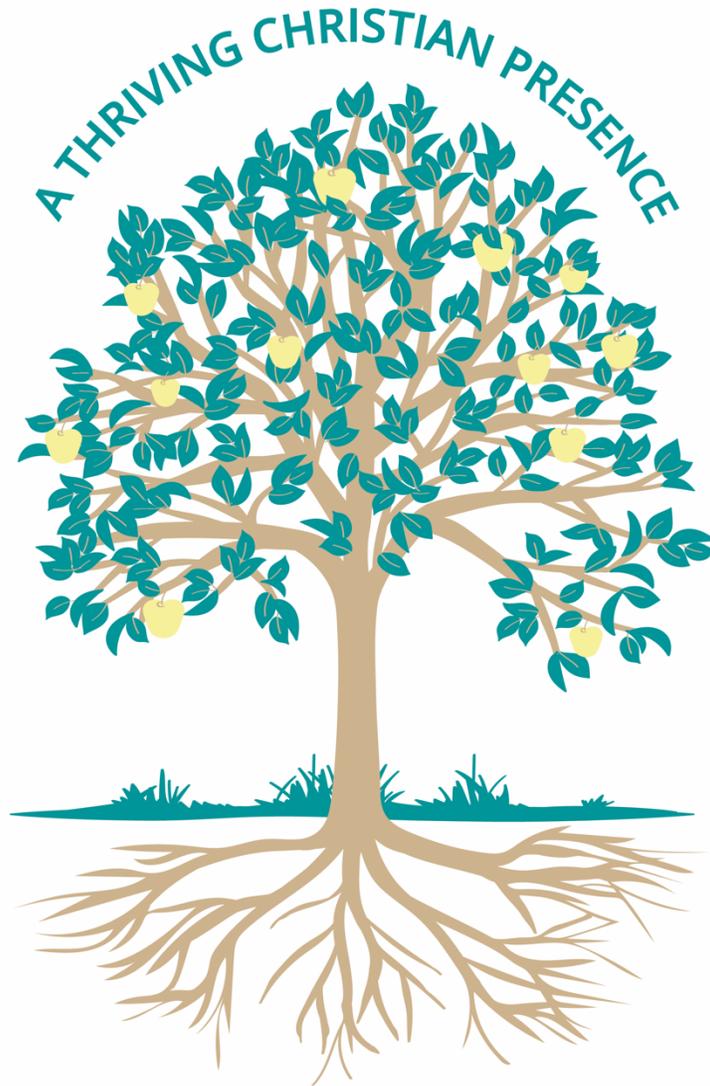


Generous Giving

Transforming our giving in response to God's generosity

LITURGICAL RESOURCES AND PLANNING TOOL



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

DIOCESE OF SALISBURY

Generous Giving Campaign

Introduction

Thank you for downloading this pack and getting involved in the Generous Giving campaign. The aim of the campaign is to equip churches to have fruitful conversations about giving and generosity; that will look different in different contexts so please see everything here as an invitation. Our intention is to make your life easier and reduce duplication of effort, but you know your setting best so please pick out the bits that work for you and tweak where necessary.

On the next few pages you will see a planning template and a couple of worked examples to show how it might work in different settings. This will help you think not just about how you integrate it in to a service or services but also reinforce the message during the three weeks of the campaign.

The latter part of the pack then has worship resources for each Sunday during the campaign, from suggested reading and sermon notes to liturgy that can be used through a service. We can't wait to see the creative ways that churches across the Diocese take these ideas and run with them in their area.

There are other resources available, such as template communications and inserts to add to the campaign leaflet. Explore these [here](#).

