

Blessings from heaven

Dear friends,

Perhaps leaving a legacy in your will, is like a giving a gift from heaven. It is a gift that we pledge while we are still very much alive, and one that costs us nothing at the time that we make it. We make it, in the knowledge that it will be a wonderful surprise, and a real blessing, to those continuing our Christian mission on earth after we have left to be with Jesus.

In some ways it makes me think of the feeling you get, when you secretly pay the lunch bill, and how nice it is to see how your friend is *both pleased and frustrated* – at this act of generosity. “Pay it forward” is the somewhat annoying phrase, where you encourage your friend to pass on the goodwill to someone else in the future. And who can argue with that!

Equally, **receiving a legacy** for your church is an unexpected blessing, and as such we’re often surprised and somewhat unprepared when we receive them. We might be still mourning the loss of a friend, a brother or sister in Christ, when the news arrives that they have left us with one extra gift – and one that we can only thank them for through prayer.

If you haven’t already, please do remember your church in your will. It might be a real blessing from heaven in the years to come.

Your sister in Christ,

Anna

Anna Hardy

Giving Advisor for the Diocese of Salisbury

PS To begin a conversation about gifts in wills in your church, turn over the page to find resources that will help get you started.

Begin a legacy conversation in your church

Christian Aid FaithWill resources

This year we are pleased to be partnering with Christian Aid, as they celebrate their 80th anniversary. We will be hosting a number of webinars during the year with Kathy and James from Christian Aid's legacy team. In addition, David and Yvonne are our regional Christian Aid Church Engagement and Fundraising Officers. They can speak at your Deanery Synod, or church service and provide free FaithWill resources.

Download Christian Aid FaithWill resources by scanning this QR code. It includes ideas for preaching and worship support for clergy, LLM and Lay Readers too.

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/key-appeals/faith-will>



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Access Church of England resources, including a sample Codicil form

www.salisbury.anglican.org/supportforparishes/parishgivingandfundraising/legacy-giving/



Order free legacy material samples from the CPO website

<https://www.cpo.org.uk/gifts-of-faith-hope-and-love-booklet-bundle.html>



Write your will for free, by using the Church of England's FareWill online tool.



Thank you