

GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER

Some Frequently Asked Questions About our *GIFT* Appeal

Who sees our confidential *GIFT* pledge forms?

Our pledges are all sent directly to the Diocesan Stewardship office, which is handling the paperwork for the *GIFT* campaign. Over the course of the five year appeal, cheques should be made payable to *GIFT*, which will also issue the charitable receipts.

What are the various donation payment methods?

Aside from cheques payable to *GIFT*, credit cards can be used on the diocesan website donation page. Pre-authorized payments can also be arranged on a regular basis from bank accounts.

What about "planned giving" for the future?

Anyone who is interested in learning about making a bequest, or transferring a life insurance policy, or donating an investment, should contact the diocesan stewardship officer, Ms. Jane Scanlon, to arrange an appointment for financial advice.

Can anyone be asked to pledge a specific amount?

No. Each parishioner or family situation varies widely. Past contributions will not be used to suggest future donations. We are all asked to prayerfully consider making a significant contribution to this important work, based on our own situation.

Why five-year pledges, not one-time donations?

Pledges provide us with the opportunity to make a more significant gift to the mission of the Church. It is easier to make a significant contribution, over and above regular offerings, by making a pledge to be fulfilled during a period of time rather than all at once. Our pledges are not legally binding but rather a statement of intention.

How much will the *GIFT* campaign cost?

The diocese has set aside 10 % of the campaign goal to cover printed materials, training, and the work of stewardship specialists. If the campaign goal is exceeded, the percentage cost of the campaign will be lower.

When will the parish begin to receive funds?

As donations are made, the 50% parish share will be paid out monthly by the *GIFT* campaign office.

"As a form of ministry, fundraising is as spiritual as giving a sermon, entering a time of prayer, visiting the sick or feeding the hungry. "

-Rev, Henri Nouwen
Dutch-Canadian priest and author