



Generous God,

*you are the giver of all good gifts;
you are the source
of all that we have and are.
Our talents, our possessions,
our minds, our hearts, our lives
are all your gifts.*

*Teach us to be good and faithful stewards.
May we cherish, tend, and share
the good things you have entrusted to us.*

*By our prayer and action
may we help to lead others
to Christ your Son
who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever.
Amen.*



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What I have, I give

Acts 3:6



Sacrificial Sunday Giving 2012

Dear Friends,

“WHAT I HAVE, I GIVE.” Those are words of St. Peter in the Book of Acts. For me, they sum up beautifully what Sacrificial Giving is all about: giving back to God what he has given to us. It’s not the size of the gift that’s important, but rather giving of our substance—giving what we have.

In these times when we are experiencing so much uncertainty, we give thanks for the many blessings we have received. And we find ourselves thinking about the many people in our midst and in our world who lack even the basic necessities of life.

THE NEED IS OVERWHELMING, BUT AS A COMMUNITY OF FAITH, WE CAN DO INFINITELY MORE THAN WE CAN DO AS INDIVIDUALS. Together, we as the parish community of St. James Cathedral can reach out in the name of Christ to the poor, the elderly, and the immigrant. We can celebrate in a powerful way the mysteries of our faith; and we can provide a refuge and a gathering place for the city in times of sorrow and rejoicing.

Let us commit ourselves to be good stewards of the gifts God has given us: by participating regularly and actively in the Sunday Eucharist; by sharing our time and talent with our community; and by making a prayerful commitment to support St. James Cathedral financially, to the extent we are able, in the coming year.

Thank you for your prayerful response and for all the ways you make this parish community what it is!



Father Michael G. Ryan

YOUR GENEROUS AND REGULAR SUNDAY GIVING MAKES IT POSSIBLE FOR ST. JAMES

- To celebrate the Church’s liturgy with beauty and dignity;
- To reach out with love to the poor, the needy, and the elderly;
- To offer faith formation programs to children and adults;
- To pay our staff a just and living wage;
- To sustain our highly acclaimed musical and cultural programs;
- To maintain our magnificent Cathedral and other parish buildings.

WHAT IS THE RIGHT AMOUNT TO GIVE?

- When you are at peace with yourself about the size of your gift...
- When you do not find yourself making excuses for its size...
- When you know in your heart that you have been completely honest with yourself and God...
- ...then your gift is the right size.

YOUR GIFT SHOULD BE...

- **Planned.** Plan ahead of time what you intend to give, and have your gift ready at collection time. Don’t simply drop a spare dollar in the basket.
- **Proportionate.** Our giving should be in proportion to how greatly God has blessed us.
- **Sacrificial.** We ought to give more than just what is left over after taking care of all our needs and wants.
- **Thankful.** Our offering should be a grateful response to the immense love God has shown for us.

Sunday Giving Commitment 2012

*In prayerful gratitude
for many gifts received from God,
I/we intend to return a gift
to St. James Cathedral Parish of:*

\$ _____ per week or

\$ _____ per month or

\$ _____ annually

- I am unable to make a financial pledge at this time, but I will give what I can in the coming year.

Please print:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

- I am already participating in Direct Debit.
 Please send information about Direct Debit.
 I have remembered the Cathedral in my will.

Please detach and return this card to the offering basket on Sunday or mail it to the Parish office. **Please turn in this card even if you are unable to make a commitment at this time.** You may also make your pledge online: www.stjames-cathedral.org/contribute. Thank you!