

Electronic Giving Comes to St. Paul's

St. Paul's now offers an electronic giving option for making regular offerings. Electronic giving is the term used to describe automatic methods for making contributions on a regular basis without the need to write checks, carry cash or prepare envelopes. Contributions can be made automatically from your checking or savings account. You may already be using this method to pay your mortgage, car payments, utility bill or insurance payments. Our new electronic giving program offers convenience for you and donation consistency for St. Paul's.

There is no cost to you for this new giving option. If you are currently giving on a weekly basis, you will no longer need to write out 52 checks a year. You can also use this method to make monthly Maintenance, Capital Campaign and Diocesan donations and eliminate the need to write those checks. And, when travel, illness or other circumstances prevent you from attending Mass at St. Paul's, this program will allow your offerings to continue on an uninterrupted basis.

For more information about electronic giving and how to sign up, see the following:

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What are the major advantages of electronic giving?

A. Electronic giving is all about convenience for you and consistency for the church. It helps eliminate frequent check writing and helps members stay on track with donations even when they are unable to attend Mass. The church in turn benefits from donation consistency and a reduction in the volume of check and cash contributions that must be manually processed.

Q. How does electronic giving work?

A. Contributions are transferred automatically from your checking or savings account to the church's bank account.

Q. How are my automatic contributions deducted and transferred?

A. First, you sign and return an authorization form to the church indicating the amount you wish to contribute on a regular basis. Contributions are then transferred through the Automated Clearing House (ACH) network- the same network families use to make mortgage and utility payments and to receive payroll earnings and Social Security income.

Q. When will my contribution be debited from my account?

A. A debit to your account will occur each month on the date you specify on your authorization form. Payments can be made on the 1st and/or 15th of the month.

Q. Can I designate payments for different collections?

A. Yes. You can designate amounts for the Offertory, Maintenance, Capital Campaign, Diocesan, Christmas and Easter collections on the authorization form.

Q. Can I give different amounts for different Diocesan collections?

A. You must designate the same amount each month, but you can supplement this by making a check or cash donation for specific Diocesan collections.

Q. How will I keep track in my check register?

A. Since your contribution is made at a pre-established time, you simply record it in your register on the appropriate date. Electronic contributions will appear on your bank statement.

Q. What can I use to prove I made a contribution?

A. Your bank statement will show an itemized list of electronic transactions that can be used as proof of your contributions and St. Paul's will continue to record your payments in its database.

Q. How much does electronic giving cost?

A. It costs you nothing and the church 25¢ per month if you designate one payment date per month or 50¢ if you designate two payment dates per month. However, this eliminates the need for envelopes which cost the church approximately 60¢ per month.

Q. What if there are insufficient funds in my account on the payment date?

A. Your bank will charge you whatever they charge for an insufficient funds check.

Q. What happens to my envelopes?

A. Since they are no longer needed, St. Paul's will discontinue your envelopes. However, it takes up to 6 weeks for the vendor to process cancellation orders so you may receive some envelopes after enrolling in electronic giving.

Q. What if I try electronic giving and don't like it?

A. You can cancel your authorization at any time by notifying the church office.

Q. How can I sign up for electronic giving?

A. Complete, sign and return the attached form to the church office.

Q. What if I have additional questions?

A. You can contact the church office.