

## Why should you make a Will at all?

Making a Will is the only way you can be sure that your property and belongings go exactly where you want them to go. If you have no surviving relatives and die without a Will, your estate would pass to the state.

Because the Diocese is a registered charity, any legacy to the Diocese of Portsmouth (whether for general use or for use in your Parish) will be exempt from Inheritance Tax and will reduce the overall tax liability of your estate.

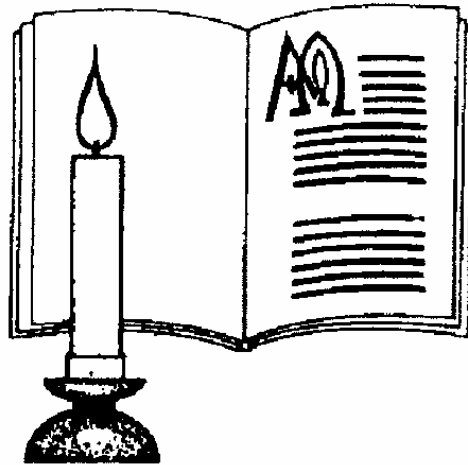
## Why should you consider including St James & St William of York in your Will?

All parishes have to meet the costs of

- maintaining and repairing their church buildings - to provide a fitting and welcoming place of worship and parish life
- housing and looking after their priests
- contributing to Diocesan expenses (often imposed by levy) of education, child protection, the training of priests and deacons, the support of their Bishop, the

provision for sick and retired priests and many other activities and, very occasionally,

- improving buildings and facilities to respond to parish needs and to enhance worship.



We are blessed with two particularly beautiful churches, cherished by those who worship here and admired and enjoyed by those who visit us. As a Catholic church, we do not receive any funds from the State; neither do we impose any charge on those who are drawn here, whether it is to seek sanctuary, some time of tranquillity, to pray, or to satisfy their curiosity.

By mentioning us in your Will, you can provide a lasting memorial by helping to develop our churches for the benefit of our parish and our many visitors alike, in ways we could never manage through normal parish giving.

If you wish to discuss a proposed legacy and any particular wishes you may have, please contact the Parish Priest.

## How to make a bequest to St James & St William of York

Care must be taken over the wording of wills. Home-made wills, though they may be valid, can lead to court action and result in the frustration of the testator's intentions. You should seek legal advice and ensure that the appropriate wording(s), [A, and/or B, C,] overleaf, is incorporated into your Will.

The gifts in bequests A, and C are charitable and qualify for exemption from Inheritance Tax.

## A. Bequest to the Parish

"I give to the Portsmouth Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered of Bishop's House, Edinburgh Road, Portsmouth, PO1 3HG being registered Charity Number 246871 [the sum of £..... free of tax] [..... of my residuary estate] on trust for such charitable purposes in connection with the Parish of St James & St William of York in Reading in the said Diocese as the Trustees shall in their absolute discretion think fit and the receipt of the Diocesan Financial Secretary or other officer of the Trust shall be a full discharge to my executors in respect of the same."

## B. Bequest for Masses

"I give the sum of £.....free of tax to the priest in charge of St James & St William of York, Reading to be applied to the offering of Masses for the intention of ..... and I declare that the receipt of the Priest in charge of the said Church at the time of the payment of this bequest shall be a full discharge to my executors in respect of the same." \*

\* *This bequest does not qualify for exemption from Inheritance Tax*

## C. Bequest for a Foundation Mass [The minimum sum for a Foundation mass is £100]

"I give to the Portsmouth Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered of Bishop's House, Edinburgh Road, Portsmouth, PO1 3HG being registered Charity Number 246871 the sum of £..... free of tax for the foundation of a Mass to be offered at St James or St William of York, Reading annually for 25 years for the intention of ..... and the receipt of the Financial Secretary or other officer of the Trust shall be a full discharge to my executors in respect of the same."



# Making a Bequest to Parish of St James & St William of York Reading

For further information  
contact the parish office:  
St James Church, Abbots Walk,  
Reading RG1 3HW  
Telephone: 0118 957 4171  
Fax: 0118 956 1171  
E-mail:  
[parish@jameswilliam-reading.org.uk](mailto:parish@jameswilliam-reading.org.uk)

St James & St William of York is a registered charity  
No. 246871

This leaflet gives some guidance on a form of words that can be used to ensure that your bequest is used for the benefit of St James & St William of York.

It answers the following questions:

- Why should you make a Will at all?
- Why should you consider including this parish in your Will?
- How to make a bequest to benefit this parish.