

His Gifts

Christian stewardship means that I own nothing. Everything I have belongs to God. He has loaned it to me. I am committed to use it responsibly, and one day, I will have to answer to Him for my use or misuse of His gifts.

I am the manager of God's gifts: my time, my talents, my possessions, my body, my soul – everything belongs to God. Saint Paul asks us, "What have you that you have not received?" Money, for example, becomes a sacrament when it is offered to God. It becomes a visible expression of our commitment, faith, and love for Jesus. Once given to God, our gifts are consecrated by the Holy Spirit, who then translates them into works of mercy that bring glory to God.

Father Anthony M. Coniaris (1926-2020)

"This Ekklesia exists when the dispersed, divided, self-preoccupied people unite and become a family, where people see one another as brothers and sisters with God as their common father, and try to share whatever they have and whatever they are, and be united in heart and soul"

-P. Faros in *Functional and Dysfunctional Christianity*

Christian Stewardship is...

...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.

...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.

...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 a Metropolis, as a national Church and as Church universal.

Williams & McKibben in Oriented Leadership



Your Own from Your Own



We Offer to You



STEWARDSHIP
MINISTRY

**SAINT SPYRIDON
HELLENIC ORTHODOX CHURCH**

**12307 S. Ridgeland Avenue
Palos Heights, IL 60463**

708.385.2311

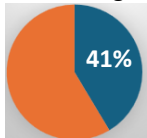
Dear Parish Family,

As we begin the new year, we invite you to take a moment to look over the information presented in this brochure. It contains important details about the many opportunities and ministries available within our parish. Whether you are new or have been with us for years, there are always ways to get involved and make a difference.

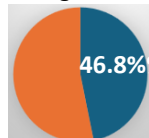
Please consider how you might use your time and talents to serve the church in this coming year. Your contributions, no matter how big or small, help strengthen our community and support the work of our mission. Together, we can continue to grow in faith and service to one another. Thank you for your continued dedication to our parish!

Our goal for 2025 is \$250,000 in stewardship contributions, which represents about 46.8% of our 2025 budgeted expenses. If each Current Steward contributed an additional \$100 per year we would meet our goal and the parish would have less reliance on Fundraisers.

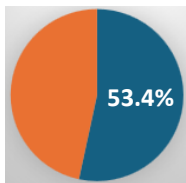
Stewardship Collected
In 2024= \$210,000
2024 Budget = \$507,000
2024 Stewardship = 41.4%
of budget



Stewardship Goal in 2025:
\$250,000 (\$100 increase)
2025 Budget = \$534,000
2025 Stewardship = 46.8%
of budget



Exceeding our Stewardship Goal in 2025:
\$285,000 (\$200 increase per Current Steward)
2025 Budget = \$534,000
2025 Stewardship = 53.4% of budget



Commitment of Time and Talent

All our talents are needed in our community. Volunteer educators, youth workers, ushers, chanters, decorators, graphic designers, cooks, bakers, construction workers and other professionals are vital for the growth of our parish ministries.

Youth Programs

Sunday School	Family Night
Greek School	Greek Dance
GOYA	Athletics
Jr. Olympics	Handmaidens
Vacation Church School	

Liturgical

Altar Boys	Chanting/Choir
Prophoro Baking	Usher
Iconography	Decorating Icons

Philanthropy

Food Pantry	Philoptochos Society
Thanksgiving/Christmas Baskets	

Committees

Festival	Stewardship
Building and Grounds	Greek School Board
Archangels Academy	Preschool Board
Technology/Communication	
Young Adult	

If there is a program or ministry you would like to develop, please contact Father George to discuss.

Embrace the Challenge!



- In addition to worship, can you **offer one hour per week** to any of the above ministries or committees of St. Spyridon? Please communicate this on your stewardship form.

Financial Commitment

Please consider making your financial commitment based on your resources for the Continuous Vitality & Growth of Saint Spyridon

Annual Income	Monthly Giving			
	1%	2%	3%	5%
\$50,000	\$41	\$83	\$125	\$208
\$80,000	\$66	\$133	\$200	\$333
\$100,000	\$84	\$166	\$250	\$416
\$120,000	\$100	\$200	\$300	\$500
\$150,000	\$125	\$250	\$375	\$625
\$200,000	\$166	\$333	\$500	\$973
\$250,000	\$208	\$416	\$625	\$1,041
\$300,000	\$250	\$500	\$750	\$1,250

The direct financial cost of our spiritual home is about \$534,000 per year. Instead of relying on fundraisers to offer ministries and programs, imagine how we could focus our energy and time more on His service if we properly care for our Spiritual Home. This can be accomplished if each household (about 350 families) could offer **\$1,525 per year (equivalent to \$127 per month)**—comparable to an average cell phone bill for a family!



- NON-STEWARDS:** In 2025, we challenge you to become a steward and consider pledging 2% of your household income monthly as stewardship (see chart above).
- CURRENT STEWARDS:** In 2025, we challenge you to give 2% of your household income as stewardship
- CURRENT STEWARDS:** If you are already giving 2% or more, we challenge you to increase your stewardship by 1%