



ST. NEKTARIOS CHURCH
2024 STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY

*Well done
good and faithful
servant*

Matthew 25:23



GIVING OUT OF GRATITUDE

TO MAKE YOUR PLEDGE

Submit a form and please . . .

- ◆ Prayerfully consider your 2024 Stewardship to continue our Lord's ministry in Service to God and to one another.
- ◆ Know our offerings of all types are an act of gratitude; giving back to God His portion of His gifts to us.
- ◆ Accept the challenge to increase your generosity.
- ◆ Give consistently and periodically throughout the year.
- ◆ Offer your time and talents in His Service to help others. Contact the Church office to be a part of our Ministries in Action.

ST. NEKTARIOS

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Adapted from

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRIES

GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA

DEPARTMENT OF STEWARDSHIP,

OUTREACH & EVANGELISM

www.stewardship.goarch.org

Stewardship — An Act of Worship

God gave us his love – do we multiply it
or do we keep it for ourselves?
God gave us the Gospel – do we multiply it
or do we keep it for ourselves?
God gave us the Church – do we multiply it
or do we keep it for ourselves?

Our gift to God and His Church is a sacred act, a form of worship, and a response to all his blessings in our life -- our bodies, our family, the environment, our time, our faith, our neighbor.

*Stewardship is our spirituality in action,
our faith in action, our theology in action.
Stewardship is personal – between Jesus and
us – an expression of love and commitment.
A response to all that he has given us.*

Some day we will stand before God and show Him what we did with all that He entrusted to us. If we have been faithful stewards of our gifts, He will say,

**“Well done, good and faithful servant.
Enter into the joy of your Lord.”**

Electronic Giving

BILL PAY: Use your bank's online Bill Pay Service. List the church as one of your single or recurring payments. There is no charge to you or to the church.

WEBSITE GIVING: Visit our website at www.stnektarios.org. Select the “Online Giving” tab and follow the prompts.



SCAN TO
GIVE NOW

MOBILE APP: Use your smartphone to make convenient one-time or recurring donations in a few easy steps after you download the free app:



Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement
on the App Store and Google Play

The Parable of the Talents

In the Gospel of Matthew, we read of a man leaving on a long journey who called three of his servants and entrusted to each a certain sum of money measured in talents. To one he gave five, to another he gave two and to the third, he gave one talent.

Upon his return the man called his servants to give account for the money with which he had entrusted them. The first two, by wise use of the money had doubled the amount they had received. To these he praised with the words,

Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.

The third servant, who had received one talent, out of fear, had buried the talent in the ground. Upon the man's return, this servant returned to him only the one talent. In anger, the man called him a "wicked and lazy servant," and taking away the one talent, he gave it to the servant who had ten.

To be a Faithful Servant

Jesus gave us this parable for us to consider the gifts that God has given us. Although we all receive different gifts, there is no difference in God's reward for what we accomplish with them. If you want to be a **faithful servant**, then take whatever you have and offer it faithfully to the Lord. It is not about how much ability you have, it is what you do with it.

The gifts we receive are to be multiplied. They are not to be buried in the ground. Saint Gregory the Great wrote that hiding our talent in the earth, is to use our gifts only for earthly things.

In the time of Jesus, a talent referred to substantial amount of money. The message to us today is that God gives each of us something of considerable value and expects good stewardship and a return on what He has given. Although Jesus speaks to us about money in the **Parable of the Talents**, He is really talking about something far more important. Whatever blessings we receive, we are to multiply them.

We were given our church – our local parish – built by our founders. We are to grow it – to multiply it – by adding to the number of faithful and growing her ministries.

Generosity supports our Lord's ministry through Worship, Witness, Service and Fellowship



In Worship to our God

"We have seen the true light; we have received the heavenly Spirit. We have found the true Faith, worshipping the undivided Trinity; for the Trinity has saved us." (A hymn of the feast of Pentecost)

God reveals himself to us through Holy Scripture, through the Church's Holy Tradition, and in the lived experience of the faith in every generation. Worship embodies all these and places us in mystical communion with Him. A Christian who shuns the Church's worship is no Christian. Being faithful to the liturgical life and tradition of the Church is integral to the health of an Orthodox Christian community.



In Service to Others

"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve." (Mark 10:45)

In his earthly ministry, Christ led by example, showing himself to be a servant to all. We honor and glorify him by embodying this spirit of servitude. Like all the other components of an Orthodox Christian life, serving others is not something done for its own sake or as self-sufficient. It must accompany correct belief, faithful worship, and personal asceticism. "Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."

(Matthew 5:16)



In Fellowship with our Parish family

"Behold how good and pleasant it is for brothers to dwell together in unity." (Psalm 132:1)

Fellowship is a way we integrate faith and daily life. For Orthodox Christians to gather together in the Lord's name is sacred. On one hand, Christian fellowship reinforces and enriches the bonds of the community that are centered in a shared confession of faith and worship. On the other, it reforms the greater society by cultivating in the members of the Church a way of being in community that does not require the deceptive pleasures and expectations of the world.



In Witness of our Faith

"You will be his witness to all men of what you have seen and heard." (Acts 22:15)

An Orthodox Christian is not simply a consumer of God's grace and benefits, but is called to be a witness of these things in the world. We therefore strive to exemplify the sacred teachings of the Church. When we live as Christ teaches, through his commandments and the mystical life of his Body, the Church, we allow his Light to shine to those around us.



DATE OF PLEDGE _____

SAINT NEKTARIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

2024 STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT OF TREASURE

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Adult Member(s) First and Last Names: *(Please print clearly in English)*

_____ Cell () _____ E-mail: _____

_____ Cell () _____ E-mail: _____

Primary Household contact information: Phone () _____ E-mail: _____

(Also to be used to receive Youth Program information, if applicable)

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

Children:

Name _____ birthday _____ Name _____ birthday _____

Name _____ birthday _____ Name _____ birthday _____

Annual Stewardship Pledge Information

CHOOSE ONE:

- As part of the St. Nektarios family, I/We commit to Christ and His Church a **TOTAL ANNUAL AMOUNT OF \$** _____
- As able! I/we are unable to pledge a specific amount at this time, but will participate in the Stewardship Program in **2024** as able.
(amount will be noted as \$1.00 on your offering report)
- I/We would like to talk with Fr. Andreas or Fr. Nektarios before making my/our pledge.

ESTATE AND PLANNED GIVING INFORMATION:

- Please send me information on making a planned gift to the Church

Well Done Good and Faithful Servant