

Saint Barbara Greek Orthodox Church

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2016 Stewardship Commitment Card

"From God every family in heaven and on earth is named."

Ephesians 3:15

Name: _____ Email: _____

Spouse Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Mobile: _____ Spouse Mobile: _____

My information has changed 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 Saint Barbara Greek Orthodox Church Personnel Only

Treasure

In gratitude for God's blessings, I/We commit to Christ and His Church for the year 2016 the following amount:

\$ _____ [Stewardship Commitment for 2015: _____]

The amount being committed is at least 2% of our annual income The amount is at least 3%

Time & Talent

Individual stewards should indicate areas of interest with an (X).

Administration:

Computer/Technical
 Office Help
 Parish Council
 Stewardship Committee

Education:

Bible Study
 Greek School
 Studies in the Faith
 Sunday School Teacher

Ministries:

College Ministry
 Missions Committee
 Orthodox Social Network (OSN)
 Philoptochos
 VIP Seniors

Buildings & Grounds:

Gardening & Landscape
 Janitorial
 Plumbing
 Repairs

Festival:

Booth Manager
 Festival Baking
 Festival Worker
 Set up/Clean up

Outreach:

Bookstore
 Coffee Fellowship
 Museum
 Visitation – Shut-ins
 Volunteer Driver

Communications:

Public Relations
 Website

Liturgical:

Acolyte
 Chanter
 Choir/Youth Choir
 Epistle Reader
 Kollyva Maker
 Prosporo Baker
 Usher/Greeter

Youth:

Christmas Program
 Greek Dance Program
 Oratorical Festival
 Youth Family Night

Any other talents or information on items listed above: _____

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 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.

What is the Stewardship Program?

The Stewardship Program is the primary means whereby the Church 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 Commitment Card. After reading this page, please consider prayerfully and sincerely your commitment. Keep in mind that your commitment obligation begins in January of each year. Stewardship Commitment Cards are mailed to each home in December of the preceding year. They are also available on-line, in the Church Narthex, the Orthodox Center foyer, 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 parish has adopted a 2% Stewardship Plan. This plan encourages each family to contribute at least 2% of their annual income to the Church. If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact Father Bob.

How Should I Pay My Financial Commitment to the Church?

We prefer that your commitment 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 in 2013, 123 stewards (individuals and families) contributed a total of \$134,193. The average commitment was approximately \$1,091. In 2013, the parish operating expenses for the year totaled \$358,672. Stewardship revenues supported approximately 37% of this total. To cover our expenses fully by stewardship each steward would need to commit an annual amount of about \$2,500.

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. If, for some reason, you are unable to fulfill your stewardship commitment, please contact Father Bob in the Church Office.

In Addition to My Financial Commitment, How Else May I Help My Church?

Involvement! This is the key to our community and Faith. We need you as we all grow in God's love when you are a part of our community. Saint Barbara parishioners are most urgently asked to commit their talent and time especially. Only through involvement does the life of the Parish become more meaningful.