

If you are going to write a will for the first time, a bequest can be included as one of the provisions. If an existing will does not have such a bequest, or needs to be reviewed for other reasons, the bequest can be added to it through a codicil. Your attorney can help you with the language, or sample language is available in the Episcopal Church Foundation's booklet *Planning for the End of Life*, available in the church office.

One of the main things to remember in considering a bequest is that it doesn't have to be large to be valuable. Many small bequests can accomplish many wonderful things. A bequest in your will is a symbol of your appreciation for the many ways your church has supported you, and it will enable you to leave a legacy for future generations.

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**For more information** on writing a will, including a medical directive and advice on how to plan your funeral, please complete this form and return it to the church office or contact the Episcopal Church Foundation at (800) 697-2858 or [www.episcopal.foundation.org](http://www.episcopal.foundation.org).

Name \_\_\_\_\_

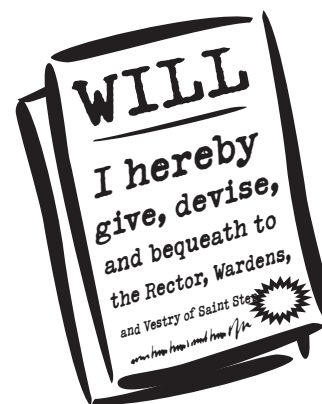
Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

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## An Act of Will

***“To give away money is an easy matter and in any man’s power. But to decide to whom to give it, and how large, and when, and for what purpose and how, is neither in every man’s power nor an easy matter.”***

—Aristotle

SOMETIMES IT TAKES an act of will to write a will. Thinking about the end of life isn't an easy thing to do especially if there is no significant change in your life to prompt you to do it. However, not arranging how your assets will be distributed can sometimes have a devastating effect on your family since they can no longer make decisions on your behalf—the state does.

Making a will is not only a way to settle your estate and remember the people dear to you but also a way to honor organizations, such as your church, which have had a significant impact in your life. A bequest is the easiest of all gifts to make. It can be written in many ways. It can be made effective at the death of the person drawing the will, or at the death of the last survivor of a husband and wife. It can be stated as a specific dollar amount, as a percentage of an estate, or as a contingency bequest. A bequest can be a designated gift to benefit a particular ministry or, as an undesignated gift, it will be added to the endowment.