



GIVING FOR *LIFE* – Review Parish Giving

Hold some form of annual review of giving. Personal and church finances work on an annual basis, and so it is good to help people review their giving once a year. You may wish to use the introductory questionnaire included with this pack or develop something entirely different.

The questionnaire invites you to express your impressions and preferences concerning the life of the parish. You might do this as a PCC, ask individuals, or make it part of a parish 'away day'. It is entirely up to you.

There are 16 statements that cover key aspects, drawn from the experience of many parishes but amended for your location. You are invited to rate each statement from 1 to 4 in two columns. These marks should indicate how you evaluate the current achievement of your parish in each area and then how important you feel each topic is.

It is usually best to mark the 16 questions for current assessment first and then start again with your importance ratings. Please be honest – remember this is your personal view – not what you believe others will think! The key to deciding which mark to give is shown at the bottom of each page of the questionnaire.

It's best not to ponder too much! About 10 - 15 minutes should be sufficient time to complete the questionnaire.

Questionnaire Key			
Current Assessment		Importance	
In all respects	(4)	Absolutely vital	(4)
In most respects	(3)	Very important	(3)
In a few respects	(2)	Moderately important	(2)
Not or hardly at all	(1)	Relatively unimportant	(1)

a) Worship and Prayer		Current Assessment (1 – 4)	Importance (1 – 4)
Q1	Patterns and content of worship are suited to existing and potential membership.		
Q2	Profile of regular congregations reflects that of the local community.		
Q3	Experimentation and variations in worship are tried and welcomed.		
Q4	Prayer underpins our church life and decisions.		

b) Nurture and Growth of our Community		Current Assessment (1 – 4)	Importance (1 – 4)
Q5	Our Welcoming strategies are effective in introducing newcomers into the life of the church.		

Q6	We ensure that relationships are carefully nurtured so that people become absorbed into our community of faith.		
Q7	People are actively encouraged to learn and to grow in faith.		
Q8	We have full provision for children and young people to be part of our Community and to grow in faith.		

c) Mission and Outreach		Current Assessment (1 – 4)	Importance (1 – 4)
Q9	Our church/parish is rooted in the local community and works with other organisations and networks.		
Q10	We are confident in communicating and living out our faith in our community.		
Q11	We have an effective system of pastoral care for members, visitors, and the parish at large.		
Q12	We are clear what we want the church to accomplish in this community.		

d) Purpose and Resources		Current Assessment (1 – 4)	Importance (1 – 4)
Q13	We have a clear vision of where God is now leading us and our priorities for the future.		
Q14	Our ordained and lay leadership is sufficiently resourced and organised to meet the future needs of the parish.		
Q15	We have sufficient financial resources for the current and planned needs of the parish.		
Q16	Our buildings are sufficient to support our priorities for the future.		

Action Points that the PCC commits to and who will take these forward:

Action Point	What are we going to do?	Who is going to do it?

Giving Programme further resources can be found through the following website

<http://www.parishresources.org.uk/givingforlife/annualreview/> :

1. Giving in Grace (suitable for medium to larger churches)
2. A Simple Giving Programme (suitable for smaller churches)
3. A Parish Funding Programme (suitable for most church sizes)

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