

## Online Giving – Frequently Asked Questions

Online giving provides a convenient way for parishioners to make financial contributions, allowing you to make donations electronically from any location at any time.

**1. What is Online Giving?**

Online Giving is a direct payment program whereby your contribution is debited automatically from your checking account into your church's bank account.

**2. What are the advantages of Online Giving?**

It makes it easy to fulfill stewardship commitments, even when you can't attend church. You never have to bring cash or checks to church. Giving electronically also helps the church save money and improve its budget!

**3. How are my contributions automatically deducted from my account?**

Once you complete the online registration form, the contribution amount you specify will automatically be transferred from your bank account to the church's bank account.

**4. When will my contribution be deducted from my account?**

Your electronic contribution will be debited on the date you specify on the donation form.

**5. If I do not write checks, how do I keep my checkbook in balance?**

Since your contribution is made at a pre-established time, you simply record it in your check register on the appropriate date. Electronic contributions are recorded for you on your bank statement as well as your online reports.

**6. Without a canceled check, how can I prove I made my contribution?**

Your bank statement gives you an itemized list of electronic transactions as well as your online reports.

**7. Can I put different amounts in offerings and have all of them withdrawn at different times?** You can setup to contribute to different offerings at different times; HOWEVER you will have to do each one separately. You will receive a receipt for each one.

**8. Is Online Giving safe?**

Yes, Online Giving takes security and privacy extremely serious. Account and contribution information is encrypted and stored securely. It's less risky than writing checks. Electronic contributions cannot be lost, stolen or destroyed and have an extremely high rate of accuracy.

**9. What if I try Online Giving and don't like this option?**

You can cancel your authorization by deleting your accounts and donation dates.

**10. What if I feel uncomfortable not having something to physically drop into the collection basket?**

Don't worry! Your next set of envelopes that you receive from OSV will have an option that you can mark that says "I've given online".

**11. How do I change my personal information such as my bank account number, mailing address, or donation amount?**

Online Giving is a web-based application that allows you to start, stop and change your contributions at any time. Parishioners can make these changes themselves by visiting our church website at [www.stanthonylinton.com](http://www.stanthonylinton.com) and select Online Giving.

**12. Which payment methods are accepted and what are my frequency options?**

To start out, you can give online from your personal checking account using your bank routing and account numbers. We will look to add debit cards and major credit cards as more parishioners sign-up for this offering. For recurring gifts, you have the option of giving weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, quarterly, twice a year or yearly.

**13. Are there any fees involved with giving online?**

No, you will not pay any fees with an online gift. In addition, online gifts are a more cost efficient and convenient way for the church to process donations.

**14. Can I make a one-time contribution?**

Yes, Online Giving allows you the option of making a one-time contribution by allowing you to designate the date you'd like the contribution to be made.

**15. Can I review my donation history online?**

Yes, Online Giving allows you to view reports on your contribution history and generate tax statements at year end.

**16. When will contributions be taken from my account?**

Contributions will be taken from your specified bank account within 3-4 business days of the date you requested.

**17. Can I designate my gift to a particular account?**

Yes, you can designate your gift to go toward one of the following funds:

- Adult Contribution - This is our weekly/monthly offering fund and can be used for normal tithes. This supports the ministries, staff and general operations of our church.
- Cemetery Fund – This fund supports all upkeep and maintenance of our church cemeteries
- Religious Education – This fund is setup for religious education tuition. Parents that would like to pay online can utilize this fund.
- Diocesan Funds – Throughout the year diocesan funds will be available for you to select during the specified collection timeframe.

**18. Do my tithes and offerings still go through our local parishes (St. Anthony, St. Katherine and St. Paul)?**

Yes, 100% of the funds are routed through St. Anthony's, St. Katherine's and St. Paul's.

**19. How do I sign up for Online Giving?**

Complete the online registration form by going to our church website ([www.stanthonylinton.com](http://www.stanthonylinton.com)) and select Online Giving – Sign in/Create new account. Once you create a new account you will be able to select the donations and the amount you would like to donate along with your bank account information. For detailed instructions please see the Online Giving Users Guide on our website under Online Giving - Documents or feel free to contact Billie at the parish office at 701-254-4588.