

~ FAMILY INFORMATION ~

<hr/>	
NAME	
<hr/>	
BIRTHDAY	NAME DAY
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NAME OF SPOUSE	
<hr/>	
BIRTHDAY	NAME DAY
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MARITAL STATUS	WEDDING ANNIVERSARY
<hr/>	
FAITH AFFILIATION	SPOUSE'S FAITH
<hr/>	
CHILD'S NAME	
<hr/>	
BIRTHDAY	NAME DAY
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CHILD'S NAME	
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BIRTHDAY	NAME DAY
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BIRTHDAY	NAME DAY
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BIRTHDAY	NAME DAY
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CHILD'S NAME	
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BIRTHDAY	NAME DAY
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CHILD'S NAME	
<hr/>	
STREET ADDRESS	
<hr/>	
CITY / STATE / ZIP CODE	
<hr/>	
HOME PHONE	
<hr/>	
MOBILE PHONE	SPOUSE'S MOBILE PHONE
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EMAIL ADDRESS	SPOUSE'S EMAIL ADDRESS

In the Gospel of Saint Matthew (6:19), Jesus instructs us, "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal...."

Often in life, we pursue and collect those things that do not last. We must ask, "One hundred years from now, where will our possessions be?"

If we are faithful to our calling to be stewards of all that God has entrusted us with, perhaps our Lord will say to us, "Well done good and faithful servant" (Mt 25:23).



~ TREASURE ~

In gratitude for God's blessings, I / We commit to Christ and His Church the following amount:
(please choose one)

\$ _____ ANNUALLY

\$ _____ SEMI-ANNUALLY

\$ _____ QUARTERLY

\$ _____ MONTHLY

\$ _____ WEEKLY

The average commitment at our parish last year was \$908.00,

~ TIME & TALENT ~

Individual stewards should indicate areas of interest with a check (✓). Families should mark "H" for husband, "W" for wife or "C" for children.

- ALTAR BOY
- BIBLE STUDY / SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL
- BULLETIN / NEWSLETTER
- FACILITY OPERATIONS / MAINTENANCE
- CHANTING
- CHURCH CHOIR
- COACHING / SPORTS
- COMPUTER / IT
- COOKING OR BAKING
- GREEK DANCE
- GREEK SCHOOL
- PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
- ORTHODOX STUDIES
- PHILOPTOCHOS
- STEWARDSHIP
- TEACHING
- VACATION CHURCH SCHOOL
- VISITATIONS OF SICK / ELDERLY
- WEB DESIGN
- WELCOMING AND OUTREACH
- YOUTH MINISTRIES

Any other talents or information on items listed above:

Please return your commitment card to:

**Saint Sophia Church
525 Church Road, Elgin, IL 60123**

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. A voting member is over 18 years of age and turns in a completed stewardship commitment card, committing a portion of time, talent and treasure to the Church. The Archdiocese 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?

Your confidential Stewardship Commitment enables us to plan the budget for our parish.

How much money should we give to the church annually for Stewardship?

It is between you and God to decide your annual stewardship money commitment. Ask God about it and give cheerfully and with gratitude for all His blessings. Consider giving enough to make a small sacrifice in your non-essential spending. With our comfortable American lifestyle, how can this sacrifice compare with our Lord Jesus Christ's sacrifice for us and for the Christian martyrs throughout history?

As a guideline, the average giving at our parish last year was \$908.00 and the average church going Christian family in the USA gives about 3% of their income annually. Ultimately, the

value of our financial offering is not determined by its amount, but in the spirit for which it is given. And when we cheerfully give of ourselves, we are able to receive the blessings of joy in what we give, not in what we get.

Christian Stewardship is...

...being 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.

...our active commitment to use all our time, talent and treasure for the benefit of humankind in grateful acknowledgment of Christ's redeeming love.

...caring for the needs of others and 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.

...devotion and service to God and His Church as persons, as families, as diocese/metropolis, as national Church and as Church universal.



STEWARDSHIP MINISTRIES

DEPARTMENT OF STEWARDSHIP, OUTREACH & EVANGELISM
GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA



Saint Sophia Greek Orthodox Church

525 Church Road, Elgin, Illinois 60123

847.888.2822

www.st-sophia.com



Whatever you do
work at it with
all your heart
as working for the Lord,
not for men

Colossians 3:23



**STEWARDSHIP
MINISTRY**

**SAINT SOPHIA
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**

2018

**STEWARDSHIP
COMMITMENT CARD**