

OFFERTORY FAQs

Thank you for your support of Saint Peter and Saint Joan of Arc. Please use the Q&A below as you make your pledge to the Sunday 2024 Offertory.

Q. How are the offertory funds used?

A. An annual pledge to the offertory program will support our daily operations to support our mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ through evangelization and spirit-filled relationships in the coming calendar year. This includes funding our ministries and outreaches, faith formation and religious education, spiritual programs and evangelistic efforts, music, staff salaries and benefits, monthly utilities, facilities and grounds maintenance, taxes and insurance premiums, and other administrative costs. **A proportional amount of offertory funds will also be used towards the majority of Special Collections (i.e. Catholic Relief Services, Church in Latin America, Military Service Support, etc.) that were typically collected through second collection.**

Q. What is a Tithe?

A. The Bible teaches us a baseline standard for giving: the tithe. When we give the first 10% of our income to the church, we put God first in our lives. God provides for the mission of our parish through your tithes and offerings. Tithing is an act of worship that expresses our gratitude, faith, and love for others. Please prayerfully decide what personal sacrifice you and your family can make to maximize your gift to God.

Q. Why should I make a pledge? I like to just give when I can.

A. We ask every parishioner to return an Offertory Commitment Form so that we know your giving intention and better plan for good stewardship of the funds you share. **This spiritual exercise also allows each of us to prayerfully discern and review our financial contributions.** If this is your first time to make a pledge, make one that you feel comfortable with – you can always give more as your finances allow.

Q. What is Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT, or Online Giving)? Why is it better than envelopes, checks or cash?

A. EFT, or Online Giving, is the automatic monthly payment from your checking account or credit card. Using EFT provides a regular monthly source of funds for the parish to operate, while giving you peace of mind that you are supporting your parish on a regular basis, even while you are out of town for work or vacation. Plus, there is never an occasion when you forget your offertory envelope, check, or cash. Additionally, rather than giving cash or a check, using EFT makes it easier for you to plan how much you want to give to the parish weekly, monthly, or annually, while also tracking your contribution for tax deduction purposes.

Q. Do you designate money in your budget to give?

A. If you are not planning your gift – start this year and complete and return an Offertory Commitment Form!

Q. Are you a Priority Giver?

A. Give to God before other expenses; not as an afterthought or dependent on whatever is left in your pocket.

Q. Are you a Percentage Giver? Do you know what percentage of your income goes to God's work?

A. Give God a percentage of the gifts he has given you. Use the chart on the reverse to calculate it. Is that a percentage that honors him? Be a Progressive Giver and increase the percentage regularly.