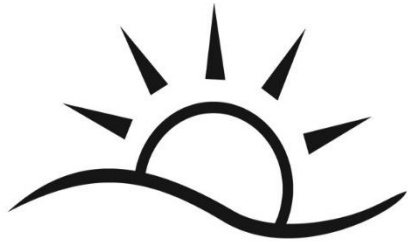


sunnysidechurch

A LEGACY  
OF MAKING  
**A DIFFERENCE**

How you  
can help  
Sunnyside  
to continue  
our mission



# LEAVE A LEGACY

## What is a charitable legacy?

It's a set amount, or a fixed percentage of your estate upon your death, which you can earmark for a church or charity in your will.

## Why is it a good idea to leave a legacy?

There are a few good reasons. First, we are encouraged by Scripture to give:

'Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share' (1 Timothy 6:17,18).

Other parts of the Bible encourage Christians to set aside part of our daily income for God's work. That's a principle that most Christians try to follow in their lifetimes, and it is an equally good principle to adopt upon our death, when we pass on our assets to our loved ones. The next generation of our church family can therefore also benefit from our generosity in this way.



Legacies can provide much-needed income to fund new projects at Sunnyside, or to support existing areas of work with extra funds. Many of the facilities that we have at Sunnyside have been funded by legacies from former worshippers.



Examples are the photovoltaic panels on the church hall roof, the refurbishment of the lobby, the church grounds and many features of our church fabric were **all paid for out of legacies**. Our church would look very different today without these gifts.

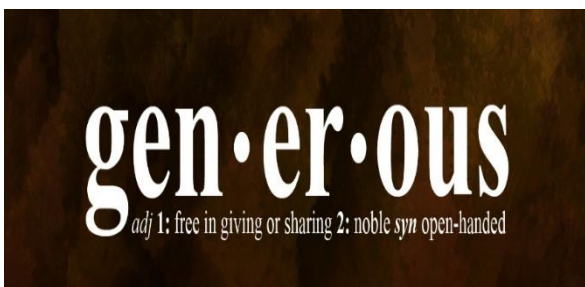


Charitable legacies are tax-free, and if you leave 10% of your estate to charitable causes, the government will reduce the tax rate on the remaining 90% of your estate from 40% to 36%. So it also makes financial sense to include a charitable legacy in your will!

**Won't a legacy just get swallowed up in the general running of the church?**

Not unless you specifically request it to! Our PCC has a policy on how we treat legacies. It states that the PCC welcomes: "all gifts in wills, however large or small, and we promise to use your gift to make a difference in our parish. Our PCC Legacy Policy is to use gifts to help fund significant development projects, whether for buildings, equipment, outreach to the community or for funding new initiatives."

If you leave a legacy to Sunnyside in your will, we would "discuss possible uses of your gift with your executors, bearing in mind your known areas of interest in the church (e.g. worship, buildings and equipment, children and youth, care for the elderly, overseas mission or local outreach) and the church's priorities at the time.



You can be confident that your gift will be used to make a real difference to our future mission and ministry.

We would acknowledge gifts in whatever way you and your executors feel most appropriate. Equally, we can make sure that gifts remain anonymous if you prefer.

## TAKE THE NEXT STEP



You may already have included Sunnyside in your will, in which case we thank you!

If you have not made a will yet, please do consider doing so, and including 'Sunnyside Church' as a charitable beneficiary.

If you have made a will but have not included Sunnyside in it, it is still possible to leave a legacy to Sunnyside through a 'codicil', which is a brief legal document that can be added to your will.

Here are suggested wordings to suit both eventualities:

*'I give EITHER \_\_\_\_% OR the sum £\_\_\_\_\_ of my residuary estate free of all taxes to the Parochial Church Council of the parish of St Michael & All Angels, Sunnyside (Registered Charity no.1132230) in the Diocese of St Albans for its general purposes, and I declare that the receipt of an officer of the Parochial Church Council shall be a sufficient discharge to my executors and trustees.'*

*and finally ...*

Leaving a gift to Sunnyside in your will is one of the most valuable and lasting ways you can continue to support the mission and ministry here, in the community in which you have worshipped and served. It is a way of thanking God for all that you have received from Sunnyside over the years, and can help keep our church thriving, caring and relevant long into the future.

If you need further advice on this subject or to find professional help, then please contact

Shawn Baggs, our Treasurer on [treasurer@sunnysidechurch.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@sunnysidechurch.org.uk) or  
Peter Hyatt, our Giving Officer, on 01442 873191 or [hyattpr@gmail.com](mailto:hyattpr@gmail.com).