

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 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, submits a signed stewardship commitment card, and commits a portion of his/her time, talent and treasure to the Church.

✓ *What if I cannot fulfill my stewardship commitment?*

During the course of the year, people's circumstances change. Your stewardship is valued because it is an expression of your love for God and His Church. Please do not be concerned if you are unable to meet your stewardship commitment. We are glad you are a part of this parish.

✓ *How much should I pledge?*

The following Table may be used as a prayerful tool for choosing your level of commitment:

Weekly Income	10%	5%	4%	2%	1%
\$200	\$20	\$10	\$8	\$4	\$2
\$500	\$50	\$25	\$20	\$10	\$5
\$750	\$75	\$37	\$30	\$15	\$7.50
\$1,000	\$100	\$50	\$40	\$20	\$10
\$1,500	\$150	\$75	\$60	\$30	\$15
\$2,000	\$200	\$100	\$80	\$40	\$20

Dear Fellow Parishioner

The Icon of the Magi depicts a wonderful Image of Christian Stewardship. It provides more than a Christmas message but one that extends throughout our entire lives.

The wise men were glad when they saw the star, which led them to “the place where the child was. How glad were they? They rejoiced exceedingly with great joy!” (Matthew 2:10).

It would be appropriate for us to do as the Magi did, who presented precious offerings that honored Christ as King (gold), Priest (frankincense) and Prophet (myrrh). St. Nikolai of Zica points out that the gifts of the wise men express that which lasts: “After a thousand years, gold still shines, incense burns and myrrh keeps its fragrance.” Like the Magi – let us also offer Him our gift.

As we reflect on the beautiful icon that depicts the scriptural account of the Christ's Nativity, let us consider the “star-led” invitations to service that we, too, have been offered. Christ has blessed the parish of Saint Basil with faithful clergy, honorable volunteers, and generous stewards.

Let us give thanks for the success of the previous Stewardship Campaigns and strive to aspire to even higher gestures of Orthodox Christian generosity for 2021, especially during these trying times. Let us faithfully look to the future and take to heart the powerful words of the Nativity Hymn:

“What shall we offer You, O Christ? Every creature which You have made offers You thanks.”



Saint Basil Greek Orthodox Church Parish Troy, New York



“Each one should use whatever gift he has received

*To serve others, faithfully administering
God's grace in its various forms.”*

1 Peter 4:10

2021 Stewardship Commitment Card

Information

NAME

STREET ADDRESS

CITY / STATE / ZIP

HOME PHONE

MOBILE PHONE

EMAIL ADDRESS

2020 Stewardship Data (as of 12/7/20)

* Seventy-six (76) families signed Stewardship Cards

* Forty-nine (49) families pledge with no Stewardship Card – please consider completing

* Thirty-three (33) families are Saint Basil Pacesetters (\$1,000+ per year)

* Eleven (11) are new member Stewards

* Total Stewardship Collected: \$92,813 (does not include 2020 Supplemental Campaign)

* Average Stewardship Pledge: \$743

What You Can Do in 2021

By increasing your individual level of giving for 2021 our parish will be in a better position to accommodate the financial strain caused by the pandemic. We had to cancel our primary income generating annual Festival, while increasing vital ministries through alternative social-distanced in-person services as well as for live streaming.

Please use the following table when considering your 2021 financial commitment:

Annual Pledge	Weekly (52 Weeks)	Daily (365 Days)
\$4,000	\$77	\$11
\$3,000	\$58	\$8
\$2,500	\$48	\$7
\$2,000	\$38	\$5
\$1,000	\$19	\$3
\$500	\$10	\$1
\$300	\$6	\$1

Time & Talent

Apart from contributing your financial support, individual stewards are also invited to indicate areas where they would be interested in volunteering their time and talent. Please do so with a check (✓).

ADMINISTRATION

Hall Rentals
 Development/Fundraising
 Office Help
 Translations
 Legal Work
 Kitchen Management
 Computer/Technical

BUILDING & GROUNDS

Cemetery Management
 Garden & Landscape
 Plumbing
 Electrical
 Cleaning (Church & Hall)
 Interior Repairs
 Exterior Repairs

COMMUNICATIONS

Video Streaming
 Website & Email
 Bulletin & Newsletter
 Public Relations

EDUCATION

Adult Religious Education
 Youth Religious Education
 Greek School

LITURGICAL

Sanctuary & Altar Care
 Altar Services
 Baking Prosfora
 Choir
 Chanter
 Organ Player
 Reader
 Kollyva
 Makaria
 Sewing

MINISTRIES & PROGRAMS

Stewardship
 Memorial Fund
 Sunday Coffee Hour
 Festival Committee
 Festival Volunteer

PHILANTHROPY

Philoptochos Membership
 Visitation (Hospital, Shut-ins)
 Baking / Cooking

YOUTH

Youth Leader
 Dance Group

Annual Pledge

Please choose one of the following options:

✓ Parish Steward

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

\$ _____ (OR)

✓ Pacesetter Steward

In gratitude for God's blessings,
I/We commit the following annual
pledge of \$1,000 or more and
thereby be included as a Saint Basil
Pacesetter

\$ _____