

## Resource Sheet 52 – Christian Stewardship

Christian giving is our responsibility as God's stewards, both for the ministry of the Church and for the relief of the poor. We should renew our giving every year to the Lord's work in conformity with the teaching of the holy fathers, (especially Ss. John Chrysostom and John the Merciful), and the teaching of Scripture. Consider:-

**THE GOSPEL** "For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich."  
[2 Corinthians 8:9]

**THANKSGIVING** "... for the rendering of this service not only supplies the wants of the saints but also overflows in many thanksgivings to God."  
[2 Corinthians 9:12]

**JOYFUL** "for God loves a cheerful giver ..."  
[2 Corinthians 9:7]

**WILLING** "... for they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own free will."

**SACRIFICIAL** [2 Corinthians 8:3]

**GENEROUS** "... he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully."  
[2 Corinthians 9:6]

**TRUSTING** "... and God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything and may provide in abundance for every good work."  
[2 Corinthians 9:8]

**REGULAR** "On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up as he may prosper ..."  
**that is:- PROPORTIONATELY \***  
[1 Corinthians 16:2]

*\* The biblical guide to proportionate giving is of course the **TITHE** or 10%, that is 10p in the £1. However, in Christ we live in grace, not by laws or rules. For some on low incomes this might be too much, (but, remember the widow at the Temple?) For others it might well be not enough.*