



My 2026 Pledge

A Message from Simon Vibert



We are grateful to you and to God for your gifts and support given to the work at Christ Church in 2025 – thank you! It has been wonderful to see the church growing in numbers for the last two years, with a wide variety of activities for all ages. Our purpose as a church is “To know Jesus and make Jesus known in the community, to the Glory of God.” The world is a dark place right now and needs the light and love of Jesus.

God has blessed us with a strong staff team, with dedicated ministers for children, youth, students & adults. Matt Smith did a great job as Associate Minister. He has now gone on to head up his own church, and Tori Bitutanaseva has hit the ground running as our new curate. We are committed to providing Church services and training which will equip you for your own ministry as a Christian in the local community. Many of our activities focus on those who have not yet come to faith, and our Mission Partners share the Gospel further afield & alleviate suffering.

We have made rapid progress with our Church Improvement Plan in 2025 – the first phase of replacing the carpets, church chairs, and sofas has now been completed and has transformed the look of the main worship area, as well as making it easier to reconfigure the layout during the week to accommodate different activities. In the year ahead we hope to complete Phase 2a, which will involve replacing and enlarging the toilet facilities and providing a new storage area. A wonderful legacy from Carol Gooding has provided more than half the funds we need for Phase 2a. We need a further £27,000 of gifts to fully fund the project, on top of the one-off gifts of £20,000 that are generously given in an average year.

95% of our income comes from the church family who on average give £200 a month, though there is a very wide range, since people give in proportion to their income, as the bible suggests. In 2025 our regular giving income has dipped a bit, so we do need to see both new givers and increased giving by existing members if we are to continue to balance the budget as we have done for the last 4 years.

Please consider increasing your giving, at least in line with the current 4% inflation. If you have not changed your giving for many years, please prayerfully consider a larger increase – inflation has totalled 30% over the last 5 years.

Please read this leaflet & submit a Pledge Form by **Tuesday 18th November**. Your pledge is not a promise, just an indication of what you plan to do. Some of the church families are on a very tight budget and will find it difficult to give more – if that's you please consider giving your time by volunteering.

May you know God's blessing afresh as you make your response.

Simon Vibert

Principles of Christian Giving, from the Bible

How much should I give?

You may wish there was a rule – in Leviticus the Lord said to Moses “a tithe (10%) of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the Lord”. So, 10% may be a useful starting point, but in the New Testament we live by grace, not by the law. Below are some helpful bible verses, but they may lead you to different figures. Ultimately, what you give is a matter for prayerful consideration between you and the Lord.

God is the Owner

God created the world and everything in it. We are stewards of his resources, not owners. *“No-one claimed that any of his possessions was his own.”* (Acts 4:32)

God is Our Provider

As we seek God, He will provide for all our needs (Matthew 6:33). No matter how much we give, we cannot out-give God! *“Whoever sows generously will also reap generously”* (2 Corinthians 9:6)

Giving is for Our Benefit

God says that He doesn’t need our resources because everything is already His (Psalm 50:12). Giving is for our benefit *“Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.”* (Luke 6:38)

Giving should be in proportion to our income

Paul did not give us a % figure, but he recommended giving should be equitable i.e. relative to income *“On the first day of the week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income.”* (1 Corinthians 16:2)

Sacrificial Giving is a wonderful thing

When Jesus saw a poor widow put two small coins into the box, he said *“this poor widow has put in more than all the others. These people gave their gifts out of their wealth; but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on.”* (Luke 21:2-4)

Giving should be Cheerful

God wants us to give cheerfully as our response to God’s grace. *“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.”* (2 Corinthians 9:7).

Financial support of the Church is only part of the picture. It is our privilege to return our money back to God– as part of our worship! We do believe that God has given us a big vision to see the Church reach out and grow in all areas of our “Vision and Purpose.” As you commit to belonging and believing at Christ Church, you enable us all to glorify Him in this part of the world and beyond.

Thank you!

How can I pledge?

You can pledge via ChurchSuite, by putting a pledge form in the box, or via email.

- 1) *Via ChurchSuite: When you log in to your account, select the My Giving option in the menu. This shows your giving in the current tax year (from April 2024), and beneath there is a simple Pledge form with instructions. If you do not have a ChurchSuite account, please email office@cc-vw.org and ask for one.*
- 2) *There is a pledge form on page 6 – please fill it in and put it in the pledge box at the back of church.*
- 3) *Send an email to finance@cc-vw.org with details of your pledge.*

How can I give?

Via your bank. Monthly giving via a standing order is the best way to give. Quarterly or annual donations may suit you better. If you use Online Banking, then you can set up a standing order, or adjust your current standing order very easily. If not, then complete the Bankers Order (see page 5) and send it to your bank.

