

Making a Substantial Christmas Gift to the Parish

Many people like to wait until the end of the year to make a larger financial gift to the parish at Christmas. There was a time when parishioners were encouraged to do this at Christmas as the Christmas collection was not taxed 7% by the Archdiocese, as are all other collections in church. Policies have now changed and this is not particularly beneficial to the parish any longer. In fact an excessively large Christmas collection can create bigger financial problems for the parish in the up-coming year. In light of all these changes, the most effective and useful gift to give to the parish at Christmas is to make a larger donation to the CSA collection. Perhaps this seems distasteful to some, but the annual CSA assessment is a bill that must be paid by our parish no matter what. If it is not paid by way of donations made directly to the CSA it will be paid indirectly by the Sunday collection which will first be taxed 7% by the archdiocese before that money is applied to our CSA bill, thus causing us to pay even more. And so, again I encourage Christmas gifts to the parish to be made to the CSA. It is of greatest importance that checks be made out to the CSA Collection and not to the parish to avoid the 7% tax. It is my great hope that this might be the year we actually meet our mandatory CSA goal.