



St. Joseph Parish – Cottleville

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The Tithing Outreach Program of St. Joseph Catholic Church of Cottleville, Missouri

Because God has been so generous to St. Joseph Church, we have become a truly tithing parish as announced on Stewardship Sunday in September, 2011.

In the past, our parish has supported various charitable organizations outside of our parish. Now, we have instituted a program that formalizes our tithing. Our parish has pledged to give 5% of its income (Sunday revenues*) to various charitable organizations within and beyond St. Charles County. Many of our brothers and sisters need financial help, and as a loving Catholic community, we are committed to reaching out to as many of them as possible.

If you would like a specific charitable group to be considered for our tithing program, please inform that charity of our program and provide the appropriate contact at the charity with a Tithing Outreach Application Form. That form is available at the parish office or on the parish web site at www.stjoecot.org. All organizations requesting funds must have a St. Joseph-Cottleville parishioner sponsoring them.

Depending on the number of requests, please be advised that we might not be able to donate money, or at least the requested amount, to every charitable group requesting a gift. Also, the charity can be religious or secular, but in either case the charity's philosophy must be consistent with Catholic teaching. The money awarded must be used for services for the charity's beneficiaries and must not be used to hire employees or increase the compensation of the charity's existing employees or pay for any other administrative/overhead costs. The organization must be a 501(c) (3) charity and not a for-profit company.

St. Joseph Parish organizations are not eligible for this program.

This annual program is based on our parish's fiscal year of July 1 to June 30. Applications will be accepted beginning in January, 2012, and must be received by the Parish Finance Council by June 30, 2012. The Finance Council's Tithing Outreach Committee will review the applications in July, 2012, and gifts will be donated by August 15, 2012. A similar schedule will be in effect in subsequent fiscal years.

Gifts will be determined by the Parish Finance Council every fiscal year. Charities that receive gifts in one fiscal year must reapply for gifts in subsequent fiscal years.

Incidentally, St. Joseph Parish annually subsidizes its elementary school and its Parish School of Religion by giving those organizations 5% or more of Sunday revenues. Thus, with the 5% tithing outreach program and the 5% or greater subsidy of the parish schools, we are fulfilling God's command for us to donate 10% of our income.

If you have any questions, please call Larry Albright, the head of the Finance Council's Tithing Outreach Program, at 636-441-4827.

*Sunday revenues consist of unrestricted Sunday offerings and parishioner contributions eligible for corporate matching gifts.