

## My response

Name .....

In gratitude to God and to help to develop the life of this church and its ministry in our community.

After prayerful thought:

- I have decided to increase my/our monthly gift to Lancaster Priory by £\_\_\_\_\_ each month/week
- Though personal circumstances mean that I cannot give any additional money at this time, I will review my giving as circumstances change.

If you would like any other information, please indicate by ticking the appropriate box below and we will let you have what you need.

- I would like information about joining the Parish Giving Scheme for Regular Giving (available from May 2023).
- I am a taxpayer and would like a Gift Aid form (only required if you haven't already completed a form for the Priory)
- I would like to give by weekly envelope, please provide me with these.
- I would like a standing order form/bank details for the church so I can set up a bank transfer
- I would like information on leaving a legacy gift to the Priory.

Please make sure you have added your name(s) in the space at the top. The form should then be returned to Barbara Gardner, (who is the only person who will see this information), or can be given to a verger, who will place the form in the corresponding office pigeonhole.

## How to give

**We're all different; so are our circumstances. There is no easy answer and we must make our own decisions. But here are some things to consider.**

First, generosity is part of our Christian faith. As we give freely to our loved ones so we give generously to God, honouring him and saying thank you for all he gives to us.

Second, our giving makes possible the life, ministry and mission of our church. Without it we could not be a living church and serve our community.

Third, our giving needs to be realistic about the needs of our church so we can pay our bills and maintain our church for today and tomorrow.

Fourth, good giving needs planning and must be a priority. Practically, this may mean giving by a Standing Order or by weekly envelopes and, if we pay UK tax, giving by Gift Aid.

**We are all different. Some can give more, and some can give less: what is God asking you to do?**

**If you want to know more about planned giving, please contact our Gift Aid Secretary and Treasurer Barbara Gardner c/o**

**Telephone: 01524 65338**

**Email: [info@lancasterpriory.org](mailto:info@lancasterpriory.org)**

## Lancaster Priory

### Stewardship

## 2023



Loving Father, you have made us your people,  
richly provided us with good gifts,  
and called us to live for you.  
May gratitude be in our hearts  
may generosity be in our hands  
may justice and righteousness guide our feet  
and may the life of your kingdom  
and the joy of heaven be found among us.  
Amen.

## Present situation

The money we give makes possible the ministry of this church. It is that simple.

For 2023 we expect our church to need **£4781** per week for the work of ministry, worship, service and mission. This breaks down as:

**£1821** for our share of clergy, housing, training and support costs (this is the Parish share).

**£1247** for our building, including insurance heat light etc. and paying our cleaner.

**£1713** for worship and ministry costs to and in the community, including paying our staff and giving away 10% of our planned giving income to other Christian charities

## Planning our income

To meet this challenge our expected income for the year looks like **£3,505** in weekly terms, made up of:

**£2367** from giving, including Gift Aid reclaimed from HM Revenue and Customs

**£1138** from weddings, funerals, concerts, restricted and any other income.

So most of our income is from the giving of our church family. To fund our ministry this year we anticipate we will need an increase in weekly giving of **£1276**

## Plans for our future

We pray that our life and ministry will grow and develop this year as we continue to reach out to our local community, maintain our services and worship, pay our bills, support our organisations and ministry and service in our community and keep our buildings in good repair. In fact, all those things that make up the life of the Priory here in Lancaster.

The PCC discerned four priorities for mission and ministry at its 2022 away day:

### One: Inspiring new generations.

We long for the Priory congregation to become broader and more diverse, better representative of our parish and city.

### Two: Growing deeper roots on the Marsh.

We believe that we have been called to witness through word and service to proclaim the message of God's unconditional love on the Marsh.

### Three: A Resource for the City, Diocese and Region

We believe we are called to be a place of teaching and learning that empowers the people of God in a way that will benefit the whole diocese, and we seek to develop new ministries in this area.

### Four: Caring better for God's Creation

We are committed to doing all we can at church and in our own lives to protect God's creation, and acknowledge the generosity of God in his Creation.

By God's grace and with your help we will continue all this - and more. Thank you for your partnership in the gospel, the commitment of your time, your skills and abilities and, of course, your generous giving to Lancaster Priory.



**“Yours, Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendour, for everything in heaven and earth is yours.”**

*1 Chronicles 29 v 11*

**“Remember this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. 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 v 6-8*

### How do I know if I'm giving generously?

- Is the amount I'm giving away realistic to my income?
- Can I see an element of sacrifice in my giving? Does it impact on my lifestyle?
- Is my giving a priority from what I receive each week or month, or just what's left over?
- If what I give away was given back to me, would I notice?