



ST JAMES
TURRAMURRA

THE GOOD GIVING GUIDE

For you know the grace of our
Lord Jesus Christ, that though he
was rich, yet for your sake he
became poor, so that you through
his poverty might become rich.

2 Corinthians 8:9

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WHY GIVE?

Giving cheerfully and sacrificially of our finances is part of our commitment to the gospel. A Christian labours not to accrue personal wealth or possessions, but as a steward of God's resources.

Christian giving flows out of the belief that everything we have is a gift from God. Our money, our time and our gifts belong to him, and have been given to us so that we can use them to serve others (1 Peter 4:10).

Christians have the perfect example of generosity in the Lord Jesus who, "though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich." (2 Cor 8:9).

- Christians have an incredible opportunity to proclaim the gospel as we give generously.
- When we give, we show that God's grace is at work in us and that money is not our master.
- Giving helps us to rest in the truth that God will graciously provide for all our needs.
- Giving allows us to practically help those in need.

"Each one of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

2 CORINTHIANS 9:7

If you are a member of our church, we encourage you to give prayerfully, generously and cheerfully.

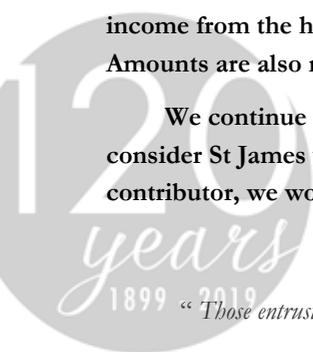


WHO GIVES?

The greater proportion of the money (some 90%) that makes ministry possible at St James comes from the generosity of its members. Regular contributions are received through electronic arrangements, special gifts, or via the collection plate at our services.

Some contributions (around 10%) are received from other sources, such as income from the hiring of our facilities, and fees for funerals and weddings. Amounts are also received from Anglicare for chaplaincy services.

We continue to commit to gospel progress through your generosity. If you consider St James your church family and you're not presently a regular contributor, we would encourage you to join in financial partnership.



“Those entrusted with significant financial resources have a special responsibility to be good stewards of those resources.”

JOHN STOTT

Ultimately, all giving comes from the heart. When we reflect on the ‘poverty’ of Christ in his coming to earth, and the ‘wealth’ he gives us in salvation, our response is to be eternally thankful. Using our riches to build God’s Kingdom gives our money a value this world could never provide.

“Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.”

1 TIMOTHY 6:17

HOW MUCH SHOULD I GIVE?

This is generally the area Christians struggle to work through. The bible has some indicators that help us.

TITHING AND THE OLD TESTAMENT...

'Tithing' is a popular principle. It was a standard of giving tied to the Old Testament, connected with the religious and tribal organisation of Israel. We would describe it today as a form of taxation. It provided an income for the Levites (set apart to work in the temple), the poor, the widows and the fatherless. The laws relating to such practices of course no longer apply today (like food and sacrificial laws), so 10% can only be seen as a guide for the importance of contributing to Kingdom work.

IN THE NEW TESTAMENT...

The principle we do observe as we move from the Old to the New Testaments is generosity. Christ transforms our hearts so that we store up treasures in heaven, rather than treasuring money.

It could be argued that 10% is just a starting point from which to think through the many opportunities we have to support gospel ministry. In the New Testament, the sacrificial love of Christ is our new 'standard'. Generosity suggest we might build upon a 10% base and watch the church flourish as we make eternal investments.

For some of us, there will be particular reasons why our giving capacity is limited, like unemployment, for example. For most of us, however, we find ourselves in a blessed place financially and this should be reflected in our giving to the church and beyond.

So, how do we go about working out our giving?

Consider these steps...

WORKING IT OUT...

Everyone's situation is different, if only because of the amount of income earned (by whatever source). 10% of household income, or 'tithing' may be a useful starting point given many don't know where to begin.

Some people may be in position to give more than a tenth. Others will not be able to give that much. The message from the scriptures is that we are to give an amount in keeping with our income (1 Cor 16:2), and we are to do so cheerfully (2 Cor 9:7).

You might find this table helpful for your household...

ANNUAL SALARY/INCOME	\$
OTHER INCOME	\$
TOTAL	\$
% YOU HAVE DECIDED UPON	%
ANNUAL AMOUNT	\$
WEEKLY OR MONTHLY AMOUNT	\$

HOW TO GIVE...

Work out how you want to give. Most use electronic means for regular financial commitments, so setting up this arrangement with the church should be straightforward (see over). As we mentioned previously, electronic giving builds the church's ability to plan for gospel progress. It also means that if you are going to be away for any reason, giving continues and the church is reliably supported.

If your preference is for giving through envelopes, please get in touch with the church office.

HOW DO I GIVE?

GENERAL (OFFERTORIES) FUND | MAKING MINISTRY HAPPEN

We encourage all members to put in place regular weekly/monthly contributions to the General Ministry Fund (Offertories, otherwise known as the Church Wardens' Account). These contribute to :

- the payment of staff and administration salaries
- ministry resourcing and initiatives
- costs associated with running the congregations and various mid-week groups
- assisting the needy
- special events and activities to promote the gospel, including Easter and Christmas

St James' financial health depends on this fund being in good shape. We provide regular updates in our weekly leaflets to keep people informed on its progress.

To give electronically to the General Ministry Fund:

BSB 032-089 | ACCOUNT # 250028

GOSPEL PARTNERS | EXTENDING THE KINGDOM

St James is in formal partnership with a number of Gospel Partners, serving in ministry locally, around the country, and overseas. Supporting gospel ministry beyond our Parish has been a long-held commitment of our members. It recognises the value in setting apart servants for the Kingdom who can share the good news of Jesus with those we wouldn't be able to reach otherwise.



