



*giftaid it*

### GIFT AID DECLARATION

To the PCC of .....

Full name .....

Address .....

..... Postcode .....

I want the Church to reclaim tax on all donations I have made since 6 April 200...<sup>(a)</sup> and all donations I make hereafter

I note that I should tell the Church if I don't pay an amount of tax that at least equals the tax deducted from my donations

Signature .....

(a) Insert year here.

Date .....

# GIFT AID - WHAT'S THAT?



## A Guide to Tax Efficient Giving to your Church

## **Gift Aid - What's That?**

It's the government's way of encouraging people to give to charities, including the Church, by allowing the charity to recover the tax you have paid if you complete a simple declaration.

### **How simple? I hate long forms!**

So do I! But this one really is simple. All it asks for is your full name and address, including your post code, and the date.

### **I see. But I bet there's lots of small print to read!**

No, only a couple of lines. The declaration contains the name of the charity (your parish church), a statement that you want the church to recover tax you have paid on your gift or gifts, and a reminder that you must pay enough tax to cover the amount to be reclaimed.

### **So the church can get back tax on anything I give?**

Well, it isn't quite that simple. The church has to be able to prove it's had the money from you. So it must be given through the envelope scheme, or by cheque or standing order to qualify.

On the other hand, you can backdate your declaration, so that tax can be reclaimed on any gift you have made since 6th April six years ago in any of these ways.

## **It must cost me something - where's the catch?**

There isn't one. As long as you have paid enough tax - on earned income, investments, or capital gains - the church can reclaim 28p on every £1 you give.

If you only pay tax at the lowest rate, ask your church Treasurer for advice - the church will still recover tax at the 22p rate regardless!

If you pay tax at the higher rate, you will benefit, too. You will save 23p in tax on every £1 you give - enabling you to give even more!

### **But I suppose I'm committed to giving a set sum for several years?**

No - although it helps the church to budget if you can give on a regular basis. But if your circumstances change, you can change the amount you give. If you no longer pay tax, or move, you can cancel your declaration simply by writing and telling us. If you die, your declaration is cancelled automatically.

And if you want to increase your giving, this will be covered by the declaration, too. There's no need to fill in another form, ever.

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