Online Giving
COVID-19 Parish Toolkit

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COVID-19
Financial Challenge

• The COVID-19 Pandemic has the potential to present parishes with significant financial challenges due to:

  • Church closures (candles, trays)

  • Parishioners losing jobs (stewardship)

  • Additional revenue sources (hall rentals, festivals, etc.)

• Parishes must move quickly to adopt digital/online giving solutions and alternative funding sources.
Online Giving and Stewardship

• Start by contacting your parish management software vendor to see what online tools they offer.

• Parish Data Systems users, start here (http://www.acstechnologies.com/products/pds/features/greek-orthodox)

• Add online giving opportunities to your web site, social media channels, and other digital communications (email, listservers, etc.).
Online Giving Options

• If you’re not currently using online donations and looking to get going quickly, simple solutions include:

  • PayPal (PayPal.com)

  • Vanco (https://www.vancopayments.com)

  • Archdiocese has a PayPal setup guide for parishes at: https://bit.ly/paypal-goarch
Turnkey donations from the Archdiocese

- The Archdiocese will offer a turnkey donation solution to parishes who need it.
Turnkey donations from the Archdiocese

- We’ll give you a donation web page so that you can begin taking online donations right from your parish web site.

- Fill out a request form at: https://j.mp/parish-donations
Options in addition to Vanco and PayPal

• Perform a Google search and you’ll find a number of companies who offer online donations such as Givelify, PushPay, SecureGive, and Give Lively (to name a few).

• The Archdiocese does not specifically endorse companies. Don’t rely simply on a Google search but perform due diligence on a company’s financial solvency and security.
Advanced giving options

• A donate button on your web site is a great start.

• In addition to a traditional “donate” button on your parish web site, some companies offer advanced features including the following:
Text to Donate

Give parishioners the ability to make a donation from their mobile phone with a five-digit short code.
Parishioners as fundraisers

Peer-to-peer fundraising allows parishioners to fundraise on behalf of your parish.
Fundraising Pages

Custom donation pages that can contain videos, stories, and imagery about your Church’s ministries.
Still need help?

- No matter which solution you choose, always follow proper financial controls and protocols.

- The Greek Orthodox Archdiocese is here to help our parishes during this crisis.

- If you still need assistance setting up online donations contact the Department of Internet Ministries at internet@goarch.org or 646-519-6690.