St James has a Gospel Partners' Team who work hard at ensuring our partnerships are being effective for gospel progress and to provide regular updates for our congregations on the ministries of those we support around the world. Many of them are in environments where persecution and security concerns are a daily challenge. Our prayerful and financial support enables them to continue serving and reaching the lost.

Contributions to the St James Gospel Partners Fund (Missions) are allocated proportionately. Members also contribute directly to the mission organisations supporting our Partners.

To give electronically to the Gospel Partners' Fund:

BSB 032-089 | ACCOUNT # 146378



MINISTRY TRAINING SCHOLARSHIP FUND | GOSPEL VOCATION

The St James Ministry Training scholarship Fund (MTSF) was established in 2012 to enable financial resources to be set aside for the purpose of ministry training programmes conducted by, linked with, or endorsed by St James Anglican Church Turramurra.

MTSF has been a source of great blessing in raising up and equipping gospel workers at St James. Through the generous contributions of members of St James and beyond the fund has provided scholarships to past and present St James ministry workers in theological and ministry training.

This tax-deductible fund is presently supporting ministry staff studying at theological college and Trainees under the Ministry Apprenticeship Strategy as they consider the potential for vocational ministry (see also the booklet 'Ministry Training at St James').

To give electronically to the Ministry Training Scholarship Fund:

BSB 032 089 | ACCOUNT # 273 449

PROPERTY MASTERPLAN FUNDS | BUILDING KINGDOM RESOURCES

The Property Master Plan Funds comprise St James Memorial Hall Development Fund (tax-deductible) and the St James Building Appeal Fund. Both of these support the development and renewal of our facilities on the King St site so that they can be most effectively used for ministry and gospel outreach.

In 2014-15 the leadership of the Parish presented a Master Plan to the congregations for consideration. It's intent was four-fold:

- Address the lack of adequate parking
- Improve safety for pedestrian movement
- Upgrade the Rectory and Assistant Minister's residences
- Redevelop the Gym Hall & Cameron Room facilities

The Wardens and Council in consultation with the congregations committed to refurbishing the Rectory as a key priority and the result today is a fully functioning modern staff residence fit for family and ministry use. Since the 2014-15 plan the Rector and Wardens have identified several added priorities relating to the upgrading and renewing of our facilities:

- Removal of the 'Cottage' property at 4 St James Lane due to the asbestos content in the structure. Reconsidering the King St footprint for best ministry use.
- Anticipating the potential for purchasing bordering property when the opportunity arises.
- Reviewing the Gym Hall footprint with a view to an auditorium with increase in congregational capacity for gatherings and breakout rooms.
- Revisit of the capacity for underground parking.
- Air-conditioning the church and Memorial Hall to ensure safe and comfortable all-season use.
- Audio-visual upgrades for gatherings and events in the church and Hall, including sound-proofing requirements for the Memorial Hall.

- Refurbishing the Church Gallery Area for hospitality and ministry use.
- Remodelling the King St frontage for safer pedestrian use and parking.
- Upgrading the Reception and Administration areas.

The Wardens with Parish Council are currently assessing next steps with a view to a revised Master Plan to bring before the congregations in the coming year. A Property Development Team is being formed to progress this objective.

Donations to the tax-deductible Memorial Hall Development Fund must be used for facilities with an educational purpose (funding projects associated with the War Memorial Hall and Gym Hall), whilst donations to the non-tax deductible St James Building Appeal are used to fund facilities with other purposes (other property at King St and Staff Housing).

To contribute to the Memorial Hall Development Fund:

BSB 032 089 | ACCOUNT # 239718

To contribute to the St James Building Appeal:

BSB 032 089 | ACCOUNT # 294864

THE FUTURE FUND | BEQUESTS

Bequests are ideal for those who would like to be generous in their support of ministry at St James and who would consider attributing their assets for the cause of the gospel for future generations. Such endowments can make significant opportunities for growth and development of ministry resources possible that prosper the gospel for decades. As this happens, your gift bears fruit for eternity.

St James has been blessed by the sacrificial generosity of congregation members over more than a century, who have provided us with a large church complex at King St. As ministry in our Parish grows, now meeting in four different locations on a Sunday, we need to plan for the future.

Our neighbourhood is changing around us we are praying that we can be an ongoing and effective presence for the gospel on the Upper North Shore. To do so means we'll need facilities that not only respond to the needs of today, but provide for the possibilities of tomorrow.

Please consider making St James Turramurra a beneficiary in your will. You should first talk to your solicitor about making such a bequest. Appropriate wording for wills can be provided by the Wardens to ensure a legacy is put in place for the benefit of future generations.

The St James Future Fund is administered by the Sydney Diocese Anglican Church Property Trust (ACPT). Your bequest is held on trust for the Parish of Turramurra, and will only be used for the express purposes you intend. Funds are only released by the ACPT after a majority of the Parish Council give their approval for expenditure on property associated with the ministry of the Parish and in accord with the directive of the will.

If you'd like to take steps to put a bequest in place you should speak with one of our Wardens Julian Bickersteth, Nat Cook or Al Anderson. They can be contacted at wardens@stjamesturramurra.org.au.



The leadership of the Parish of St James express their gratitude to God for the faithful generosity of the congregations over its 120 year history, and urge you to pray for an ongoing gospel legacy that will be a blessing for the generations to come.

“Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”

2 Corinthians 9:6-7

