



St. Johns Royal Oak Planned Giving Program Ways of Making a Planned Gift

Generally speaking, a planned gift is a one-time gift made at the time of the giver's death. Below are some methods for making this type of giftⁱ. If you or your Estate/Financial Planning professional have questions, please feel free to call our Parish Administrator, Jennifer Perkins at 248-546-1255 and she will direct your call accordingly.

- 1) **Beneficiary Designation** – An individual can name St. John's as the beneficiary of an account. This is done at the financial institution where the account is held and can be done today. The types of accounts that can have a named beneficiary include: Checking, Savings, CD, IRA, Roth IRA, 403b, 401k, Life Insurance Policy, Annuity. Simply ask the custodian for a change of beneficiary form. You will want to enter the following on the form: **St. John's Episcopal Church, Royal Oak, MI or its Successor**. By naming a beneficiary, the account avoids the probate process and goes directly to the named beneficiary.
- 2) **Will or Trust** – You can name St. John's as a beneficiary of your estate in your Will or Trust. When working with your attorney to put together your formal Estate Plan, let the attorney know you are interested in naming St. John's as a beneficiary of your formal estate. The attorney will want to use the name: **St. John's Episcopal Church, Royal Oak, MI or its Successor**. Note that gifts of real-estate will require approval from the Church/Diocese at the time of receipt. If you are interested in leaving real-estate, we urge you to consult with the Gift Acceptance Committee prior to drafting your documents.
- 3) **Charitable Trusts** – Another form of trust that can be a useful Estate and Tax planning tool is known as a Charitable Remainder Trust. These trusts allow for a tax deduction at the funding of the trust while potentially providing current income to the donor. When the final beneficiary of the trust dies, any remaining principal of the trust is given to the named charity. If naming St. John's in a Charitable Trust, use the name **St. John's Episcopal Church, Royal Oak, MI or its Successor**. This is a complicated planning tool and you should consult with a qualified Estate Planning professional.

St. John's has established four Dedicated Funds; Building and Grounds, Worship and Music, Education, and Outreach. Through the enclosed "Planned Giving Program Participation Statement of Intent" you can choose to name a specific Dedicated Fund, or simply name the Church (undesignated) and we will spread your gift among the four funds based on the policy adopted by the Vestry. If you have a special bequest, please review our gift acceptance policy and consult with the Rector or the Gift Acceptance Committee (GAC). We want to make sure we can honor your gift in the manner you wish.

Thank you for your interest in supporting St. John's through Planned Giving.

ⁱ Please note: No member of St. John's staff or Lay Leadership can give specific tax or estate planning advice. Please contact a licensed professional. No member of the staff or Lay Leadership may serve as a trustee in their official capacity at St. John's.