

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 discover how little it really is. The question to ask is not "what percentage do I need to give?" but rather, "Does what I'm giving adequately reflect my gratitude to God?"

Although many people use the biblical tithing (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 let the fact that you're only giving one or two percent right now discourage you from the concept of stewardship. By taking a series of small "progress steps" over a period of time, almost everyone can increase the amount they give back to God.

It is common practice among those who have adopted a stewardship attitude to divide their gifts between their home parish and other charitable causes. Many plan their giving so that half of their donations go directly to their parish and the rest go to support other worthy programs.

Again, you must determine which different organizations you will support and to what extent. There is not a single "right answer" for everyone.

Perhaps the most significant outcome of sacrificial giving is that it causes us to look at our priorities. By re-ordering these priorities and reconsidering our values, we make the ideal of a sacrificial gift a reality. And every time we give that gift, we are reminded of the reasons that we choose to give.

Sacrificial giving is one of the ways that we have of following 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

123 Any Street
Any Where, KY
00000
(270) 555-5555
church@dom.org

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 XXXX 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.

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

Making a Consistent Offertory Gift

Your decision is a commitment made with God. However, to help the parish plan its annual budget, please consider filling out and returning this response card

First & Last Name (use one per household)

Address

City State ZIP

Telephone (important)

Gift to Parish \$ _____ { } weekly { } monthly

Our total giving for one year \$ _____
{ } I would like to have my/our gift automatically drafted from my bank account beginning _____ (date).

Enclosed is a voided check with this commitment card. I understand that the automatic draft will continue monthly until I request otherwise.

{ } I currently use automatic transfer. Please revise the amount of my/our monthly gift to \$ _____.

Signature

Date