

St. Thomas More Joins Technology Revolution

As many of you know, new technology and the internet touch our lives in more and more ways every day. Companies are now sending bills via email. Credit card and utility companies are getting our payments directly via our bank's Bill Pay system or through Electronic Funds Transfer. Most of us now pay our electric and cable bills on-line and many prefer this method over writing and mailing a paper check. Our Parish is working to make available a couple of additional methods by which you can make your donations for weekly offerings, special collections, and potentially other purposes. Some of these donation methods involve small fees to the service providers but also could likely reduce some of our operating costs. However, the net result, we believe, will be that more of your donations will be able to be used for programs and Parish facility upkeep. Here is a quick summary of what is coming that you might prefer and choose to participate in. These alternatives could simplify how you support our Parish financially when you travel or cannot make it to Mass and can save you time.

e-Giving

Parishioners will soon be able to go to the Parish Web Site (STMDURHAM.ORG) and select the "e-Giving" link under the "Stewardship" menu. The link will direct you to the VANCO system. VANCO is a service provider that the Parish has partnered with to enable e-Giving within our Parish and to provide a linkage to our Parish accounting software. The VANCO system has been tested to ensure that strict security and audit requirement protections are in place to guarantee the safety of your on-line contributions. Through this system, you will be able to make one-time or recurring systematic donations to our Parish (for example, for all weekly or for all Diocesan second collections). You will no longer need to remember to bring your envelope or carry cash to put in the offertory basket at Mass. You also will be able to make donations for special collections or tuition payments for the Faith Formation Program (our children's education program). The VANCO system will accept credit or debit cards and can accept transfers directly from a bank checking or savings account. VANCO charges a small percentage fee depending on where the funds are drawn from. We have not yet activated this system but would like your opinion and thoughts about this option for giving. Please contact any Stewardship Committee member with your comments and whether you might be interested in setting up an account to do e-Giving through VANCO.

Bank Bill Payments

Many of you already pay some of your bills electronically through your banks. Do you realize that you also can make donations to the Parish using this same system? Like the e-Giving option above, you can make one-time or recurring systematic donations and best of all, there are no fees. A fair number of us are already using this method of giving. Here is the general process for initiating this method:

- On your bank's web site, select "**on-line Bill Pay**".
- If you have the option of choosing an Individual Payee or Company Payee, choose "**Company Payee**". Also, specify your name as the "**Account Holder**" and your address as the "**Account Number**".
- Enter the following into the "**Payee Information**":
Church of St. Thomas More
P.O. Box 620
Durham, NH 03824-0620

- Select the **amount** (\$) and **period** (e.g., weekly or monthly) for the recurring offertory donation.
- If giving for other than general offertory, add a note in the **Comments** section to identify what the funds are to be designated toward.
- Contact Bindy Curtis at the Parish Office (email STMfinance@comcast.net) to let her know what you have set up with your bank. She will keep an eye out for incoming checks.
- On line Bill Pay donations are recorded in our data base just like envelope donations.

This method of giving is already in place and can be started right now if you have the On-Line Bill Pay feature at your bank. Like e-Giving, we would appreciate your feedback about this option for giving and if you are potentially interested in trying it. Please contact any Stewardship Committee member with your opinions or questions.

Thank you! Move over George Jetson!

Stewardship Commission Members:

Bob Brown	Ron Marnicio
Pat Cardarople	Pat Murphy
Bindy Curtis	Henri Marchi