Examples for Parish Magazine Legacy Articles

1. **A Generous Legacy Gift to Transform our Future**

St Mary’s Church, Wigan received a generous legacy gift from the will of a much loved parishioner Mrs Jane Sims. The Parochial Church Council consulted with Mrs Sims executors, and agreed to use the gift on something that would benefit the church and its community.

The legacy gift has been used to purchase new chairs for the church as part of its recent re-ordering. The chairs will improve individual comfort for church services and personal worship, they will also allow for improved disabled access for future seating arrangements. The chairs are also stackable, increasing the space available for community events and church functions.

St Mary’s extends a huge thank you to the late Mrs Sims and her family; your generous gift will continue to grow our Church and transform its future use, both for worship and serving our local community.

1. **A Good Time to write a Will**

Are you one of the **6 out of 10 people who has not made a Will**, or you made it several years ago and your circumstances have changed?

For nearly 500 years the Church of England has encouraged people to make a Will. Without a Will, your loved ones could face a lot of trouble, work and expense after your death. Without a Will, a court could decide how to distribute your goods and who should look after your children or dependents.

When writing your Will, you also have the opportunity to include a gift in your will to your local church. For more information please contact [*insert contact details*] or visit the Church of England Legacy website www.churchlegacy.org.uk

1. **St Mary’s Church Legacy Policy**

Here at St Mary’s Church, we welcome all legacies however large or small, and we promise to use your gift to make a difference to parish life.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) have developed a Legacy Policy outlining that they will use legacies to help fund significant development projects in the parish, whether buildings, equipment or staff.

To read our Legacy Policy in full or for further information on how you can leave a gift in your will, please contact … *[insert contact details].*

1. **Remembering your Church Family**

In 2014, St Mary’s Church received 2 generous legacies from members of our Church family. With these gifts, we were able to … [*insert examples of how legacy/s has helped your Church].*

Gifts in wills are a way of saying thank you to God, for the gifts of our lifetime. Gifts in wills are also an important part of Christian Giving; many of us give regularly to the church each week, or month from our disposable income – why not make a final gift from our estates too?

Here at St Mary’s Church, we depend on the generosity of our congregation and community to enable us to further the work and outreach projects of our Church. This year alone we have … [*insert* *list outreach work & services additional services provided.*]

A gift in your will can help keep our church alive in our community, and transform its future. Please, think about it; pray about it; talk about it; find out more about it and then please act upon it.

1. **Making a Will – a Simple Act of Good Stewardship**

In 2013, St Mary’s Church, Wigan witnessed 7 Christenings, celebrated 5 Weddings and said goodbye in 6 Funeral services.

With life comes many changes, and it is important that we remember to review our wills regularly to ensure that it reflects these changes.

For nearly 500 years the Church of England has encouraged people to make a Will as a simple act of good stewardship. Without a Will, your loved ones could face a lot of trouble, work and expense after your death. Without a Will, a court could decide how to distribute your goods and who should look after your children or dependents.

The PCC has reaffirmed its commitment to encouraging people to make and review their wills, as a simple act of Christian Stewardship. If you would like to find out more, please visit www.churchleagcy.org.uk or visit your local solicitors.