

TITLE: Loose or Plate Offerings	NUMBER: C-4
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LOOSE OR PLATE OFFERINGS

BACKGROUND:

It is the intent of the Vestry to discourage special offering collections and the designation of loose or plate offerings, but rather to fund projects through the means of the general annual pledges by parishioners and the budget process. This process encourages the giving to the Church for the glory of God rather than for a more specific purpose.

POLICY/PROCEDURE:

1. Loose or plate offerings at worship services (except for those on the first Sunday and fifth Sundays in each month which have been set aside for the Clergy Discretionary fund respectively) are used to meet the general objectives of the Church as indicated by the budget or other expression of the Vestry. Loose or plate offerings at worship services are not designated for a special purpose and special collections are not to be made without the advance approval of the Vestry and the prior knowledge of the congregation.
2. The Rector is authorized to designate the loose offering on the occasion of visits of the Bishop of the Diocese to the Bishop's Discretionary fund and, in unusual situations when obtaining Vestry approval is not practical, the Rector may designate the loose offering for a special purpose.
3. Designated offerings are submitted to the Vestry for approval and may include:
 - a. Special Lenten Offerings,
 - b. Theological Education Sunday, designated for a particular Seminary,
 - c. Offerings at special Choral services, for the music program of the Church,
 - d. Episcopal Relief & Development Fund, and
 - e. Offerings at special events for a designated purpose.