Holder(s)

Branch Sort Code

Bank / Building Society account number

Service User Number

4 2 1 4 0 2

Donor reference number (to be completed by PGS office)

P G S T H A N K Y O U



**Instruction to your Bank or Building Society**

Please pay Parish Giving Scheme Direct Debits from the account detailed in this instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this instruction may remain with Parish Giving Scheme and, if so, details will be passed electronically to my Bank / Building Society.

Signature(s)

Date

Please complete this page and send it to: **Parish Giving Scheme, 76 Kingsholm Road, Gloucester, GL1 3BD**

CUT HERE

This Guarantee should be detached and retained by the payer

## The Direct Debit Guarantee

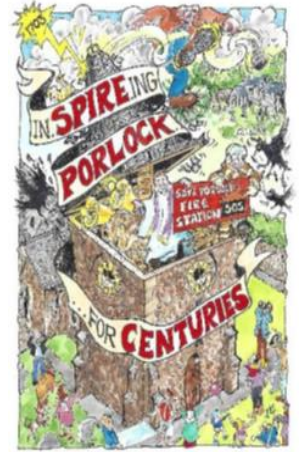


- ✓ This Guarantee is offered by all banks and building societies that accept instructions to pay Direct Debits.
- ✓ If there are any changes to the amount, date or frequency of your Direct Debit PGS will notify you 10 working days in advance of your account being debited or as otherwise agreed. If you request PGS to collect a payment, confirmation of the amount and date will be given to you at the time of the request.
- ✓ If an error is made in the payment of your Direct Debit, by PGS or your bank or building society, you are entitled to a full and immediate refund of the amount paid from your bank or building society.
- ✓ If you receive a refund you are not entitled to, you must pay it back when PGS asks you to.
- ✓ You can cancel a Direct Debit at any time by simply contacting your bank or building society. Written confirmation may be required. Please also notify us.

PGSDOWNGIFTCURCH-0424

## Porlock InSpired Project Appeal

The Porlock InSpired project needs your help to raise an extra £50,000 by June 2026 in order to unlock a grant of £1.6m from the National Lottery Heritage Fund. It is thanks to the National Lottery players who have made the funding possible and this is an opportunity which Porlock will not witness for maybe another 100 years.



### Deteriorating Church spire

St Dubricius Church has stood at the centre of Porlock for centuries, but today both the building and the community it serves are under strain.

The church, with its rare truncated oak-shingled spire is in a state of serious deterioration. The shingles, last replaced in 1933, are failing and exposing 13th-century timbers to water damage, while rotting beams and fallen bell shutters highlight the urgency of repair. The 2023 Quinquennial Report and a dedicated Spire Condition Report confirm that patch repairs are no longer viable; full re-shingling is the only way to prevent irreversible damage. The spire is a rare survival of traditional oak-shingle construction, and both skills and materials for such work are under threat, making timely action essential. Parts of the church roof are also compromised by “nail sickness” and hence slipped slates, already causing internal water damage. Without intervention, the risks of structural failure, escalating costs, and possible eventual closure grow more likely, threatening an architectural landmark.

The spire project is now much bigger and broader than first envisaged. Our project will enable traditional crafts to be revived through demonstrations and school workshops. There will be hands-on activities which will bring the village history to life, we will also support Porlock’s local economy, delivering wider community benefits.

At the same time, Porlock InSpired will address urgent social needs through heritage activities. For older residents, we will work with partners to reduce loneliness through heritage-based wellbeing activities and intergenerational activities.

For young people, who face rural isolation and limited opportunities, creative, environmental and skills-based programmes will be delivered with partners to build confidence and broaden horizons. Our partnership with St. Dubricius school will enable children to explore local history. The research from this community project will then be available to benefit schools and local residents.

QR code to donate please

Email: [porlockinspired@yahoo.com](mailto:porlockinspired@yahoo.com)

**Thank you**

**The Porlock Inspired Team**





Choir leader, St Dubricius	<b>Stephen Kingdon</b>	07454271931
St Dubricius Tower Captain	<b>Nicholas Kingdon</b>	c/o 862284 porlocktowercaptain@yahoo.com
Church Wardens All Saints Selworthy	<b>Vacant</b>	
PCC Secretary All Saints, Selworthy	<b>Vacant</b>	
Churchwarden St Mary's Luccombe	<b>Rosemary Gande</b> eddiegande@gmail.com	862832