

3 Parish Financial Support Commitment

Our commitment to financially support the parish should be made after prayerful consideration and reflection. The sharing of our "treasure" should be intentional, planned and proportionate:

Intentional....

This means that our gift is well thought out and based on a decision to live the life of a Christian steward. We recognize that our offering is an expression of God's priority in our lives, not an afterthought. We realize that all that we have is a gift from God and we are called to return a portion of our resources to support His work through the Church.

Planned....

This means that each household makes a commitment of support as part of its budget. Just like a mortgage, car payment or insurance; it is an amount that is planned for and not what is left over after all other needs are met. We may need to reprioritize our financial goals to ensure that the Lord comes first in our spending; He doesn't ask for much in return for what He has given each of us.

Proportionate....

This means that we make a decision to give a certain percentage of our income to the Church and to other charitable causes. The Scriptures teach us that our goal should be a tithe, or 10% of our income to charity. Many of us have to work up to that due to other financial commitments. As we take steps to improve our financial health we can then increase our percentage proportionately.

We encourage the use of parish offertory envelopes. They are helpful reminders of our Stewardship Commitments, they encourage consistency in giving, and they allow the parish to keep an accounting of contributions for tax and other purposes. Pre-printed offertory envelopes will be mailed to each household on a monthly basis. When envelopes are not used and loose cash is put in the offertory collection, it makes the gift seem unintentional and unplanned.

There are times when little or any financial support to the parish is possible. Unexpected job loss or unforeseen expenses can occur. While it is not necessary to share this information, keep in mind that the parish may be able to assist families in their time of need.

Pledge of Financial Support

In prayerful thanksgiving for God's many blessings, this is my/our financial commitment for the support of the parish for the coming year:

\$ _____ weekly \$ _____ monthly \$ _____ annually

My/our method of donation will be:

_____ Envelopes, _____ Online/Electronic Giving, _____ Other (stocks, gift annuity, etc.)

___ I/We can't pledge any financial support at this time; we would like to speak to the pastor regarding this matter.

Name _____ Parish ID # _____

I/We understand that we are under no obligation to fulfill this pledge and can change it at any time.