Every blessing,
The Generous Giving steering group

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Planning tool – worked example

Name of church: *St John's (c60 members)*

Date	Sunday Service	Other comms	Notes
W/C 12/9 PRAYER	<i>Focus on generosity in intercessions</i> <i>Distribute leaflets to everyone during service (reference in order of service and highlight in notices)</i>	<i>Link to PDF of leaflet in weekly email letter</i>	<i>Ask administrator to put leaflets in orders of service when printing</i>
W/C 19/9 GOD'S GENEROSITY	<i>Use Bishop's video in sermon slot</i> <i>Remind people of activity ideas in notices</i>	<i>Include link to ilikegiving.com in weekly email (remind people to use their leaflets)</i>	
W/C 26/9 THANKS- GIVING	<i>ALL AGE SERVICE</i>	<i>Speak at Monthly Mother's Union meeting on the topic of generosity</i>	<i>Take spare leaflets to Mother's Union</i>
W/C 3/10 OUR RESPONSE	<i>Preach on Feeding of 5000 in sermon slot and get people to use their response devices in the offertory</i>	<i>Share breakdown of different giving mechanisms in weekly email to aid response: make sure to include PGS and one-off online donations links</i>	

Planning tool – worked example

Name of church: *St Mary's (c15 members)*

Date	Sunday Service	Other comms	Notes
W/C 24/10 PRAYER	<i>BCP Morning prayer lead by LLM</i> <i>Leaflets distributed at morning prayer and flagged in notices</i>	<i>Email on 10th to give people heads up + share Bishop's sermon</i>	<i>Include print out about Parish Giving Scheme in leaflet</i>
W/C 31/10 GOD'S GENEROSITY	<i>No service</i>	<i>Reminder about leaflets in WhatsApp group</i>	<i>Include a story God's generosity if appropriate</i>
W/C 7/11 THANKS- GIVING	<i>Communion</i> <i>Preach on giving using sermon notes in pack</i>	<i>Thank you cards from the priest distributed after the service thanking people for their current giving and volunteering</i>	
W/C 14/11 OUR RESPONSE	<i>No service</i>	<i>Email with links to different ways to respond highlighted. Encourage people to put their response slips through letter box to be prayed over</i>	

Planning tool – template (print or use PDF annotate)

Name of church:

Date	Sunday Service	Other comms	Notes
W/C PRAYER			
W/C GOD'S GENEROSITY			
W/C THANKS- GIVING			
W/C OUR RESPONSE			

Liturgical resources for 1st Sunday

Prayer

Opening Sentence

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Heb. 4:16

Or:

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

1Thess 5:16-18

Penitence

Lord, you pour out constantly upon us the fullness of your blessings;
forgive the shallowness of our response.
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord, you long for your grace to flow through us;
forgive our faded enthusiasm.
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, your generosity is timeless;
forgive our jaded prayers.
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Collect

God our Father,
without your love and forgiveness
we would shrivel and die;
by the enabling of your Spirit,
help us to be channels of prayer
for your Kingdom to come on earth.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the same Spirit,
God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Suggested bible readings:

Philippians 4:4 - 7

Matthew 7:7 – 12

Suggested sermon notes

- Why are we running a diocesan Generous Giving Campaign now (set the scene)?
- It is important to start with prayer – to rejoice in God and give thanks for what we have.
- God our loving parent wants the best for us and does not want us to be anxious about material things.
- God wants to hear our requests and will respond.
- If in our sinfulness we know how to give good gifts to our children, how much more will God give good things to those who ask.
- When we rely on God we will know his peace.

Intercessions

Let us pray in faith to God our Father, through his Son Jesus Christ, and in the power of the Holy Spirit, saying,

Lord, hear and have mercy.

For the Church of the living God throughout the world, let us ask the riches of his grace.

Lord, hear and have mercy.

For all who proclaim the word of truth,
let us ask the infinite wisdom of Christ.

Lord, hear and have mercy.

For all who have consecrated their lives to the kingdom of God, and for all struggling to follow the way of Christ,

let us ask the gifts of the Spirit.

Lord, hear and have mercy.

For all who use their gifts and skills working with those in unfortunate or deprived situations,
let us ask the strength of God.

Lord, hear and have mercy.

