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How Should I Give?

Although most parishioners use weekly envelopes, twelve percent give by using the automatic offering plan.

The Church of Saint Joseph Automatic Offering Plan is a convenient, safe, and reliable way to make monthly contributions using electronic transfer. Your contributions are automatically withdrawn from a regular checking or saving account at any bank or credit union. It's 100% safe and you can cancel or change your contribution at any time. Best of all, it saves you time, and helps us keep our budget on track throughout the year.

Here's what one parishioner had to say about the Automatic Offering Plan:

It's great. It's easy to sign up, easy to change and makes me feel good knowing that every week my contributions are making it to church—whether or not I do. I don't have to write checks or remember to bring my envelopes every Sunday. I would encourage all parishioners to take advantage of this program.

Please call Sandy Scholz at the Church of Saint Joseph, 612-363-7505, x 120 if you have any questions.

Please visit our website at
www.churchstjoseph.org

Church of Saint Joseph
12 West Minnesota Street
St. Joseph, MN 56374



Offering Commitment 2011

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320-363-7505
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Commitment of Offering to the Church of Saint Joseph • St. Joseph, MN

No one shall appear before the Lord empty-handed, but each of you with as much as he or she can give, in proportion to the blessings which the Lord, our God, has bestowed on you.
—Deuteronomy 16:16-17

Wise Stewardship

As wise stewards of all we have and are, we serve as caretakers of the time and talents that God has given. A life of stewardship is a challenge, and the call for financial stewardship can be our greatest challenge. A scriptural model can help us better prioritize our regular giving.

There are five aspects of wise financial stewardship.

- Giving is planned. It is meant to be intentional, involving decisions made thoughtfully, in advance.
- Giving is proportional, a regular percentage of a person's income, no matter how generous or modest.
- Giving is sacrificial, modeled on the work of Jesus Christ, from the best we have to offer.
- Giving is also free, not coercive and not conditional.
- Lastly, and most importantly, giving is an act of prayer, offered in thanksgiving out of a heart of gratitude.

...Give to God as he has given to you, generously, according to your means. —Sirach 35:7-10

A Steward's Creed

I believe in the gifts of God, and feel gratitude for all I have been given. These gifts are not mine to have, but mine to share. When they are shared, my gifts will make a difference for others. And I believe the act of giving is more important than the gift itself.

So I will make giving a priority.

I will give to others because so much of what I have comes from others. I will give of who I am, what I do and what I have. To my family, faith, and community, I will give myself.

As Christ gave so much for so many, so I will give to you. And I will be thankful for the opportunity to give.

How much should I give?

Of course, it's not the gift, but your giving that's most important. As a guide, Saint Joseph parishioners typically make a commitment of between 2% to 10% of their weekly income. See the chart below for specific examples.

Guidelines for a Weekly Offering Amount				
Weekly Income	10%	5%	4%	2%
\$200	\$20	\$10	\$8	\$4
500	50	25	20	10
750	75	37	30	15
1,000	100	50	40	20
1,500	150	75	60	30
2,000	200	100	80	40
2,500	250	125	100	50

Commitment for 2011

1 Amount

My/Our commitment for 2011 will be a total gift of

\$ _____

To be paid in weekly monthly annual

installments of \$ _____

2 Payment Options (select one)

Option 1: Sunday and Special Offering Envelopes
Envelopes will be sent to you for your contributions.

Option 2: Automatic Offering Plan (new)
I/We authorize the Church of Saint Joseph to automatically withdraw my commitment amount on the 20th of each month, beginning January 20, 2011. (Please attach a voided check.)

Option 3: Automatic Offering Plan (current)
Please continue to automatically withdraw my contributions.

3 Personal Information (please print)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Envelope No. _____ Phone _____

4 Signature

Signature _____

Date _____

Please fill in and return this commitment card at Mass on November 20-21. You may also drop it into the Parish Communication Center, bring it to the parish office, or mail it to the address on the reverse side. Thank you.