

## Making a will

Making a will and keeping it updated is the only way to ensure your wishes are carried out after your death, giving you peace of mind that you can continue to support the family, friends and causes you love. Without a will, your loved ones could face a lot of trouble and expense after your death.

Making a will is also an important Christian duty. We see ourselves as God's stewards, entrusted to use his gifts to us. In addition to our regular giving to church, legacies are a way of saying thankyou to God for the gifts of our lifetime.

Making a will and including a gift to the church can be simple and inexpensive. If you already have a will, the easiest way to include a gift to the church is through a codicil, a short amending supplement. The detachable form to the right can help with this.

**We strongly recommend that you see an independent solicitor when writing or amending a will.**

The Parish Office  
The Vicarage  
St Michael's Street  
St Albans, AL3 4SL

[www.stmichaels-parishchurch.org.uk/home.asp](http://www.stmichaels-parishchurch.org.uk/home.asp)  
[www.churchlegacy.org.uk/](http://www.churchlegacy.org.uk/)

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## Codicil

*In order to make a codicil to an existing will, please complete the form below with two independent witnesses. The witnesses must not be a beneficiary, one's spouse, the spouse of a beneficiary, or a member of the PCC. The witnesses should each sign in your presence and the presence of each other. Once complete, the codicil should be kept with your original will.*

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (name)

of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (address)

declare this to be the (1<sup>st</sup> / 2<sup>nd</sup> / 3<sup>rd</sup> / etc.) codicil to my will dated \_\_\_\_\_.

I give EITHER \_\_\_\_\_% of my residuary estate

OR a gift of £ \_\_\_\_\_

*[choose an option and delete the other. If you choose the latter, insert the amount in numbers then, in brackets, write it in words]*

free from all taxes to the Parochial Church Council of St Michael St Albans for its general purposes. I declare that the receipt of an officer of the Council shall be a sufficient discharge to my executors and trustees. In all other respects I confirm my will and any previous codicils thereto. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand on this the

\_\_\_\_\_ (date)

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### Witnesses

This codicil was signed by the above named person in our joint presence, and then by us in his/her presence:

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



# Legacy

making a lasting contribution  
to St Michael's



St Michael with St Mary

## Introduction

by the Bishop of St Albans

Nationally, more than five thousand people each year make a bequest to support the work of the Church.

Here in the Diocese of St Albans such gifts make a significant contribution to our mission and ministry.

They enable us to maintain our historic buildings and churchyards; they finance new projects as part of *Living God's Love*; they help us maintain our bells and organs; and in some places they pay for pastoral or youth workers.

This leaflet describes the difference we can all make, simply by making a bequest to our local church in our will. Leaving a legacy to the Church goes hand in hand with our regular giving and is an important part of our Christian discipleship.

Making a will and including a gift to your church is simple to do and can have a tremendous impact on the future of your church. Please read this leaflet carefully and think seriously about acting on it.



## St Michael's legacy policy

St Michael's welcomes all gifts in wills, large or small. We promise to use your gift to make a lasting difference. Since needs change over the years, we encourage you to leave a legacy for the general purposes of the parish rather than for a restricted purpose. We will discuss possible uses of your gift with your executors when the time comes, bearing in mind your areas of interest (e.g. music, buildings, children and youth, overseas mission or aid) and the church's priorities at the time. You can be confident that your gift will be used to make a real difference to our future mission and ministry.

If you would like to talk in confidence about what your gift might fund, and how you would like your gift to be acknowledged, please speak with the Vicar or Churchwardens.

If you would like to make a gift to St Michael's in memoriam, do discuss this with us too. It can be a permanent and poignant way to remember a loved one.

## Recent bequests

St Michael's is deeply grateful for legacies received. Here are a few examples.

**Barbara Hellier** who died in 2016 kindly left St Michael's £6,000 in her will. St Michael's is working her family to improve access in the churchyard for wheelchair users such as her grandson.

St Michael's was exceptionally blessed in 1990 when retired joiner and woodworker **Len Goldhawk** left his house to the church. The property was sold and invested. In line with Len's wishes, some of the income is used to care for historic woodwork. The remainder makes a major contribution to our wider mission and ministry.

A few hundred pounds given in 2013 by an **anonymous donor in memoriam** was used to purchase servers' robes. This gift has helped to encourage of children and young people at the heart of our worship.

