



holy trinity northwood

stewardship



2010-11

***An invitation to reflect on how much you value
belonging to your Church and to review your
financial support and time commitment.***

www.htnorthwood.co.uk

Saying thank you

Christians are challenged to be generous in every aspect of their lives. It's not only about giving money, but offering hospitality, giving time and using our skills - in our churches, but also in our homes, our workplaces and communities. Giving is the outworking of faith.

The first thing we want to say is 'Thank you!'

Thank you for your involvement in and commitment to the life of this parish.

Thank you for all the time, energy and skill you give and thank you for your financial support. Without such generous giving we cannot survive, let alone develop and grow.

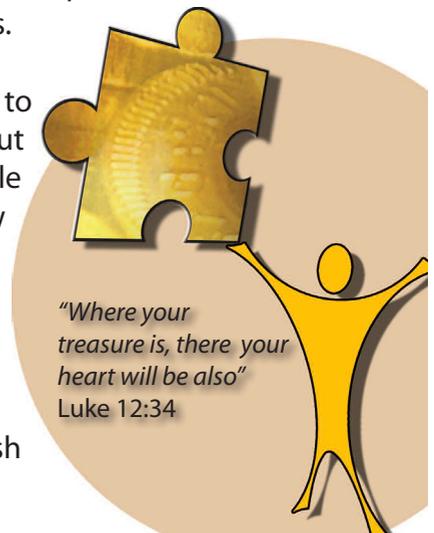
We know that many of you find it challenging, rewarding and enjoyable to be part of a loving community of faith. There are so many encouraging signs and there is so much to be thankful for in the life of our church. We thank God for your faith, love and service.

Welcome to our Stewardship supplement of the Parish Magazine. During this month of October we will be focusing on our response to God's goodness to us.

Our Harvest theme is 'What can you bring to God' and this theme will continue throughout the month as we consider God's incredible generosity to us in so many ways, and how we might respond in our offering back to God.

We're calling it '**Giving for Life**'.

We do so in the light of our own local parish finances.



Just some of what we do



Holy Trinity gives a friendly welcome to all and is a place where we meet with God through the sacraments and in prayer with varying styles of worship, catering for people of all ages.



Established links with our own school and three other local schools who use Holy Trinity for worship services.



A strong commitment to people needing support at times of illness or bereavement and outreach to people who are unable to come to church because of illness or infirmity.



Crèche for babies and pre-schoolers, Junior Church for children and young people aged 3 and above.



Brownies and Guides, Trinity Toddler Club, Dedicated Youth Minister



A lively and imaginative 'Charity and Events Committee' which organises social events throughout the year.



Fellowship with other churches through 'Churches Together in Northwood'



Support for local, national and world-wide charities.

