

A letter from Fr. Tim, Dean of St Chad's Cathedral.

A New Way of Giving

Dear Friends

It is increasingly the case that people do not carry cash with them, and the world is moving away from cash. People now pay for coffee or a sandwich with a debit card. So, we are going to follow many other Cathedrals and churches in introducing a machine that takes debit card payments. This can be used instead of putting cash into the collections. You can specify that you wish to give to the First Collection, Second Collection or by choosing a third option, it is possible to make a donation to the Cathedral. We hope that this will be used by occasional or one-off visitors but it is also open to anybody.

The machine will be at a fixed point in the Cathedral and you can use it as you enter or leave church, at a time of your convenience. For the first couple of weekends, we shall have people on hand to help you to understand how it works and to alleviate any fears or answer any questions.

We draw your attention to the weekly collection total for our Cathedral. Although it does not tell you the amount paid by Standing Order (when a parishioner wishes to pay in this way), the gap between what comes in each week and what it takes to heat and light the Cathedral week by week is quite stark. You might wish to consider whether what you are able to give in the weekly collection has changed over the past few years and whether you are now able to make even a slight increase to your giving to the Church. Gift Aid is a simple but effective way of the Church being able to reclaim the tax on any money that you give, if you are a tax payer and up to the limit of tax you pay in any one year. Look out for upcoming notices in the weekly newsletter on some of the costs of running the Cathedral and the new appeals we will be running.

Please consider the convenience to you of setting up a Standing Order, or paying by Debit Card as well as the continuing possibility of using money in the Sunday collection in the traditional way. Please remember our beautiful Cathedral Church in your will. And always know that donations for specific projects are most welcome.

Thank you for what you give and thank you for whatever you may be able to give in the future.