

How you can make a lasting difference to the work of Christ Church, Duns

We at Christ Church Duns seek to be a caring people growing in the knowledge and love of God through Jesus Christ and expressing that love, with the help of the Holy Spirit, through our relationships with one another and our service and witness to the community.

To keep growing God's kingdom in the Parish of Christ Church Duns, we need people's time and money. A legacy in your Will would be a splendid way to continue your generosity to our living, developing church.



3 steps . . .

Three steps that we encourage every adult member of our churches to take:

1. Make a Will and review it regularly
2. Consider leaving a residuary gift in your Will to our parish
Visit www.churchlegacy.org.uk for help with both of these steps
3. Get a free information pack about making a Will and making a difference to the work of the wider Church



Your Will Matters

- Thinking about life after death should not be difficult for Christians! Make sure you are prepared practically as well as spiritually. Whatever your age, write a Will and keep it up to date.
- Without a Will, your loved ones could face a lot of trouble, work and expense after your death. Without a Will, a court could decide how to distribute your goods and who should look after your children.
- Many Christians give regularly and proportionately from their income. Why not give proportionately from your estate too?
- A gift in your Will helps our church to live out our dreams and mission in this community.
- It's a way to thank God for all the gifts of our lifetime, and to hand on undimmed the legacy we have received from past Christians (our building, our faith) to future generations.
- Leaving a gift in your Will is tax efficient and can reduce the amount of inheritance tax you pay.

Our Legacy Policy

We welcome all legacies, however large or small, and we promise to use your gift to make a difference in our parish.

The policy of the Vestry is to use legacies to help fund significant development projects in the parish, whether buildings, equipment or staff. Since circumstances change over the years, church members are encouraged to leave gifts in their Wills for the general purposes of the parish. The Vestry will therefore discuss with executors the most appropriate use of the gift in the light of current projects and the donor's known areas of interest in the church (e.g. children and youth, music, buildings).

A recent legacy left to Christ Church funded our beautiful glass entrance door; the church now is much brighter and more welcoming.



Suggested wording for your Will.

"I give ___% of my residuary estate free of all taxes to the Vestry of **Christ Church Duns** in the diocese of Edinburgh, registered charity number **SCO09385**, for its general purposes, and I declare that the receipt of an officer of the Vestry shall be a sufficient discharge to my executors and trustees."

We strongly advise you to see an independent solicitor when writing or amending your Will.

*Scottish charities are regulated by Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR). It is therefore important to include our Scottish Charity Number in your Will. The charity number for Christ Church Duns is **SCO09385***

<http://www.oscr.org.uk/search-charity-register/>

Reducing your Inheritance Tax bill

Any gifts you make to a 'qualifying' charity during your lifetime or in your Will, will be exempt from Inheritance Tax.

Guidance can be downloaded from the HMRC on the reduced rate of Inheritance Tax to estates leaving a ten percent bequest to registered charities. This is to encourage people to leave part of their estate to charity so where at least 10% of a person's net estate is left to charity, the rate of tax charged is reduced to 36%.

<http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/inheritancetax/reducedrate.htm>

Lasting gifts to our church

Giving a legacy to your church is an expression of your gratitude and thanksgiving towards God for all that you have been given and enjoyed during your life. It is also a means of ensuring that your past can become part of the future of your church's life, through mission and ministry to all God's people.



Parish contact details:

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For more information about the Scottish Episcopal Church and leaving a legacy in your Will please visit the SEC website at <https://www.scotland.anglican.org/vestry-resources/stewardship-gift-aid-and-legacies/leaving-a-legacy-in-your-will-to-the-church/>