

# Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church

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## 2017 Stewardship Card

***"As the Father has sent Me, so I send you."***

John 20:21

Name:

Primary Email:

Spouse Name:

Secondary Email:

Address: City: State: Zip:

Home Phone:

Mobile:

Spouse Mobile:

My information has changed (*Please fill in above*)  Please add me to the Parish Email List

The personal information and dollar amounts are CONFIDENTIAL

You are advised to consult your CPA or other tax advisor regarding the deductibility of all or part of this gift.

*For Authorized Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church Personnel Only*

## Treasure

In gratitude for God's blessings, I/We offer to Christ and His Church for the year 2017 the following amount:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ [Stewardship Pledge for 2016: \$] [Contributed 2016: \$]

The amount being offered is at least 2% of our annual income

## Time & Talent

Please indicate at least 2 areas of interest per adult with initials.

### **Administration:**

Computer/IT  
Mass Mailing  
Filing

### **Communications:**

Public Relations  
Social Media  
Website

### **Education:**

Greek School  
Studies in the Faith  
Sunday School Teacher

### **Festival:**

Festival Prep/Baking  
Festival Worker  
Set Up/Clean Up

### **Liturgical:**

Chanter  
Choir  
Epistle Reader  
Makaria  
Kollyva Maker  
Prosporo Baker  
Greeter

### **Ministries:**

Elpis Philoptochos  
Altar Guild  
Bookstore  
More Than a Meal  
Prayer Circle  
Visitations  
Orthodox Christian Fellowship  
REAL Young Adults  
Young at Heart  
Vegetable/Herb Garden

### **Youth:**

Athenian Dance Troupe  
Christmas Program  
Oratorical Festival  
Youth Advisor

### **Outreach:**

Coffee Fellowship  
Volunteer Driver

Any other talents or information on items listed above: \_\_\_\_\_

# *Family Information*

## **Parents**

Name:	Birthdate:	Baptismal/ Chrismation Date:	Patron Saint:
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Wedding Anniversary: \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Work: _____	Work Phone: _____	
Occupation: _____	Email: _____	
Address: _____		
City: _____	State: _____	Zip Code: _____
Spouse Place of Work: _____	Work Phone: _____	
Occupation: _____	Email: _____	
Address: _____		
City: _____	State: _____	Zip Code: _____

## **Minor Children**

Name:	Birthdate:	Baptismal/ Chrismation Date:	Patron Saint:
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

## **Adult Children in College**

Name:	Birthdate:	Patron Saint:	College/ University
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

# *Frequently Asked Questions*

## **How do I become a member of the Parish?**

Membership in the Orthodox Church begins at baptism (Chrismation for some) and continues throughout our life. We are united with Christ through the sacraments, or mysteries, of the Church and through our faithful offering of our entire selves to Jesus Christ. Our Archdiocese requires each parish to distinguish between **voting** members and **non-voting** members. According to the Archdiocesan Regulations and Parish By-Laws, a voting member is over 18 years of age and has a Stewardship Card on file for the current year, or has made a financial contribution to the Parish in the current or previous year; participates in the sacramental life of the Church; and contributes towards the wellbeing of the Parish. Keep in mind that true membership in the Body of Christ involves living according to His word and within His Church.

## **What is the Stewardship Program?**

The Stewardship Program is the primary means whereby the Parish supports itself, sustains its numerous ministries, and assists those in need, both in the Parish and in the wider community. It relies on the goodness of God and the pure generosity of the members of the Parish.

## **How do I become a participating Steward?**

Become a Steward by completing the Stewardship Card and/or by contributing financially to the Parish. After reading this page, please consider prayerfully and sincerely your offering. Keep in mind that your Stewardship begins in January of each year. Stewardship Cards are mailed to each home in December of the preceding year. They are also available on-line, in the Narthex, or you can contact the Church Office.

## **How much should I contribute?**

The Biblical model is 10% of your family's annual income. However, we welcome everyone's Stewardship – we are just happy to have you as a part of our Parish! As a general guideline, our Stewardship Committee has adopted a 2% Stewardship Plan. This plan encourages each family to contribute at least 2% of their annual income to the Parish. If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact Father Simon.

## **How should I submit my financial contribution to the Parish?**

We prefer that your offering be paid monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, or annually at the beginning of the year. Monthly offerings are most preferred because it is easier to manage small, regular contributions, rather than large accumulated amounts, as well as keeping a steady cash flow for the Parish to cover its monthly expenses. Payment may be made by cash, check, or automatic checking account debit.

