



JOIN US ON CONSECRATION SUNDAY

OCTOBER 4



Consecration Sunday is Coming October 4

Parishes like The Advent that approach financial stewardship from a biblical perspective, view financial giving as a way for each of us to grow spiritually in our relationship with God by supporting our parish's mission, ministries, and programming with a percentage of our incomes. This is much different than just a way to pay the bills.

Accordingly, for our stewardship journey this fall, the Vestry has adopted the **Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program** to reinforce and honor biblical and spiritual principles of giving. Consecration Sunday is based on the biblical philosophy of the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. We are followers of Jesus Christ who mature as disciples in part by giving unselfishly in response to his example and call. Consecration Sunday encourages proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?"

The **Consecration Sunday** program is unlike any stewardship process we have used in recent years. Thousands of congregations across the country have used the program, and here is how it is structured: **during a single service at 10:15 AM on October 4**, we will ask each parish household to indicate its financial commitment to The Advent for 2027 by completing an **Estimate of Giving card**.

Following the service, everyone is invited to a **Celebration Luncheon** in the Parish & Community Life Center.

While completing a card is voluntary, we hope that everyone, whether they complete a card or not, will join in both the service and the luncheon. **The Reverend Rob Brown will be our guest preacher that Sunday**. He will also lead a brief period of instruction and inspiration, culminating in those present making their commitments as a confidential act of worship during the service.

Unlike Stewardship Campaigns of the past, we will make no follow-up visits or personal calls to those who choose not to complete an Estimate of Giving card. Rather, the work of the Consecration Sunday Committee, the Vestry, clergy, and staff will be to use the weeks preceding Consecration Sunday to inform, to inspire, and to encourage everyone to RSVP and be present for both worship and the luncheon.

My thanks to each of you for your enthusiastic participation in Consecration Sunday!

Lori Thomas
Senior Warden