

Thinking about death

This is hard to do and it is very difficult to talk about. As Christ's people, however, we have the sure and certain hope of everlasting life in his kingdom. It is normal as we think about death to seek to ensure that our family and loved ones are provided for to the best of our ability in our wills. Many people also like to leave money or gifts to the church or other causes which they supported through their lives.

Leaving a gift to Trinity Church in your will results in giving that extends beyond your own lifetime, deeply affecting future generations of God's people. It demonstrates the importance of continuing to proclaim the gospel, and builds up the church by entrusting its leadership to use your gift to the glory of God. It is not something that is only for older members of our congregation but rather can be thoughtfully considered at every stage of life as we seek to live with gospel priorities.



Prayerful consideration

Prayerfully consider how God has blessed you in your life. What are the needs that you see before you both in your family and loved ones but also in the society around you and in the church? What kind of spiritual legacy are you leaving for future generations? Will your resources and finances contribute to the ongoing work of the gospel after you have died and gone to be with the Lord?

"I think it is right to refresh your memory as long as I live in the tent of this body, because I know that I will soon put it aside as our Lord Jesus has made clear to me. And I will make every effort to see that after my departure you will always be able to remember these things."

(2 Peter 1:12-15)

Prioritise your estate

There are four main ways you can leave a legacy gift to Trinity Church in your will:

- **A Pecuniary Legacy:** This is deciding to leave a fixed sum of money to the church and including that in your will. This is the simplest way to leave a legacy gift but has the disadvantage of possibly losing value over time due to inflation.
- **Specific Legacy:** This is leaving specific items that you own to the church e.g. your house, land, book collection, car...
- **A Residuary Legacy:** This is leaving all or part of your estate that remains after any debts or other expenses have been paid. This means the church receives the value of your gift at the time of your death, negating the effects of inflation.
- **Reversionary Bequest:** this is leaving the estate to someone who makes use of it during their lifetime. After their death the estate is then left to the church.

What next?

If you have prayerfully decided to leave a legacy gift to Trinity Church:

- Speak to a lawyer regarding formulating a will and leaving a legacy gift within it
- If you have already made a will, the simplest way to leave a legacy is to make a change to your will by using a codicil. A codicil simply adds an extra instruction or replaces existing provisions with new directives and avoids the necessity and cost of making a new will. This can be done by speaking to a lawyer.
- You may also wish to speak to your family or next of kin so they are aware of your decision
- You can ask that your gift be given to the General Funds of The Cruden Trust. This will allow the Trustees to use the gift flexibly to meet current needs.
- Alternatively, you can ask for your legacy to be used for specific purposes (e.g., building fund, or funding of trainee ministers). Please make this clear to your lawyer.

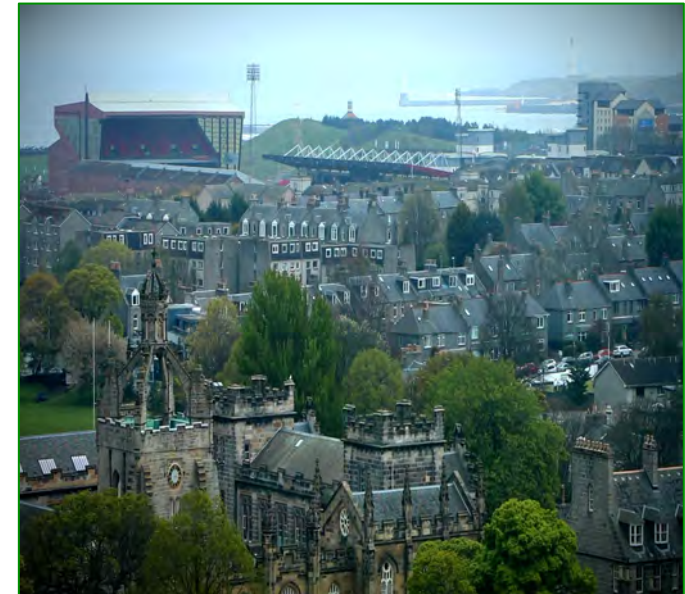
- It would be helpful if you could also inform the Treasurer of The Cruden Trust (Alistair Smith) of your decision. This will remain confidential.

Information your lawyer may need:

- The type of legacy you intend to leave to the church
- All legacies for Trinity Church should be left to The Cruden Trust which manages the finances of the church
- Scottish Charity Number: SC041966
- Registered address:
The Cruden Trust
63 Wingate Road
Aberdeen
AB24 2SZ

www.trinityaberdeen.org.uk
info@trinityaberdeen.org.uk

We are a congregation of the IPC
www.ipc.church



LEAVING A LEGACY FOR THE GOSPEL

