



Stewardship

Grateful and Generous

MY CATHOLIC GIVING GUIDE

IF YOU BELIEVE IN GOD, YOU BELIEVE IN STEWARDSHIP.

True stewardship calls us to recognize one simple yet profound truth: **everything we have comes from God.** Everything we “own” is really on loan from Him. This is what makes us stewards.

As we grow in our understanding of true stewardship, we recognize everything as a gift.

- Think and pray about the ways God has blessed your life and the abundance of gifts that surround you. **Do you recognize the giver behind the gift?**
- Think and pray about the worth of your gratitude. **Is your gratitude shallow or sincere? What is the worth of your worship?** Worship is giving God honor through prayer and sacrifice.

The Stewardship Way of Life invites us to elevate our gratitude and response to God by “receiving God’s gifts gratefully, cherish and tend God’s gifts responsibly, share them in justice and love with others, and return them with increase to the Lord.”

- USCCB Stewardship: A Disciple’s Response

STEWARDSHIP BEST PRACTICES

- 1.** Receive God’s gifts with gratitude and return them with increase.
- 2.** Create and maintain a household budget.
- 3.** Prayerfully plan your giving annually (see backside for giving worksheet).
 - Make your giving a priority, not an occasional activity or last-minute decision.
 - Consider giving a percentage of your income. In God’s economy, the percentage of the gift is far more important than the amount (see Mark 12:43). To honor God, we are to give from our substance.
 - Progressively increase your gifts of prayer, participation and generosity.

“Whoever sows sparingly will reap sparingly and whoever sows bountifully will reap bountifully. Each must do as already determined, without sadness or compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”

– 2 Corinthians 9:6-7

USE THE WORKSHEET ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE TO PLAN YOUR GIVING



MY CATHOLIC GIVING GUIDE WORKSHEET

“What return can I make to the Lord for all the good he has done for me?”
- Psalm 116:12

PERCENTAGE GIVING SUGGESTIONS

Understand that tithing literally means to give **10%** of your income.

Consider a tithing goal that represents:

5% giving to your parish through weekly offerings

3% giving to other charities in the community

2% giving to the archdiocese through the Archbishop’s Annual Appeal

THREE WAYS TO LOOK AT GIVING

1. Donate a percentage of your annual income. Use this guide to get started

Annual Income	5%			3%			2%		
	Annual Giving	Monthly Gift	Weekly Gift	Annual Giving	Monthly Gift	Weekly Gift	Annual Giving	Monthly Gift	Weekly Gift
\$30,000	\$1,500	\$125	\$29	\$900	\$75	\$17	\$600	\$50	\$12
\$60,000	\$3,000	\$250	\$58	\$1,800	\$150	\$35	\$1,200	\$100	\$24
\$90,000	\$4,500	\$375	\$87	\$2,700	\$225	\$52	\$1,800	\$150	\$34
\$120,000	\$6,000	\$500	\$116	\$3,600	\$300	\$70	\$2,400	\$200	\$48
\$150,000	\$7,500	\$625	\$144	\$4,500	\$375	\$86	\$3,000	\$250	\$56

Now fill in your numbers here:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 \$ \underline{\hspace{2cm}} & \times & \underline{\hspace{2cm}} & \% & = & \$ \underline{\hspace{2cm}} & \$ \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \\
 \text{Total Annual Gross Income} & & \text{Annual Giving Percentage} & & & \text{My Annual Giving} & \text{My Weekly Giving}
 \end{array}$$

2. Donate one hour's wage per week

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \$ \underline{\hspace{2cm}} & / & 2080 \text{ hrs (40 hrs/wk x 52 weeks)} = \$ \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \\
 \text{Total Annual Gross Income} & & \text{My Weekly Giving}
 \end{array}$$

3. Donate one day's salary each month:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \$ \underline{\hspace{2cm}} & / & 260 \text{ work days (Average work days per year)} = \$ \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \\
 \text{Total Annual Gross Income} & & \text{My Monthly Giving}
 \end{array}$$