

Discerning How & What to Give

PRAYERFUL

The spirituality of stewardship should be the foundation of your discernment on what and how to give. We are not just created *by* God, but *for* God.

PLANNED

Stewardship of your time, talent and treasure requires thought, planning and commitment. Stewardship will help you arrive at the right use of money for your family. Your commitment to your parish needs to be integrated into other financial decisions and incorporated into the regular family budget.

PROPORTIONATE

Consider tithing your prayer time as well as financial gifts to the parish. Start assessing what you are giving now and reflect on how you are sharing those gifts.

WEEKLY GIVING

In thanksgiving for God's gifts, each household is asked to budget a weekly gift to the parish of 5% of the household income. Use the chart to determine your level of giving. If you are unable to commit to the full 5% at this time, please work toward a periodic giving increase of one or two percent until you reach the scriptural tithe.

Sacrificial giving is one way we follow in the footsteps of the Lord.

Jesus sacrificed everything so that we might have life.

By making our support of our parish a priority in our lives, we can give up something of ourselves in order that our faith might continue to grow.



the joy of

STEWARDSHIP

Parish Name

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City, State 00000
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Parish Name

TAKING A STEP TOWARD SACRIFICIAL GIVING



... No one shall appear before the Lord empty-handed, but each of you with as much as he can give, in proportion to the blessings which the Lord, your God, has bestowed on you.

Dt. 16:16-17

How to use the Planning Guide

In thanksgiving for our blessings, each household is asked to work toward giving a planned percentage of income and assets to our parish.

- Find your household income on the left side of the chart.
- Move across the line until you find the average amount that you contribute to the weekly parish offertory.
- Move up to the top of the column to find the percentage of your income that you currently are giving to your parish.
- Talk with your family and decide how many progress steps you will be able to take at this time.
- You may also want to set up an eventual goal, like the biblical standard of a tithe (10%) for your giving.
- You can also make some decisions about the other charitable programs you want to support at this time.
- It may take a number of years to reach this goal – but by making steady progress steps each year, it should be possible.

Household Income				Weekly Gift to Parish				
Hourly	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly	1%	2%	3%	4%	5%
\$4.80	\$190	\$835	\$10,000	\$2.00	\$4.00	\$6.00	\$8.00	\$10.00
7.20	290	1,250	15,000	3.00	6.00	9.00	12.00	14.00
9.60	385	1,667	20,000	4.00	8.00	12.00	15.00	19.00
12.00	480	2,085	25,000	5.00	10.00	14.00	19.00	24.00
14.50	575	2,500	30,000	6.00	12.00	17.00	23.00	29.00
16.75	675	2,915	35,000	7.00	13.00	20.00	27.00	34.00
19.25	770	3,335	40,000	8.00	15.00	23.00	31.00	38.00
24.00	960	4,165	50,000	10.00	19.00	29.00	38.00	48.00
29.00	1,155	5,000	60,000	12.00	23.00	35.00	46.00	58.00
33.50	1,345	5,835	70,000	13.00	27.00	40.00	54.00	67.00
38.50	1,540	6,665	80,000	15.00	31.00	46.00	62.00	77.00
48.00	1,925	8,335	100,000	19.00	38.00	58.00	77.00	96.00
57.70	2,308	10,000	120,000	23.00	46.00	69.00	92.00	115.00

How much should I be giving?

That’s a question that people ask every day. There is not a “magic” formula that would give every family of our parish the right amount. The way to start is with an evaluation of what you’re giving right now.

Most of us are a little surprised when we evaluate our giving. Prayerfully reflect on the question, *“Does what I’m giving adequately reflect my gratitude to God?”*

Although many people use the biblical tithe (or tenth) as the norm for giving to charitable causes, this can often be a goal that takes several years to work up to. Don’t get discouraged. By taking a series of small “progress steps” over a period of time, almost everyone can increase the amount they give back to God

Many plan their giving so that half of their donations go directly to their parish and the rest go to support other worthy programs.

You must determine which different organizations you will support and to what extent. There is not a single “right answer” for everyone.