

How do I make my Dedicated Giving payment?

You can pay by:

- ◆ EFT directly to the church bank account
- ◆ By an envelope marked "Dedicated Giving" (which we will supply)

How do I make my DG Pledge?

Please complete the form below and place it in the collection plate on one of the Sundays in November.



I/We have prayerfully sought God's guidance about my/our contribution to Dedicated Giving for 2018. I/we commit to contributing the following amount every month or week. Please tick the relevant boxes below and insert the amount and method of your pledge.

- A **WEEKLY** amount of R _____
- A **MONTHLY** amount of R _____

I/We will make the contribution via:

- EFT Transfer** (see banking details below)
- Cash or cheque in a DG envelope in the Sunday collection plate**

First name/s _____

Last name _____

Tel _____ Email _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Banking Details Name of Account: **St Francis Church Parkview**
 Account number: **5033 1107 348**
 Bank: **FNB**
 Branch: **Killarney 256205**



**St Francis of Assisi
Parkview**

**Pledging our
Financial Support
For
2018**



Building a Sustainable Future

We rejoiced as we celebrated our 90th anniversary this year. Now we look to the future—to sustain and to grow our ministry and outreach to the growing community of which we are a part. We build on the foundations of Christian witness laid by our mothers and fathers over the past 90 years.

Be a part of ensuring a sustainable future for the work of St Francis by making your pledge of regular giving for 2018. Your commitment to give, whatever you can, on a regular basis, enables your Parish of St Francis to plan effectively for next year and beyond.

The Harvest Festival Service

26 November 8:30am

On November 26, at 8:30 am, we will have a combined service to make commitments to God to build a sustainable future for the Parish. You will have the opportunity to bring your Dedicated Giving pledges to the altar at this service.

You will also be able to make contributions to both the short-term and the long-term sustainability of the Parish in other ways as well. Harvest Festivals were once opportunities for people to bring the fruits of their labour as offerings to God in the form of potatoes, chickens and fruit etc. For us urbanites the fruit of our labour is primarily what we earn.

We will provide ways for you to make more concrete offerings by funding particular projects in the church. Fixing the Rose Window, providing hard recycled plastic benches & tables for the lawn, creating a dedicated, multi-purpose Youth Room, securing the Stations of the Cross, installing a solar power converter and contributing to an Endowment Fund will be ways in which you can do this. We will provide exact details on how you may do this shortly. You can make such commitments at the Harvest Festival Service on November 26.



Why do we give to the church?

Giving means that we can fulfil the **needs** of our community by having a parish in their midst:

- a church that can nurture their children and young people,
- care for their aged,
- provide a safe space for prayer and worship, and
- provide loving care and fellowship.

We want you to give so that we can fulfil the **vision** of our parish, seeking to live out the life of St Francis by caring for each other, living in harmony with our environment, and accepting among us those whom society and other churches might reject.

What is Dedicated Giving?

DG is regular (monthly or weekly, according to your choice) giving of an amount that you commit to for the following year. It is a high priority commitment; ***a covenant you make between yourself, the parish and God.***

Is Dedicated Giving a spiritual discipline?

Yes. As disciples of Jesus all that we have is his; everything is at his disposal. The way we use our money is an intensely spiritual matter. And the discipline of giving regularly to God's work is an essential spiritual discipline.

Why is Dedicated Giving important?

St Francis has important ministries to carry out, both for you and in its outreach to the community. It is only able to do this because of DG. Without a strong DG base the parish cannot function as it does. By far the greatest proportion of the parish income (about R2m) comes from DG. DG functions as the basis for our annual budgeting exercise.

Does St Francis have enough dedicated givers?

Unfortunately, no. We have many new members, but not all have committed to dedicated giving. We would like to see *all* our new members become dedicated givers. Our long-standing members are asked to consider an increase in their commitment.

What will happen if enough people become dedicated givers?

When the parish is confident of a steady flow of income, it is injected with new energy and life! Our ministry will become ever more assured and relevant to

our people and as well as attracting new members and serving society and the environment and sustaining the Diocese which is an integral part of our parish life.

How much should I give?

Some of us may feel that we cannot contribute financially to the parish because what we can give is so insignificant. But remember Jesus' comment about the widow who gave two copper coins; "I tell you that this poor widow put more in the offering box than all the others" (Mark 12:43). God sees what you give, and looks to people to give generously "for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7). For many, the principle of a tithe (10% of income) is a useful measure. The Bible teaches that God, who richly has supplied us with all good things, wants us "to be generous and ready to share" (1 Timothy 6:18). Giving is intended to be a joy and a blessing, both a response of gratitude to God and a commitment to God's work. So, the generous giver might give well beyond the 10% of the tithe. The example of St Francis is what should inform our thinking about how much we should give.

How do I decide how much to give?

With prayer, patient discernment and practice. There can be no substitute for these three elements. The quality of our spiritual life leads directly to the quality of our outward life. This is as true for an individual as it is for a family, so that where appropriate, this discernment could be done as a family or a couple.

Other questions

- ◆ Fundraising is not a substitute for DG. Fundraising is designed to augment the money pledged through DG, as is often directed at specific projects, such as social outreach.
- ◆ The Sunday collection is also not a substitute for DG. The offering serves as a weekly expression of our gratitude to and dependence on God; so we pray "all things come from you and of your own do we give you."
- ◆ Your commitment to Dedicated Giving remains highly confidential.

**BECOME AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE PARISH'S MINISTRY BY CONTRIBUTING TO DG!
BRING YOUR DG PLEDGE FORM DURING THE SUNDAYS IN NOVEMBER, ESPECIALLY TO
THE HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE ON 26 NOVEMBER
SEE HOW TO MAKE YOUR DG PLEDGE ON THE BACK PAGE**