



# GIVING

## How you can support the ministry of St Andrew's

### Summary

Thank you for all that you contribute to St Andrew's already.

- A major part of our church income is your giving
- Giving has not kept pace with inflation and we are not paying our way
- Please join the Parish Giving Scheme if you have not done so already, and think and pray about increasing your giving
- A 5% increase would keep us in line with our budget
- An 8-10% increase would bring our budget into balance at the end of the year

### Introduction

St Andrew's receives no funding from the diocese or national church. We aim to bring God's redeeming love to our whole community. To fulfil our mission, it's important that our building is comfortable, accessible and welcoming, and that we reach out to all parts of our community through our diverse activities. We benefit enormously from the time and hard work of many people but we also need money to run a church.

### The problem we face

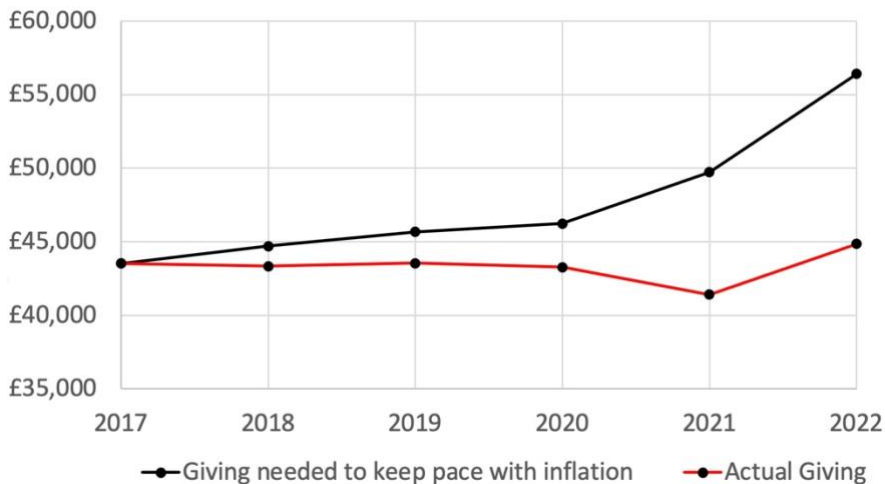
Giving has been largely flat since 2017. In that time inflation (RPI) has gone up by 30%.

Cost savings and income from other sources have kept us going. We benefit from Gift Aid on your giving, some income from investments, a surplus from the Messenger, one-off donations, the Feoffees charity and the Friends of St Andrew's.

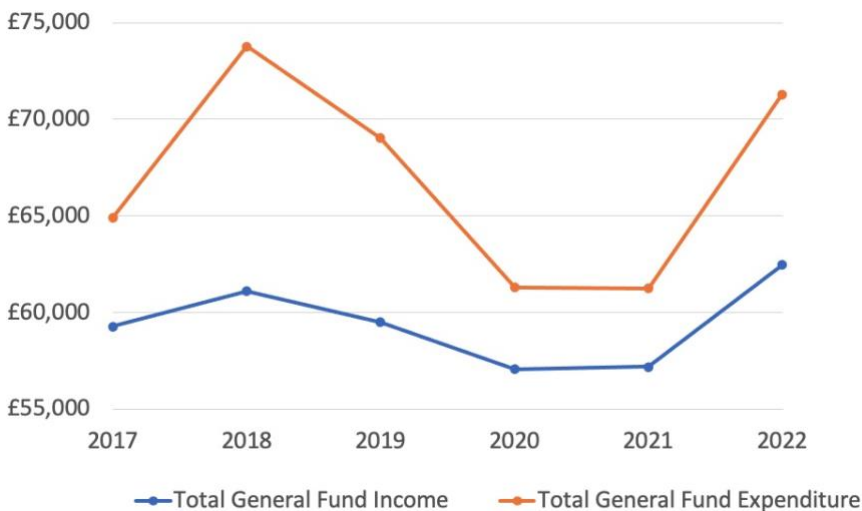
However, the fact is that we are only able to meet our expenses because of these additional sources of income. Our General Fund lost £9,000 last year

on a total income from all sources of £72,000 (and lost an average of over £7,000 in each the previous five years.) The General Fund covers our regular giving and running costs. Costs will continue to go up, as inflation persists and heating costs rise with the end of our fixed price energy contract. Our 2023 budget assumes an increase in giving of 5% from last year, and even with that increase we project a £5,000 deficit on the General Fund.

### Actual Giving has fallen behind inflation since 2017



### General Fund income & expenditure 2017 to 2022



We have substantial additional capital costs coming up. As we discovered this winter, our heating system is reaching the end of its life. Replacing it is likely to be expensive, perhaps £50,000. We also face the cost of replacing the ceiling in another three to four years, which may cost a further £70-100,000. And we are keen to improve the comfort and accessibility of the building. At a minimum that will cost tens of thousands of pounds more.

## How you can help

We want to make sure that St Andrew's is here for the long run.

So we ask people to give to the church through the Parish Giving Scheme so that, as costs go up, we can continue to pay our way. The Parish Giving Scheme reminds us to increase our giving each year as the cost of living goes up. Of our regular givers, 24 out of 55 already give in this way and it seems to work well. You can opt out at any point, or opt out of the inflationary increase if it is too much for you to pay.



Scan the QR code to the left to go to our Parish Giving Scheme page, or go to <https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/home> and search for St Andrew's, or if you are reading this online click [here](#) to go directly to our Parish Giving Scheme page.

It's very easy to sign up for the Parish Giving Scheme. It can be done online, on the phone on 0333 002 1271, or by filling in a form. Our parish code is 140614131.

Alternatively, to read more about different methods of giving go to our website Giving page by clicking [here](#).

If you'd like to find out more, please talk to Chris Bow or Sue Brown.

If you don't feel comfortable with the Parish Giving Scheme, please review your standing orders.

Either way, a 5% increase would help us keep going this year with a manageable deficit in line with our budget. An 8-10% increase would mean

that we have no deficit at the end of the year. Please let's also keep in mind legacies as a tax efficient way to give.

## The future

As we come up to major costs like the heating, ceiling and improving the comfort and accessibility of the building, we will look for charitable and community grants. A sub-group of the PCC has started to build a vision for our building, based on the congregational and village consultation we ran in 2019 before the pandemic. It is already clear that our future financial commitments will be hard to meet. So please factor that into your thinking about what you can afford to give.

This is an uncertain time for many people and some people won't be able to increase the amount of money they give. And that's absolutely fine. But for those of us who can, please think and pray carefully about your level of giving.

Thank you for all you contribute to St Andrew's.

