

“Abide in Me”

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Beloved faithful of Saint Spyridon,

First of all of all, I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude to the 358 stewards who showed their commitment to the ministries of our church in 2011, making it another record year for our stewardship program. Through your generosity and dedication in our parish life and through your kind word of invitation toward others to join our community, we have reached this milestone.

At this time of the year, we are called to renew our stewardship pledge to meet and surpass the progress we made last year. Once again, we are challenged to re-consider prayerfully our gift to Him Who is God's Great Gift to us. It is through our gift that God will be able to continue His forgiving, heal-

ing, liberating, empowering, transfiguring, loving ministry through the Church. For God, Infinite though He be, has chosen to work through us, through our gifts, to continue His saving work in the world today.

We are called to apply our gifts, training, abilities, education and skills to the tasks that God places before us. If we do this humbly and prayerfully, the body of Christ will function to its full potential. The New Testament's motivation for giving is grace; giving is an act of worship in response to the generosity of God. Giving is a way to thank God for His grace and generosity. The question is not, “How much do I give to stay in good standing?” or “What are the dues?” but “How can I thank God for my many blessings?”

Stewardship therefore is an opportunity to examine our priorities and values, to express our thankfulness, to give of ourselves and to grow in grace. It allows us to participate in the work of God. Come and see what we can do together with your support.

As we consider our Stewardship offering for this year, let us remember that our community needs our presence, our willingness to serve, our friends and family, and our prayerful way of life. May the Christ Child continue to bless all of you and our community of Saint Spyridon.

Fr. Tilemahos Alikakos

SAINT SPYRIDON HELLENIC ORTHODOX CHURCH
2012 Confidential Stewardship Commitment Card
“Abide In Me”

Family Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State ____ Zip _____

Home Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Dependent Children/Ages: _____

In gratitude for God's blessings I/we make the following commitment to the ministries of St. Spyridon Church:

A total amount of: \$ 400 _____ \$600 _____ \$800 _____ \$1,000 _____ \$1,500 _____ More/Other \$ _____

\$ _____ weekly \$ _____ monthly \$ _____ quarterly \$ _____ semi-annually \$ _____ annually

Your offering to Christ and His Church can do as much as you empower it to do.

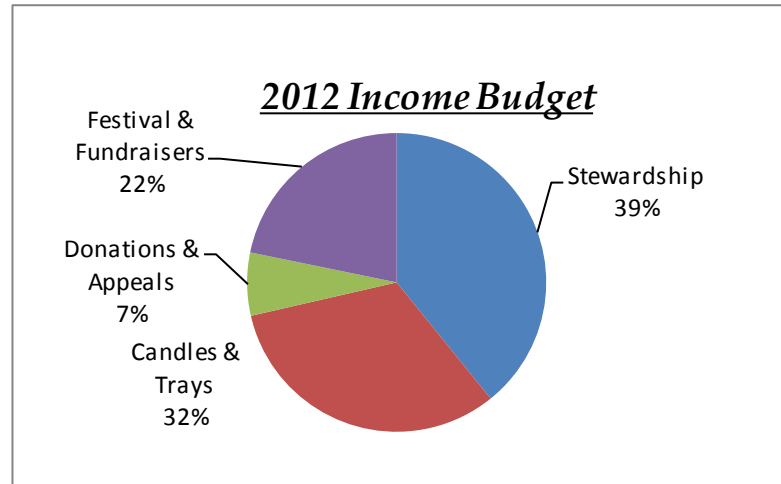
We give to Christ and His Church not according to our means but according to our love for Him.

Stewardship & Budget 2012

According to our 2012 budget that was passed on November 20th, 2011, we are counting on the following income distribution to cover the operational expenses for 2012.

2012 Income Budget

Stewardship	\$129,200	(39%)
Candles & Trays	\$106,250	(32%)
Donations & Appeals	\$22,500	(7%)
Festival & Fundraisers	\$71,800	(22%)
<u>Total Income</u>	<u>\$329,650</u>	



2012 Expense Budget

For Keeping in Touch With You (4%) \$13,100

Administration, Telephone, Lease and Office Equipment, Postage and Mailing Expenses, Parish Publications.

For Maintaining our Buidlings (32%) \$106,500*

Maintenance, Landscaping, Snow Removal, Utilities, Insurance, Custodians, and other building needs.

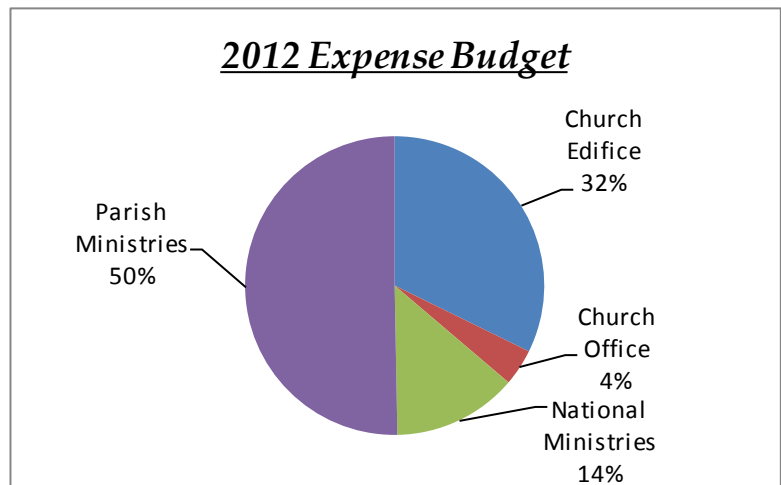
For Our Parish Ministries (50%) \$166,000

Parish Ministry expenses, and salaries for Clergy and parish ministry staff.

For Our National Ministries (14%) \$44,500

Our parish is assessed an annual contribution to support the ministries of the Metropolis & Archdiocese.

Total 2012 Expenses **\$330,100****



**The Budget for Building and Maintenance does not reflect the capital projects, such as the Parking Lot which was done in 2011 at the cost of \$109,000, or future projects such as heating units and roofs. In preparations for these capital projects, we should be setting aside about \$40,000 every year.*

***The 2012 Budget passed at the Fall General Assembly showed a budget of \$397,016, however, \$66,916 is the expected income from Greek School & Sunday School tuition, the Kentro Bookstore, and Youth Activity Fees.*

2012 Stewardship Goal : 400 stewards

Let us continue to do our best to meet this challenge by inviting more stewards to join our vibrant community and by giving from our heart in response to all of God's blessings.

May our patron Saint Spyridon intercede for us and grant our community a healthy and blessed new year 2012.