

Clement Commits Mission & Guidelines for Direct Grant Allocations
Saint Clement Parish
(Updated January 2021)

Under the *Clement Commits* program, Saint Clement gratefully gives 10% annually of all collections in service of our mission to share our gifts and serve the common good with others beyond the boundaries of our immediate parish community. In allocating *Clement Commits* contributions other than those required by the Archdiocese, we will consider the following guidelines:

1. Recipients should be an established and on-going charity or social justice group, such as a recognized 501(c)(3) organization.
2. The recipient group should be engaged in an effective program to address an important social justice need consistent with our Catholic faith.
 - a. The organization need not be Catholic or faith-based.
 - b. Priority will be given to organizations whose major funding sources also promote values and programs consistent with Catholic teaching.
3. In addition to funding recipients with well-established records of service, *Clement Commits* is also open to new recipient groups that are ready, willing and able to serve their community in an impactful and innovative manner.
4. Each gift will be given in a sufficient amount to make a meaningful difference or significant contribution to the cause served by the recipient group.
5. One or more parishioners should endorse or otherwise be familiar with the operation or cause served by the recipient group.
6. To the greatest extent possible, gifts will be given to recipient groups that will facilitate parishioner participation or involvement, with the aim of fostering genuine partnerships in the community.
7. Gifts to recipient groups in our local community will be given special emphasis, but recipient groups that serve the broader needs of the metropolitan, national and international communities will also be considered.
8. Recipient groups seeking funding for special projects/initiatives as well as those seeking funding for general operating expenses will be considered.
9. Formal parish partners (Sister Parish, Sharing Parish) will be guaranteed a base level of *Clement Commits* funding each year, as the parish has an established and ongoing commitment to financially support these partners.
10. No other recipient groups are guaranteed to receive funding year to year. Existing relationships between organizations and Saint Clement, through *Clement Commits* or otherwise, will be considered but do not guarantee *Clement Commits* funding.
11. Recipient groups will be held accountable. Groups receiving *Clement Commits* funds need to be willing and able to articulate a specific need for the funds and provide a

report on how past funding was used to meet that need.

Saint Clement will not actively solicit proposals for *Clement Commits* gifts. We will draw upon all available sources to determine candidates for gifts, including past recipients and recommendations from staff and parishioners. Additionally, all application materials will be made available on the Saint Clement website.

The Clement Commits program is totally transparent to the parish community. Information about each recipient group is available on the parish website and in the annual Parish Stewardship report.

The Clement Commits committee and the parish Director of Community Outreach review all applications and submit a list of proposed recipients for approval by the Pastor and representatives of the Pastoral Council and Finance Council. Once the list of recipients is approved, distributions are made at the end of the fiscal year, June 30.