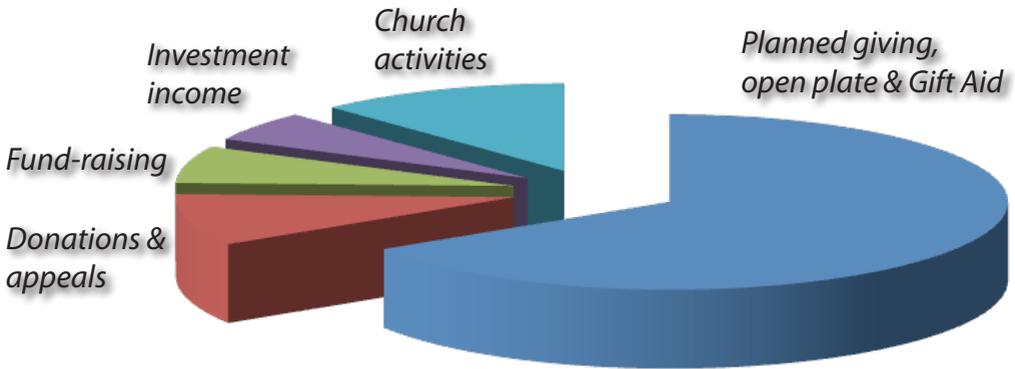


Regularly updated and maintained parish website:
www.htnorthwood.co.uk



Popular monthly magazine - Holy Trinity News

What does it cost t



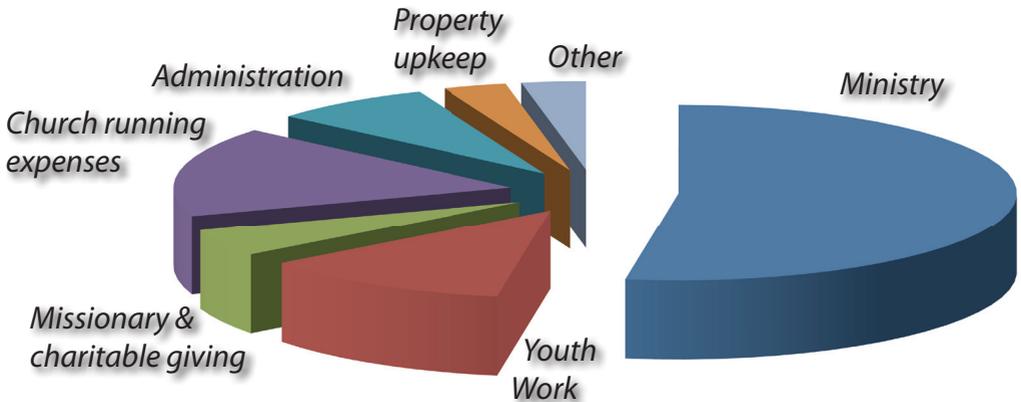
Summary of Income (excluding legacies)

	<i>Annual</i>	<i>Weekly</i>
Planned giving, open plate & Gift Aid	£135,068	£2,597
Donations & appeals	£19,572	£376
Fund-raising	£13,986	£269
Investment income	£11,352	£218
Church activities	£24,707	£475
TOTAL	£204,685	£3,936

Financial analysis provided in this document is based upon the audited financial statements of Holy Trinity for the year ended 31 December 2009. A detailed explanation of where our income comes from and where it goes is provided on the reverse of the **enclosed Pledge Form**.

During 2009 the parish received legacies of £21,000 with gratitude. However, in 2008, and many other years, the parish received no legacies. This demonstrates that it is neither practical nor prudent to plan financially on the basis that legacies will be received. The PCC (Parochial Church Council)'s policy on legacies is to designate them for future projects to improve our church and facilities, rather than relying upon them for the general running of the Church. The analysis provided therefore excludes the legacies to provide a clearer understanding of the current finances at Holy Trinity, required to support our Mission.

How do we run Holy Trinity?



Summary of Expenditure

	Annual	Weekly
Ministry	£111,185	£2,138
Youth work	£25,712	£494
Missionary & charitable giving	£10,710	£206
Church running expenses	£34,964	£672
Administration	£16,250	£313
Property upkeep	£6,444	£124
Other	£6,466	£124
TOTAL	£211,731	£4,072

Income less Expenditure leaves a deficit of £7,046

“What can you bring to God?”

As you can see we did not manage to balance the books last year, even with the income from fund-raising, which cannot be relied upon in future years. In 2010 the shortfall will certainly be more serious. We have, over recent years, reduced expenditure where possible but it is very clear that we must increase the amount we receive from regular planned giving and then, with God’s grace, we can continue our mission from a secure base.

Did you know?

At Holy Trinity during 2009:

210 people received communion on an average Sunday.

23 people were baptized in to the Christian Faith and welcomed into the family of the church.

