

I don't understand Gift Aid. What is it?

Gift Aid means a charity, so in this case, our Parish, can get extra money from the government when someone gives a donation.

If you give **£10**, the charity can ask the government for **£2.50 extra**.

So your **£10 gift becomes £12.50** for the parish.

You do not have to pay more.

You only need to say that you pay tax in the United Kingdom and that the charity can claim Gift Aid on your donation.

For example:

- You give **£20**
- The charity (parish) gets **£5 extra**
- The charity (parish) receives **£25 in total**

How do I give Gift Aid?

You make a Gift Aid declaration by telling the Parish:

- your **full name**
- your **home address**
- that you **pay tax in the United Kingdom**
- that you want the parish to claim Gift Aid on their donation

You can do this by:

- filling in a paper form
- Giving your weekly or monthly offering by standing order / bank transfer or by using an envelope if you still want to give in cash.

The Parish has got a really simple form that you can fill in. They then keep this declaration as proof that it is allowed to claim the extra money.

But surely I'll have to pay more, or the government will make me pay more tax.

No, you won't lose out at all.

The government does **not** take extra money from you just because you give Gift Aid.

If you give **£10**, you still only give **£10**.

The charity (parish) then asks the government for extra money. It is a way for the UK government to help charities.

The only important rules are these:

You must have paid enough tax in the United Kingdom to cover the extra money the charity claims.

If you stop paying tax, you must tell the charity so that they can stop claiming Gift Aid under your name.

So, in very simple terms:

- You do **not** pay more at the time
- The charity gets more money
- You must be a United Kingdom taxpayer

In 2025-2026, the Parish was given £15,721.50 in Gift Aid contributions by the UK Government. All of this is free money that helps the Parish to survive. It helps towards fuel bills, buildings maintenance, wages and all of the things that the church needs to keep going. The more people that sign up for Gift Aid, the more money the Parish receives. Why wouldn't you sign up?