



The Parish of Upper Stour

Looking to God, Looking to Care, Looking to Grow

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Registered in England as a Charity Number: 1131161

The Parish of Upper Stour LEGACY POLICY

The Parish of Upper Stour welcomes all gifts in wills however large or small, and we promise to use such a gift to make a difference to our parish. As a single parish which includes four villages and four church buildings, a gift may be given either to a specific church building, or to the life of the Parish of Upper Stour as a whole. This policy sets out the agreed understanding as to how gifts are restricted, and to give confidence that any gift will make a real difference to the life and ministry of the Parish.

- **Gifts to a Named Church**

As a single parish with four separate church buildings, it is understandable that an individual may wish to leave a gift to a specific church building namely St Mary's, St Peter's, St Martin's or St George's. Given that the ministry costs of the parish are borne by the Parish of Upper Stour as a whole, it should be understood that a gift left for a named church must be restricted to the fabric of the said church, and not used to supplement the running costs of the parish as a whole.

The policy of the PCC is therefore that where a gift is left to a named church building, the PCC commits to exclusively restrict such a gift to the support of the fabric of the said church.

- **Gifts to the Parish as a whole**

Where a gift is left to the Parish of Upper Stour, such a gift must be used in line with the restriction given by the Will in question. If a donor wishes to give to the Parish of Upper Stour, the PCC would encourage the donor to leave a gift in their Will for the general purposes of the parish rather than for a restricted purpose. The PCC could then discuss possible uses of such a gift with the executors when the time comes, bearing in mind the givers known areas of interest in the church (e.g. music, children and youth, overseas mission or aid) and the parish's priorities at the time.

- **Acknowledging a Gift**

We acknowledge gifts in whatever way the giver and/or his/her executors feel most appropriate to. Equally, we can make sure that gifts remain anonymous if the donor prefers.

Approved by the PCC: 12th February 2021