

ONLINE GIVING FOR ST. AEDAN AND ST. BRENDAN PARISHES

What is it? It's a way for parishioners to make regular or one-time offerings to the parish automatically from your bank account or credit card. It's very similar to making charitable donations or paying bills on-line.

Why are we doing this?

For you

- ✓ Convenience, no need to write checks,
- ✓ better align giving with your income,
- ✓ allows you to give when unable to attend Mass,
- ✓ keeps a record of giving for taxes.

For the parish

- ✓ Improves regular giving,
- ✓ provides better forecasting of revenues,
- ✓ more accurate,
- ✓ saves parish staff time,
- ✓ improves financial security by reducing the amount of cash and sensitive data at the Church.

How do I set it up? Visit the secure website, operated by our collection envelope vendor, and follow the instructions to set up an account. You will need your bank account or credit card information handy to complete this process. You also need an email account for registration.

Is it safe and secure? Yes. The website uses the same encryption and security features used by websites you use for on-line shopping and bill-paying. Your account information is secure.

Does it cost me anything? No fee is charged to you. However, the parishes do pay our vendor a small fee for each transaction, which should be offset by more regular giving by parishioners.

I see that I have the option of giving weekly, bi-weekly or monthly - which should I choose? We recommend bi-weekly or monthly. The parishes pay a processing fee for each donation, so it's helpful to make fewer payments during the year. You can even pick the dates that gifts are made.

Should I give from my bank account or my credit card? It's up to you, but we recommend your bank account – it costs less for the parishes per transaction. Also, we discourage regular giving via credit, which may increase the debt of our parishioners.

Do I need to use the Internet to set this up?

Yes, and a working email account. If you lack Internet access or need other assistance in applying, the Church staff can assist you - simply call the rectory.

Will I use envelopes anymore? Envelopes will continue to be mailed to you, but you don't have to use them. The new phrase "I've Given Online" will appear with a checkbox on envelopes, to allow you to use the envelope at Mass, in recognition of your automatic gift.

Do I have to sign up for Online Giving? Although we strongly encourage our parishioners to do so, you are not required to sign up for it. You can simply continue using your envelopes.

Can I make changes once I've signed up? Yes, just log into your account at the website to make the change, which takes effect in about one business day.

How does the Parish know I have given? Our parish receives a regular report from Online Giving, and the information is automatically logged into our financial system.

Do other churches do this? Yes. This is a growing approach to giving, and we were among the first parishes in Connecticut to offer automatic giving.

What if a payment get rejected? As with any bank, if a payment is rejected because your credit card expired, you have insufficient funds in your bank account, or you closed your account, you parish will incur a \$25.00 rejection fee, so please be sure to maintain your accounts.

Still have questions? Email our offices: [St. Aedan Church](#) or [St. Brendan Church](#)