

Information

Your Name

Street Address

City/ State / Zipcode

Mobile Phone

Date of Birth(Month & Day)

Occupation

Email Address

Name of Spouse (if married)

Spouse's Date of Birth (Month & Day)

Spouse's Occupation

Spouse's Mobile Phone

Spouse's Email

Dependent Children's Names & Birthdays

May we include your family's contact information in the parish directory?

☐ yes ☐ no

If yes, please indicate any information you would like excluded:

☐ Please add me to the parish email list.

☐ Please add my spouse to the parish email list.

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE



ST EPHRAIM ORTHODOX CHURCH

2026 STEWARDSHIP

“You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Matthew 5: 14-16

Talent

My Talents to Parish Ministries

God bestows upon each of us unique and wonderful abilities. Listed below are ministries in which you can use your talents. Please take some time to consider what abilities God has blessed you with and mark the ministries below in which you would like to apply your talents. Families please mark "H" for husband, "W" for wife, or "C" for child.

- ___ Altar Services
- ___ Bookstore
- ___ Chanters/Choir
- ___ Coffee Hour
- ___ Family Outreach
- ___ Fundrasiers
- ___ Legacy/Planned Giving
- ___ Loaves & Fishes
- ___ Maintenance
- ___ Prospora Bread Making
- ___ St. Ephraim Men (SEM)
- ___ Women's Society (SEWS)
- ___ Stewardship
- ___ Sunday School
- ___ Teen SOYO
- ___ Usher
- ___ Visitation
- ___ Welcome Ministry
- ___ Altar Guild
- ___ Internet Ministries
- ___ Other: _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Treasure



Generous gifts of treasure enable St. Ephraim's ministries and His Church to thrive and grow. Additionally, our journey through percent giving to tithing is an important part of our own spiritual discipline and growth, helping us to grow in faith and love through Christ through our faithful and cheerful giving.

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

\$ _____ per

☐ Week ☐ Month ☐ Year

Expected total for 2026: \$ _____

Please automate your giving through WeShare.

To begin, go to www.saintephrain.com, click on the WeShare logo, and register on the site.

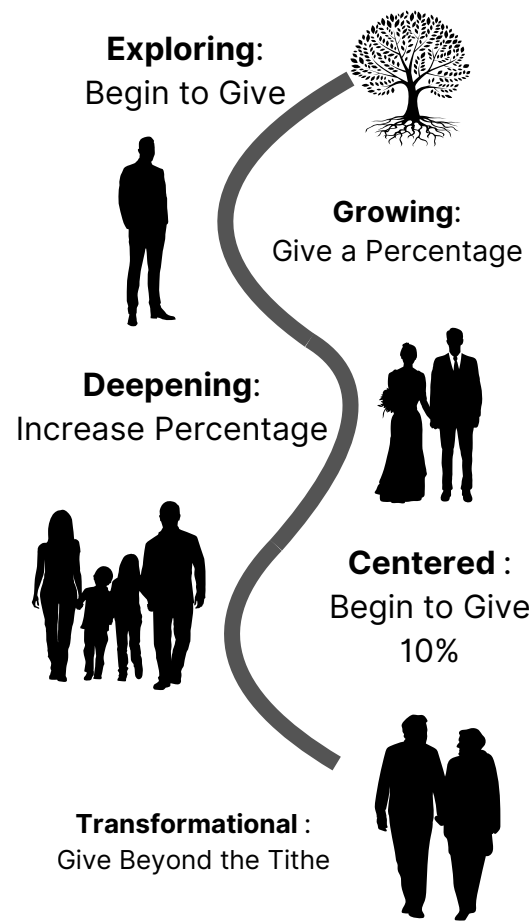
Annual Income	Annual Gift		
	1%	3%	10%
\$25,000	\$250	\$750	\$2,500
\$50,000	\$500	\$1,500	\$5,000
\$75,000	\$750	\$2,250	\$7,500
\$100,000	\$1,000	\$3,000	\$10,000
\$200,000	\$2,000	\$6,000	\$20,000
\$400,000	\$4,000	\$12,000	\$40,000

The Giving Path

Time

Every journey begins with a step. As we walk our spiritual journey, we are moving forward in being more Christ-like. Jesus said that, "where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

The steps on the giving path are tools to help us grow in faith and love through Christ! We ask ourselves: Where are we on this path? Will we accept the invitation to take the next step in 2026?



Prayer and participation in sacraments are the foundation of stewardship. This is how we lovingly prepare to offer ourselves in service to Christ and others.