For ourselves as we pray for your blessing to unlock our hearts where they have gone cold,
let us ask the light and love of the Lord.

Lord, hear and have mercy.

For all who are sick or suffering,
let us ask the healing and comfort of Christ.

Lord, hear and have mercy.

For all who have passed from this life in faith and obedience,
let us ask the peace of Christ.

Lord, hear and have mercy.

Merciful Father,

Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Anglican Church of Canada (adapted)

Offertory

Giver of life and love,
we thank you that in the heavenly banquet
of your table you invigorate and renew us.
May we boldly use your gifts
to continue your work in the world.

Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayer Book for Australia

Post communion prayer

Father in heaven,
open our eyes to see your gracious action in your world.
Open our hearts to align our ministry with yours;
and open our minds to focus on
the priorities of your kingdom,
where Jesus reigns forever. **Amen.**

Blessing

May God who loves a cheerful giver,
and gives us all things in Christ,
swell the harvest of your benevolence.

Amen.

May Christ who for our sake became poor
make you rich in everything –
in faith, speech, knowledge and love.

Amen.

May the Holy Spirit who gives gifts to all people,
flood your hearts with thanksgiving to God.

Amen.

And the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Liturgical resources for 2nd Sunday

God's Generosity

Opening Sentence

Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who hunger now, for you will be satisfied

Luke 6:20-21

Penitence

Father, we have failed to recognise your generous provision for us.
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Jesus, we have failed to share your generous provision with those around us;
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Holy Spirit, often we have quenched your grace and failed to live open, generous lives
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Collect

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
creator of all things,
we worship you and we kneel before you
in gratitude for your generous provision
of all that we need for life.
Grant to us your servants,
that ability to live our lives in dependence upon you
and to see beyond ourselves and our wants,
that in all things we may have the
generosity of spirit that you have formed in us. **Amen.**

Suggested bible readings

Ephesians 3: 14-21

Mark 6: 30 – 44

Suggested sermon notes

- The little boy gave all he had to Jesus
- Jesus was able to do immeasurably more than we could ask or imagine with the gift
- We need a vision for what God could do with our generosity in our parishes and diocese
- 5000 men, plus women and children, plus 12 baskets of leftovers – abundance is part and parcel of the Kingdom (life under God)
- How can we live by kingdom values in our churches?

Intercessions

Let us pray to God who is generous and compassionate.
Lord hear us, **Lord graciously hear us**

Lord Jesus, you look upon your people with compassion. We pray for all who exercise leadership within your church; may they be filled with care and concern for all, seeking first your kingdom....

Let us pray to God who is generous and compassionate.
Lord hear us, **Lord graciously hear us**

Lord Jesus you look upon your world with compassion. We pray for the leaders of the world, guide them with your light, that stirred by the Holy Spirit they may be filled with concern and love and that in all they do they may seek justice and truth.....

Let us pray to God who is generous and compassionate.
Lord hear us, **Lord graciously hear us**

Lord Jesus the disciples, stirred by your words, reached out and cared for others. We pray for the communities from which we are drawn, that we may seek to minister your love to all those around us.....

Let us pray to God who is generous and compassionate.
Lord hear us, **Lord graciously hear us**

Lord Jesus look with care and compassion on all who are ill that by your healing power they may be made whole. Especially we pray for

Let us pray to God who is generous and compassionate.
Lord hear us, **Lord graciously hear us**

Generous and compassionate God,
accept our prayers and stir in us a generosity of spirit that comes from you. Amen.

Peace

Blessed be Jesus the bread of life
for in his brokenness we have life and peace.
The peace of the Lord be always with you.

Offertory

Giver of life and love,
we thank you that in the heavenly banquet
of your table you invigorate and renew us.
May we boldly use your gifts
to continue your work in the world.
Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayer Book for Australia

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation; through your goodness we have our money to offer. Fruit of our labours, symbol of our commitment, it will become a tool to be used for your glory.

Blessed be God for ever.

