## St Aidan's Church

## **Brunton Park**



Leaving a Legacy to the Church

St Aidan's has been at the heart of the community of Brunton Park since it was built in 1956, an open and inclusive church which welcomes local people and visitors, people of all faiths and none, to share in its worship and to make use of its facilities – not just the church but also its community room.

We are only able to do this through the continued generosity of everyone who supports St Aidan's. Leaving a legacy to the church is one way of helping to ensure that St Aidan's continues to flourish and is able to maintain and develop its work in and among the communities of North Gosforth.



## Making a Will

Making a will or codicil (amending an existing one) is the only way to ensure your wishes are carried out after your death. We understand that most people will want to provide for their loved ones as a priority. However, many people also wish to support places, organisations or charities that have been important to them. All charitable gifts are currently free from inheritance tax, and, depending on the proportion of the estate left to charity, there can be a reduction in the rate of inheritance tax on the remainder of the estate.



You can make a gift by way of a specific monetary bequest or a percentage of your estate. You might consider the percentage option rather than a specific sum as the value of your estate might be significantly different at the time of your death compared to when the will was written.

## How you can Help

Whether a specific monetary bequest or a percentage, a legacy can be either an unrestricted or a restricted gift.

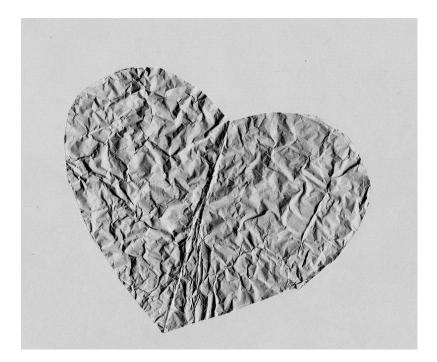
- An unrestricted gift means that the District Church Council (DCC) will have the final say on how it will be used. This might be for a specific project or development or for particular purposes, or to contribute to the general running costs of the church, depending on the financial and other circumstances at the time. You would be trusting the DCC to use it wisely to have the greatest benefit and impact at the time.
- A restricted gift would be for a specific aspect of the life and work of St Aidan's, for example the fabric, or worship and music, or work among young people or elderly people. It would limit the DCC's use of the gift to that specific area, whether or not it is a priority at the time it is received.

Since needs change over the years, we encourage people to leave an unrestricted gift, as this gives the DCC flexibility to use it to benefit its greatest area of need at the time it is received. We have a policy that all expenditure of money from legacies is subject to specific approval by the DCC.

We encourage you to take legal advice to ensure that your wishes are clearly defined and effective and that you are advised as to the tax implications. A suitable form of words for a legacy is

... ... to St Aidan's Church, Brunton Park, to be used for general purposes [or for a restricted legacy, for the purposes of xxx], and I declare that the receipt of its Treasurer for the time being (or other authorised officer) shall be a sufficient discharge to my executors. If you are leaving a legacy to St Aidan's in your will, you do not need to notify anyone at the church. However, it is helpful for the church to know of your intentions, and if you wish you can let us know in confidence by emailing the treasurer at <u>financestaidan@gmail.com</u>. You could also ask your legal advisor to let us know that you have left a legacy for the benefit of St Aidan's. We can make sure that a legacy gift remains anonymous if you prefer. You can also indicate in your will that you wish to have your funeral at St Aidan's, or any other place of your choosing.

Thank you for considering leaving a legacy to St Aidan's. It is greatly appreciated. You can be confident that your gift will be used to make a real difference to our future mission and ministry.



Also, if you would like to make a gift to our church in memory of a loved one, please do come and discuss this in confidence with either the rector or the treasurer.