

GENEROSITY

WEEK NEWS 2022

25 SEPTEMBER - 2 OCTOBER



“Our faith starts with the most generous gift of all - God’s gift to us of life itself and new life and new hope in Jesus Christ. What we call ‘generosity’ is just our response to these great gifts ... just like in the parable of the sower, where the seed that falls on good soil grows a crop a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown, we see that every generous act grows further generosity.”
Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell

Welcome

to the new subscribers and don't forget that you can download the back catalogue from the [website](#). This is a new initiative to help us share and be inspired by one another around generosity and Generosity Week. There will be just seven more issues, including this one, and it'll come to you every Wednesday. As ever, please pass it on to anyone you think would enjoy it or find it useful.



HERE'S AN IDEA.....

Generous Communities

We don't just have to live generously as individuals, we can also live generously as a community. St Barnabas church in Dulwich, in the diocese of Southwark, has a long history of being generous and contributing significantly more to the diocese's Parish Support Fund than the indicative costs of ministry. Although the church is delighted to do it, it means they can't employ the numbers of staff they would love to e.g. a Families Worker. But twelve miles away, at St Peter's in Norbiton, is a church that directly benefits from generosity like this. Revd Hugo Foxwood from St Peter's says: "To feel that there are other churches out there who are supporting us, who are sharing what they have to enable this vision of the Kingdom of God, whereby we love one another and share with one another, is really encouraging." You can read more about this and other stories of church and personal generosity in Southwark [here](#).

The pandemic has presented really serious financial challenges to churches and dioceses, and it has been remarkable to see how generously people have responded. Carlisle diocese has produced an infographic showing parishes how their 'parish offer' is supporting parish ministry and how the diocese also invests in the inspirational work of its churches. You can see [here](#) stories from Leicester Diocese where parishes achieved their mission by working in partnership with the Diocese on Generous Giving, Safeguarding and Building Maintenance to name a few.

It's this mutual generosity which enables church ministry to thrive and to grow. Whether individually or as a community, generosity really is at the heart of our ministry and mission.

RESOURCE OF THE WEEK

Have you seen the new resource to help children and young people live more generously? Developed by the Diocese of Liverpool, it's based on the book of Proverbs and has a session plan and activities for 5-11s and 11-18s. The idea is to get children and young people thinking and talking about the importance of living generously.

There is also a Generosity Week Challenge, with suggestions for eight days' worth of generous acts that encourage children to look at what they have and share with others. It's a lovely thing to do with groups in church over the summer while Sunday school might not be running.



Have you got something you'd like to share? Email annie.rey@churchofengland.org
 See all the resources at Generosity Week | The Church of England

