

## ST. MICHAEL PARISH

### Electronic Funds Transfer - Making Giving Easier

Historically, the collection envelope has been the accepted method of parish giving. Recently, many parishes now offer the option of electronic funds transfer ("EFT") for those parishioners who are comfortable with paperless transactions such as direct deposit of paychecks and banking by computer. EFT is a beneficial method of paying Offertory commitments for both the church and the parish family, for several reasons, including:

- There are no checks to write, no checks to remember, and no checks get lost.
- The parish saves money because EFT reduces bank cost.
- Offertory record keeping is more accurate, because we get monthly statements and these transactions appear on your monthly statements as well for verification
- Even the best-intentioned parishioners can forget a check now and then. EFT means that the parish receives your commitment regularly.
- Automatic payments are safer than using cash or handwritten checks.

Most importantly, the spirit of giving is very much alive with EFT. The act of giving is made when you decide what your commitment to the parish will be for the year. EFT is just the means for carrying out your wish. Prayerful discernment of your Offertory gift remains the most important part of the giving process. The act of giving remains a special opportunity to promote the grace of sharing our God-given gifts with your family and children. Our children are growing up in an electronic era, and giving by EFT will probably be unremarkable to them. What is still essential is that our children come to know that giving to support their church, with time, talent and treasure, is something we Catholics are called to do.

If you are interested in using EFT to make your parish Offertory contribution, please complete the form below. You may still use the collection basket for gifts by check or cash on special occasions such as Christmas and Easter, to support the Repair and Maintenance Fund or to make an additional gift. If you have any questions, please call the parish office at 937 498-2307.

### Electronic Funds Transfer Authorization

I authorize St. Michael Parish to initiate electronic withdrawals from my checking account as indicated below. These withdrawals shall apply to my Offertory contribution to St. Michael Parish. This authority shall allow the financial institution named below and on the attached check to permit withdrawals from my account in accordance with these instructions. This authority shall remain in full force and effect until I give written notice to St. Michael Parish to terminate electronic withdrawals, which notice shall take effect 10 business days after receipt by St. Michael Parish Office.

Signature\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_

Print Full Name\_\_\_\_\_

Home Address\_\_\_\_\_E-Mail Address\_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone\_\_\_\_\_Cell Phone\_\_\_\_\_

Bank\_\_\_\_\_Account Number\_\_\_\_\_

Amount to be deducted from my account \$\_\_\_\_\_monthly

Withdraws will be the 15<sup>th</sup> day of each month.

PLEASE ATTACH A VOIDED CHECK FROM YOUR CHECKING ACCOUNT TO THIS FORM TO:

PARISH OFFICE 119 E. WATER ST. - SIDNEY OHIO 45365