



Hello everyone

As we have now been under lockdown for some weeks, we thought we should give you an update on the St. Mary's finances.

First of all, thanks to all who have been generously giving during this unusual time, and an extra thanks to those who have started giving via bank standing order. This has always been our main source of funds, and this is increasingly true at present.

Because of the precautions against Covid-19, we are no longer receiving money from Chapter House rentals, from weddings, or the cash gifts that normally come in the plate, or via envelopes. All together, these add up to about £1,600 per month, or about 20% of our total income.

It is looking increasingly likely that these conditions will continue until the end of the year. For now, we are covering our costs from our reserves – the money we put away for rainy days like these, but I would ask you all to consider if you can give more. We recognise that not everyone will be able to, but please could you give it some thought. If you normally give cash in plate or envelope, could you consider setting up a standing order, which can be done simply online, by phone or by letter to your bank. Or, alternatively, you can give via online banking, or by debit card via the link on the Church website - see link here - [Give to St Mary's](#)

Thanks again for all you are doing to keep the light of God's kingdom burning here.

Best wishes

Ian Clements Treasurer

*"The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work."*

*2 Corinthians 9 vv 6-8*