7 couples were married in Holy Trinity Church

9 children were admitted to receive communion

9 adults and young people were confirmed in their Christian faith

9 funerals were held

25 pets and 45 people came

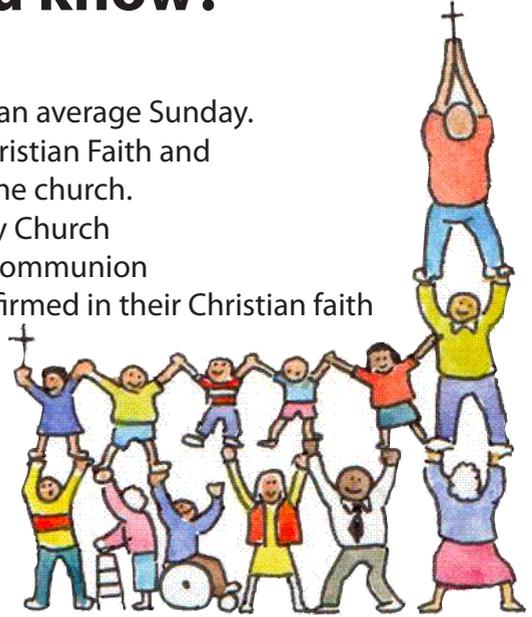
to our Pet Service

85 attended the All Souls service

5 concerts were held

Over 100 children came to

Holiday Club



What is Stewardship?

Christian Stewardship is not a programme, it's not just about raising money and not here today and gone tomorrow.

Christian Stewardship is a journey. It is about life, in fact Stewardship is a way of life in which we regard ourselves and our possessions as a trust from God to be used in His service. This means that we are stewards or managers of everything God has given to us: our time, our abilities, our possessions, our money, our whole lives.



"God loves a cheerful giver"
2 Corinthians 9:7

Christian Stewardship is not about making ends meet but about looking to a growing, expanding church. It is not about giving only what is needed but about giving so generously that our giving has a touch of recklessness about it. That is the attitude of God's giving to us and that is the message for our churches.

Ask yourself these questions:

-  Where does giving to God come in my financial priorities?
-  Does my current level of giving express how much my faith in God and my church mean to me?
-  Am I playing my part in financially supporting the life of my church?
-  Do I feel comfortable with my weekly giving?

 Whilst we realise that these are difficult times economically, if the church is to meet all of its challenges, we must address the deficit in our finances.

 Scripture teaches the principle of proportional giving - giving a percentage of our income; so much for each £1.00 of our disposable income, (i.e. income after tax and N.I.) e.g. 2p per £1.00; 3p per £1.00 The Church of England has urged us to aim to provide a basic standard of 5p per £1.00 i.e. 5%

Compare Giving

Bearing in mind our current financial position, we ask you to consider prayerfully our request for increased planned giving to make a positive response in order to meet our Christian commitment to the Church and Holy Trinity Northwood.

	Holy Trinity Average Weekly Giving 2009.....	£11.66
	Weekly Travelcard on Tube (Zones 1-6).....	£47.60
	Two seats at the Cinema.....	£13.40 to £15.90
	Local Golf Membership weekly equivalent	£30 to £35
	Local Health Club Membership weekly equivalent.....	£29.30

Talk to us

You may have questions or simply need more information. The following people have volunteered to help and can direct you. See them at church on a Sunday or contact the Parish Office on 01923 822990.



Nigel Mundy



Andrew Newell



David Lee



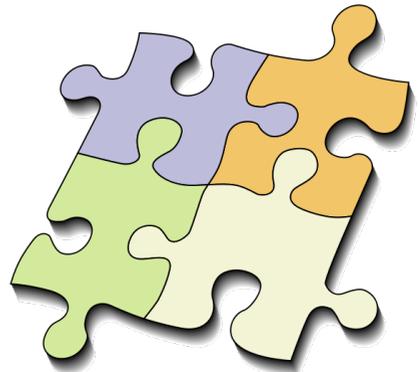
Carl Landsbert

How to Respond

You are invited to renew or begin your financial commitment to the parish of Holy Trinity Northwood by completing the enclosed **Pledge Form**, whether you are intending to increase or maintain your current giving.

There are many methods to give to Holy Trinity to suit your own situation. Payroll giving, Standing Orders are the easiest way to give and remember if you are a UK taxpayer and can Gift Aid then we receive an extra 20%!

All financial information is totally confidential and will only be seen by the Stewardship Recorder.



