

# WHY SHOULD WE GIVE?

**Mercy Points Us to Jesus and God's Greatest Gift.  
In God's Love, We Find a Picture of Sacrificial Blessing.**

"I have often said that the place where my encounter with the mercy of Jesus takes place is my sin. When you feel his merciful embrace, when you let yourself be embraced, when you are moved—that's when life can change, because that's when we try to respond to the immense and unexpected gift of grace, a gift that is so overabundant it may even seem 'unfair' in our eyes. We stand before a God who knows our sins, our betrayals, our denials, our wretchedness. And yet he is there waiting for us, ready to give himself completely to us, to lift us up" (Pope Francis, *The Name of God Is Mercy*).

**Enfolded in God's Mercy, We Are Free to Offer Our Best.  
The Lord Will Use Those Gifts to Bless Others in Need.**

"We love because he first loved us" (1 John 4:19), and in that devotion, God gave us the very best gift of all, the treasure of his Son, Jesus Christ and the life we enjoy through him. We show our love and thanks by offering our best in return. That may seem an impossible example to follow, but we emulate the Lord out of humble gratitude. As St. Mother Teresa said, "Give the best you have. It will never be enough, but give your best anyway." We acknowledge that all of our blessings are the product of God's grace and mercy, so we welcome the opportunity to extend that blessing to others—the Church, her servants, and the many to whom the Church extends God's goodness.

**In His Mercy, God Supplies All of Our Needs.  
Stewards of His Blessing, We Give and Give Generously.**

Five giving principles help to frame an informed Stewardship of Finance commitment. Faithful stewards believe that giving is a matter of wise planning. The ongoing needs of a parish budget invite every parishioner to offer a regular percentage of monthly income, too. Personal sacrifice, and the free and generous spirit of a willing heart also echo the biblical model. And then, ultimately, giving is a prayerful response to God's goodness and mercy.

Again, planning is important. The following chart may be helpful to you as you plan your commitment for the year to come. Remember that your generosity will spread the mercy of God throughout our parish, and the Lord will bless you as you give on behalf of Christ and other people.

Per Income	3%	5%	6%	8%	10%
100.00	3.00	5.00	6.00	8.00	10.00
200.00	6.00	10.00	12.00	16.00	20.00
300.00	9.00	15.00	18.00	24.00	30.00
400.00	12.00	20.00	24.00	32.00	40.00
500.00	15.00	25.00	30.00	40.00	50.00
600.00	18.00	30.00	36.00	48.00	60.00
700.00	21.00	35.00	42.00	56.00	70.00
800.00	24.00	40.00	48.00	64.00	80.00
900.00	27.00	45.00	54.00	72.00	90.00
1000.00	30.00	50.00	60.00	80.00	100.00