

Welcome to Cornerstone in Portsmouth



The image shows a person from behind, looking at a laptop screen. The screen displays the Cornerstone dashboard for St Alban's Hull. The dashboard has a header with the Cornerstone logo and navigation tabs: Dashboard, Church Info, Pathways, Status, and Reports. The main content area has a green header that says 'Welcome to your St Alban's Hull Dashboard!'. Below this, there is a paragraph of text: 'Welcome to your Cornerstone homepage, a road map to help grow giving in church. Using the tabs above, you can explore your church's data and learn key Pathways to help develop your church's giving activity and explore the Goals your church can apply for.' There are also some icons and a 'Next Step' button. The person is sitting at a desk with a cup of coffee. The background is a light blue and white geometric pattern.



CORNERSTONE



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND



Welcome to Cornerstone in Portsmouth

A photograph of a person with short grey hair and glasses, seen from the side, looking at a laptop. The laptop screen displays the Cornerstone software interface, which includes a 'Welcome to your St Alban's Hull Dashboard' message and various navigation tabs like 'Dashboard', 'Church Data', 'Pathways', 'Stations', and 'Reports'. The interface also features a 'Welcome to your Cornerstone homepage' section with a brief description of the software's purpose. The background of the entire image is a light green color with a repeating white chevron pattern. There are several teal-colored geometric shapes (triangles and squares) scattered across the image, particularly around the laptop and the title text. The overall design is clean and modern, with a focus on the software being advertised.

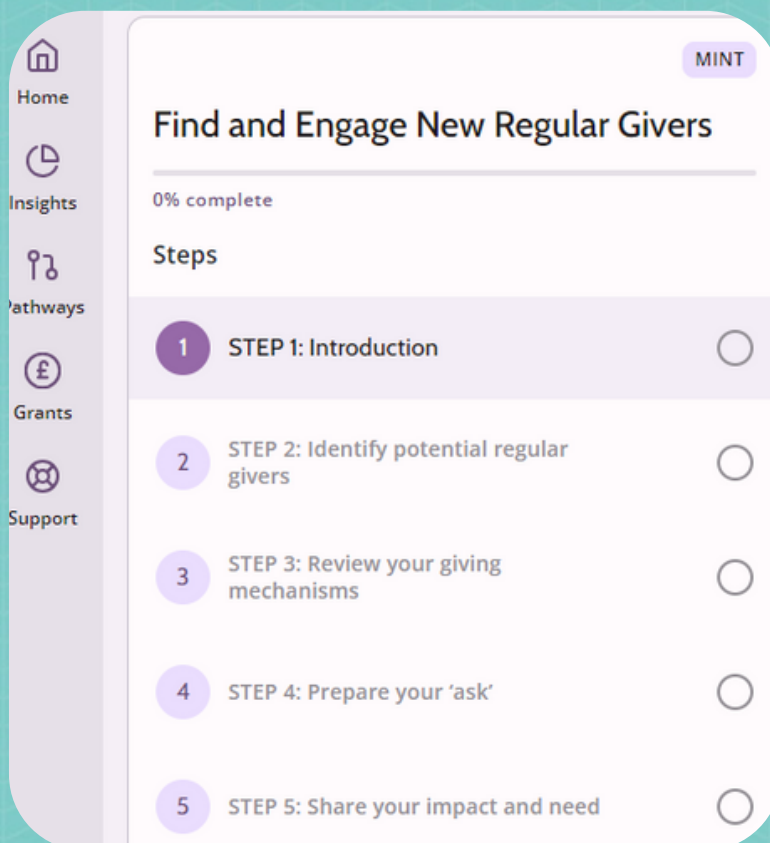
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Introduction

The ministry and mission of parish churches is mostly funded through the incredible generosity of those who give to it through money, time and talents. But when times are tough, financial struggles can seem overwhelming. Cornerstone has been developed by the National Giving Team, with the aim that it will take you on a journey to understand your church's giving culture and financial situation. It aims to leave you with clear, simple steps to grow giving and income.

Cornerstone is supported by an online platform that helps show areas where you can focus your resources to get the best results. The platform has easy to follow step-by-step actions which are called Pathways (you can see an example below).



