

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.

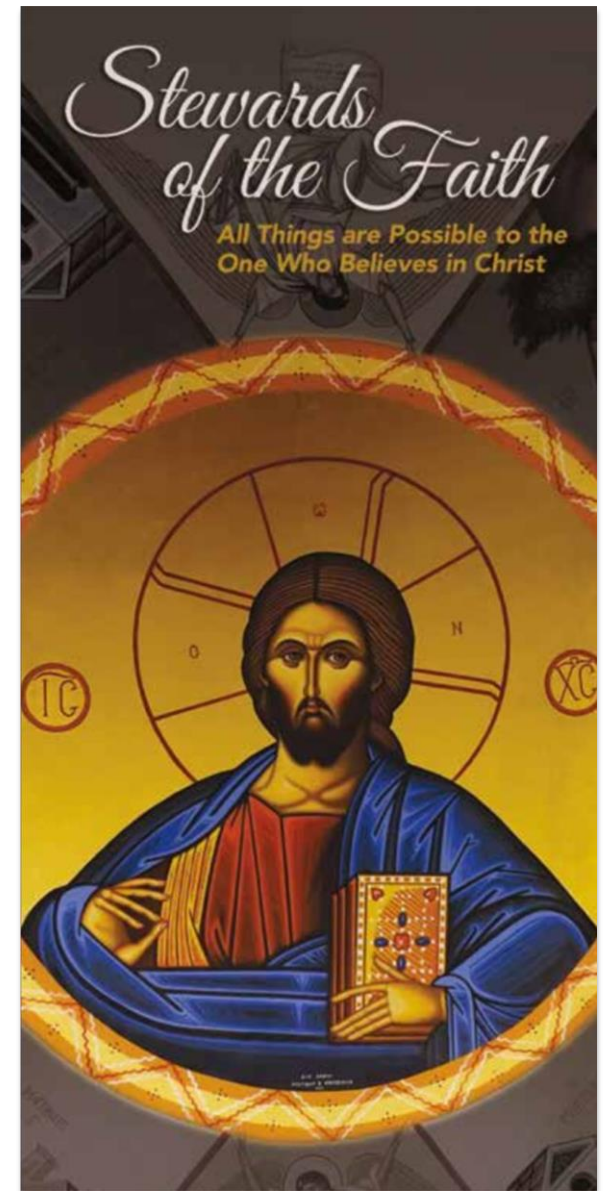
My Commitment Pledge

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
2019 Commitment Card**

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

Christian Stewardship

As Christian Stewards we are called to give back to God from the "first fruits" of our labor. We support our parish and her ministries in an intentional way and not with only what is left after everything else has been taken care of.

What is Christian Stewardship?

...learning how to be a responsible and concerned caretaker of Christ's Church; it is learning how to enjoy Church life and be happy in Church work., for in Her dwells the fullness of the Spirit of God.

...caring for the needs of others.

...offering one's self to God as He offered Himself to us.

...what a person does after saying "I believe...", as proof of that belief.

It is by offering our blessings back to God that we will be able to continue in His forgiving, healing, liberating, empowering, transfiguring, loving ministry through the Church. For God, Infinite though He is, has chosen to work through us, through our gifts, to continue His saving work in the world today.

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 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
- Church Maintenance
- Coffee Hour Group
- Technical/Computer/IT Support
- Sunday School

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

- Finance/Building Committee
- Stewardship Committee
- Order of St. Ignatius

LITURGICAL LIFE

- Altar server/Acolyte
- Sacred Music Ministry
- Baking Prospora
- Greeter/Usher

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Events Committee
- Women's Ministry (SEWS)
- Visitation Ministry (Elderly/Sick/New Members)
- Youth Ministry

Any other talents or information on items listed above:
