PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance Program)

Frequently Asked Questions

The program is a "direct debit" program that allows people to support Christ Church through an automatic monthly withdrawal from their bank account. The Diocese of Ottawa has made arrangements with the United Church of Canada (UCC) to use their program, which they call the Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR) program. Once a month all PAR givings are debited from givers accounts and then the total, less a service fee, is electronically transferred to Christ Church’s account. The giver is credited with the full amount of their remittance.

**What are the benefits of PAR? -** The PAR system was developed to help parishes regulate their income. A number of our members are away for the summer or the winter; this helps them to keep their commitment without having to "catch up" on their givings. Many parishes in the Diocese of Ottawa including those in the Outaouais are on this program.

**What do we need in order to start?** - You need to complete an Authorization Form and give it to us with a voided cheque. You may put this in the collection tray at church.

**How is the Parish kept up-to-date about the givings?** - A monthly print-out is sent to our Envelope Secretary. The totals from this report will be compared to our bank statement by the Treasurer to ensure that the amount shown on the print-out is the amount that has been credited to the our bank account.

**What do we do about parishioners who feel uncomfortable about not putting something on the offering plate?** - We supply small cards for them to use. The cards are printed with the words: "My offering has been given by Pre-Authorized Remittance". They will be recycled from the offering plate and kept at the back of the church for people to pick up each Sunday.

**Who is responsible for tax receipts?** - The parish still does the tax receipts. A print-out is sent each month for record-keeping purposes and will be provided to the Envelope Secretary. Each giver will be credited with the full amount of their contributions.

Ralph Sprague

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PAR Coordinator

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