

Stewardship Best Practices for the Metropolis of Chicago



Strengthen Stewardship Now Committee

Stewardship of Time, Talent and Treasure

Orthodox Christian Stewardship is a **way of life**, which acknowledges accountability, reverence, and responsibility before God. A primary goal of Stewardship is to promote **spiritual growth** and **strengthen faith**. Becoming a Steward begins when we believe in God, to Whom we give our love, loyalty and trust, and act on those beliefs. As Stewards, we affirm that every aspect of our lives comes as a gift from Him. Stewardship calls on the faithful to cheerfully offer back to God a portion of the gifts with which they have been blessed.

The tenuousness of relying on a financial model that depends on festival income and other transactional events to cover operating expenses of many of our spiritual homes is evident. To transition from this model, Parishes are encouraged to begin thoughtful planning on funding annual operations by engaging Parishioners, their generosity and their giving of time, talent and treasure from the heart, in Christian love and according to the Bible.

The Metropolis of Chicago encourages all Parishes to initiate good faith efforts to increase stewardship and begin developing budgets that do not require income from transactional events, such as festivals, to cover operating expenses

Revenues from festivals or other transactional events, can be used for philanthropy, including helping other Parishes