

In-Pew Solicitation for Multicultural Parishes

For many cultures, sacrificial giving may not be the custom, and support for Church by a way of pledging may not be a common or known practice. Below are some suggestions for adapting in-pew solicitation for multicultural parishes. As you present other options, please remember that it is important to stress the message of equal sacrifice, not equal gift.

Pledge with Weekly Payments:

Ask parishioners to consider a total amount to pledge, direct them to write that amount on the bilingual envelope provided, or perhaps, to choose one of the suggested amounts already listed on the envelope. Explain to the community that the amount they may choose to give can be paid over a number of specific weeks utilizing a particular envelope provided by the parish (in-pew). During your announcement, indicate the specific dates that will be assigned for the collection of the envelopes. During those weeks, envelopes will be collected at Mass during a special collection and submitted to the Campaign Processing Office as soon as possible.

EXAMPLE:

Your parish implements this idea and will conduct the effort over a period of 5 weeks.

Option one: Parish could use different colored envelopes for each week. The envelopes should have a place for the participant to write their name, address and the amount included.

Option two: The parish could use envelopes that are marked with a series of numbers and that represent collection weeks. The parish will have available (in-pew) the numbered envelope that corresponds for each collection. The envelopes should have a place for the participant to write their name, address and the amount included.

Parish Community Gift:

Any group or ministry within the parish community could offer a specific amount as their APA pledge to the parish. Over a period of time throughout the year, the community will fundraise, collect, donate funds, and submit as many payments as necessary toward the amount pledged. Parishioners can also individually consider a total amount to be pledged over a period of time. Please note, if a parishioner chooses this option, they will need to complete their own pledge card on behalf of the parish community.