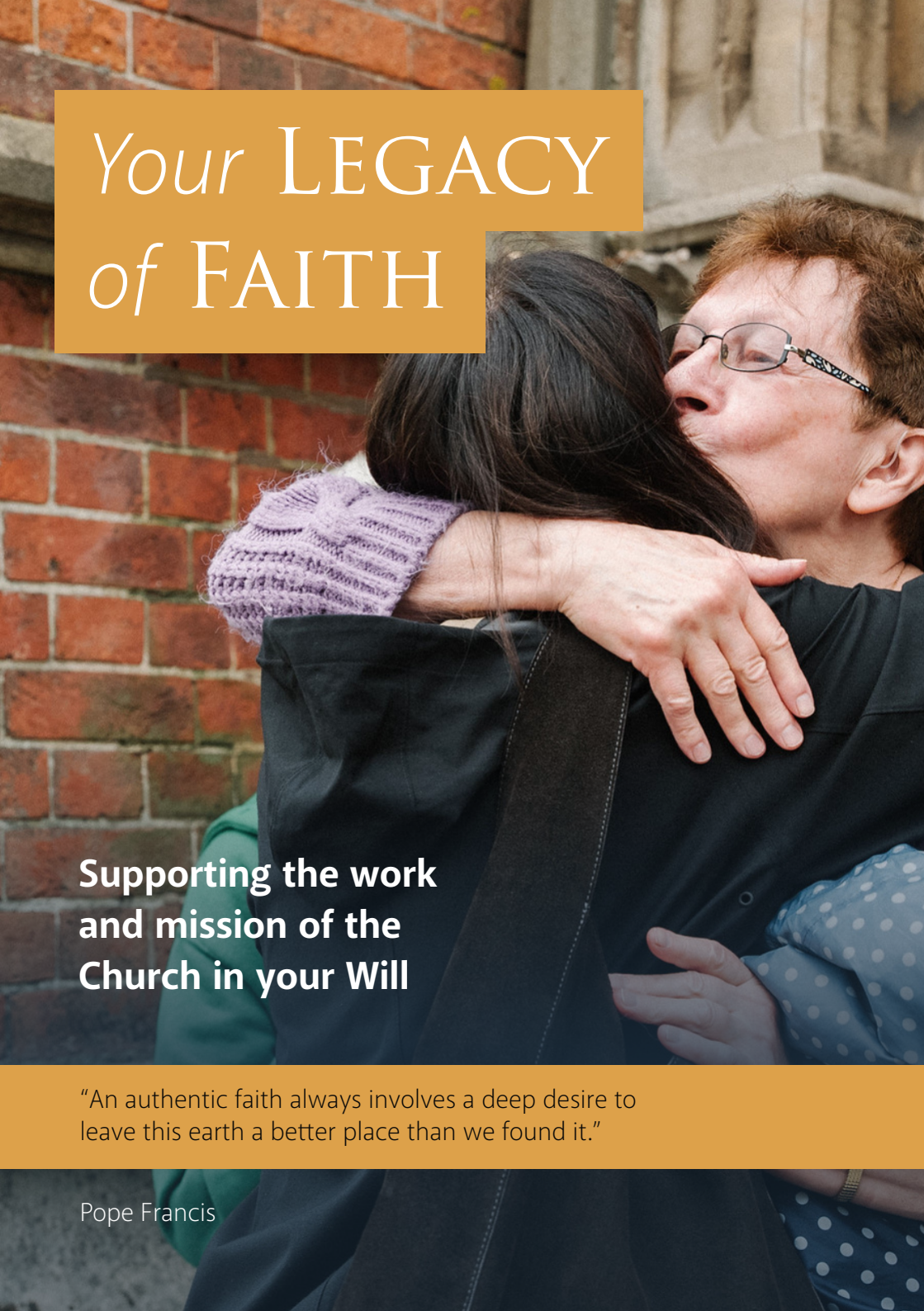


A photograph of a man with glasses, wearing a black clerical shirt, kissing a woman on the cheek. The woman has dark hair and is wearing a purple knitted sweater. They are standing in front of a red brick wall. The image is used as a background for the text.

Your LEGACY of FAITH

**Supporting the work
and mission of the
Church in your Will**

*"An authentic faith always involves a deep desire to
leave this earth a better place than we found it."*

Pope Francis

LEAVING A GIFT IN YOUR WILL

For many Catholics, leaving a gift in their Will offers a final opportunity to leave a lasting gift to God and ensure a legacy of faith lives on after they are gone.

Each year, we are blessed to receive gifts from generous parishioners who leave a gift in their Will to their church or parish, the Diocese, Arundel Cathedral or the Lourdes Pilgrimage. These gifts enable the vital formation and care of our priests, maintain our beautiful church buildings and support our family of faith in their mission to form “communities of saints [and] strong, lively and welcoming schools of discipleship, where all know the riches of the Faith.” (Pastoral Plan, 2024).

