

RECTOR'S UPDATE

GIFT DAY PROJECT STRONG TOWER

29 MARCH 2020



Dear Church Family,

Many of you will be aware that this coming Sunday is our 2020 gift day 'Project Strong Tower.' I am writing to you in light of the circumstances that we now find ourselves in, so that those who may feel under pressure financially do not have an extra burden to worry about on top of everything else.

I have recently had conversations with neighbours whose businesses and livelihoods have been hard hit by the world closing down. I recognise that some in the church family will be in this position as well, as employers or employees worried about whether their company or job is going to survive. This is a very real worry for some and it is completely understandable for some who planned to give, to re-evaluate in the light of current events. I want to remove any pressure from those who find themselves in this situation and say we are praying for you in your uncertainty.

I want to thank all those who have given already. If you have given by cheque in the last week or so, thank you. Please bear with us as we work out new ways of operating around St George's Hub and social distancing concerning the treasury team. We will be banking the cheques as soon as we can.

We will still plan to go ahead with the gift day, with this Sunday as the focus for receiving the gifts. This gives the flexibility for some to choose which tax year in which to give and for us to give thanks in the online service this Sunday.

For those who are in a position to give, if you have the ability to fill in your form and send it back via email to the treasurer that will help with administration at this time. If you can send the money by a bank transfer to the PCC account with the reference 'Project Strong Tower' that would also make things easier.

St George's PCC Stamford, sort code: 405240
A/c: 00031950.

Some of us may prefer to fill in the form with a pledge to make a gift of a certain sum and for the money to come later. That is absolutely fine. We will still receive cheques and cash at the Hub for those who prefer to give in this way.

As always, but particularly this year, we will leave the gift day open for an extended time to allow people to give as their circumstances dictate.

Thank you so much for your support. As we have seen, a virus can turn a predictable world into an uncertain one. The only safe place for us to hide ourselves at all times is in the Lord, who is our strong tower, our fortress, our eternal saviour.

Please do pray for our ongoing ministry to Stamford and the surrounding area in these uncertain days, even as we pray about how we should respond to 'Project Strong Tower.'