

JOURNEY TO
GENEROSITY



2018

ΓΕΝΕΚΟΤΗΤΑ



From the Rector

Eastertide 2018

Put simply, life is a God-given opportunity to become who we are, to affirm our own true spiritual nature, claim our truth, appropriate and integrate the reality of our being, but most of all, to say 'Yes' to the One who calls us the Beloved.

Henri J.M. Nouwen

Life is an opportunity and a journey – a journey to saying “Yes” to God who calls us the Beloved. Life is a journey to love, to welcome and to invite; a journey to uphold the Kingdom and to live generously.

The Journey to Generosity is about participating in God’s inexhaustible love, healing, and forgiveness.

By giving from the increase God has given us, we are able to participate in God’s mission through us. Saying “Yes” to God’s call is really about acknowledging God first in all things including in what he has given us materially.

I invite you this year to participate in the inexhaustibility of God by confidently joining our journey to greater generosity at Christ Church.

Please consider committing to a standard of giving that reflects your standard of living. For many, that means giving 10 percent (the biblical tithe) of their income to God’s work through Christ Church. For others, tithing is a goal they are working toward by increasing their giving a percentage point or two each year.

Let’s walk together on this Journey to Generosity so the glory of God might shine brighter through ministry to and beyond our parish family. Please joins us and make a pledge to the mission of God through Christ Church.

Yours, in Christ,

Byron +

The Rev’d Canon Dr. Byron Gilmore
Rector



Why Tithe

A tithe is the gift given to the work of God that equals 10 percent of what God gave you in the first place. Such a gift is often referred to as “first fruit” because the first 10 percent of one’s increase is given back to God, while the remaining 90 percent is to be used by the one to whom the increase is given.

Many may ask reasonable questions like the following:

- Is my tithe before or after taxes?
- I work on commission; I have no idea what my income will be. How do I determine my tithe?
- What if I donate to other charitable institutions? Is that part of my tithe?

The short answer is that the Bible and our tradition teach that a tithe is a full 10 percent or one’s increase given specifically to the work of the Church. However, that may be quite a new understanding of giving for some. You may not be prepared to tithe, which is why - like many things - the place to start is with prayer.

At Christ Church, we have suggested to all members that they focus their giving on a percentage of income rather than a dollar amount. The goal would be the tithe but perhaps you begin at 1 or 2 percent and consciously work your way up until you reach, or like some, surpass the tithe. If you give a percentage of your income, then, if your income goes up, so does your gift and vice versa.

You have to determine, within your own heart, what part of your tithe is going to the work of Christ Church. For instance, it is reasonable to assume that a gift to the Primates World Relief, an overseas Christian mission or another Christian ministry is part of your tithe. However, a gift to an arts organization, local hospital or university while also tax deductible - and honourable as well - would not, in principle, be part of the Biblical tithe.

Kim and I have found that making gradual annual adjustments helped us to get to the level of tithing in our giving back to God. Byron & Kim Gilmore

My financial commitment - my tithe - is no mystery in my home. It is something that I discuss with my daughters so that they can witness my practice. Sonia Sobers



Tithe Goals

To better help you reach the goal of tithing, please take some time to review this chart below. Find the income level in the first column that most closely matches your income and then following the number horizontally to determine your level of giving to Christ Church. Percentages are listed at the top. Consider stepping up your giving by moving one or more columns to the right.

| ANNUAL GROSS INCOME | ANNUAL PLEDGE | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|---------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| | 1% | 2% | 3% | 4% | 5% | 6% | 7% | 8% | 9% | 10% |
| \$ 20,000 | \$ 200 | \$ 400 | \$ 600 | \$ 800 | \$ 1,000 | \$ 1,200 | \$ 1,400 | \$ 1,600 | \$ 1,800 | \$ 2,000 |
| \$ 30,000 | \$ 300 | \$ 600 | \$ 900 | \$ 1,200 | \$ 1,500 | \$ 1,800 | \$ 2,100 | \$ 2,400 | \$ 2,700 | \$ 3,000 |
| \$ 40,000 | \$ 400 | \$ 800 | \$ 1,200 | \$ 1,600 | \$ 2,000 | \$ 2,400 | \$ 2,800 | \$ 3,200 | \$ 3,600 | \$ 4,000 |
| \$ 50,000 | \$ 500 | \$ 1,000 | \$ 1,500 | \$ 2,000 | \$ 2,500 | \$ 3,000 | \$ 3,500 | \$ 4,000 | \$ 4,500 | \$ 5,000 |
| \$ 60,000 | \$ 600 | \$ 1,200 | \$ 1,800 | \$ 2,400 | \$ 3,000 | \$ 3,600 | \$ 4,200 | \$ 4,800 | \$ 5,400 | \$ 6,000 |
| \$ 70,000 | \$ 700 | \$ 1,400 | \$ 2,100 | \$ 2,800 | \$ 3,500 | \$ 4,200 | \$ 4,900 | \$ 5,600 | \$ 6,300 | \$ 7,000 |
| \$ 80,000 | \$ 800 | \$ 1,600 | \$ 2,400 | \$ 3,200 | \$ 4,000 | \$ 4,800 | \$ 5,600 | \$ 6,400 | \$ 7,200 | \$ 8,000 |
| \$ 90,000 | \$ 900 | \$ 1,800 | \$ 2,700 | \$ 3,600 | \$ 4,500 | \$ 5,400 | \$ 6,300 | \$ 7,200 | \$ 8,100 | \$ 9,000 |
| \$ 100,000 | \$ 1,000 | \$ 2,000 | \$ 3,000 | \$ 4,000 | \$ 5,000 | \$ 6,000 | \$ 7,000 | \$ 8,000 | \$ 9,000 | \$ 10,000 |

