

The Relief Fund

Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers. (Gal 6:10)

The Bible encourages us to care for our brothers and sisters in Christ both practically and financially. Amongst other Scriptures that are helpful here, we might want to consider: Acts 2:42-47; Acts 4:32; Gal 2:10; 6:10; 1 Tim 5:3; Acts 6:1-7, Prov 22:9; 31:20. The current COVID-19 pandemic has increased the financial pressure on various members of the extended church family, with this pressure only likely to increase over the coming months – especially in the run up to the Christmas season. Furthermore, we want to provide for those in need even when we are not having to contend with a pandemic.

With this in mind the PCC have agreed to establish 'The Relief Fund.' The purpose of the fund is to offer short-term financial relief from such pressures as:

- Purchasing food while social security benefits are being arranged.
- Assisting with emergency, unplanned, costs for travel to assist a sick relative.
- Enabling individuals or families to attend church events from which they would otherwise be excluded.
- Subsidising a short course of professional counselling.
- Covering household expenses and general living costs for individuals or families facing unexpected costs and/or loss of income due.

The intention is not to subsidise long-term needs such as housing cost shortfalls.

The Relief Fund will be capped at a maximum value of £10k and will initially be funded from contributions from the church family, with matched funding from the Church Growth Fund, if required. Longer term funding will be through the General Fund, with additional calls to support from the church family in times of exceptional fund expenditure. Your gift will form part of this designated fund, whose primary purpose is provision of the above types of relief. The PCC would be grateful to retain the ability not to be restricted in how the funds are used. Please bear this in mind when making a donation.

Each member of the Ministry Team will have the ability to approve requests for help from the fund up to a pre-determined level of spend. Higher value requests will be passed up through a designated process involving the Rector, Growth Group Leaders and members of the Leadership Team, as appropriate.

If you wish to contribute to the Relief Fund please make payments by bank transfer to:

Name:	PCC of St James Gerrards Cross with St James Fulmer
Sort code	60-08-34
Number	51176858
Reference	Relief Fund

Please send cheques payable to the PCC of St James Gerrards Cross with St James Fulmer marked 'Relief Fund' on the back to:

Saint James Church Centre
Oxford Road
Gerrards Cross
SL9 7D