

## **Online Giving St. Basil Catholic Church**

The Diocese of Lafayette has made available online giving for each parish in the Diocese. As your pastor I have wanted to make this available to you, but vendors for this service can have costly set up fees and monthly maintenance fees. Potentially, St. Basil could have been paying more for the fees than people actually giving online. When I was at St. Pius, I started online giving there and used it myself. I loved it.

Now the Diocese has set it up for each parish to have online giving at no cost to the church parish, and I have already signed up. How does it work?

1. Go to the Diocesan website: [diolaf.org](http://diolaf.org) and on the home page you will see “Make a Gift” along the top banner. Move your mouse cursor over “Make a Gift” and a drop down menu will show “Online Parish Offertory Giving” – click.
2. You will be brought to **Parish Give 52**. Click on the banner below Parish Give 52 that reads “**click here to give to your parish.**”
3. The next page you will see is the way you have the opportunity to give. Fill out the information and the required fields. It will ask for an envelope number if you have one. If you don’t have one, you don’t need to fill out that fill – not required. You determine the amount you want to give and you can show weekly or monthly. You will identify St. Basil as your home parish.
4. Each week a confidential report of donors will be sent to St. Basil. The Office of Accounting will make weekly electronic deposits into St. Basil’s checking account. The amount you give will be posted under your envelope number so that an end of the year report can still be given to you for tax purposes.
5. Those of you who typically give by check without an envelope number, if you were not registered in the parish, you were put on the census and given an ID number and your contributions are also being posted. If you would like an end of the year report, you can receive one as well. An end of the year report for tax purposes must always be requested. One is not automatically sent.
6. At this time, the system only allows you to charge your credit card (Visa, Master Card, Discover) or bank debit card. It isn’t possible yet to draft from a checking account in this system. (a limitation of this system).
7. Each transaction is charged a 3% fee. You can indicate to cover the fee (which I have done). If not, the fee will be subtracted from the donated amount sent to St. Basil.

This will give me some idea of people’s interest in using online giving, where would could later move to a vendor that offers more opportunities to give and more giving for second collections. Other vendors even offer all the National Second Collections and the amount you want to give toward them.