



GENEROSITY



Giving

Generosity Week



Diocese
of Portsmouth



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND



Generosity Week could become part of a longer Generosity Season, ending with Harvest

September is one of the best times in the church year to preach on generosity because the lectionary naturally moves through themes of God's provision, stewardship, gratitude, discipleship, and the use of resources.

Generosity is at the heart of the Christian faith. We worship a generous God who “did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us” (Romans 8:32), and who “so loved the world that he gave his only Son” (John 3:16). Our own generosity is one of the clearest ways we reflect God's character in the world, for “every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above” (James 1:17).

The ministry and mission of each parish is sustained through the faithful giving of God's people, enabling local churches to worship, serve their communities and share the good news of Jesus Christ. As St Paul reminds us, “God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Corinthians 9:7), and our generosity is part of bearing fruit as disciples.

The following series is based on the lectionary readings for September 2026 and can be used in conjunction with a gift day on Harvest Sunday. The Gift Day can be a renewal of giving, a launch of a new digital giving device, or an encouragement for regular givers to use the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS).



Top Tip: Place the giving invitation on Harvest Sunday itself, supported by a clear vision of what increased giving will enable the parish to do and see over the next year (or 2-3 years), so that your congregation can naturally respond to the gospel message on Harvest Gift Day. Consider including first-hand testimonies each week from people in your congregation or parish who have been blessed by the church; these could be live, videos, or written in the pew sheet.

Series: Living Generous Lives

Date	Gospel Reading	Key Theme	Focus	Application
September 6th (14th after Trinity) Week 1: Generosity Reflects God's Character	Luke 14:1-14	Hospitality and generosity without expecting return	God gives without expecting repayment. Christian generosity is not transactional. The Church exists to bless others.	How generous is our church culture? Hospitality as a form of generosity.
September 13th (15th after Trinity) Week 2: What God Values	Luke 15:1-10	The value God places on every person	God's extravagant pursuit of people. Every person matters to God. Generosity is about kingdom growth, not institutional survival.	Giving enables mission. We invest in what God treasures.
September 20th (16th after Trinity) Week 3: Faithful Steward	Luke 16:1-13	Faithfulness with money and possessions	Everything belongs to God. Stewardship is discipleship. Giving is a spiritual practice.	Review personal giving. Introduce the Parish Giving Scheme.
September 27th (17th after Trinity) Week 4: Harvest Gift Day	Luke 16:19-31	The rich man and Lazarus; wealth and responsibility	Wealth carries responsibility. God blesses us to be a blessing. Gratitude should overflow into generosity.	Gift Day or Harvest Offering. Invitation to increase regular giving in line with inflation. Vision for what generosity makes possible.

Harvest Festival (often September 27th or October 4th)



Liturgy

Weekly Service Material – Gratitude and Generosity

Eucharist Material

- [1st Sunday of the week: A Eucharist to celebrate Gratitude \(PDF\)](#)
- [2nd Sunday of the week: A Eucharist to celebrate Generosity \(PDF\)](#)

Service of the Word

- [A Service of the Word to celebrate Gratitude \(PDF\)](#)
- [A Service of the Word to celebrate Generosity \(PDF\)](#)

Service Content Packs

- [Gratitude](#)
- [Generosity](#)



Other resources

For Children

- [Children's resources](#)

For Study

- [Living Generously Films](#)