God has graciously bestowed upon us the entirety of our lives. He has blessed us with 168 hours per week (or a little more than 10,000 minutes per week).

How many of those 168 hours do we offer to Him each week? Please take some time now to consider what you are willing to offer to God in thanks for all He has given to you.

Here are a few ways we can offer our time to God each week:

- Attend Orthros and Divine Liturgy on Sundays
- Partake in the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist
- Attend Vespers on Saturday evening
- Attend Orthros and Divine Liturgy on weekdays
- Participate in the Sacrament of Confession
- Pray the Jesus Prayer
- Spend time daily in personal prayer
- Pray together with loved ones
- Read the Bible

ANNUAL STEWARSHIP 2026

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

STEP 1: REFLECT

Please prayerfully reflect on all that God has given to you. Think about your hopes and dreams for our community in the coming year. Using the resources in this book, learn more about how God may be calling you to let your light shine and to give generously in the coming year. How can you be part of helping us to be a vibrant and engaged community and a shining beacon of the light of Christ to San Antonio and beyond?



STEP 2: RESPOND

Complete the 2026 Stewardship Pledge form included at the back of this pamphlet. Tear/Cut it out and return it to the church. You can also make a secure online pledge at:

www.saintephram.com and click on the Give online with "We Share" button.

Your pledge information will remain confidential and can be fulfilled anytime during 2026.



STEP 3: REJOICE

Bring your pledge form to church on Sunday, December 14th, for Stewardship Sunday. We will collect all of the pledge cards, and Fr. Mark will offer a special prayer service for the gifts we are offering back to God and our community.



Because of you... Thank You!

2,400
sandwiches made for the
needy

\$2,000
to orphanage in Syria

30
people Chrismated and
or baptised

40
catechumens

\$500
to parish mission
in Guatemala

\$500
to adopt a child at
Mexico Orphanage

2 Woman's
Retreats

10
weddings

\$31,250
raised for church bells

Visit to Holy
Archangel
Monastery

\$5,000
to Project Syria

300
Prosphora
loaves baked

180
average Sunday
attendance

Directory of Ministries

Ushers

Contact Albert & Tanya Haddad
(210) 216-0166
loans782@gmail.com

Visitation

Purpose: Call, email or visit new, sick and the shut-ins on a monthly basis.

Needs: People to commit 1-2 hours per month

Contact Vacant

Welcome Ministry

Purpose: Write an Email welcoming and following up with visitor/ inquirers and give them some basic articles/info about the Orthodox Church

Needs: Each member to build up support and connections with new people.

Contact Brent Smith
(210)373-9272
brent@mhsorks.com

Doug Walton
(210)216-1138
dobiwo@outlook.com

Jack Bennet
(210)643-2665
deitytheory@hotmail.com

Other Ministries That Need Leaders:

Grounds maintenance, Parish security, Technology, OCF (Orthodox Christian Fellowship college ministry), and Young Adults

Directory of Ministries

Stewardship

Purpose: To empower our parishioners to worship God and grow in Christ through the sharing of their time, talents and treasure for the glory of God.

Needs: For each parishioner to give of their time & talents to serve our Parish and each other, and to give of their financial resources to support the ministries and outreach of our Parish.

Contact Brian Korb
(210) 819-4214
doctorkorb@gmail.com

Sunday School

Purpose: To provide Christian Education to the children of St. Ephraim.

Needs: Teachers and substitute teachers

Contact Brent Smith Zeid Saadi
(210)373-9272 (210) 232-0716
brent@mhsorks.com saadi_zeid@hotmail.com

Teen SOYO

Purpose: The goal of Teen SOYO is to fully integrate each teen into the full life of the Church, to create a safe and nurturing environment for teenagers to grow in Christ, and to form spiritual and social bonds between each individual so that a profound and life-giving relationship with Jesus Christ and His Holy Church can be realized.

Contact Zeid Saadi Katherine Baine
(210) 232-0716 (409) 828-2241
saadi_zeid@hotmail.com katbaineme.com

All of this was possible through your generosity.

52
Choir Rehearsals

300 Worship
Services

1 Christian
parenting
workshop

300 Visitations to
new, sick and
shut-ins

4 teachers went
to Christian
Education
Training

300
hours of volunteer
maintenance

104
coffee hours

4 ongoing Sunday School
classes with 5 teachers
serving 40 children per
Sunday

200 welcome
emails sent to
visitors/inquirers

4 SOYO
trips/events

7 teens went
to basketball
tournament

\$25,000
raised at Fall
Concert

OUR IMPACT, REACH & NEED IS GROWING...