Via your employer - Your company may operate "Give as You Earn" so that your giving is managed via the company payroll i.e. deducted, gross, at source.

Via cheques or cash – Please place in the basket at services, or post, or hand to staff. Cheques should be payable to "Christ Church Virginia Water PCC".

Via the Giving terminal at the back of the church, or via the Donate links on our website or in the Giving section of ChurchSuite – These options are available for your convenience for ticket payments and small gifts but should not be used for regular giving since we pay commission of 1.3 to 2.5%.

Tax-efficiently – the benefits of Gift Aid. If you are a UK taxpayer, then we can claim gift aid of 25% on all donations we receive from you. So, for every £100 you give us, we receive from the government another £25 at no cost to you. All we need is your Gift Aid declaration (page 7). Please return it to church, or email finance@cc-vw.org. If you pay tax at the higher 40% rate and declare your donations in your Self-Assessment tax return, then you will receive a further 20% tax rebate. This enables you to give £100 at a net cost of only £60 to you.

What about confidentiality?

Only you, our Treasurer Rod Whitehead, our Finance Administrator Leza Sack, and our Auditors have access to information about how much you pledge and give. They will ensure your pledge and giving information remains confidential.

How much is needed in 2026?



Our 2026 cost budget is **£438,000**, 4% above our expected 2025 costs, an increase in line with inflation. Salaries rise by 10% partly to match inflation and partly because we have appointed a new part-time Facilities supervisor who will manage some aspects of the church building improvements. Costs are budgeted to rise by less than inflation in most other areas.

We expect to report a small surplus in 2025 thanks to costs being below budget, which is good news. But regular giving has dipped in recent months due to several church members moving away or moving on. A projection of our 2026 income based on current regular giving comes out at only **£411,000**, suggesting a deficit of £27,000, which would badly deplete our reserves.

How much is needed in 2026? (continued)

We are hoping & praying the pledge process will reduce this deficit in 4 main ways:

- 1) People who are new to the church over the last year start donating.
- 2) Some people who have stopped or reduced giving due to financial pressures being able to re-commence their support of CCVW.
- 3) Increases in regular giving of 4% to allow us to keep pace with inflation.
- 4) Some church members have not increased their giving for 5 years or more. Inflation has been 30% over the last 5 years, so we are hoping they will be able to significantly increase their giving.

You might prefer to make a One-Off gift out of savings. For the last 5 years we have received One-Off gifts totalling £15,000 to £45,000 which have supplemented regular giving to the General Fund. Our budget assumes that we will receive £20,000 of such One-Off gifts in 2026.

In addition to this £20,000 we are praying that the church family will donate a further £27,000 of One-Off gifts to complete the funding needed for the next phase of our Church Improvement Plan, which will involve replacing and enlarging the toilet facilities and providing a new storage area.

If you would like to support a specific activity or fund an item of equipment, then your gift will be put in a restricted reserve and only used for this purpose. Please speak to our Treasurer Rod Whitehead (0780 3309230, treasurer@cc-vw.org) to discuss this, or any other aspect of our finances.

Where will your giving be invested?

Adult Ministry



4%

Your pledge helps us staff and resource our 3 services on a Sunday and other special services, and fund regular visiting speakers and events. We offer pastoral care for those in need, young and old. We run a Good News Café offering a two-course meal and fellowship once a month to the local community. We have. We will continue to win people for Christ through evangelistic courses like *Alpha* that show people a Christian approach to life's challenges. Budget **£18,700**

Youth Ministry



5%

We want young people in our community to encounter Jesus and be transformed by his incredible love and grace. This budget includes a share of the salaries of our Youth & Student worker and a new Ministry Assistant and supports the running of our regular youth activities; weekly Pathfinders (11-14) and Fuel (15-18) Bible study groups, as well as our regular social youth club 'Friends on Friday'. We also set funding aside for subsidising events and activities for our young people. Budget **£21,400**

Young Adult & Student Ministry



3%

For young adults, whether students or new to the working world, these years are crucial in shaping their life ahead. We want to nurture and love them, helping them to have Jesus at the centre of who they are and what they do. This budget includes a share of the salaries of our Youth & Student worker and a new Ministry Assistant and provides for lunches, bible studies, socials, mentoring and more. Budget **£15,300**

Children's Ministry

10%

We want our children to know Jesus in their hearts so that the Holy Spirit is with them for their whole lives. Our Sunday clubs, and Bible Study for 7-11's, are central to this ministry. We take the Gospel into local schools through assemblies. We also reach local families through our weekly Toddler Group, holiday clubs & other events. Budget **£41,600**

