

What do we do with legacies?

When someone dies and has chosen to remember the Church in their will, we first make sure that any intentions expressed in that will are strictly adhered to.

If the use of such a legacy is left open, the Parochial Church Council then decides on its most appropriate use. Our magnificent font and the hymn books currently in use are recent examples of how such sums have been used.

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And a legacy does not have to be big to be lovingly appreciated and very useful. As we know in our own household, 'stuff happens'. The lawnmower or the vacuum cleaner suddenly decide they've had enough or some special occasion makes us want to splash out a bit. The 'house-keeping' is all spoken for so where do we turn?

Even a modest legacy really helps.

How you can help your church

If you decide to help the Church in this way, a paragraph such as the one below can be inserted into a new or existing will when consulting with your solicitor.

I give the sum of £_____ to the Church of Christ the King, Battyeford, for its general charitable purposes*. I further direct that the receipt of the Chair of the Parochial Church Council of the said Church of Christ the King shall be a full and sufficient discharge for the said gift.

*If you intend your gift to be used in a particular way, replace 'for its general charitable purposes' with the specific purpose you have in mind.

If you would like to discuss this further, please contact the Vicar:

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The Church of
Christ the King
Battyeford

Before you go.....

Practical advice on why
and how to make a will,
reduce the cost of doing so,
and help your church
sustain its mission
after you have died.

Do I really need to make a will?

Yes you do! Age UK offers the following reasons.

- ❖ **A will is the only way** to make sure your 'estate' (savings and possessions) goes to the people and causes that you care about.
- ❖ **Disputes over wills** can cause arguments among family members. Leaving a will should remove any doubt about whom you want to leave your estate to.
- ❖ **It's hard for loved ones** to talk about death, but talking about your will can save a lot of worry. Deciding who you want to inherit your possessions makes sure they go where you want them to.
- ❖ **With a carefully-planned will**, you can also cut any Inheritance Tax bill on your estate after your death.
- ❖ **Finally, your will can be a way** to let your loved ones know whether you would prefer to be buried or cremated, and the type of funeral service and music you would like.

Do I really have an estate?

Yes you do!

- ❖ **Everything we own** is our 'estate' in the eyes of the law, and this includes the dog. We all need to take a good look at our stuff and think about what will happen to it, or who will look after it when we are gone.
- ❖ **Write down your assets** and roughly what they're worth. Start with those that are easiest to value such as savings and any valuable objects such as jewellery or family heirlooms.
- ❖ **Then think about the things** that change in value. They may include stock market investments or a pension. Check with the Pensions Advisory Service.
<http://www.pensionsadvisoryservice.org.uk>
- ❖ **Do you own property?** This is probably your house, but could include a holiday home, or even a garage. Are there any debts secured against them?
- ❖ **Think about the people** and causes such as charities that you want to benefit from your estate. We hope that you will consider including Christ the King in this list.
- ❖ **Choose (and talk with!) your executor** – usually a trusted family member.

How do I go about writing a will?

Talk to a solicitor!

- ❖ **Having thought about** the issues on the previous pages, take advice. Solicitors are the experts, and they can write you a watertight will that does exactly what you want it to.
- ❖ This avoids any unforeseen complications of a DIY job. (It is easy to overlook details which can cause untold trouble for you and your family in years to come.)
- ❖ **One local firm of solicitors** advertises in our magazine. Other solicitors are available, we should add.

- ❖ **Attention those aged 55 or more!** March & October are both 'Free Wills Month,' supporting charities including the NSPCC, British Legion & British Heart Foundation to offer members of the public aged 55 and over the opportunity to have a straightforward will written or updated free of charge by using participating solicitors.



Visit <https://freewillsmoonth.org.uk>