

## Financial Stewardship Guidelines During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Health concerns within the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the response of our diocese and parishes, mean we are doing all that we can to be part of the wider community and balance caution, safety, opportunities to worship and the provision of pastoral care.

One question that is very important for diocesan and parish leadership is, how can we continue to practice financial stewardship when we are not gathering for worship?

The following are a few guidelines to consider and follow:

1. Hand deliver or surface mail your offering to your parish office or congregational/parish treasurer. Consider increasing your financial gift or make a one-time extra contribution to help ensure your parish meet its financial obligations.
2. Consider registering your parish with the online giving provider Canada Helps. For more information, please check their website [canadahelps.org](http://canadahelps.org)
3. Begin (or modify) Pre-Authorized Giving. The Diocese of Ontario established this giving plan to assist you in your support of the work of your parish through your regular offering. It is convenient for the donor because your offering is automatically received every month and there is peace of mind knowing that you will provide continual support of your parish. It enables Churchwardens and Treasurers to plan better through regular and dependable contributions. For more information, we include the following link: <https://ontario.anglican.ca/clergy-parish-resources/finance-and-payroll/pages/pre-authorized-giving-pag>
4. It is unknown when our parishes will again publicly gather for worship and other activities. Therefore, **the Diocese is adding a second cycle of Pre-Authorized Giving in March to assist parishes.** For more information, contact the Diocesan Finance Officer, Alex Pierson, by email [apierson@ontario.anglican.ca](mailto:apierson@ontario.anglican.ca)

Our goal is to do everything we can because your parish and diocesan community will benefit if we maintain the practice of faithful financial stewardship.

Let us take care of all entrusted to us including ourselves, the gift and practice of faith, our relationships, the church, local communities and the wider world.