



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## What is Christian stewardship?

“Stewardship is everything I do, with everything I have, after I say, *I believe*.”

Christian stewardship is not first and foremost about collecting dollars to pay the bills, though this is not unimportant! Rather, it is an opportunity to express, in an outward and visible way, the spiritual truth that God is the owner of everything—our time, which is in his hands; our talents, which are from God; and our treasure, which is that portion of the world’s wealth that he allows to us. God is the owner, we are his managers (stewards).

## How is S. Bart’s funded?

About 51% of S. Bart’s operating budget comes from the giving of our parishioners. Your financial support directly provides for the ministry we do.

## How much does it cost to support the mission and ministry of this parish?

It costs \$658 each and every day to meet our obligations to our parish family and to do ministry beyond our doors. \$336 of this comes from pledge and plate. Or to put it another way, every 23¢ put in the plate pays for one minute of ministry!

## Why is it important that I fill out a pledge card?

Could you imagine how difficult it would be to plan your household finances if you did not know *how much* income you could count on or *when* you would be paid? Your personal finances would be in chaos. It is the same with the household of God. We cannot plan if we don’t know what our resources will be. Simply put, we ask you to pledge so we can plan.

## What is proportional giving?

As opposed to habitual or “random dollar giving,” giving proportionally means calculating our giving in relation to our wealth or income\*. Because we have different financial circumstances, it is not so much *how much* we give, but *what that amount represents*. (\*See chart on reverse).

## I don’t know what my finances will be like next year. It depends on my commission, or how my investments do.

Your pledge is *not* a legal contract. It is an “estimate of giving” which helps the parish leadership plan. We understand that sometimes financial circumstances change. If you find yourself in this situation, please speak to Father Hannam or a member of the Stewardship Committee about modifying your pledge.

## Remember:

- **Pledging** helps to determine **Budget**
- **Budget** Determines **Programme**
- **Programme** Determines **Mission and Ministry** of the Church and to the World.

Filling out a pledge card is a tangible sign that God’s work is important to you and your family.

## What is our target date for turning in pledges?

We ask that pledges be returned by 12 February 2021. This deadline will allow us to bring to our annual meeting of Vestry recommendations informed by parish responses.

## I have questions; to whom do I speak?

Send any questions about stewardship and giving to the parish address (stbartsanglican@gmail.com), or contact our Treasurer Miles Nagamatsu, or one of the members of the Stewardship Committee (Sandy Marlene Dawkins, Mary Finlay, and Jared Tomlinson).

## How do I arrive at my pledge amount?

1. **Write down the amount of your annual income:**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

*It doesn’t matter whether you use before-tax income or after; you decide. If your circumstances change you can always adjust the amount of your pledge!*

2. **Decide a proportion of God’s wealth that you will return to him.**

If you’re new to proportional giving, try using the national charitable giving average of 3 to 4%. Or, if you’ve been a proportional giver for a while, take last year’s percentage and try adding 1% or 2% to it.

## Proportional Giving Chart

ANNUAL INCOME	TITHE									
	10%	9%	8%	7%	6%	5%	4%	3%	2%	1%
<b>\$15,000</b>	\$1,500	\$1,350	\$1,200	\$1,050	\$900	\$750	\$600	\$450	\$300	\$150
<b>\$25,000</b>	\$2,500	\$2,250	\$2,000	\$1,750	\$1,500	\$1,250	\$1,000	\$750	\$500	\$250
<b>\$35,000</b>	\$3,500	\$3,150	\$2,800	\$2,450	\$2,100	\$1,750	\$1,400	\$1,050	\$700	\$350
<b>\$45,000</b>	\$4,500	\$4,050	\$3,600	\$3,150	\$2,700	\$2,250	\$1,800	\$1,350	\$900	\$450
<b>\$55,000</b>	\$5,500	\$4,950	\$4,400	\$3,850	\$3,300	\$2,750	\$2,200	\$1,650	\$1,100	\$550
<b>\$65,000</b>	\$6,500	\$5,850	\$5,200	\$4,550	\$3,900	\$3,250	\$2,600	\$1,950	\$1,300	\$650
<b>\$75,000</b>	\$7,500	\$6,750	\$6,000	\$5,250	\$4,500	\$3,750	\$3,000	\$2,250	\$1,500	\$750
<b>\$100,000</b>	\$10,000	\$9,000	\$8,000	\$7,000	\$6,000	\$5,000	\$4,000	\$3,000	\$2,000	\$1,000
<b>\$125,000</b>	\$12,500	\$11,250	\$10,000	\$8,750	\$7,500	\$6,250	\$5,000	\$3,750	\$2,500	\$1,250
<b>\$150,000</b>	\$15,000	\$13,500	\$12,000	\$10,500	\$9,000	\$7,500	\$6,000	\$4,500	\$3,000	\$1,500
<b>\$200,000</b>	\$20,000	\$18,000	\$16,000	\$14,000	\$12,000	\$10,000	\$8,000	\$6,000	\$4,000	\$2,000
<b>\$250,000</b>	\$25,000	\$22,500	\$20,000	\$17,500	\$15,000	\$12,500	\$10,000	\$7,500	\$5,000	\$2,500
<b>\$500,000</b>	\$50,000	\$45,000	\$40,000	\$35,000	\$30,000	\$25,000	\$20,000	\$15,000	\$10,000	\$5,000

How do you feel about this number? Have you prayed over it? Is it in proportion to the importance of God in your life? Is it in proportion to the importance of S. Bart's in your life? How is it in proportion to the other ways you spend money?

### **Eternal Father, merciful Creator,**

whose hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature:

Make us always thankful for thy loving providence;

and grant that we, remembering the account we must one day render,

may be faithful stewards of thy good gifts;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*- Collect for Stewardship*