Whatever your task, put yourselves into it, as done for the Lord and not for your masters, since you know that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward; you serve the Lord Christ. For the wrongdoer will be paid back for whatever wrong has been done, and there is no partiality. Colossians 3:23-25



Heritage Fund and Future Ministry Fund

Parishioners may financially support Christ Church now and in the future to meet the needs that cannot be met by our Parish Operations Budget.

A gift to these funds is a special way to remember or honour a loved one or to mark special occasions or holidays.



“By making a gift to the Future Ministry Fund, we were able to recognize the faith of our parents who sustained our family from generation to generation”

Peter & Janet Volkes

...give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back. Luke 6:38





Sunday
Morning
Worship



Legacy of Faith Partners

Careful estate planning will convey your final wishes for the distribution of your assets. Take the opportunity to plan your legacy. Plan for the causes that are dear to your heart. There are various opportunities to be a legacy faith partner at Christ Church.

Ways to give:

- Bequest in a will
- Structure an annual gift through trusts and gift annuities
- Transfer existing Investment Account (RRSP/RRIF) and/or life insurance proceeds
- Gifts of stocks, bonds or personal property

Type of legacy gifts differ and each have their own characteristics and advantages. It is always worthwhile to speak with a professional advisor concerning your own circumstances and philanthropic intentions. Advisors can give you a picture of what your estate may look like in the future so that you can plan accordingly. Over the past couple of years, we know that folks have planned legacy gifts to Christ Church and we have been approached to ensure that their gift is properly worded in their estate. A common approach is to create a residual gift in their will ~ a gift whose value fluctuates with the value of their estate without taking away amounts intended for loved ones or other beneficiaries.

Here's how it works. A residual gift in your will designates a percentage portion of whatever value remains within your estate after all debts, taxes, expenses and other legacy gifts have been paid. Residual gifts by will do not reflect a specified amount but rather specific portion by percentage. The values of these portions will vary depending on the overall value of the estate. Such gifts ensure that the donor's wishes are clear and if the estate value changes over time, the future gift also changes to match that change.

When considering a residual legacy gift in your will, the wording could be as simple as: *I give to Christ Church (Brampton) 10% of the rest, residue and remainder of my estate to be used for the general purposes of Christ Church (Brampton).*

If you intend to make any legacy gift to Christ Church, it is wise to let your executor and, if you are comfortable, the Rector of Christ Church, know so that both clearly understand your wishes. That said, regardless the type or size, each gift is important to Christ Church and we remain deeply grateful for your support.

My church family has always been important to me and over the years I have had many chances to learn, to grow and to serve; and to see countless blessings. As a result, I have made provisions for Christ Church in my Will so that others can be blessed. Jane Harvey

For more information about Stewardship & Planned Giving, please contact the Parish Office at 905-451-6649 ext. 23 to answer your questions and/or direct them accordingly.



Our pledge

We, the Clergy and Lay Leadership of Christ Church commit ourselves to the 2018 Stewardship Invitation.

We support:

- The call to pray for the success of our Stewardship Invitation through which God will bless our parish with the resources needed to move His kingdom forward “in and through” Christ Church.
- The work of Christ “in and through” Christ Church by making a pledge in response to the Biblical principle of stewardship by the giving of one’s financial income to support the mission and ministry of Christ in the world.
- Achieving or working towards the goal of tithing for our community of Christ Church.
- The formation of the F2019 budget using the Stewardship Campaign results as an indicator for our planning purposes.

Clergy

The Rev’d Canon Dr. Byron Gilmore

The Rev’d Jeff Nowers

Lay Leadership

Charlene Bickerstaffe

Chris Bird

Sally Campbell

Tina Clarke

Shumaila Desrochers

Peter Harvey

Stephen Nilam

Sonia Sobers

Donna Watson

Martha Whittaker



One Final Message

- ✝ Prayerfully consider what God is doing in your life.
- ✝ Prayerfully consider your personal relationship with Jesus Christ.
- ✝ Prayerfully consider what Christ Church means to you and your family, and what Christ Church can mean in the Brampton community.
- ✝ Prayerfully consider what God has done in providing for your “goods and kindred,” and what you will return to Him.

Christ Church does not presume that if you have given in the past your prior pledge will continue to carry over. We need your completed, written pledge to ensure not only the continuation of our many ministries, but to enhance your personal Christian growth.

Our Stewardship Focus Period concludes on Commitment Sunday (June 3rd)

We bless the pledges and then enjoy a time of rejoicing and fellowship at a Parish Potluck following the 10:00 am service.