

St. Thomas of Canterbury

The Bible on Giving

Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

St. Matthew 6:19-21

...all things come of thee, and of thine own have we given thee.

1 Chronicles 29:14

Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name: bring an offering, and come before him: worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

1 Chronicles 16:29

...they shall not appear before the LORD empty: Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD thy God which he hath given thee.

Deuteronomy 16:16-17

Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.

Proverbs 3:9-10

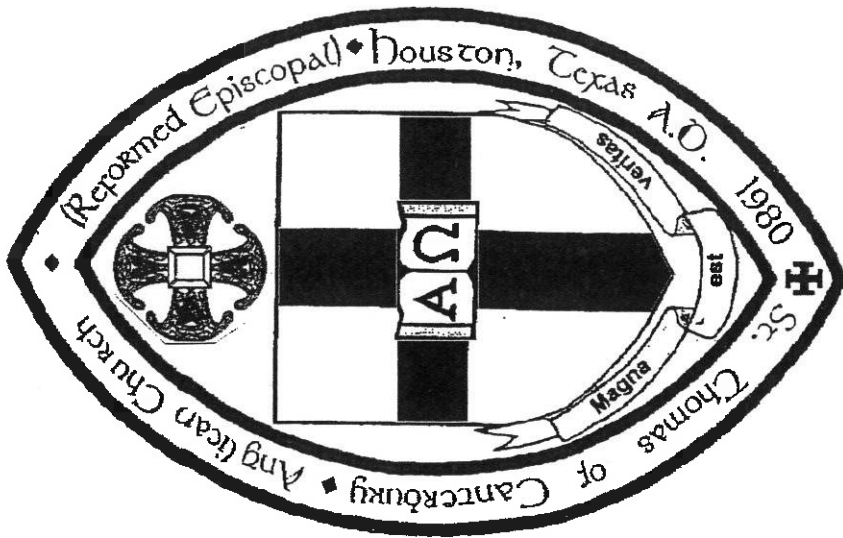
The Three Elements of Stewardship

As Christians we are required by God, as our part of the Covenant, to worship and serve him with our time, treasure and talent.

Time: We are to be in our own Church on the Lord's day unless prevented by personal or family illness, travel (in which case we should visit another orthodox Christian Church) or public necessity (doctor, police officer, emergency medical technician, airline employee, etc. on duty). In these cases we are to find an alternative time to worship God.

Treasure: We are to offer God the "first fruits" of all we produce. In Biblical times this was universally understood to be the first 10%. The whole Church works on the principle of the tithe. The individual tithes to the parish. The parish tithes to the diocese. The diocese tithes to the national Church. Scripture teaches us that God already owns this tithe, and to withhold it is to rob God. Every Christian should thus consider his or her responsibility to tithe, and should make it a goal and work towards that goal with a plan of systematic giving.

Talent: Every skill and attribute we possess is a gift from God. We are called upon to serve the Church and our fellow human beings with a portion of these talents. Every Christian should find ways to use his or her talents and spiritual gifts to the building up of Christ's kingdom.



2021 Every Member Covenant

Offering the Lord the first-fruits of our
time, treasure and talent
for the building up of His kingdom

St. Thomas of Canterbury Reformed Episcopal Church

Annual Pledge for 2021 - Name/Family: _____

My (our family's) commitment to Christ's work through our Church:

<u>TIME</u>	<u>TALENT</u>	<u>TREASURE</u>
<p>regular worship attendance</p> <p>_____ 8:00 AM Holy Communion</p> <p>_____ 10:30 AM Worship</p> <p>_____ Holy Days</p> <p>work</p> <p>_____ Church ministry (specify): _____</p> <p>_____ special events: _____</p> <p>_____ garden coordinator</p> <p>_____ work days</p> <p>_____ I will invite _____ friends and neighbors</p> <p>_____ other: _____</p>	<p>using God-given skills (check and write name beside each talent committed):</p> <p>_____ Sunday school teacher</p> <p>_____ choir</p> <p>_____ acolyte</p> <p>_____ Altar Guild</p> <p>_____ visitor welcome/follow-up</p> <p>_____ maintenance/repairs</p> <p>_____ outreach</p> <p>_____ youth group leader</p> <p>_____ youth group member</p> <p>_____ lay reader</p> <p>_____ lay lector</p> <p>_____ secretarial</p> <p>_____ Daughters of the Holy Cross</p> <p>_____ other (specify): _____</p>	<p>For the annual support of the Church's operations, I (we) pledge a total amount of \$ _____ for 2020</p> <p>The total amount above will be paid as follows:</p> <p>_____ lump sum payment (date): _____</p> <p>_____ quarterly</p> <p>_____ monthly</p> <p>_____ weekly</p> <p>_____ other (specify): _____</p> <p>For the purposes of assisting the Church in her planning this pledge amount will be renewed annually unless I notify the Vestry of any significant changes.</p> <p>SPECIAL DESIGNATED GIFTS FOR NAMING RIGHTS FOR CLASSROOMS OR THE CONFERENCE ROOM/ LIBRARY ARE AVAILABLE . PLEASE SEE THE SENIOR WARDEN FOR MORE INFORMATION.</p>

signature: _____ date: _____