

Key principles of St Mary's charitable giving policy

St Mary's is a registered charity and is dependent on donations of time and money to carry out its work. The charitable giving policy is intended to be a holistic policy covering all aspects of St Mary's charitable giving. It will cover both financial and non-financial donations.

Financial Donations

- The Charitable giving policy should be aligned to the strategic objectives of the Mission Action Plan and act as an enabler towards achieving these objectives. The policy will be reviewed in alignment with each refresh of Mission Action Plan (anticipated to be on a 3 yearly cycle).
- This policy will begin in January 2023 to align with the delivery of the Mission Action Plan and last until December 2026, or earlier if deemed appropriate to align with any Mission Action Plan refresh or a significant change in the strategic direction of St Mary's. This decision must be approved by the DCC.
- The charitable giving policy should enable the development of a partnership between St Mary's and the selected charities. The aims of each charity should be aligned to the Mission Action Plan.

It is anticipated that 2 or 3 charities are selected to be the beneficiary of the charity policy to enable the development of a strategic partnership between St Mary's and the selected charities. The person responsible for each Mission Action Plan objective, will outline a proposed charity to align with the delivery of the objective. This should be accompanied with a financial request outlining the monies required, how this would be spent and what it would achieve.

- The final decision on the selected charities will be recommended to the DCC by the DCC Charitable Giving Officer. Key principles governing the selection of the chosen charities will be:
 - Alignment to the Mission Action Plan
 - The extent to which the donation will enable the delivery of the objectives of the Mission Action Plan
 - Benefits to the local community
- The amount and frequency of charitable donations will be shared with the congregation on an annual basis. It is anticipated that specific fund-raising events will be held to help fund the charitable donations.
- The value of the financial donations will be recommended each year by St Mary's Finance Committee, as part of the budget process, reflecting the financial position of the Church. Any recommendation will then be authorised by the DCC. It is anticipated that payments will be made to the selected charities in equal instalments, typically every 6 months, in July & December /January or timed to support the specific aim(s) of the Mission Action Plan.
- As part of the strategic relationship charities will be requested to share with the Charitable Giving Officer how the money will be spent.

Tennis Car Parking

- 10% of the income generated from Wimbledon Tennis Parking will be donated to charities in addition to the sum specified above. This will be incorporated into the budget making process and will form part of the overall calculation of the support that St Mary's gives to charities. The selected charities and principles governing the donations will be the same as outlined above. Due to the timing of Wimbledon tennis tournament this financial donation will be a single donation, paid in September each year.

Parish Support fund

- Each year St Mary's makes a significant contribution to the Diocese of Southwark Parish Support Fund. St Mary's charitable giving therefore includes the sum donated over and above the cost of the ministry of St Mary's to the Parish Support Fund. This financial donation supports the mission and ministry of the church across the diocese and is critical in ensuring that the Diocese is able to maintain its financial commitments, such as stipend payments in parishes that are less well-off than Wimbledon
- The value of the financial donation will be recommended each year, as part of the budget process, by St Mary's Finance Committee reflecting the financial position of the Church. This decision will be authorised by the DCC

Retiring collections

- Throughout the year retiring collections will be used to support emergency events that occur during the course of the year.
- The timing and frequency of these collections will be agreed between the Rector and Church Wardens.

Non-financial donations

Congregation support

- Members of the congregation will be invited to support their own charities and consider how St Mary's can support them. Examples include:
 - Shoe box homeless collections - Spires
 - Donations to Food banks – Wimbledon Food Bank
 - Children toy collections – Christian Care

Each charity will have a dedicated liaison point within St Mary's. These are currently

- Andrew Lenon – Spires
- Anne Williams – Christian Care
- Helen Jones – Wimbledon Food Banks

Fund-raising

- Fund-raising activities through the course of the year to support charities that align to the Mission Action Plan will be encouraged. Activities may include:
 - Bake sales
 - Coffee Mornings
 - Any support requests must be pre-approved by the Charitable Giving Officer and the Church Wardens and in the case of fund raising events, proceeds should be put through the PCC accounts