

Designated Giving Policy

Contributions to the parish are given so that parish leadership, having approved a comprehensive budget, may use financial resources to meet the prioritized needs of the parish in light of the Parish Mission Statement.

The Pastoral Council may establish special funds, not part of the operating budget, for which designated contributions can be accepted.

However, it is recognized that in special cases it is appropriate and necessary for designated contributions to be accepted for specific purposes outside of established funds. All designated gifts shall support the STA Mission statement and goals.

The parish will not accept gifts designated to specific individuals because gifts earmarked for use by a specific person are not tax deductible. Anyone wishing to make such a gift should give directly to the individual and not through the parish.

Designated gifts are offered to the Pastor who may accept the gift and its designation. If the Pastor feels necessary, this is done in consultation with the parish Finance Council Chair and Pastoral Council Chair.

All designated monetary gifts become the property of St. Thomas Aquinas Church & Catholic Student Center. Although the parish will expend the gift in accordance with the desire of the donor, the church will select the vendor, seller, or supplier of all services provided by the expending of the designated funds. All items purchased with designated funds also become the property of STA.

STA accepts designated funds with the understanding that such gifts are unrestricted and that funds not spent, for the designated purpose, within 12 months may then be allocated to the general operations fund. This provision is made clear at the time of acceptance and in the substantiating letter to the donor.

Neither staff nor parishioners may solicit funds to be administered independently in order to circumvent the approved budget.

Real and tangible personal property may be accepted by the Pastor with the understanding there is no condition or designation imposed upon the parish with gift acceptance. If the Pastor feels necessary, this is done in consultation with the parish Finance Council Chair and Pastoral Council Chair.

Approved Finance Council, September 26, 2017

Approved Pastoral Council, October 2, 2017