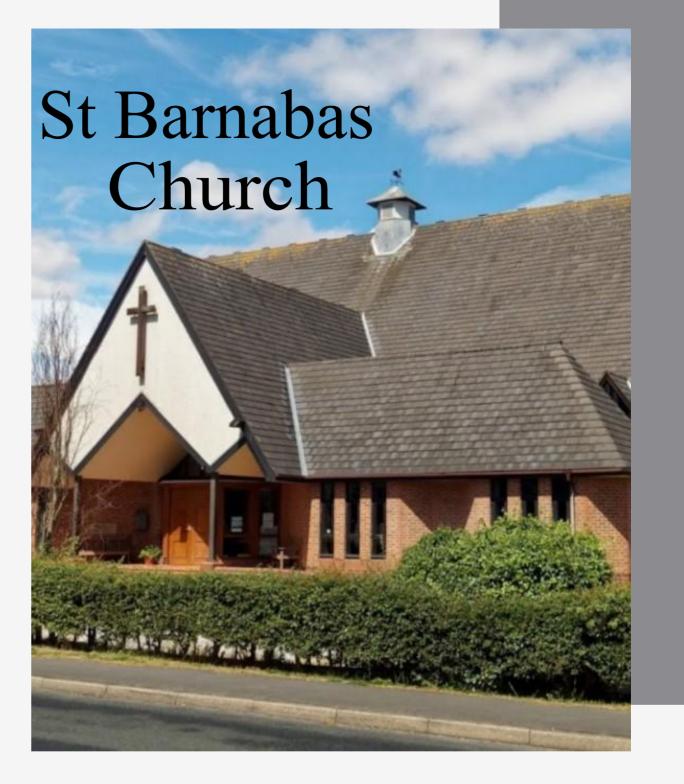


# My Response

## Please complete and return to the Treasurer by Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2025

	I would like to start / change (delete as applicable) the amount I give
	regularly to £ per
	I would like to make a one-off donation this year of £
	I have set-up / changed my standing order or made a one-off donation (delete as applicable) through my bank as indicated above using the details below.
	HSBC Hull, Jameson Street Branch Sort code: 40-25-49 Account number: 30367656 Account name: St Barnabas PCC
	Please add your Initials and Surname as a reference
	I would like to start using yellow weekly cash envelopes, please send me details.
	I pay income tax and enclose a signed Gift Aid Declaration
	Please send me details of how I can leave a gift in my will to the church here.
	Gift Aid and Standing Order forms are available in the Church Office Foyer, or can be downloaded from our website
Name	
	Address
	Phone
	Email



# Stewardship October 2025

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

2 Corinthians 9: 7-8 (NIVUK)

# What Does The Church Use Money For?

Our giving sustains our mission - worshipping God and everything else we do to make disciples of Jesus and bless our community. This includes maintaining our church building as a place dedicated to worship, prayer and witness, as well as being available to the community. Our giving also sustains our vicar, through the giving of our Free Will Offer to the Diocese.

### Our Finances

Firstly, Thank You! Many people at St Barnabas are giving regularly, and giving is increasing.

Our aim is to cover our day-to-day expenses with our day-to-day giving and receipts from other activities, such as hall hire. We set a budget for 2025 that does this.

For large projects, we will ask specifically for gifts to fund the project, or use money in our reserves, including legacies left to us. This year, we used part of a legacy left to the church (known as "Project Welcome") to replace the heating in the chapel, hall and foyer.

Our money comes mainly from giving (including Gift Aid), from activities such as hall hire, and interest on our investments; we do not receive money directly from the Church of England.

# Paying For Our Vicar

One of our day-to-day expenses is paying for our vicar, which is done through the "Free Will Offer" to the Diocese. The Diocese determines the actual cost (see attached leaflet); the PCC determines the amount given. Historically, St. Barnabas gave generously to the Diocese, but this reduced over a number of years with falling numbers. However, with growth in numbers and giving, we were able to budget to give £40,000 for 2025 as our Free Will Offer, an increase from £32,500 in 2024.

The PCC has agreed to prioritise paying for our vicar, moving towards paying the full direct cost of a vicar (currently £57,770) when we can afford this.



St Barnabas Church, Main Street, Swanland, North Ferriby.

HU14 3QP Tel: 01482 632941

Email: admin@stbchurch.org.uk

Website: achurchnearyou.com/st-barnabas-swanland

### What Do We Need To Do?

Prayerfully consider our regular giving.

Please take time to pray and to consider your giving.

All of us have different financial circumstances; some might give more, some less, some nothing at all. Whilst we may feel challenged by God about our giving, no one should feel pressured to give and no one should feel guilty. God understands our circumstances.

Some questions you might want to consider:

- When did I last change my giving to the church?
- Is my income greater, the same, or less than it was the last time I changed my giving to the church?
- The latest inflation figure (September) is 3.8%. Does any change in my income over the last year allow me to increase my giving by this amount?
- All of us have basics to pay for housing, heating, food, clothes etc How does our personal budget balance "basics" against "optional luxuries"?
   Where does my giving to the church fit in this? (As a church, we do not want anyone to give if this leads them into debt.)

These questions may prompt you to increase your giving, leave your giving the same or reduce your giving. This is your choice and is between you and God. The only people at St Barnabas who know what you give are the Treasurer and the Gift Aid Officer.

#### Consider Gift Aid.

If a person who gives pays tax and signs a Gift Aid form, then, as a charity, the church can claim an extra 25p from the Government for every £1 given.

Consider leaving St Barnabas a gift in your will

We were able to pay to replace our heating using a legacy left for St Barnabas in a will. Is leaving a legacy something you could consider doing?

#### Respond to the Treasurer.

In November, the Finance Committee will put together a draft budget for the PCC to consider. To enable the Finance Committee to do this, please can you indicate to the Treasurer your intentions using the form on the back of this leaflet, returning it by Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup> November 2025 to the box in the foyer.