

A Bequest

How to help support the mission of our Church, St Mary's Shortlands

Introduction

Anyone can help support the ongoing mission of our Church by leaving a bequest in their will.

Types of Bequest

There are two main types of bequest: A Pecuniary Legacy and a Residual Legacy.

A Pecuniary Legacy is a simple commitment to leave a certain amount to the Church. A Residual Legacy is one where the Church receives what is left of the giver's estate after all other legacies have been paid and all taxes and expenses settled.

How to make a Bequest

A bequest can be made in two ways. Firstly, by writing a new will, and secondly by writing a "Codicil", which is less expensive. A codicil is an addition to the will and must be properly prepared and witnessed. The wording to use in preparing a codicil is set out below.

Wording for a Codicil for a Pecuniary Legacy

"I give to the Parish Church of St Mary, Shortlands, (Charity registration number 1130802) 39 Kingswood Road, Bromley, Kent, BR2 0HG, the sum of £....., and I direct that such money may be used for the general purposes of the Parish Church of St Mary, Shortlands. A receipt signed by the Treasurer or other approved person shall be a good and sufficient discharge to my executors for the payment of the said money."

Wording for a Codicil for a Residual Legacy

"I give, devise, bequeath and appoint the Parish Church of St Mary, Shortlands, (Charity registration number 1130802) 39 Kingswood Road, Bromley, Kent, BR2 0HG, the residue of my estate absolutely and I direct that such assets comprising such a residue may be used for the general purposes of Church of St Mary, Shortlands, whether of an income or capital nature, A receipt signed by the Treasurer or other approved person shall be a good and sufficient discharge to my executors for the payment or transfer of the said assets to the Parish Church of St Mary, Shortlands."

Legal Status

To ensure any codicil entered into is properly executed and does not invalidate your existing will, it is advisable to seek the help of a solicitor.

If you wish to talk further about any aspect of leaving a bequest, please contact:

Revd Gary Best – vicar@stmaryshortlands.church

Tim Dawson – Treasurer - treasurer@stmaryshortlands.church or 020 8460 5884.