Benefits of Cornerstone

As part of the Cornerstone process, parishes are encouraged to ask questions of themselves and their situation. From here, your Diocesan Giving Advisor will help to identify areas of giving practice that could be improved; these are chosen to meet the needs of your church or parish. You are then guided through simple steps to take appropriate action on these areas. These steps, as mentioned previously, are contained in Pathways, which are chosen by you to build on the great work you already do.

One of the main benefits of Cornerstone is that each Pathway has been designed as a series of short tasks, so that it doesn't feel too much of a burden. Our aim is to make this as easy as possible while delivering great results. Some Pathways also provide guidance on common areas that churches find they need to work on such as 'Measuring and communicating the impact of giving' and 'Encouraging giving from new congregation members'.

Cornerstone has been piloted in three dioceses and this is what PCC members who attended the workshops had to say:

"What was most valuable was the ability to see the process we are about to embark on. It's good to see where our church is at the moment."

"Identifying pathways helped us see where there can be quick wins."

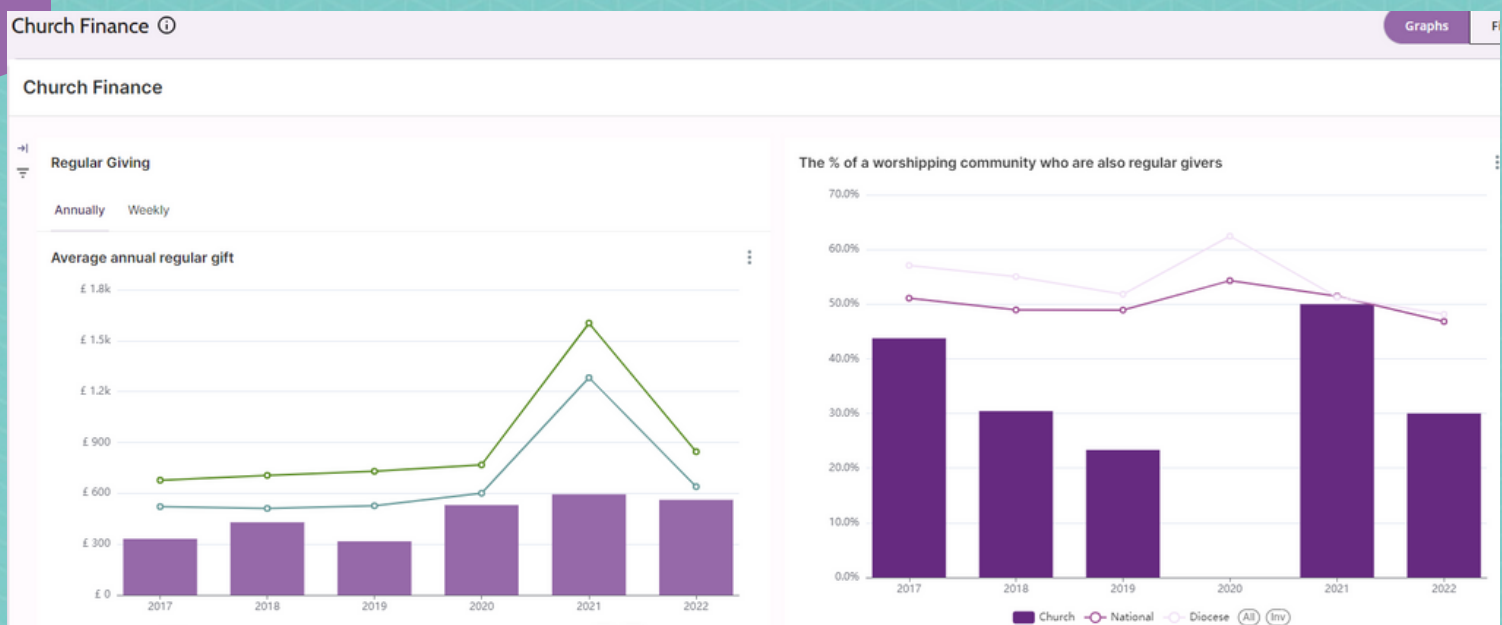
"Practical ideas about communicating impact to all our worshipping community and electoral roll."



