

## General Giving Information

### Budget for this year

This year's budget provides for the ministries of St John's to expand.

The budget has been carefully constructed to enable us to continue to connect our community with Christ as we seek to expand our involvement in serving our local community and bringing Christ's love to them. If you would like to see how we plan to spend the offering received from parishioners this year, please contact the wardens.

Any giving for specific ministries or projects should be clearly marked and will be first applied to the budgeted allocation and any surplus held in trust for the specific ministry or project.

St John's is also committed to giving to mission over and above the amount received from parishioners.

We support High School SRE teachers, Ambassadors Football, and the Millars in this way.

### Anonymity

Giving is anonymous. No-one at St John's will attempt to identify the source of any donation, unless we are required to by law.

Some banks enable anonymous donations. The general rule of thumb when setting up internet payments is to remove any reference to your own name when entering the details.

If you are concerned about anonymity, please contact the wardens to check the set-up of the payment.

### Our Bank Details

Bank: Westpac  
Branch: Sutherland  
Account: 'St John's Anglican Church  
Sutherland'  
BSB: 032059  
Account: 282512

### Payment reference

- 'Offertory' (for general offering to St John's)
- Specific reference (for specific donations to one of the ministries run by St John's or a mission supported by St John's)
- 'Mission' (for unspecified giving)

### Contact Details

Phone: 9521 4314  
Web: [www.stjohns.org.au](http://www.stjohns.org.au)  
E-mail: [wardens@stjohns.org.au](mailto:wardens@stjohns.org.au)



ST JOHN'S SUTHERLAND

GIVING

## General Giving Information

### Administrative Overhead

The wardens are seeking to streamline our administrative processes, and internet banking is one way of minimising the work and risk in handling physical offerings every week. We are therefore encouraging everyone to consider whether internet banking is appropriate for their situation.

The wardens are working on moving to maximise electronic giving each year, but there will continue to be a weekly offering taken at the services, so it is possible to give that way if that is your preference.

### Internet and Telephone banking

This type of giving is parishioner initiated and controlled, so can be changed as your circumstances dictate. Generally, internet and telephone banking enables you to specify the purpose for which the offering is given. These methods of offering also allow for the setting up of regular transactions, encouraging the discipline of regular and committed support of St John's and its ministries. The wardens would encourage you to regularly review your giving to St John's, particularly as circumstances change.

### Offertory Envelopes

Offertory envelopes are a way of managing physical offerings to St John's and the ministries it supports. The envelopes assist in regular giving, as there is one for each week of the year. You can also use them to specify the purpose for which your offering is given.

### Message from Tom Hargreaves – Senior Minister

Our God is incredibly generous. Paul writes of the astonishing generosity God has displayed to each of us in these words:

*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)

And again elsewhere:

*In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us*

(Ephesians 1:7-8)

God has generously taken us from the poverty of our sin, living as we were as his enemies, and forgiven us, raising us to new life as co-heirs with Christ, through the blood of Jesus. It is a work of the Holy Spirit to lead every believer to respond to God's generosity with generosity. He calls us to be like him in being generous to those in need, especially those in the family of Christ (Galatians 6:10), and to regard the gospel locally, supporting church (1 Timothy 5:17-18), and globally, supporting mission (Philippians 4:14-20).

As a church we are committed to giving generously.

We support the work of missionaries linked with us, we support projects that support those in need and proclaim Christ, and we are intentional

in seeking to build new ministries in our local community, all to the glory of Christ. This relies on the generosity of each church member.

In order to accomplish this can I ask you to commit to doing three things:

#### *i) Pray*

Join me in asking our generous God to provide for our needs as a church. We have the assurance of scripture that God will supply for our need (Philippians 4:19), so let's be faithful in bringing our needs before him.

#### *ii) Plan*

Each individual and family is in a unique circumstance, so prayerfully plan your giving, carefully giving thought to what the Lord has blessed you with this year.

#### *iii) Pledge*

Commit yourself to giving a fixed amount to church each month via electronic giving. Electronic giving is a blessing to churches, it's secure, it's reliable, and best of all it doesn't rely on memory.

Let's praise God for his generosity and ask him to do immeasurably more than all we can ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us.

Yours in Christ,

Tom