## **How Much Does the Parish Need to Operate?**

This changes from year to year. To provide you with some perspective, 221 individuals and families submitted Stewardship in 2015, with a total of \$280,135 contributed, making the average contribution approximately \$1,268. In 2015, the parish operating expenses for the year totaled \$497,894, meaning the expenses were \$2,253 for every Parish family. Stewardship revenues supported more than 56% of total Parish expenses.

## **What if I cannot fulfill my Stewardship?**

During the course of a year, people's circumstances change. Your Stewardship is valued because it is made out of your love for God and His Church. If, for some reason, you are unable to fulfill your stewardship, please contact Father Simon in the Church Office.

## **In addition to my financial contribution, how else may I help my Parish?**

Involvement! This is the key to our community and Faith. As a Parish family, we grow together in God's love, and you are a part of that family. Annunciation parishioners are encouraged to offer their talent and time. As part of the 2% Stewardship Program, we desire that all parishioners be involved in at least 2 ministries, programs or events in our Parish.

## *The 2% Stewardship Program*

The 2% Stewardship Program encourages all parishioners to contribute at least 2% of their time, talent, and treasure by participating in at least 2 Parish ministries, programs, or events, and offering at least 2% of their income as financial support to the Parish. If you or your family are already exceeding one or both of these aspects of Stewardship, we appreciate your continued support. For all others, we encourage you to consider these suggested guidelines for Christian Stewardship. All of us should be striving to offer more of ourselves to God!

### **2% Stewardship**

	<b>Stewardship</b>			
<b>Annual Income</b>	<b>Annual</b>	<b>Quarterly</b>	<b>Monthly</b>	<b>Weekly</b>
\$ 10,000.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 16.67	\$ 3.85
\$ 20,000.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 33.34	\$ 7.70
\$ 30,000.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 11.54
\$ 40,000.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 66.67	\$ 15.39
\$ 50,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 83.34	\$ 19.23
\$ 60,000.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 23.08
\$ 70,000.00	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 350.00	\$ 116.67	\$ 26.93
\$ 80,000.00	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 133.34	\$ 30.77
\$ 90,000.00	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 450.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 34.62
\$ 100,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 166.67	\$ 38.47
\$ 110,000.00	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 550.00	\$ 183.34	\$ 42.31
\$ 120,000.00	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 46.16

November 1, 2016

Dearly Beloved,

Orthodox Christian Stewardship is a way of life which acknowledges our responsibility before God. A primary goal of Stewardship is to promote our spiritual growth and strengthen our faith. We become Stewards when we believe in God and begin to act on our beliefs. As Orthodox Christians, we affirm that every aspect of our lives comes as a gift from Him. By our faith, we are called to cheerfully offer back to God a portion of the gifts with which we have been blessed.

Parish leaders are called to lead the people to a new way of seeing things – a new way of life – with words that echo the greatest commandment to “love the Lord with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength,” calling others to commit their lives to Jesus Christ in such a way that leads to the joy of knowing Him personally and profoundly.

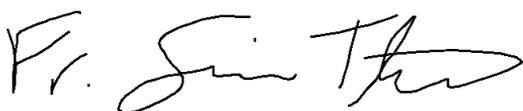
An Orthodox Christian Steward is an active participant in the life of the Church. The parish encourages all who accept the Orthodox Faith to become practicing Stewards. Each year the Steward is expected to carefully review his or her personal circumstances and make a commitment of time, talent, and treasure to support the Parish and her Ministries, which in turn support the National Ministries of our Archdiocese, Metropolises, and related institutions.

As a general guideline, our Stewardship Committee has adopted a 2% Stewardship Plan. This plan encourages each family to contribute at least 2% of their time, talent, and treasure to the Parish. What does this mean? We encourage everyone to offer 2% of their: 1. Time – through participation in the services of the Parish; 2. Talent – through volunteering in at least 2 of the various ministries of the Parish; and 3. Treasure – by offering at least 2% of their annual income to the Parish.

*Please understand, these are general guidelines!* If you are already at or above 2%, we appreciate your continued support. If you are unable to offer 2%, we understand, and appreciate your continued support. As St. John Chrysostom reminds us every year in his Paschal Homily: *“God both accepts the deeds, and welcomes the intention; He honors the acts, and praises the offering.”*

We look forward to continuing the work that our Lord has set before us, through the ministries of our Parish, and by sharing the Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ. May He send down His grace upon us, and continue to bless our Parish family.

With Love in Christ,



Rev. Father Simon Thomas  
Parish Priest



Maria Moore  
Stewardship Committee Chair