

A Legacy is a practical way of Thanking God for His Blessings during our Lives

Why make a Will?

As part of our Christian stewardship and our responsibility for what we have been entrusted with, we should make a Will and encourage others to do the same. When we make a Will we consciously decide what is to happen to our wealth and make a statement of what is important to us.

Making a Will ensures that our wishes are actually carried out and that those, who are left behind, are not put under additional stress.

It is important to review our Wills regularly, because circumstances change.

Why consider a Gift in our Will to the Church?

Such a gift enables us to make a lasting contribution to help secure the work of the Church for future generations.

The Church in Ashted has benefited from legacies in many ways, for example:

- funding the first paid Children's Worker
- providing suitable staff accommodation
- enhancing St Giles' Churchyard
- refurbishing St Giles' Church

Gifts made to the Church and other charities are exempt from Inheritance Tax and are deducted from the value of an estate before Inheritance Tax liability is calculated.

Ashted Parochial Church Council Policy

Is to designate significant legacies to help fund significant development projects in the parish, whether buildings, equipment or staff. As circumstances change over the years, it may not be possible to fulfil specific donor requests, so church members are encouraged to leave legacies for the general purposes of the parish. The PCC will be happy to take into account any preferences expressed by the donor in the light of current projects and the donor's known areas of interest in the church.

Registered Charity No: 1132244

How to leave a Legacy

A Will should be drawn up professionally to avoid legal pitfalls. Before going to a solicitor, make a rough summary of your assets and decide how you want to distribute them. Be specific – do you want your beneficiaries to get a fixed amount or a share of your estate? For most people, family comes first, but you may also want to leave something for charity, including the Church.

A few practical points:

- A fixed amount is called a "pecuniary legacy". The beneficiary receives the stated amount, with any tax liability being met from the rest of the estate. A fixed amount should be reviewed regularly, considering factors such as inflation and property values
- Leaving a share of the estate requires less review as percentages grow or shrink automatically with the changing size of an estate. You should consider changes if you want to add or remove beneficiaries
- For a charitable leave a legacy for 'general purposes', and write a letter to the Trustees expressing your preference. Specifying a purpose is problematic if it has already been fulfilled by the time the charity receive your legacy
- Let your family know if you are leaving a legacy to the Church
- You may need to resolve an issue before making your Will. For a confidential discussion, you can contact the Parish's Director of Pastoral Care through the Parish Office
- A legacy for this Church should be payable to Ashted Parochial Church Council and not to any church officers or clergy Post to the Parish Administrator at the address below

If you would like any further information, please contact:

The Legacies Officer c/o the Parish Office or e-mail legacies@ashtedparish.org

Ashted Parochial Church Council - www.sgsgashted.com
Registered Office: Parish Office, St. George's Christian Centre,
Barnett Wood Lane, Ashted, Surrey KT21 2DA.