

DONATION AND TAX



All donations to the church are tax-deductable, whether by Überweisung or Freewill Offering envelopes. At the beginning of each new year, the treasurer will give you a statement for the past year for your tax return: a “Bestätigung über Zuwendungen”. You can then enter the amount on your tax form as: “Spende für kirchliche, religiöse und gemeinnützige Zwecke”. The German Finanzamt then gives you tax relief according to the amount of your gift.

ST THOMAS BECKET, HAMBURG

Church Treasurer
Stuart Cooke
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ST THOMAS BECKET, HAMBURG

CHRISTIAN GIVING MARCH 2011



St Thomas Becket Anglican Church
Zeughausmarkt 22
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www.anglican-church-hamburg.de

VOLUNTARY CHRISTIAN GIVING

The Church of St Thomas Becket does not receive any money from the German church Tax (Kirchensteuer). The Church occasionally receives donations or bequests, but these cannot finance our church life, building maintenance, support of our chaplain, activities or work in the city of Hamburg.

Our church building, chaplain's salary, worship, mission and outreach are financed entirely by your voluntary giving.



It is our Christian task to support the Church's work through an amount that is set aside in a planned way. If you are on our Electoral Roll, then you have already made a commitment to support our Church through faith, time, worship - and giving. The Bible encourages us to give cheerfully and in thanksgiving for all our blessings.

GIVING SUNDAY

Christian Giving Sunday is an annual reminder to all members of our church family - especially those on the Electoral Roll - to commit a part of your income to support our Anglican mission in Hamburg.

"All things come from You and of your own do we give you."
We say this when the offerings are brought to the altar each Sunday. *"Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also"* says Jesus. Our Lord expects us to be faithful stewards of what we have.

HOW MUCH?

Our church depends on you and your donations, as St Thomas Becket has no other source of income, receives no church tax, and does not receive any funds from the Diocese. We are rather like any other organization with members who pay membership fees, except that, in our church, there is no fixed price and all donations are strictly confidential. We are encouraged to give a realistic amount. Our Diocesan Handbook suggests that every member of the congregation give as a standard 5% of taxable income to the church and chaplaincy, which would mean a family unit or single person with a total net income of 2000 EUR a month would donate 100 EUR a month to the church. Some may find this too much, while others give more.

Extra donations, for example, to celebrate your thanks on your birthday or other happy occasion, are especially welcome!

Two ways of Giving

1. Bank Credit Transfer
(Überweisung or Dauerauftrag)
Empfänger: The English Church
Konto Nr. 1280 146422
BLZ 200 505 50
Kreditinstitut: Hamburger Sparkasse
Verwendungszweck: *Spende*

A screenshot of a German bank transfer form titled 'Überweisungsauftrag / Zahlheft'. The form is mostly orange and white. It contains fields for 'Name und IBAN des Empfängers (Kontoblatt)', 'Kontoblatt', 'Betrag', and 'Währung'. The currency is set to 'EUR'. There are also fields for 'Überweisungsbetrag' and 'Zahlungstermin'. The form is partially filled out with some text and numbers.

2. Freewill Offering Envelopes
You can obtain your own numbered envelopes from Emmanuel Saarkodie, our church council member. Only the church treasurer can identify the number with a person - **confidentiality is ensured.**

Some people use both systems.