Reaching our goal in 2026 will allow us to...

Fulfill our mission which is to be:

A warm, loving and welcoming Orthodox Christian community dedicated to glorifying God through worship, instruction, spiritual growth, stewardship and community service to San Antonio and the world.



"Your generosity and commitment allows St. Ephraim to continue our growth and increase our investments in ministries to help those within and beyond our walls. By accepting this invitation of generosity, we remove the limits to our mission of growing in faith and love through Christ! This is the goal we are all invited to reach through the use of our gifts."

— Father Mark Vair



Directory of Ministries

Prosphora Bread Making

Purpose: To make holy bread that is used every liturgy for communion.

Needs: Anyone who wants to make bread or learn how to do it.

Contact Nancy Korb
(210) 238-2147
painekorb@gmail.com

St. Ephraim Men (SEM)

Purpose: To assist our Church and Priest in the best manner that we can. To raise capital as needed for the benefit of the Beautification of our Sanctuary and local and worldwide outreach. To help any Parishioner needing help at their home, such as yard work and transportation to liturgical services.

Laila Saadi

Contact Zeid Saadi
(210) 232-0716
saadi_zeid@hotmail.com

St. Ephraim Women's Society (SEWS)

Purpose: To foster among women in the Parish a genuine expression of love and service through works of charity, and to instill among them and the Parish at large a sense of fellowship and a deeper understanding of the heritage and traditions of the Antiochian Archdiocese and the Orthodox Church.

Contact April Lally
(210) 867-0313
prapril@aol.com

Directory of Ministries

Internet Ministries

Contact Moses Medina
(719)200-6527
dario.e.medina@gmail.com

Michael Mizner
(347)443-8253
michael.mizner@icloud.com

Legacy/ Planned Giving

Purpose: Encourage parishioners to use estate planning as a way to leave a legacy for the church that strengthens God's ministries and expresses thankfulness to Him.

Contact Vacant

Loaves and Fishes

Purpose: To make sandwiches for the needy.

Contact Michael Ellis
michel_a_ellis@yahoo.com

Maintenance

Purpose: To provide continuing care, cleaning, and repair of Parish properties.

Needs: Parish members who are willing to work and learn. Previous knowledge and experience in the construction trades is helpful but not required.

Contact Damon Baine
dgbaine@gmail.com

Directory of Ministries



As good stewards we gratefully acknowledge that all we have, and all that we will receive, comes from God. As we cultivate our stewardship of time, our prayer life and faith grow. As we give our stewardship of talent we enter into the Lord's work through the ministries of the Lord's church. The following pages include a description of each of the current ministries at St. Ephraim.

If you aren't currently involved in a ministry at St. Ephraim we encourage you to read through the following pages to discover how you might offer your time and talent to grow your faith and grow the Church!! Please reach out to the listed ministry lead to see how you can get involved.

Directory of Ministries

Altar Guild

Purpose: To demonstrate love for the parish by helping to beatify the Narthex and Nave by providing floral decorations for icons used during Divine Liturgy. The Altar Guild's Mission is to serve God and the parish priest by caring for the sanctuary and everything in it

Contact Betsy Thrift-Eicherly
(619)788-6210

Altar Services

Purpose: To assist the Priest and Deacon during Liturgy and other services and to care for, prepare, and clean liturgical objects (e.g. candles, censer, oil lamps, etc.) and the area around the altar.

Needs: Boys and men who are willing to learn and serve regularly following the directions and guidance of the Clergy and head altar server.

Contact Jay Sikes Moses Medina
(830) 660-2546 (719)200-6527
jaysikes@mac.com dario.e.medina@gmail.com

Bookstore

Purpose: To encourage and enhance the Orthodox experience in our Parish by offering items that aid in the development and awareness of our faith: books, icons, cards, and items for the home altar.

Contact April Lally

Directory of Ministries

Chanters/Choir

Contact Chanters: Dn. George Nashawati
(210) 392-8310
bnashawati@yahoo.com

Choir: Katherine Baine
(409) 828-2241
katbaine@me.com

Coffee Hour

Purpose: Build parish relationships and community

Needs: Bring food, stay, and share a meal.

Contact Vacant

Family Outreach

Purpose: Provide meals to those who have just given birth, to those who have recently lost a loved one, or to those in need.

Contact Vasi Vair
(443) 224-0421
vasiliaj@gmail.com

Fundraisers (annual golf tournament in the spring and concert in the fall)

Contact Laila Saadi Samira Bitar
(210) 542-1009 (210)641-8441
ls4645058@hotmail.com s.c.bitar@gmail.com