

St. Ludmila Church

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Dear Members of St. Ludmila parish,

Technology is changing more and more aspects of our lives. Its no surprise it has brought about some changes in some very traditional church practices! One change more and more asked for during the 1st Portion Appeal was having the option of using Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) for their Sunday collection in the same way they made other monthly payments. EFT allows one to make your church envelope donations by automatic deduction/electronic funds transfer. The enclosed application form presents what the parish Finance Committee feels are some real advantages to both parishioners and to the parish. Please read it through, and also the commonly asked questions & answers provided below.

St. Thomas Aquinas noted centuries ago that virtues are formed by practice; we know that is true for everything from study skills and free throw shooting to deepening the love between spouses by regular acts of care and attention. Using EFT for donations can help us get into the practice of tithing—giving God’s portion first—by making it one less thing to remember as we get ready for church. We still use our envelopes, as *disciples* we will still need to let *thanksgiving to God* motivate us, but we won’t need to find the cash or the checkbook to put something inside!

Thank you for giving this your consideration. If you have questions, please contact Liz at the Parish Center (362-7282).

Direct Answers to Questions About Electronic Funds Contributions

Q. What is an Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT)?

A. *Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) is an automatic transfer program that allows you to make contributions to St. Ludmila Church without writing a check.*

Q. What are the advantages of an Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT)?

A. *It saves you time! It simplifies your life! You also help the church stabilize their budget and save money!*

Q. When will my contribution be deducted from my account?

A. *Your contribution will be deducted from your account on the date you specify on the form.*

Q. If I don’t write checks, how do I keep my checkbook balanced right?

A. *Since your contribution is made at a pre-established time, you simply record it in your check register on the appropriate date.*

Q. Without a cancelled check, how can I prove I made my contribution?

A. *Your bank statement gives you an itemized list of electronic transfers. It's your proof of contribution.*

Q. Is an Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) risky?

A. *Electronic Fund Transfer is less risky than check or cash contribution. It can't be lost, stolen or destroyed in the mail and it has an extremely high rate of accuracy.*

Q. What if I change bank accounts?

A. *You will be provided with a new authorization form by the parish office for you to complete.*

Q. Does this form allow the Church to change the amount given?

A. *No, the form authorizes only the deduction you decide, on the date you decide.*

Q. How much does it cost to use an Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT)?

A. *It costs you nothing and will save you time!*

Q. Will I still receive envelopes?

A. *You will still receive envelopes so you can take part in the Sunday Collection and give witness to your financial support of the Church. You would simply write your monthly contribution as you do now and add "EFT".*

Q. Will I be able to use EFT for Easter, Christmas, Holy Day and Diocesan collections?

A. *No, EFT is used only for your sacrificial giving budget amount. You will continue to receive envelopes by mail for the extra collections annually.*

Q. What if I need to change what I decided to give?

A. *You can change your contribution amount at any time at no cost by filling out a new authorization form.*

Q. What if I try Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) and don't like it?

A. *You can cancel your authorization for EFT at any time by notifying the Parish Center or in writing.*

Q. How can I sign up for Electronic Fund Transfer?

A. *Simply fill out the following form, attach a voided check and mail it to St. Ludmila Church or drop it in the Sunday collection basket.*

ST. LUDMILA CHURCH
“E-Tithing”
Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) for Envelope Giving

Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) is an alternate method for processing Sunday envelope contributions. This streamlined automatic collection process benefits both the parish and the parishioner.

Benefits to parishioners:

- No more “last minute” check writing
- Contribution is taken care of even when out-of-town or on vacation
- Payments don’t get lost or misdirected
- Bank statement will show the deduction
- Contributions may be made from your account at any bank

Benefits to St. Ludmila:

- Reduces the time it takes to collect, count, and make deposits to bank
- Eliminates the processing of checks while still providing an accurate accounting of all transactions
- Maintains a more consistent giving pattern for church budgeting

Deductions will occur on the Date of your choice. If this happens to be on a weekend or holiday it will occur on the following business day. A statement of your contributions will be furnished to you at the end of the year for tax purposes.

To sign up for this program, please fill out the form below. Place the form in an envelope in the collection basket or mail it to the Parish Center.

Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) Enrollment Form
AUTHORIZATION AGREEMENT FOR PRE-AUTHORIZED PAYMENTS

Company Name: ST. LUDMILA CHURCH

I (We) hereby authorize **ST. LUDMILA CHURCH** to initiate electronic debit entries to my account indicated below to fulfill my contribution to the parish budget. I am supplying my financial institution’s (Depository’s) name below, and my account number on a voided check from that account.

Depository Bank

City

State/Zip

Amount to be deducted as my grateful return to God: \$ _____ **monthly.** Circle **one** withdrawal date: (5th) or (20th)

or \$ _____ **bi-weekly** on **both** the (5th) and (20th)

This authorization is to remain in full force and effect until **ST. LUDMILA CHURCH** has received written notification from account holder/s of its termination or modification in such time and in such manner as to afford **ST. LUDMILA CHURCH** and DEPOSITORY a reasonable opportunity to act on it.

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

*****A VOIDED CHECK MUST BE ATTACHED TO THIS ENROLLMENT FORM*****