Post communion prayer

Almighty God,
whose love is revealed in Jesus Christ your Son,
may we who have responded by faith to your call
so order our lives that they are built on your wisdom.
Grant that as we respond to your love
we may grow into your likeness.
Create in us loving and generous hearts
that we may respond to your call upon our lives. **Amen.**

Blessing

May God who feeds the hungry,
continue to feed us and stir in us
a generosity of spirit;

and the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Liturgical resources for 3rd Sunday

Thanksgiving

Opening Sentence

Each should give what they have decided in their heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

2 Corinthians 9:7-8

Penitence

Lord, your grace overwhelms us,
but we are often mean with others;
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Jesus, your forgiveness is extravagant,
yet we fail to show extravagance ourselves;
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, your love flows endlessly into our lives,
but we restrict its flow through us;
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Collect

Heavenly Father,
your love for us is beyond measure
and you provide for our every need.
Help us to offer you in worship
a due proportion of our wealth,
for all we are and have is rightly yours.
We make our prayer in the precious name of Jesus,
Lord and Saviour of creation. **Amen.**

Suggested bible readings:

2Chron.31:5-6

Luke 19:1-10

Suggested sermon notes:

- Zacchaeus encounter with Jesus led, in his thankfulness, to a new attitude to wealth and possessions.
- The 3 main Jewish Festivals Passover, Weeks and Tabernacles were all harvest festivals, for the Barley, Wheat and Olives/Grape harvests respectively – thanking God for the harvests
- Give of the first fruits – gratitude expressed by giving the best to God.
- Gratitude for God has done the past releases his grace for the future.
- Give a tithe 10% to God is ‘our duty and our joy’ as a sign of thanksgiving (the CoE recommends 5% to the Church and 5% to other causes).

Intercessions

In humility of heart let us pray to God the Father of all.

Lord, in Jesus we see how you lovingly call all sorts of people and then change them from within; take our hearts and minds, live in us today and every day.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord, in Zacchaeus we see how your call produced a new attitude to wealth and possessions; pour your love within us that we may experience a real closeness to you.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord, in Zacchaeus we see how Jesus produced a newness of life; work in the hearts of all in authority in our world that they may work for a more equal sharing of resources with those who are poor, hungry and destitute.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord, you teach us to bring your healing to the sick and suffering; may your healing be upon those whom we name before you now ...

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord, your Word teaches us to love your Church, the Body of Christ; make us generous in support of its mission and ministry.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful Father,

accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Offertory

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation;
from you flows love and acceptance in abundance
and for this we offer you our heartfelt thanks.

Accept this proportion of all that you have showered upon us,
that we may celebrate your grace.

Blessed be God for ever. Amen.

Post communion prayer

Heavenly Father,
your love extends to all your creatures without exception
and everyone is called to fellowship with Jesus.

By your grace, may we be changed by that fellowship
and live our lives with his generosity of spirit;
may Jesus be seen in us in all that we do and say.

We ask this in his precious name. **Amen.**

Blessing

May God our Father, whose grace is everlastingly poured into our hearts, fill you with an overflowing love. **Amen.**

May God the Son, through whose death and resurrection we receive life in abundance, shine in your lives. **Amen.**

May God the Holy Spirit, who works in us and through us to redeem God's world, give you the power and persistence to follow him. **Amen.**

And may Almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Liturgical resources for 4th Sunday

Our Response

Opening Sentence

All that we have comes from God and of his own to we give Him. (1Chron. 29:14)

Penitence

Lord, you are Lord of creation
and the giver of all good gifts;
forgive our hoarding and fearfulness.
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

You provide enough for our needs
and the needs of others;
forgive our lack of trust in you.
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

You bless the generosity of your people;
forgive our lack of faith. Release in us a new freedom
and an outpouring of praise and thanksgiving to you.
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Collect