Any legacy gift (also sometimes referred to a “gift in a Will” or a “bequest”), no matter how small, makes a difference and is a wonderful way to inspire and support the flourishing of the Church for future generations.





TYPES OF GIFT - WHO COULD BENEFIT

Once your loved ones have been taken care of, you could consider leaving **a gift to the Diocese** to support the overarching mission and ministry of the Catholic Church across Sussex and Surrey.

LEAVING A GIFT TO YOUR CHURCH OR PARISH

How would your gift impact the work of your parish or church?

A legacy gift is a meaningful way to express gratitude for the guidance, comfort, and community your church or parish has provided. Legacy gifts commemorate a lifetime of faith and devotion:

- **Supporting the Church's mission** and helping to ensure that future generations experience the same spiritual home.
- **Strengthening the parish community**, supporting and sustaining ministries, charitable works, and our beautiful church buildings.
- **Offer peace of mind** through knowing that your generosity will support the Church's ongoing mission.

LEAVING A GIFT TO THE DIOCESE

What are the needs of the Diocese and how would your gift impact the work of the wider Church?

- **Formation and social action**
- **Care for priests who are sick or retired**
- **The education of future priests**
- **The ongoing work and mission of the Diocese** – including anything from maintaining our beautiful buildings to safeguarding our community, serving every parish community.
- **Arundel Cathedral** – maintenance of the Mother Church of the Diocese.
- **Catholic Education**
- **Lourdes Pilgrimage** – Donations enable sick, disabled, and elderly pilgrims who otherwise would not be able to afford it to journey on pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes.



HOW TO LEAVE YOUR GIFT

You do not need to be wealthy to leave a legacy in your Will, even a 1% gift makes a huge difference and means that those closest to you inherit 99% of your estate.

Gifts to registered charities (which the Diocese is, together with its churches) are exempt from Inheritance Tax and will be deducted from the value of a person's estate before any Inheritance Tax (if applicable) is calculated.

To make leaving a legacy gift as simple as possible and ensure your wishes are honoured exactly as you intend, the Church provides suggested wording for gifts in Wills. This wording is not a legal document in itself - it is a guide to help your solicitor or professional adviser include the gift correctly in your Will. Using suggested wording ensures that:

- Your gift is clearly understood and legally valid.
- The church, parish, Diocese, Cathedral or Lourdes Pilgrimage receives the gift in the way you intend.
- Your legacy continues to support worship, mission and community for years to come.

Anyone considering leaving a gift in their Will is encouraged to speak with a solicitor or legal professional, who can advise and guide them through the process and ensure that their wishes are carried out with care.

The wording for each type of gift can be found on page 7 and given to a solicitor or other legal professional who will be able to incorporate it into your Will alongside your other wishes. This ensures that your gift is legally valid and administered exactly as intended, providing clarity and peace of mind.

**And now these three
remain; faith, hope
and love.**

1 CORINTHIANS 13:13



LEGAL WORDING

Please share this text with the solicitor or legal professional drafting your Will:

A gift to your church or parish:

I give to the Arundel and Brighton Diocesan Trust, for the charitable benefit of **<insert parish name or name and address of church, registered charity Number 252878, <insert percentage of estate e.g. the whole residue (100%), half residue (50%), ten percent residue (10%)> of my estate.** I direct that the receipt of the Chief Operating Officer or other officer of the Trust shall be a full discharge to my executors in respect of the same.

A gift to the Diocese:

I give to the Arundel and Brighton Diocesan Trust, The St Philip Howard Centre, 4 Southgate Drive, Crawley, West Sussex RH10 6RP, registered charity Number 252878 **<insert EITHER £ amount in words OR percentage of estate e.g. the whole residue (100%), half residue (50%), ten percent residue (10%)> of my estate for its general charitable purposes.** I direct that the receipt of the Chief Operating Officer or other officer of the Trust shall be a full discharge to my executors in respect of the same.

STORING YOUR WILL

Once written, you may wish to think about how to store your Will in a way that makes it easy for your executor to find it and carry out your wishes. Most solicitors and professional Will writers will offer to store your Will for you, or you can store it with HM Courts & Tribunals Service for a small fee. Alternatively, you can store your Will somewhere safe of your choosing and register its location with the National Will Register; **W: www.nationalwillregister.co.uk.**

FURTHER INFORMATION

If you are planning to make or change your Will, we advise you to use a solicitor or qualified Will writer.

If you do not have an adviser, ask a friend or relative for a recommendation, or visit the website of the Law Society;

W: solicitors.lawsociety.org.uk

Citizens Advice also offers excellent guidance;

W: citizensadvice.org.uk/family/death-and-wills/wills

If you or your adviser would like to speak to someone for advice or would like more information, please contact us via

E: legacies@abdiocese.org.uk

T: 01295 651145

