

Safer places of Worship

Offerory Boxes

Theft from offertory boxes is probably the most common crime within places of worship, but is also one of the easiest to prevent. The person who steals from offertory boxes generally acts on impulse because the opportunity is there.

The following advice is given to protect your donations: -

- Wherever possible install a metal wall box with a flush-fitting heavy metal front. The box should be firmly bolted and grouted into the masonry;
- Empty the wall box on a regular basis. Do not allow more than a few pounds to accumulate;
- Display a sign to the effect that the wall box is regularly emptied;
- NEVER use a wooden box, regardless of whether it is chained, screwed or bolted into position
- NEVER leave the key inside the building – the criminal WILL find it.