God our Father, in love you are always giving to us;
you gave life in creation and hope to your people Israel; you have given us all things in Jesus
and your presence among us
through the gift of your Holy Spirit.
Open our hearts to enjoy all you have given
and our hands to share generously of what is yours;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Suggested bible readings

2Cor.9:6 – 15

Mark 12:38 – 44

Suggested sermon notes

- The story is told of a church that gave those arriving for a service two anonymous slips of different colored paper, on one they wrote their income and on the other their giving. The slips were collected and the amounts of each pile of slips aggregated. When the results were announced the members decided there was room for improvement in their response to God's generosity.
- How often have we noticed (Christian Aid collecting perhaps?) that the poor are more generous than the rich?
- We are called to lives of integrity which includes being generous with what God has blessed us with.
- Is there a Kingdom project in this parish we would like to see resourced?
- God loves a cheerful giver – the joy of giving, 'it is more blessed to give than to receive'.

Intercessions

God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance ... so that you might share in every good work (2 Cor 9:8).

Father God we pray for our nation. In our awareness that all is not right, let us not forget to give you thanks and praise for the blessings we know and often take for granted: our freedom to speak, education, health and relative prosperity. For ourselves, our local leaders and the leaders of our nation we pray for a spirit of thankfulness, integrity and justice. Especially we pray for ...
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity (2 Cor 9:11).

Lord Jesus, we live in a world where millions are hungry, denied basic human rights and crippled by war, corruption and the burden of international debt. As we know your generosity to us, give us generosity of heart, courage to believe, passion for justice and strength to act. We pray for increased efforts and greater influence by Britain in tackling injustice in the world. Especially we pray for ...
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For this ministry not only meets the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God (2 Cor 9:12).

Holy Spirit, grant that we might be generous in meeting the needs of others, through our caring, the gift of our time, the wisdom of our words and our quiet listening and in practical ways; for in this way we give glory to you. We pray for those known to us who are suffering in mind, body or spirit at this time. Especially we pray for ...

We remember also those who grieve the loss of a loved one, remembering especially ...
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

While they long for you and pray for you because of the grace that God has given to you (2 Cor 9:14).

Lord God, you have revealed yourself as the source of all goodness and grace. Grant us grateful and generous hearts in all things. Especially we pray that you will open our hearts and minds to recognise the gifts that the poor, the sorrowing, the frail can bring to us as they pray for us, bless us and challenge us.

Merciful Father, **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen**

Offertory

O Lord our God, maker of all things,
through your goodness
you have blessed us with these gifts.
With them we offer ourselves to your service
and dedicate our lives to the care
and redemption of all that you have made,
for the sake of him who gave himself for us,
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lutheran Book of Worship 1978

Post communion prayer

Lord Jesus Christ,
you come to us with open and wounded hands,
longing to fill us with your goodness.
We have knelt before you this day
with hands empty and unworthy,
to receive this sacrament of your grace and love to us. Grant that we who have received your gift of love
might live generously;
that we who have received your grace
might live graciously;
that our hands, our hearts and our possessions
may always be open to you and to others. **Amen.**

Blessing

May God who gives us all things in Christ,
swell the harvest of your benevolence,
and the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen

Further resources

Resources from the National Giving Team

Building a Generous Church video - explainer of the IDEA/MINT model, find [here](#)

Generosity Toolkit - a resource for PCCs to explore and reflect on giving and generosity, find [here](#)

Generosity Week - materials for a one-week campaign, find [here](#)

Giving in Grace website [here](#)

Other resources

Holy Habits - prayers, worship resources and small group study, explore Gladness and

Generosity [here](#) and Sharing Resources [here](#)

Bible Project Generosity video - watch [here](#)

Suggested reading

The Spirituality of Fundraising Henri Nouwen - free PDF [here](#)

Contagious Generosity Chris Willard and Jim Sheppard - buy [here](#)

Give: Charity and the Art of Living Generously Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow – buy [here](#)

I Like Giving Brad Formsma – buy [here](#)