EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF CHICAGO

PLANNED GIVING

Lead with love.
Leave a legacy.

A practical introduction to thoughtful gifts that can strengthen God’s work across the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago for generations to come.

Your values. Your legacy.
Use this guide to begin a conversation with your family, your professional advisors, and the Diocese.

One intention. Many possibilities.

You do not need to be wealthy—or have every detail settled—to begin. The right approach depends on your goals, the assets you own, the people you care for, and the timing that works for you.

01 / A FUTURE GIFT

Wills and trusts

Name the Diocese in a will or revocable trust with a fixed amount, a percentage, the remainder of an estate, or a contingent gift. You retain control of your assets during life and may revise your plan as circumstances change.

02 / A GIFT DURING LIFE

IRA charitable gifts

Eligible IRA owners may be able to direct a qualified charitable distribution to the Diocese. The transfer must move directly from the custodian, and year-end gifts should be started well before December 31.

03 / A FUTURE GIFT

Beneficiary designations

A provider form may let you name the Diocese for all or part of a retirement plan, investment or bank account, or life-insurance policy without rewriting your will.

04 / RECOMMEND A GRANT

Donor-advised funds

Recommend a current grant from a donor-advised fund and consider whether the Diocese should be included in the fund sponsor’s charitable succession plan.

05 / A GIFT THAT MAY PAY INCOME

Charitable gift annuity

A gift annuity can exchange cash or appreciated property for fixed payments to one or two people for life. Request a formal illustration before making a decision.

Ways to give

06 / INCOME AND LEGACY

Charitable remainder trust

A charitable remainder trust can provide payments for a term or for life, with the remaining trust assets ultimately supporting the Diocese.

07 / FAMILY AND CHARITY

Charitable lead trust

A lead trust makes payments to charity first and later transfers the remaining property to family or other beneficiaries. Legal and tax counsel is essential.

08 / APPRECIATED ASSETS

Stocks and bonds

Publicly traded securities may be transferred directly. Giving appreciated assets can avoid a sale by the donor and may offer advantages beyond an equivalent cash gift.

09 / PROPERTY GIFTS

Real estate

A residence, land, farm, or commercial property may support ministry through an outright gift, retained life estate, bargain sale, or trust arrangement, subject to advance review.

10 / PLAN CAREFULLY

Retirement assets

Retirement accounts can fund current IRA gifts when eligible or future gifts through a beneficiary designation. Coordinate these choices with the rest of your estate plan.

Ways to give

11 / POLICIES AND PROCEEDS

Life insurance

An existing policy can sometimes become a charitable asset, or the Diocese may be named as beneficiary for all or part of the policy proceeds.

12 / SPECIALIZED ASSETS

Business interests

Closely held business interests and mineral interests may be valuable charitable assets, but transfer restrictions, valuation, liabilities, and timing require careful review.

13 / SIMPLE AND FLEXIBLE

Cash gifts

Cash is the most direct way to support current work and may also be combined with a future commitment as part of a blended gift.

14 / NOW AND LATER

Blended gifts

A current gift combined with a bequest, beneficiary designation, or another future arrangement can address today's needs while expressing a lasting intention.

Put a few ideas into numbers.

The website includes six illustration tools. They are designed for exploration—not for producing tax, legal, or contractual results.

Bequest percentage

See what a percentage of an estimated estate could represent.

Appreciated-property gain

Compare a simplified gift of appreciated property with selling first.

Charitable gift annuity

Illustrate fixed payments using assumptions you control.

Deferred gift annuity

Explore how a later payment start date can affect an illustration.

Charitable remainder unitrust

Model a simplified percentage payment from annually valued trust assets.

Bargain sale

Explore a transaction that is part sale and part charitable gift.

Begin a conversation

T.J. Houlihan, Canon for Development
312.751.6725
St. James Commons, 65 E. Huron Street, Chicago, IL 60611
episcopalchicago.org

This guide is educational and is not tax, legal, accounting, or financial advice. Please consult qualified professional advisors. Confirm the Diocese's current legal name, tax information, gift-acceptance policies, and transfer instructions before completing a gift.