Mission Partner Support

8%

We support 9 Mission Partners and provide grants for church members going on mission trips. We cover the 5 areas of Mission: Evangelism, Discipling, Compassion, Justice, & Caring for Creation. Our partners are Amos Street Child, A Rocha, City Mission, Compassion, East to West, Open Doors, Tearfund, UFM and OM. The Mission budget is 9.5% of our projected donation income. Budget **£34,400**

Parish Share

29%

Each Parish pays a share of the Guildford Diocesan budget. The Diocese pays the salaries and accommodation costs of vicars and curates, and provides a range of central support services. We have seen a helpful reduction in recent years thanks to cost saving measures by the diocese. However the diocese is planning to increase clergy salaries by 10% next year, because they have not been increased in line with inflation over the last 15 years. Hence our share in 2026 is expected to increase by 3% to **£126,600**

Church Management

23%

Annette, Leza, and Sarah, assisted by volunteers, manage the day-to-day administration, operations & finances of the Church. They enable us to provide a safe and welcoming environment for the hundreds of people who attend events 7 days a week. Deven Jeyasingh, a member of CCVW, has just been appointed as our part-time Facilities Supervisor, to manage church buildings maintenance and improvements. Budget **£101,500**

Running Costs

13%

These include energy, water, insurance, cleaning, computer systems, office & kitchen supplies etc. We are grateful to the church member who donated our solar panels, as these greatly reduce our electricity costs. Energy costs have thankfully fallen from the high levels seen in 2023. Budget **£58,500**

Property Maintenance & Depreciation

5%

We need to maintain our beautiful church to ensure it serves our purposes and meets health & safety requirements. Our budget does not allow for any improvements or re-decoration, just maintenance, repairs and depreciation. Budget **£20,000**

Banker's Order

If you use online banking you can set up and amend your payments yourself, and do not need this form. Please contact Leza at finance@cc-vw.org if you are having difficulty. If you don't use online banking, then please complete this form and send it to your bank.

To _____ Bank PLC
of _____

Name and address

of your bank

in capital letters

Please pay to BARCLAYS BANK PLC Virginia Water for the credit of
'Christ Church Virginia Water PCC'

Account Name: Christ Church Virginia Water PCC

Account number: 00906263

Bank Sort Code 20-02-53

The sum of

Amount in words

£ _____

Amount in figures

Monthly / Quarterly / Annually

Delete and Initial

*INAPPLICABLE
options*

starting on the _____ day of _____ (month) 20____ (year)

This supersedes any previous banker's order I have with the above-mentioned church.

*Delete and initial if
inapplicable*

Signed _____ Date _____

*Date when payments
start must be after
the date shown here*

Your BANK SORT CODE _____

Your ACCOUNT NUMBER _____

Your ACCOUNT NAME _____

Your HOME ADDRESS _____



My 2026 Pledge to Christ Church

Full Name _____

Email Address _____

By God's grace I desire to give to Christ Church:

2026 Pledge (tick appropriate boxes below):

☐ Monthly, from Jan 2026 £ _____

☐ Quarterly, from Jan 2026 £ _____

☐ Annually in (approx. month) £ _____

☐ One-Off Gift in..... (approx. month) £ _____

Total annual pledged giving for 2026 = £ _____

Your pledge is only an indication, not a promise. If your circumstances change and you will be unable to fulfil it, we would appreciate it if you could let us know (Leza Sack at finance@cc-vw.org, by post, or by calling 01344-844946)

My gift(s) will be paid by: (tick appropriate box below):

☐ Bank transfer

☐ cheque(s) or cash

☐ CAF / Stewardship or similar gross-giving schemes

☐ Give As You Earn (GAYE) via my employer

☐ I can designate my giving as Gift Aid (tick box if appropriate)

☐ I have previously completed a Gift Aid Declaration

☐ I have completed the Gift Aid Declaration overleaf

I confirm I am happy to be contacted by email about my giving to Christ Church (please delete if not appropriate)

Signature _____ Date _____

Gift Aid Declaration

Name of Charity: **THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ECCLESIASTICAL
PARISH OF CHRIST CHURCH VIRGINIA WATER**

Registered charity number: 1128275

Please treat as Gift Aid donations all qualifying gifts of money made from the date of this declaration and in the past four years. I am a UK taxpayer 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 consent to my details being held on computer for Christ Church's administration and accounting of my donations.

TITLE _____

FULL NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

& POSTCODE _____

SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____

NOTES

1. Gift Aid is linked to basic rate tax, currently 20%, which allows charities to reclaim 25p for every £1 donated
2. Please notify the church/PCC if you:
 - a. want to cancel this declaration
 - b. change your name or home address
 - c. no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains. E.g. if you donate £10,000 p.a. you would need to be paying tax of at least £2,000 p.a.
3. If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self Assessment tax return, or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code
4. Christ Church will regard your donations and declaration as confidential