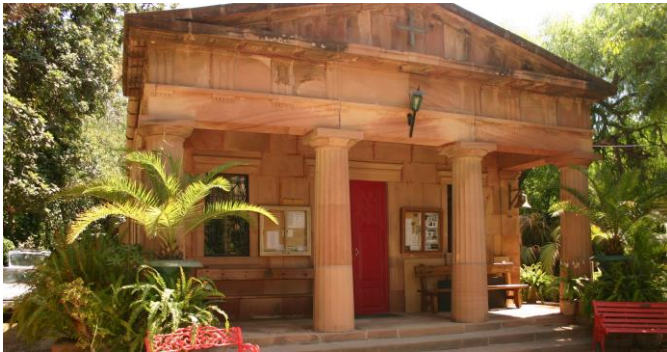


St George's Málaga : Legacy Guide

<https://stgeorgesmalaga.com/>



Would you consider leaving a legacy to St George's Church in your will? It is a way of thanking God for all you have shared with us here and an effective way of supporting the Church. It costs very little now and can make a big difference later.

There are really two reasons why we might make a gift to the church at our passing. Firstly, a gift to the Church is an effective and valuable expression of gratitude, love, and thanksgiving to God. If the Church has been part of your life, then you will know how much you have valued the regular worship it offers, your growth in the Christian faith and the Christian fellowship you have shared with others.

Secondly, a gift can safeguard the Church's mission for future generations. It can help to keep the Church alive here in Malaga, support our mission and ministry, transform its future, and leave something special for the benefit of generations to come.

Leaving money to the Church in your will allows you to support worthwhile causes even after you're gone. It can also be an effective way to reduce the tax burden of your legacy.

How do you go about leaving a legacy?

We encourage you and all adults to make a will and to review it regularly. It may seem daunting, or something that you don't want to face or keep putting off. But it is the best way to make sure your wishes are carried out after you die, and ease the burden on family or loved ones at a difficult time.

There are some simple steps to follow if you are considering leaving a legacy to the Church.

1. Discuss. If you wish to, please come and have an initial discussion in confidence with one of our clergy. It is not our job to convince you to leave a legacy to the Church. Rather we want to make sure that you are comfortable with what you have written, or intend to write, in your will. As a first step, contact malagachaplain@gmail.com.

2. Read. The web is full of advice, good and bad. But there are three key weblinks we would suggest you have a look at:

- For an overview of legacies and how to make them: <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/get-involved/donate/leave-legacy/>
- For the various considerations necessary when planning a legacy to a church: www.churchlegacy.org.uk
- For those living in Spain and/or with Spanish assets, <https://www.thegazette.co.uk/all-notices/content/103800>. You will also find help on the Age in Spain site, <https://www.ageinspain.org/make-a-will>

3. Share. If appropriate, it is a good idea to discuss your plans with your family and/or heirs. They will be concerned to make sure your will reflects your wishes and interests, as they see them. In most cases, you would wish to make provision for them in your will. But a legacy outside the family might be something that they are not expecting, and it could be helpful for you to make them aware.

4. Get advice. We strongly advise you to obtain professional advice when writing or amending your will. When you are ready, if in the UK engage a solicitor or in Spain the best advice is to find a lawyer who is experienced in will drafting. If you have assets in more than one location you may well seek advice on making more than one will.

It will be helpful to include the Church's details thus: St George's Anglican Church, Avenida de Pries 1, Malaga, 29016, Spain, and to say that the recipient is the Chaplaincy Council and that the receipt by an officer of the Chaplaincy Council will be sufficient discharge to your executors. But your lawyer will advise on this.

How will we use the money?

Our policy is to use gifts to help fund specific projects/activities within St. George's rather than for general expenditure. So you can rest assured that your gift will be used only to make a real difference to the future of our Church and its mission.

That said, it gives us more flexibility to respond to future needs if you can indicate that your gift is to be used 'as required by the Church at the time' rather than for a specific restricted purpose. We will discuss possible uses of your gift with your executors when the time comes, keeping in mind the things you were involved/interested in within the Church and the Church's priorities at the time.

For example, your legacy could support the church's work with a specific group, build our music ministry, or help to redecorate the church. We welcome all gifts in wills, however small or large, and we want to assure you that your gift will make a difference and maintain our spiritual heritage.

Some previous legacies

We have been fortunate to receive some generous gifts in the past. In the 1970s a family left £70,000 to the Diocese in Europe to be invested and only the interest to be deposited in the St. George's Málaga account in London. For a number of years this interest paid the Chaplain's fees. In the 1990s a former member of the congregation left the church an apartment on Paseo Reding, which is now used as the Chaplain's residence, and a former churchwarden invested €30,000 for emergency and fabric use for the church building. Other small legacies have included €2,000 for restoration of the Cemetery fountain, and gifts to pay for the pulpit, wooden panels behind the altar and silver items, such as chalices.

What does the Bible say?

Central to the Old Testament was the importance of passing religious traditions from one generation to the next, and with it, the financial resources to support the community and grow the nation. In Proverbs (13:22) we read that "a good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children" and in the Psalms that "We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord." (Psalm 78:4)

In the New Testament, Jesus emphasised the danger of simply storing up more and more money for oneself: "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matt 6:19-21), and he told the rich young man (Mark 10:21) to "go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven".

A prayer

*Generous God, we thank you:
For the gifts you have given us,
the abundance of your Creation,
and the beauty that surrounds us.
For the people whose lives have
touched ours,
for the love they show,
the burdens they lift,
the hopes we share.*

*Compassionate God, we ask you:
to fill us with your love,
to place in our hearts a spirit of
courage,
to move us to reach out to others
in need.*

*And lead us to play our part,
so that now and in generations to
come
all your children may share
in our hope for a better world.
We ask this through Christ our
Lord. Amen.*