

A Guide to PCC Discussions about Parish Contributions



1) Communicate well

It is important that everyone involved in the discussion is aware of what Parish Contributions are, how they work, and the process of making your offer.

- Plan and communicate when discussions will take place
- Share all relevant information in advance of your discussions
- If you would like support in communicating the need for Parish Contributions, our Parish Giving Officer is available to help.

2) Root discussions in prayer and scripture

It is important that discussions about parish contributions are set in a context of scripture, prayer and reflection and don't just become financial negotiations.

To support this, it may be helpful to:

- Start any meetings with prayer, readings and a reflection
- Encourage reflection from participants in discussions.

For example, at the start of a meeting you might ask each participant to reflect on:

- The challenges your church faces in your context
- Your hopes for the future
- A reflection on what God is calling your parish to as you hold these discussions

3) During the discussion

- Focus on mission and not just cost
Parish Contributions support the wider mission of the church – it is not a tax but an investment in future ministry
- Review your financial situation
- Involve everyone in the discussion
- Be honest about sustainability
Is your current offer sustainable or are you reaching the limits of your financial capacity?

4) When making the offer:

- Aim for generosity
- Decide collectively
- Consider prayerfully

Key questions to consider

- 1) Does our current offer meet our ministry needs?
- 2) Do we have the right balance between Parish Contributions and other ministry expenses?
- 3) How can we encourage a generous culture in our church?
- 4) How can we encourage increased, regular giving within our congregation to make the offer more sustainable?

Relevant Scriptures

Topic	Reference
God's abundance and warning	Deuteronomy 8: 6-18
Offerings for Priests and Levites	Deuteronomy 18: 1-5
Offering the first fruits	Deuteronomy 26: 1-10
All things come from you	1 Chronicles 29:10-20
The widow's offering	Mark 12: 41-44 or Luke 21:1-4
Feeding the 5000	Matthew 14: 13-21
Love of money	1 Timothy 6: 6-10, 17-19
Contentment and sharing	Hebrews 13: 5-6, 15-16

Prayer

Generous God,
Who created us, and blessed us with all we have
and called us to share this blessing with others,
inspire us in our discussions about generosity,
help us to lay up our earthly treasures,
and respond to your call with open hearts,
that through our generosity,
others may come to know you,
be shaped by you,
and experience your abundant generosity in their lives.

Amen