Benefits of Cornerstone

Other benefits of taking part in Cornerstone are:

- Dedicated time to review giving and generosity.
- Opportunity to complete Pathways which give the biggest impact for your specific church.
- A greater understanding for all church decision makers of church finances.
- Time saved on researching how to grow giving and generosity.
- Step by step guidance on how to develop less tangible areas of giving and generosity.
- Access to a free grants database with over 600 grant opportunities available.
- Access to your parish data which is visualised in easy to read graphs.



The Six Stages

What is involved?

We have summarised the Cornerstone process into six easy to follow stages.

1. **Invitation**- You are invited to participate in the Cornerstone process by your Diocesan Giving Advisor.

2. **Briefing** - During a webinar you are briefed on what's involved and what the expectations are.

3. **Research** - You will gather the parish's data and other information.

4. **Workshops** - Face to face sessions take place, examining the data that was gathered during the 'research' stage.

5. **Pathways** - You will choose actions/Pathways that will make the greatest impact on giving in your parish.

6. **Implementation** - You will work through your chosen Pathways.

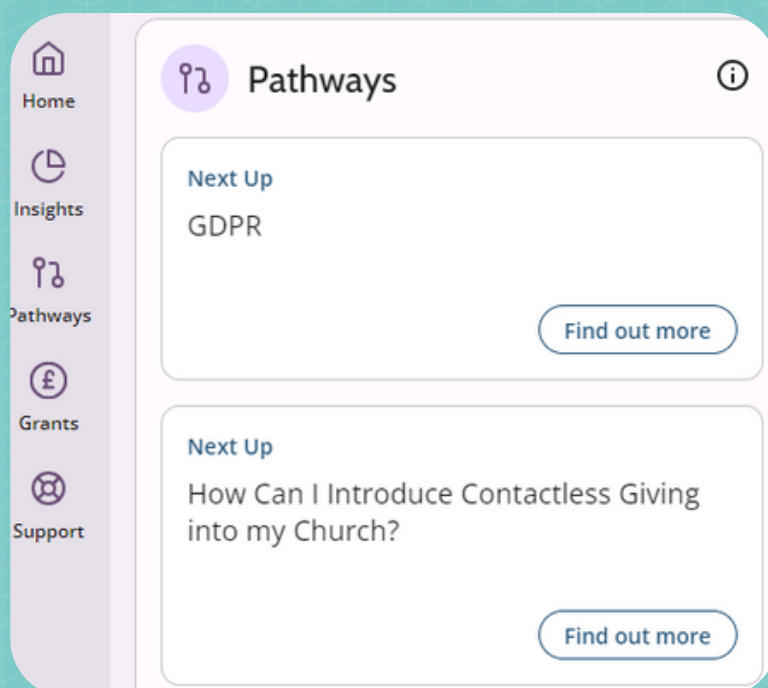


How Cornerstone works

Once you have signed up to use Cornerstone, you will be asked to complete a short questionnaire. This gives an insight into the generosity culture that exists in your parish.

In addition, we will look at your parish's financial data as part of the workshops; this is based on your Parish Return and we will also ask you to share some information that is not available through the Parish Return's system. Using the questionnaire and financial data, we can help identify Pathways that will help foster generosity in your parish and build giving to sustain your mission and ministry.

All Pathways can be found on the online Cornerstone platform and you will be given access to these by your Diocesan Giving Advisor. Individual activities can be allocated to the person best suited within your parish to take the necessary action. As you complete your selected Pathways you can review your culture and financial data to see how things are improving and select any new Pathways to continue on your journey



How to sign up

Key Dates:

Webinars:

- Wednesday 17 September 2025
At 16.00 and 19.00:

Via Zoom and details will be advised in due course.

Workshops:

- Wednesday 22 October 2025
14.00: All Saints Catherington,
*Parish Hall Catherington Lane,
Waterlooville, PO8 0TD*

19.00: St Paul's Church,
Sarisbury Green, SO31 7BG

• Thursday 6 November 2025
14.00 and 19.00 Newport Minster,
*St Thomas' Square, High Street
Newport, PO30 1SG*

Contact your Giving Advisor:

Chris Parker

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[Click here for sign up form](#)