If you need any help with the forms or need further information please contact one of the people above. All responses will be confidential.



holy trinity
Registered Charity No. 1131724

northwood

PLEDGE FORM - REGULAR GIVING

Please complete and return this form to the Parish Office. We will then contact you in confidence to thank you for your pledge and to set up your giving as appropriate.

Your contact details

Full name:

Address:

.....

.....

Postcode:

Telephone:

Email:

Your gift

I pledge to make a regular, planned contribution to the mission of Holy Trinity of:

£ per week / monthly / quarterly / annually until further notice starting on (date)

I would like to pay by:

Standing Order

Cheque, payable to Holy Trinity PCC

Payroll Giving

Other (please specify)

Regular envelopes

.....

Signed: Date:

Gift Aid declaration

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I would like all donations made for the 4 years prior to this year and all donations in the future to benefit from Gift Aid, unless I notify you otherwise. (To qualify for Gift Aid, the amount you pay or have deducted in UK income tax or capital gains tax must at least equal the amount we will claim in the tax year.)

Signed: Date:



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These notes accompany the pie charts and financial information on pages 4-5 of the Stewardship 2010-11 information leaflet. Please complete the form on the reverse and send to the Parish Office.

Where does our Income come from?

The first pie chart shows the percentage of income derived from each of the main income categories.

By far the largest part of our income 65% comes from you, our congregation, in the form of Planned Giving, collections at services and reclaimed gift aid on these gifts. A large part of the next 10% of income also comes from you, this is monies donated in support of various appeals and charitable events such as the ALMA Lent Appeal and the Macmillan Coffee Morning.

The 7% relating to Fund-raising largely represents the monies raised from the Summer Fete and Garden Party.

Investment income is primarily rent on the Cloisters Flat, together with interest and dividends on our cash/investment holdings.

The final 12% from Church Activities, is the income generated from hire of the Hall and Parish Rooms, and advertising in the Parish News.

That accounts for all of our income. Contrary to popular opinion, Holy Trinity, like all churches, receives nothing from the central church, government or any other external body.

What this clearly demonstrates is that Holy Trinity, like all churches, is heavily dependent upon our loyal congregation for its continued existence. Thank you very much for all that you contribute.

Where does the money go?

The second pie chart shows the percentage of expenditure applied to various activities which we undertake in support of our Mission here at Holy Trinity.

The ministry activities at 52% are, not surprisingly, the largest category of expenditure. This category includes our Common Fund contribution to the London Diocese. The Common Fund pays for the provision

of Clergy (Stipend, Housing, National Insurance and Pension) e.g. Holy Trinity's Vicar and vicarage, and also our share of the cost of running the Diocese. The total cost of paying for ministry across London is divided amongst all the parishes, in the fairest way possible, each paying according to their means. In this way Christian ministry is able to be maintained across London even in areas of deprivation.

The second largest area of our expenditure is 12% on our Youth Activities, which we view very much at the heart of being a welcoming community of Christ, spreading the message to the next generation. We would very much like to expand this ministry further but this clearly is reliant on being able to increase our income.

The third area of expenditure (5%) is monies given by Holy Trinity to other Missionary and Charitable organisations. This is in essence Holy Trinity putting into practice the theme underpinning "Giving for Life" that the first fruits of our labours should be dedicated to God by helping others less fortunate than ourselves.

The 17% of our expenditure on Church & Hall Running Expenses largely represents the heat, light, insurance and similar expenses involved in operating a building of the age of the church, and also reflects the high usage of the Hall & Parish Rooms demonstrated by the income generated from lettings as well as our own usage.

The 8% expended on Administration reflects all the activities that are necessary to comply with our legal and regulatory requirements, the returns that are needed by the Diocese, Communications, including the costs of photocopying and Computer printing materials, and generally ensuring that everything runs smoothly at Holy Trinity.

The Property Upkeep relates to the reactive repairs necessary around the place, the more significant major repairs that come up periodically are usually met from the future projects and maintenance funds, or if very expensive probably from a specific appeal.