

## Letter from Geoff. 18 April 2020

### Easter offering

The Easter offering (so far) reached £885 (£485 gift-aided) 63.5% of last year's figure. Thanks those who were able to get to the presbytery letterbox!

### Weekly collection

The first collection cash **last** week was £353 (293 gift aided); **this** week £237 (£112 gift - aided). See the comparison with last quarter lower down this page. The first collection standing orders for both weeks should be £770, based on existing figures. Five parishioners have moved to gift-aided standing orders with more in the pipe-line. See the benefits below.

### New standing orders

Please remember that anyone setting up a new standing order (**gift-aided or not**) needs to let me have the details in order to add their **unique 3 digit parish register reference**. This is an essential aid when checking the monthly bank statements. Some parishioners share the same surname and this saves us the embarrassment of falsely claiming to HMRC for a tax refund that we are not entitled to. It helps to explain these, sometimes rather obscure, features of the systems we are obliged to follow when dealing with other people's earned money.

### Changing your existing standing order

For those of you with existing S/Os , you are in control of the level of your contribution at all times. Any adjustment of the figure can be changed by you at any time without reference to anyone else. Thank you for your loyal support.

### Last quarter's collections – end March

Average weekly **cash only** first collection for the only 11 Sundays of the last quarter was £782, including gift-aided. Average weekly **standing orders** for first collection for the 13 normal Sundays of the same quarter was £770, including gift-aided. Compare with last week's given above.

Hope the above is not too heavy, but it paints a clear picture of how the current circumstances are affecting the finances of our dear church.

Stay safe and well at the end of this Easter week. Geoff Mercer