

Giving to our Church

Throughout scriptures we are asked to give of our “first fruits.” The bible also speaks of tithing, or giving of a certain percentage back to God. The Church today has asked us to reflect on the blessings we have been given and give “in proportion to the blessing the LORD, your God, has bestowed on you.” (Deuteronomy 16:10) There are many ways to support the universal Church, whether it is with gifts today through the Bishop’s Fund, our offertory gift, or it is a gift which builds over time, such as a percentage of our retirement or our estate in our will. Please contact the Office of Stewardship and Development for more information at 802-658-6110.

Every gift counts, please participate in any way possible. Thank you.

Scriptural basis to giving

-- Giving of First Fruits

Deuteronomy 26:1-4 “you shall take some first fruits of the various products of the soil which you harvest from the land which the LORD, your God, gives you, and putting them in a basket, you shall go to the place which the LORD, your God, chooses for the dwelling place of his name. There you shall go to the priest in office at that time and say to him, “Today I acknowledge to the LORD””

- Proverbs 3:9 “Honor the LORD with your wealth, with first fruits of all your produce”
- Sample income chart below

Guide for Giving

Annual Income	Annual Gift - Percent of Income				
	5%	4%	3%	2%	1%
\$10,400	\$520	\$416	\$312	\$208	\$104
\$15,600	\$780	\$624	\$468	\$312	\$156
\$20,800	\$1,040	\$832	\$624	\$416	\$208
\$26,000	\$1,300	\$1,040	\$780	\$520	\$260
\$31,200	\$1,560	\$1,248	\$936	\$624	\$312
\$36,400	\$1,820	\$1,456	\$1,092	\$728	\$364
\$41,600	\$2,080	\$1,664	\$1,248	\$832	\$416
\$46,800	\$2,340	\$1,872	\$1,404	\$936	\$468
\$52,000	\$2,600	\$2,080	\$1,560	\$1,040	\$520
\$57,200	\$2,860	\$2,288	\$1,716	\$1,144	\$572

Annual Income	Annual Gift - Percent of Income				
	5%	4%	3%	2%	1%
\$62,400	\$3,120	\$2,496	\$1,872	\$1,248	\$624
\$67,600	\$3,380	\$2,704	\$2,028	\$1,352	\$676
\$72,800	\$3,640	\$2,912	\$2,184	\$1,456	\$728
\$78,000	\$3,900	\$3,120	\$2,340	\$1,560	\$780
\$83,200	\$4,160	\$3,328	\$2,496	\$1,664	\$832
\$88,400	\$4,420	\$3,536	\$2,652	\$1,768	\$884
\$93,600	\$4,680	\$3,744	\$2,808	\$1,872	\$936
\$98,800	\$4,940	\$3,952	\$2,964	\$1,976	\$988
\$104,000	\$5,200	\$4,160	\$3,120	\$2,080	\$1,040
\$109,200	\$5,460	\$4,368	\$3,276	\$2,184	\$1,092

Annual Income	Weekly Offering - Percent of Income			
	5%	4%	3%	2%
\$10,400	\$10	\$8	\$6	\$4
\$15,600	\$15	\$12	\$9	\$6
\$20,800	\$20	\$16	\$12	\$8
\$26,000	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$10
\$31,200	\$30	\$24	\$18	\$12
\$36,400	\$35	\$28	\$21	\$14
\$41,600	\$40	\$32	\$24	\$16
\$46,800	\$45	\$36	\$27	\$18
\$52,000	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$20
\$57,200	\$55	\$44	\$33	\$22

Annual Income	Weekly Offering - Percent of Income			
	5%	4%	3%	2%
\$62,400	\$80	\$48	\$36	\$24
\$67,600	\$85	\$52	\$39	\$26
\$72,800	\$90	\$56	\$42	\$28
\$78,000	\$95	\$60	\$45	\$30
\$83,200	\$100	\$64	\$48	\$32
\$88,400	\$105	\$68	\$51	\$34
\$93,600	\$110	\$72	\$54	\$36
\$98,800	\$115	\$76	\$57	\$38
\$104,000	\$120	\$80	\$60	\$40
\$109,200	\$125	\$84	\$63	\$42

-- Tithing

- Genesis 28:22, Vow of Jacob “Of everything you give me, I will faithfully return a tenth part to you.”
- Deuteronomy 14: 22 “Each year you shall tithe all the produce that grows in the field you have sown.”
- Tobit 4: 8 “ give alms in proportion to what you own. If you have great wealth, give alms out of your abundance; if you have but little, distribute even some of that. But do not hesitate to give alms.”
- Hebrews 7:4
- Example of Tithing: 10% (minimum, not cap),
 - 4-6% to Church
 - 1-2% Bishop’s Fund (to the Diocese or universal Church)

- 2-5% other Charities (Diocese, your Parish, Catholic Charities, Birthright, St. Vincent DePaul society, Food Shelf . . .) – may include non-cash gifts i.e. clothing

-- Additional Scripture references to supporting the Church

- Matthew 5: 23-24
- Luke 6:38
- 1 Corinthians 13:3
- 1 Corinthians 16:2
- Malachi 3:10
- Leviticus 27 : 30-32
- Why Give?
 - Proverbs 3:10
 - Luke 6:37-38
 - 1 Corinthians 4:8
 - 2 Corinthians 9:6-7
 - 2 Corinthians 8: 12-15
 - Ephesians 4:32
 - 1 Timothy 4: 8-10
 - Hebrews 10:19-25
 - Hebrews 13:16
 - James 2 14-17
 - Jude 1:3-4

Vermont Statistics on giving (from “Giving in Vermont,” research done by The Vermont Community Foundation)

-- Vermont is consistently below the national average for individual giving, even when adjusting for income.

- Vermont’s average contribution places it in the bottom ten states in the nation.
- Vermont’s average contribution per itemizer is \$3,445 – or 75% of the national average.²¹
- New England households contribute as much as 33% more than the national average to secular causes and as much as 45% less than the national average to religion. (Giving to religion includes giving to organizations such as Catholic Charities).

-- National research into the value of grant making shows that every \$1 contributed to a nonprofit organization generates an average of \$8.58 in total economic return.

- In 2006, nonprofits accounted for 8.1% of the wages and salaries and 9.7% of the jobs in the U.S.⁴²

-- Vermonters are among the most generous givers of time in the nation.

- Vermont ranks 9th in the United States for volunteerism, with approximately 35.6% of residents giving their time to support charitable organizations.

-- Other Statistics

- VT Minimum Wage \$8.06

- National Minimum Wage is \$7.25
- National avg. weekly offertory gift per wage earner is nearly \$15

Also visit our Stewardship page! [LINK](#)

The Bishop's Fund follows the rich tradition of the church when even the earliest of Christians laid their gifts at the feet of the apostles. The Bishop is our Apostolic representative in Vermont. What gifts will we lay at his feet this year to serve the needs of our Diocese?
