

50 Fund Raising Ideas for Parishes

The following list has been drawn up following a number of consultation meetings with our colleagues in Lincoln and Leicester Dioceses and also invited attendees who the Parishes Funding Team felt may have the necessary expertise, farsightedness or enthusiasm to give their assistance. This is by no means an exhaustive list and it may well be that you have tried a number – or possibly all – of these in your Parish already. However, we hope that some of these ideas might just strike a chord and that they may inspire you to have a go.

We have tried to suggest ideas which will involve a wide range of people both within and outside the church community. In this way we are not always going to the same people for money and we can “spread the load”. They also create opportunities to show the church in action and may provide the ideal environment in which to welcome new members of your community.

If you have any ideas that you have tried and which have been successful but are not on our list, please do let us know and we will be delighted to share these ideas with others in the Diocese.

We hope that you will find these both useful and a source of fun.

Parishes Funding Team – “Putting the fun in fundraising”

- 1 Art Show & Sale of Entries
- 2 Photographic Competition and sale of entries
- 3 Craft Fair
- 4 Catalogue Sales (Webb Ivory etc)
- 5 Pancake Evening/Races
- 6 Beetle Drive
- 7 Musical Concerts. (These could be run using local talent or using the services of a choir/singing group where profits are split between the parties involved)
- 8 Millionaires Evening – Black Jack, Roulette etc. People buy chips and the person with the most chips at the end of the evening, wins a prize
- 9 Open Tower Days
- 10 Festivals – These can be based on any theme of your choice. A few suggestions are :-Flower, Christmas tree, Angels, Crib, Easter Gardens
- 11 Open Gardens & Garden Parties, Additional income can be raised from plant sales and cake sales etc
- 12 Use of Patronal Festival, Once again, these present a number of opportunities such as an Annual dinner, barbeque or garden party etc.
- 13 Abseiling from Tower
- 14 Parachuting Teddies – competition to see which Teddy parachutes the furthest from the top of the tower. Can be combined with the Open Tower and/or refreshments.
- 15 Hog Roast
- 16 “Posh Nosh” – high class dinner parties where guests know they are going to have to pay for their dinner!
- 17 Farmer’s Markets
- 18 Car Boot Sales, possibly held on the Church car park
- 19 Car wash – possibly combined with the item above. Possibly involving the younger members of the congregation.
- 20 Table Top Sales/Garage Sales
- 21 Sponsored Events – Everyone knows all about sponsored events! Why not try something a little different such as:-
 - Row across the channel – using rowing machines
 - Slide down Everest – using flume at local Swimming Pool
 - “Give it up” – for Lent?
 - Dog Walk
- 22 Golf Tournament
- 23 Leading Workshops – Flower Arranging, Crafts etc and charging attendees. Using talent from the congregation where possible.
- 24 Recycling – Paper, Mobile Phones, Printer Cartridges, Cans etc
- 25 Pamper Parties
- 26 Recipe Books – Why not approach your local MP, Mayor, Sports Star etc to contribute their favourite recipe
- 27 Treasure Hunt – On foot
- 28 Guess the weight (of the cake or Vicar! or anything else you wish to choose)
- 29 Karaoke Night – pay to sing your favourite song, pay not to sing, pay to make someone else sing!
- 30 Quiz Night
- 31 Quote Quiz or Song Lyrics Quiz

- 32 Wacky Races – Ducks – using local stream or river and plastic ducks
Snails
Ferrets
Frogs (Not real ones)
Toy Cars
Babies!!
- 33 Indoor Games Evening – Dominoes, Shove Halfpenny, Skittles etc
- 34 Play Station Olympics
- 35 Charity Cricket Match – possibly against a “Celebrity” team
- 36 Special Parcel Wrapping Service at Christmas
- 37 Holiday Help Service – looking after pets, watering plants etc
- 38 Bad Taste Clothing Sunday! – pay to take part or pay not to take part!
- 39 Auction of Services – home decorating, cooking a meal, gardening etc
- 40 Fancy Dress Walks
- 41 Make and sell toys (or knitted garments etc)
- 42 A mile of pennies
- 43 Collect foreign coins – left over from holidays
- 44 Slimming club – sponsored weight loss
- 45 Darts Tournament
- 46 Talent Show
- 47 Guess the baby competition (from photographs of people as babies – not actual babies!)
- 48 Soup'n'Spud Morning – Jacket Potatoes with range of fillings, bacon butties, sausage cobs, home made soup etc
- 49 Pub Skittles evening
- 50 Barn Dance, Square Dance Line Dancing or even Salsa!

Most of the above can also involve food and drink – both tried and tested ways of extracting money!!

Happy Fund Raising