

A Spiritual Approach to Giving

The Biblical method for helping to identify what we may be called to share is called “the tithe” --- that is, the first portion of my blessings are shared as an expression of my thanks to God! It is a practice characterized by what has been called the “4 P’s” --- it is:

- **Prayerful**
rooted in and inspired by reflection on the presence and movement of God’s Spirit in my life. It is a spiritual act – an act of worship where I respond to God’s love for me by my offering of praise and thanks to God.
- **Priority**
the first thing that I decide, not the last thing I do with whatever is left over. Making giving a priority means giving it first place in our budgets. Growing in generosity requires that we don’t give leftovers. We give our “first fruits” gratefully back to God.
- **Planned**
done deliberately, not accidentally or as an “after-thought”. Growing in generosity means being intentional about our giving. Planning our giving means that we intentionally set aside money from our budget to give away.
- **Proportional**
unique to each person’s particular life circumstance, in planning our gifts we identify a percentage to give back to God, directing ½ to be shared with our parish and ½ to be shared with other charitable causes, mindful of the biblical practice of the tithe or giving back to God the first 10% of the financial resources with which I have been blessed. Over time we can strive to increase the percentage of our income that we give away. As God blesses us financially, we recognize that we have been blessed to be a blessing.
Take a look at our “Stewardship Giving Guide” (link) Take the next step chart