Financial Giving Strategies

1. **Ask for financial support** - Do not be afraid to ask for financial support/continuing support during this time. If parishioners cannot give due to circumstances, it is certainly okay. Many parishioners may still have the intent and ability to financially give to the mission and ministry of the parish; most people respond to personal asks and appreciate them. Many of us are simply caught up trying to navigate our new norm we have not stopped to think about our financial giving to the church.

2. **Online Giving** - Think digital and on-line. This is the best vehicle in this crisis for people to give.
   - Online giving to accept credit cards
   - Set up through bank so check is automatically mailed to parish (No fees with this option)

3. **Mail** – Remind parishioners that they can mail in their weekly offertory. You can also set up a way for parishioners to drop off their offertory. Global Industries offers online ordering. [https://www.globalindustrial.com/](https://www.globalindustrial.com/). Below is a picture of one option they offer. Prices start about $89.

4. **Emails** - Use email to send weekly messages to your parishioners.
   - Flock Notes are a great way to communicate. [https://flocknote.com/](https://flocknote.com/) They are allowing churches to join for free during COVID 19. Ability to send unlimited email and text messages...
   - Let parishioners know how you and the staff are doing
   - Let parishioners know the ministries you are offering via social media
   - Give them links to other social media opportunities and resources.
   - Share personal stories of how the church is serving the needs of others as well as what other parishioners are doing
   - Ask for their financial support. Let them know how important it is for them to maintain their giving. Share average weekly offertory with them and how much you collected week before.
5. **Phone Calls** – phone calls help you connect one on one. You can also engage others in your parish to help with this. Give them a script to follow and make sure they ask if there are special prayer requests or needs. Keep a record of their needs.

6. **Note cards** – drop them a note letting them know you are praying for them and invite them to reach out if they have any special needs.

7. **Social Media** – Connect with them with Facebook. If they do not have a Facebook account, then provide them a link on your website to your Facebook page so they can view your videos. Remember there are many young people out there that can help a parishioner set up a Facebook page or help your parish set up a Facebook page. Put out a daily or weekly message to your parishioners on it. Other people around the diocese will be happy to also see your message.

8. **Text message** – This is a great way to connect with parishioners.

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**Stewardship and Development Office**

1. We are here to offer whatever assistance you may need. Don’t be afraid to reach out and ask.
2. **Email Blasts** – for those emails we do have we too will send out emails to parishioners helping them to connect to resources and remind them to give financially.
3. We will put an article in the next MS Catholic on stewardship to our parishes.

**Priest to Priest**

I also encourage the priest to reach out to each other to check in and share ideas of what you are doing within your parishes. Staying connected is so important for all of us.

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