

Why the Religious Education Building Fund Needs Pledges

1. Parishioners have asked "Why can't I just continue to make donations to the Building Fund since I would rather not make a pledge?"

The simplest answer is that with your pledge, we can make long range plans. If you are making individual donations to the fund, even if they come at regular intervals (annually, quarterly, monthly, weekly) we can only plan based on what funds we have received. A pledge to make recurring contributions allows us to project where we will be over the next several years. A pledge is a commitment, where an individual donation is only that. As a side issue, outside groups we may approach for help want to know what the parish commitment is to the project. Why should an outside group help us if the parishioners won't commit to the project?

2. Parishioners have told us they will continue to make regular contributions to the Building Fund but they don't want to make a formal pledge, for many reasons: continued economic instability, job insecurity, education costs for children, potential health care costs and changes, etc. They see a pledge as a contractual responsibility.

Filling out a pledge card for the Building Fund is simply your best estimate of what you can give to this important project over a period of three years. It is your commitment to the project. Of course we hope and expect that most parishioners can fulfill their pledges. If your situation changes, tell us and we can accommodate you. Perhaps you can reduce the amount or extend the time you will take to meet the commitment. Statistically, in any fund drive, some pledges can't be completed. Hopefully, other parishioners may see their situations improve and can increase their giving. God willing, it will balance out. All we ask is your best effort for this crucial parish project. We need to educate our children in the Catholic faith in an efficient and effective environment.