



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) #3

What exactly is Stewardship?

The Bible refers to Christian Stewardship as the responsibility of maintaining and wisely using the gifts that God has bestowed on us. We are expected to be God's "partners" in taking care of ourselves, others, and his Holy Church. "As each receives a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's grace." (1 Peter 4:10) We are all called to give and receive God's blessings, to transform and be transformed.

In the past, Holy Cross has promoted Stewardship in three categories...

PRAYING, CARING, and SHARING:

- **Praying:** Petition God for help with our needs and the needs of others
 - Weekly Mass
 - Celebrating the Sacraments
 - Adoration
 - Altar of Remembrance
 - Praying for those who have drifted away to return to church
- **Caring:** Living our faith by caring for those in need
 - St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry
 - Assembling and/or delivering of Christmas boxes
 - Thanksgiving food drive at the school
 - Traveling Crib for Catholic Charities Pregnancy Support Program
 - Helping families in need in our own parish
 - Reaching out to the elderly and homebound in the parish
- **Sharing:** Financially supporting the needs and obligations of our parish
 - Do I consider supporting Holy Cross Parish a priority in my budget?
 - How does my weekly offertory gift compare to other ways I spend my money?
 - Do I tend to give on a regular basis, or do I only give when there is a need?
 - Some suggest that we should "give until it hurts," but the practice of stewardship suggests that we "give because it feels good."

Sample Chart showing yearly income to just a 5% donation:

Annual Income - 5% per week

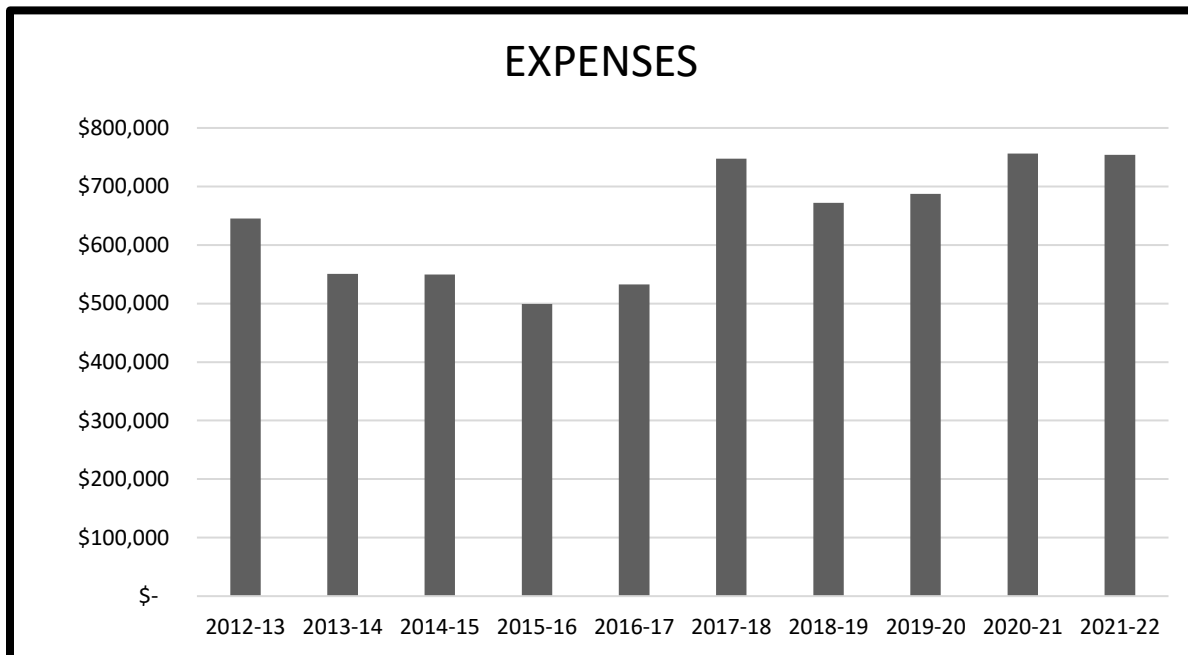
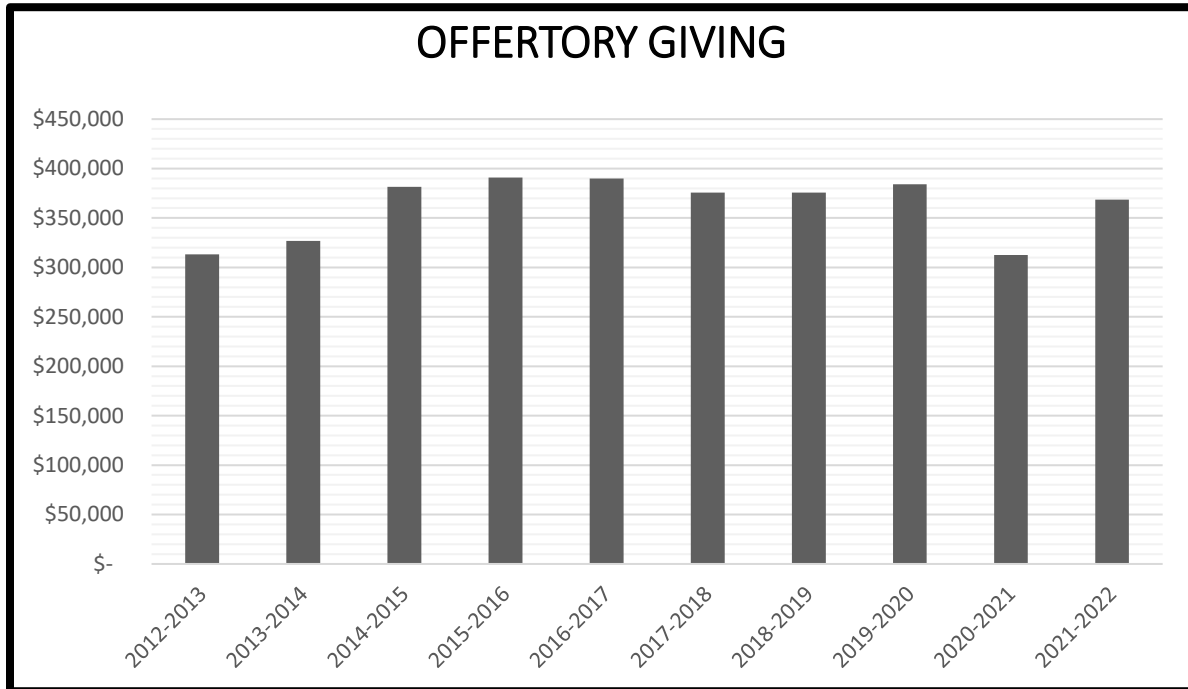
| | | |
|----------|---|------|
| \$20,000 | - | \$20 |
| \$30,000 | - | \$29 |
| \$35,000 | - | \$34 |
| \$45,000 | - | \$43 |
| \$55,000 | - | \$53 |
| \$65,000 | - | \$66 |

Annual Income - 5% per week

| | | |
|-----------|---|-------|
| \$75,000 | - | \$72 |
| \$85,000 | - | \$82 |
| \$95,000 | - | \$92 |
| \$105,000 | - | \$101 |
| \$115,000 | - | \$111 |
| \$125,000 | - | \$120 |

God cannot be outdone in generosity. Prayerfully consider what your tithe will be.

Offertory Income Compared to Expenses



(Details of Expenses Listed in Last Week's FAQs)