

Dear All

This is "the difficult" one!

I wanted to write to you about money, never an easy subject. The issue is that as we are no longer holding Sunday services there is now no longer an opportunity for passing round the collection plate. Added to this is the unfortunate fact that fundraising events have been put on hold and therefore cutting off another avenue of cash flow.

I fully appreciate that many of you give via standing order or the Parish Giving Scheme so there will be no interruption in your planned giving. I also recognise that maybe for some people the current situation means that budgets are tight, and if that is the case you may consider giving less until things pick up. Maybe the opposite is the case and now that we can no longer enjoy Sunday Lunch at the pub we have a little bit more cash in hand!

Either way, can I ask that you consider the fact that the church is currently not receiving the same financial support as usual. The short-term consequence of this could be that the diocese covers some of the shortfall. However, there is no such thing as a free lunch! The long-term effect could be that the diocese makes up for this by increasing the parish share next year. Please note that this is only me speculating what the diocese might do, not what it will do. But I am sure you can see there may be a logic to this.

Can I ask therefore that you consider the following:

You might want to put to one side what you would normally give on a Sunday and keep it until we return to normal Sunday services.

You may wish to take this opportunity to simply increase what you are currently giving by standing order or just make a one-off donation.

Alternatively, there is the Parish Giving Scheme, currently they only able to sign up new members by telephone.

For Shipton and Milton Hilary Matthews (<u>hilarymatthews58@gmail.com</u>) can give you any further information you may need.

Shipton: Shipton under Wychwood PCC Sort code 40-52-40 Account no: 00032492 Milton Milton under Wychwood PCC 40-52-40 00033331

Please put your name as the reference.

For those of you in Fifield and Idbury you need to contact the treasurer Lucy Maitland-Smith by email <u>lucymaitlandsmith@gmail.com</u> and she will give you the relevant details.

Thanking you for all your continuing support

Geoffrey

Revd Geoffrey Clement