

## 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 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 Church's constitution distinguishes between voting and non-voting members. A voting member is at least 18 years of age and turns in a stewardship commitment card, committing a portion of time, talent and treasure to the Church. The church also requires the voting member to remain current through the year on their commitments. Keep in mind that true membership in the Body of Christ involves living according to His word and within His Church.

*Why must I commit to give a specific amount?*

We compile the amounts anticipated to better plan our budget. Please keep in mind that your stewardship of money is kept in the strictest of confidence.

*What if I cannot fulfill my stewardship commitment?*

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. Please talk to Fr Mark if you are unable to meet your stewardship commitment.

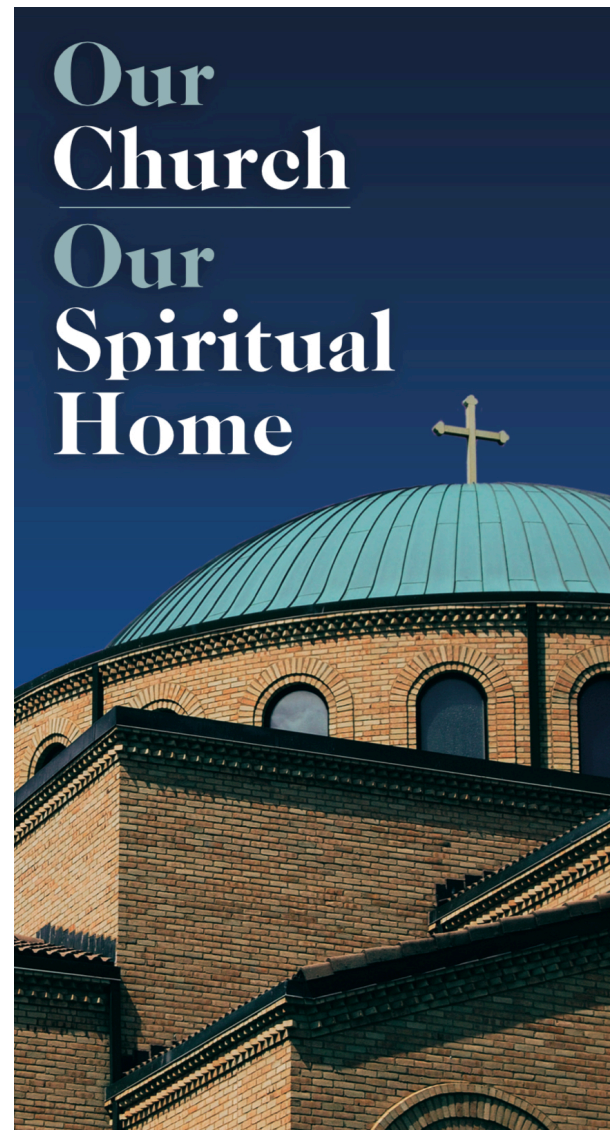
## My Commitment Pledge

**I pledge to maintain a spiritual life for myself and for my household which includes:**

- 1) Frequent participation in the Sacraments of Communion and Confession**
- 2) Regular prayer, which includes public worship on Sundays, weekday services, and daily prayers**
- 3) Following the weekly and seasonal fasting practices of the Church**
- 4) The support of St Ephraim Church in the form of committee work, serving in the parish council, volunteering in the various organizations and the general offering of our time and talents**
- 5) A commitment to personal peacemaking, the preservation of marriages and the protection of our children from all types of harm.**
- 6) The support of the Church by submitting and fulfilling a monetary pledge.**



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**St Ephraim the Syrian  
Orthodox Church**

**2022 Stewardship Form**

# Information

NAME Birth date (month/day)

NAME OF SPOUSE (IF MARRIED) Birth date (month/day)

STREET ADDRESS

CITY / STATE / ZIP CODE

HOME PHONE

MOBILE PHONE(S)

EMAIL ADDRESS

EMAIL ADDRESS OF SPOUSE (IF MARRIED)

Dependent Children's names and birthdates:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

May we include your contact information in the parish directory?

☐ Yes ☐ No *If yes, please indicate any information you would like excluded:*

_____
_____

May we add you to our parish email list?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Our Orthodox Christian Church is our spiritual home. It is a place of prayer, comfort, spiritual healing, and celebration. We are at home in the fragrance of incense, the sound of hymns and prayers, the physical touch of kneeling, bowing and making the sign of the cross, and the taste of Holy Communion and antidoron. You may have been in Orthodox Church since your 40<sup>th</sup> day, or the Orthodox Church may have been the destination of your spiritual journey. For both, the Church is a spiritual home to which we may always return. We are brothers and sisters in Christ - a family.

From our spiritual home we are sent out as bearers of His light in the world, stewards of the Gospel and stewards of our parish. We pray for each other, listen and learn from each other, disagree respectfully, restore civility and find a common purpose

In our spiritual home, we grow together as we share our spiritual life. We give sacrificially to support our local parish because when we do, we set our priorities on God and are constantly reminded that all we are and all we have are His.

## Treasure:

In gratitude for God's blessings, I/we commit to Christ and His Church the following amount:

\$\_\_\_\_\_ each \_\_\_\_\_ (week/month/year)

*Please automate your financial commitment through WeShare. To enroll, go to our website, [www.saintephraim.com](http://www.saintephraim.com) and click on the WeShare logo and register on their secure web portal.*

## Time and Talent

If completing this as an individual steward, simply place a check next to the area you are interested in.

If completing as a family, you can indicate each person's interest by placing an "H" for husband, "W" for wife or "C" for children.

### MEMBER INVOLVEMENT

☐ Bible Study  
☐ Adult Religious Education  
☐ Intro to Orthodoxy  
☐ Sunday Coffee Hour  
☐ Bookstore  
☐ Plumbing  
☐ Electrical  
☐ AC/Heating  
☐ Member Directory  
☐ Website & Email  
☐ Bulletin (print)  
☐ Newsletter (electronic)  
☐ Fellowship Breakfast

### FINANCIAL SUPPORT

☐ Finance Committee  
☐ Stewardship Committee  
☐ Fundraising  
☐ Office help  
☐ Order of St Ignatius  
☐ Building Fund

### LITURGICAL LIFE

☐ Sanctuary & Alter Care  
☐ Altar server/Acolyte  
☐ Baking Prosphora  
☐ Choir  
☐ Greeter/Usher  
☐ Sound System

### COMMUNITY SERVICE

☐ Events Committee  
☐ Women's Ministry (SEWS)  
☐ Visitation Ministry (elderly, sick and new members)  
☐ Youth Ministry  
☐ Computer/Technical

Any other talents or information on items listed above:

_____
_____
_____
_____