

# A path to holiness:

## How Do I Begin?

**Pray.** Keep a gratitude journal or a post-it note of all the things you're thankful for. Thank God for each of these things as they occur. Soon, you will find yourself praying all day long.

**Participate.** You have charisms, spiritual gifts given to you by the Holy Spirit. Use your charisms to live the life God intended for you.

**Give.** Generosity means reflecting on your blessings, and giving of ourselves. Think about what you value most. Is it your time? Your skills? Your money? Make this the first thing you give.

“If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all.” Mark 9:35

“Honor the Lord with your wealth, with your first fruits...” Proverbs 3:9

In gratitude, we are called to give from our “first fruits.” We are called to give our first and our best. Use the chart below to help you plan your charitable giving.

### Personalized Giving Guide: WEEKLY GIVING TO YOUR PARISH

Yearly	1.0%	2.0%	3.0%	4.0%	5.0%
\$20,000	\$4.00	\$8.00	\$12.00	\$15.00	\$19.00
30,000	6.00	12.00	17.00	23.00	29.00
40,000	8.00	15.00	23.00	31.00	38.00
50,000	10.00	19.00	29.00	38.00	48.00
60,000	12.00	23.00	35.00	46.00	58.00
70,000	13.00	27.00	40.00	54.00	67.00
80,000	15.00	31.00	46.00	62.00	77.00
90,000	17.00	35.00	52.00	69.00	87.00
100,000	19.00	38.00	58.00	77.00	96.00



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A STEWARD IS



the Servant  
OF ALL





“Stewardship gives me an opportunity to represent and really interact with the community that makes up our parish. I feel like I can see God in each of their faces - from the first graders in my PSR class, to my 86-year old friend **who attends mass.**”

Amanda Macke,  
Holy Family Parish, Arnold, MO



“I served in the choir and got involved in our Parish Council. I felt that I was at a spiritual crossroads. I’m what you would call a ‘utility player.’ I’m not a star, but I’ll go out into center field and do my best if you need me to.”

William McHugh, Sr.  
St. Josephine Bakhita, St. Louis



“...if you really claim to be Catholic, you have to **take the initiative to** get involved. It keeps you **engaged and excited** about what’s happening. Stewardship has been transformative for me. It’s bringing me back into the **fold of my faith.**”

Bob Herron  
Holy Infant - Ballwin

## THROUGH HIM

Every good thing we have comes from God. We are His children. When we see others as His children, we become more Christ-centered. When baptized, we become members of the Body of Christ. When confirmed, we strengthen our participation in Christ’s mission. Our response should be a joyful, “Here I am Lord!”

## WITH HIM

When we receive the Eucharist, we join Jesus in His passion, death and resurrection. The night before He died, Jesus, alone and afraid, prayed that God’s will be done. Through Holy Communion, we unite ourselves with Jesus to do God’s will. Our “Amen” means we place our trust in God, in spite of our fear.

## IN HIM

Every day is a gift. Our lives are a gift. What are you doing with your gifts? Who are you becoming? Being a Christian is not the result of an ethical choice. It is the fruit of an encounter with a person - Jesus Christ. In the Bible, people who meet Jesus are changed. The same can be true for us today. We can be transformed by our relationship with Jesus. How is He calling you?

“How shall I make a return to the Lord for all the good he has done for me?” Psalm 116:12