

Answers to Frequently asked Questions about TWB/Scrip

What is TWB/Scrip?

TWB (Together We're Better) is a certificate program started by Liturgical Publications of St. Louis that allows members of non-profit organizations to purchase gift certificates, also known as scrip, from local and national merchants at a discounted rate. Once a purchase has been made, St. Paul School will receive anywhere from 1 – 19% of that purchase in the form of a donation. These certificates do not cost the Parish or its members anything more than the face value of the certificate. They are used the same as cash. For example, if your family normally spends \$400 a month on groceries and you make those purchases with certificates sold through TWB, our school will receive approximately \$16 in donation. Think of the possibilities! If 100 families participate, at this rate, our school will receive \$1,600 in a month's time or \$19,200 in a year – and that's not counting our gas, restaurant and department store purchases.

What is expected of each school family?

All families with students in grades K – 8 are obligated to earn \$200 in DONATIONS during the course of the fiscal year (July 1 – June 30). You will receive an invoice at the end of the obligation period for \$200 less the amount of donations you have earned.

Example – If you earn \$200, no invoice will be sent.

If you earn \$150, you will receive an invoice for \$50.

If you earn \$5, you will receive an invoice for \$195.

What if my family does not wish to purchase scrip?

You may opt to pay the \$200 rather than earn donations by purchasing scrip. The \$200 can be added to your Facts payments or you can pay the amount in full. Please contact Sr. John at the Parish Center to make arrangements for payment through Facts or if there are financial reasons that you will be unable to fulfill this obligation.

What if my family raises more than \$200 in donations?

Any donations over \$200 raised will go into the general fund unless you specify that another family should receive credit for your purchases.

How will my purchases be tracked?

Using the certificate order forms that are filled out with each purchase, your donations earned will be recorded on your family's spreadsheet on a weekly basis. Each month you will receive a statement informing you of your current total earned, or Lori can be reached at 281-8238 or by e-mail at stp-TWB@hotmail.com. if you'd like to check your total.

Where can I purchase certificates?

Certificates are sold at the Parish Center during regular business hours and at all weekend Masses. You can also send your order to school with your child and have your child bring your order home.

How do I place my order through school?

Simply fill out the order form, attach payment and send it to school in an envelope marked TWB. Please indicate your child's name/grade on the order form. Orders will be sent home on Monday and Friday each week.

What if I order certificates that are not on hand?

TWB/Scrip orders are placed on Monday mornings and are ready to be sent home/picked up on Friday. If you place an order through school and the certificates are out-of-stock, a backorder notice will be sent to you. This notice will state the re-order date and the date your order will be sent home with your child. Please note, your check will not be deposited until your order is complete.

Where can I use the certificates I purchase?

Each certificate is specific to the merchant listed on it. The certificates can be used at all local, national (and some international) locations listed on the certificate.

Do the certificates have an expiration date?

Yes, normally 12 months, but some are longer.

Can I order certificates for other members of my family, friends or relatives?

Yes, the more households ordering the certificates, the greater the donation amount we will receive. Ordering for friends and relatives will help you reach your \$200 obligation.

What about purchases made by people who don't have children in St. Paul School?

There is a place on the order form to indicate which St. Paul School family should receive credit for the purchase. If no school family name is indicated, the donation received will go into the general fund.

Will participating merchants provide change?

Each store has its own policy in regard to this. Most grocery stores will provide change up to \$4.99. Other merchants will provide change up to a percentage of the order, while others have a "no change" policy.

Can I use the certificates to pay on my merchant credit card account?

Some stores accept certificates as payment on store charge cards. Please check with the individual stores for details. Always make these payments in person as the certificates should be treated as cash.

Who do I contact if I have questions about the program or my order?

If you have any questions about the program, please call Lori Wortmann at 281-8238. Lori can also answer questions about your orders. Please do not call the school office about your orders.

When will my check be deposited?

The TWB/Scrip deposit is prepared weekly, early Monday morning. This deposit will include anything collected from the previous Monday thru Sunday. Please remember that your check will not be deposited, however, if your order is not complete.

What days will TWB orders be sent home with students?

Orders will be sent home on Monday and Friday only. If you are expecting to receive an order and you don't receive it, call Lori at 281-8238 **ASAP!**

Will backorders be frequent?

Hopefully backorders will not be a problem. Please realize, however, that the certificates are just like cash and once ordered, they cannot be returned. Therefore, certificates that have proven to be popular over the past year will most likely be on hand. These include grocery stores, gas cards, home improvement stores and some restaurant and department stores. This point is not being made to hold any one back from placing an order but to stress the importance of placing orders for gifts and large purchases at least a week in advance to ensure availability. Suggestions of certificates to keep on hand will be greatly appreciated – especially for the holiday shopping season.

What else can I do to help?

Volunteers are always needed to sell certificates at weekend Masses. If you are interested in helping, please call Lori at 281-8238.

For detailed information about participating retailers log on to:

www.glscrip.com

This is the web-site for Great Lakes Scrip Center. Most of our certificates are purchased through Great Lakes Scrip. A handful of local retailers are available to us through Liturgical Publications of St. Louis' "Together We're Better" program.