



STEWARDSHIP BLESSED AND GENEROUS

MY CATHOLIC GIVING GUIDE

God's generosity overflows to us in every breath, every talent, and every material blessing, and He invites us to mirror that generosity with the gifts He has entrusted to us. Scripture makes this call unmistakable: **"Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the first-fruits of all your increase" (Prov 3:9)** and, in response to His goodness, **"How shall I render to the Lord for all his benefits toward me?" (Ps 116:12)**. The Church teaches that the "first-fruits" are the initial portion of what we receive, offered as a sign of gratitude and as a concrete participation in God's providential plan. In grateful response, we must intentionally create a deliberate plan for our giving.

Best Practices

- Create and maintain a household budget
- Plan your giving annually
- Set up recurring giving where available
- Understand that tithing means to give 10% of your gross income. Suggested amounts: 5% to the local parish offertory and 5 percent to other Church needs and ministries



Offertory

Whether giving weekly, monthly or yearly, the offertory supports the parish's mission and ministries.



Diocesan Services Fund (Ministry)

Supports the immediate and urgent mission of the local Church, including ministries, parishes and schools.



Second Collections

Supports the priorities of the pope and bishops through specific national and worldwide ministries.



Parish Capital Campaigns

Provides the means for parishes to carry out specific projects.



713-652-8217



MY CATHOLIC GIVING GUIDE WORKSHEET

1. CALCULATE ANNUAL GROSS FAMILY INCOME:

My income	\$ _____
My spouse's income	\$ _____
Other income	\$ _____
Total income	\$ _____

2. DETERMINE ANNUAL PERCENTAGE TO GIVE:

Tithing (10%)	_____ %
- or -	
Other	_____ %

3. CALCULATE ANNUAL DOLLAR GIVING AMOUNT:

Total Annual Gross Family Income X Annual Giving Percentage = Annual Dollar Giving Amount			
\$ _____	X	_____ %	= \$ _____

4. DETERMINE DOLLAR AMOUNT FOR EACH GIVING OPPORTUNITY:

PARISH OFFERTORY	
Weekly \$ _____ (or) Monthly \$ _____	Annual \$ _____
BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL	
Annual \$ _____	Monthly Pledge \$ _____
PARISH CAPITAL CAMPAIGN (if applicable)	
Annual \$ _____	Monthly Pledge \$ _____
SECOND COLLECTIONS	
Bishops' Fund for Latin America	\$ _____
Archdiocesan Social Ministries Collection	\$ _____
Black and Indian Mission Collection	\$ _____
Catholic Relief Services Collection	\$ _____
Basilica fo the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception	\$ _____
Holy Land Collection	\$ _____
Home Missions Collection	\$ _____
Catholic Communications Campaign	\$ _____
St. Mary Seminary Collection	\$ _____
Holy Father (Peter's Pence)	\$ _____
St. Vincent de Paul Society Black Bag	\$ _____
Infirm Priests Collection	\$ _____
Catholic University of America/University of St. Thomas	\$ _____
Collection for the Archdiocese of Military Services	\$ _____
World Mission Sunday	\$ _____
Retired Priests Collection	\$ _____
Campaign for Human Development	\$ _____
Retirement Fund for Religious Collection	\$ _____
OTHER CHURCH NEEDS AND DSF MINISTRIES	
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
TOTAL ANNUAL GIVING	\$ _____

GIVING EXAMPLES		
1. Calculate annual gross family income:		
My income		\$45,000
Spouse's income		\$10,000
Other income		\$5,000
Total		\$60,000
2. Determine annual percentage to give:		
3%	- OR -	10%
3. Calculate annual dollar giving amount:		
\$60,000		\$60,000
<u>x3%</u>		<u>x10%</u>
\$1,800	- OR -	\$6,000
4. Determine amount for each giving opportunity:		
\$1,800	50% of annual giving	\$6,000
<u>x 50%</u>	to Parish Offertory:	<u>x 50%</u>
\$900		\$3,000
\$900		\$3,000
<u>÷ 52</u>	>> <u>Weekly</u> <<	<u>÷ 52</u>
\$17.30	□ - OR -	\$57.70
\$900		\$3,000
<u>÷ 12</u>	>> <u>Monthly</u> <<	<u>÷ 12</u>
\$75.00		\$250.00
\$20	Second Collections	\$50
<u>x 20</u>	(for 20 weeks)	<u>x 20</u>
\$400		\$1,000
\$200	DSF	\$600
Other Ministries		
\$200	<u>School Fundraiser</u>	\$800
\$60	Ministry 1	\$350
\$40	Ministry 2	\$250
\$300		\$1,400
\$1,800	TOTAL	\$6,000

According to the teaching of the Gospel, we are not owners but rather administrators of the goods we possess: these, then, are not to be considered as our exclusive possession, but means through which the Lord calls each one of us to act as a steward of His providence for our neighbor. As the [Catechism of the Catholic Church](#) reminds us, material goods bear a social value, according to the principle of their universal destination (cf. n. 2404)

-Pope Benedict XVI

