

# STEWARDSHIP 2018



*Now Melchizedek the king of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was the priest of God Most High. He blessed Abram and said, "Blessed be Abram of God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth; and blessed be God Most High, who delivered your enemies into your hands." Then Abram gave him a tithe of all.*

Genesis 14:18-20

*Now consider how great this man was, to whom even the patriarch Abraham gave a tenth of the spoils.*

Hebrews 7:4

As Orthodox Christians we know that all we have comes from God, therefore Stewardship allows us to offer back to Him what He has given us. As an Orthodox church our mission is to practice our faith and live a life in Christ. Through our ministries and our Stewardship, we are able to fulfill our mission.

*We thank you, our God, and praise your glorious Name ... for all things come from you and we have only given back what is yours already.*

I Chronicles 29:13-14

Each year we are asked to make a financial commitment to the church. We do this because we know that everything we have comes from God. We also know that our church, God's house, has expenses just as we all have household expenses. And much like paying our household bills allows us to take care of our family, meeting the financial commitment of our church allows us to take care of our church family.

*"On the first day of every week, each of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income."*

I Corinthians 16:2

Our church, the buildings, grounds, and personnel, make our ministries possible: providing worship services and sacraments, receiving guidance from our priests, educating our community, ministering to the faithful and outside community. Our ministries, from Philoptochos to Greek School to dance groups, are all dependent on a place to be to carry out their work.

*"He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully."*

II Corinthians 9:6

We know there are many different guidelines and thoughts as to how much one should offer to the church. As Orthodox Christians we must all make our own commitment to Stewardship in prayer and with full knowledge of our responsibility as stewards to our church. As stewards it is necessary that we meet the needs of the church with our time, talent and treasure. In your decision, please keep in mind our budget to maintain the church is just over 1 million dollars for 2018. To meet those needs, a challenge for all of us is to set aside a minimum of \$50 a week for 50 weeks to give to the church.

*"Let everyone give as his heart tells him, neither grudgingly, nor under compulsion, for God loves the man that gives cheerfully."*

II Corinthians 9:7

*As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord because He is holy.*

Joshua 24:15

## FACTS ABOUT HOLY CROSS

- The Church of the Holy Cross celebrates its name day on September 14<sup>th</sup> each year: The Elevation of the Venerable and Life-Giving Cross.
- It is one of 67 churches in the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco.
- Holy Cross became a parish of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North and South America on March 13, 1956.
- We have over 600 families on our mailing list.
- We have 16 active ministries: Philoptochos, Youth Religious Education, Adult Religious Education, ORA, Greek School, Outreach, Holy Cross Preschool, Youth Groups. YAL, Dance, Athletics for both adults and youth, Choir for both adults and youth, Chanters, Acolytes, Ushers and Technology.
- For over 20 years, our liturgy has been broadcast over the Internet and has been seen and heard throughout the world.
- Over the past 18 years, our Outreach ministry has given over \$85,000 to local, national, and international charitable programs.
- For over 30 years, our Family Sharing program has been providing a merrier Christmas to local families and shelters with donations of money, food, gifts, and necessities.
- 150 - 200 people are on our church grounds Monday through Friday: Preschool, Greek School, Dance or Athletic practice, ministry meetings, choir or chanter rehearsals.
- To maintain our parish, expenses are approximately \$90,000 per month.
- Our church has 4 full-time employees and several part-time employees to administer and support the ministries and maintain the campus.
- Our church has 2 full time priests who minister to parishioners, offer sacraments, visit the sick, teach and guide our ministries on campus each week.

You can find out more about our ministries by:

✠ Visiting our website: [www.goholycross.org](http://www.goholycross.org)



Downloading the GO Holy Cross App at Apple's App Store or Google Play



Like us on facebook: Church of the Holy Cross



Follow us on Twitter: @GOHC\_Belmont

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*Then Jacob made a vow, saying, "If the Lord God will be with me, and keep me in this way I am going, and give me bread to eat and clothing to put on, and bring me back in safety to my Father's house, then the Lord shall be my God. And this stone I set as a pillar shall be God's house to me, and of all You give me I will surely give a tithe to You.*

Genesis 28:20-22

## INFORMATION

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY / STATE / ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

MOBILE  
PHONE of \_\_\_\_\_

NAME

( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

MOBILE  
PHONE of \_\_\_\_\_

NAME

( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

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( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL  
ADDRESS of \_\_\_\_\_

NAME

@ \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL  
ADDRESS of \_\_\_\_\_

NAME

@ \_\_\_\_\_

Dependent children's names and birthdates:

\_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

As stewards, we must meet the financial needs of our Holy Cross Church. In making your Stewardship commitment for 2018, please keep in mind that our budget to maintain the church is just over 1 million dollars. To meet those needs, a challenge for all of us is to set aside a minimum of \$50 a week for 50 weeks.

*This night your soul is required of you; and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God." As he said these things, he cried out: "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."* Luke 12:20-21

## TREASURE

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

\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
for the calendar year 2018

**OR**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
per MONTH for 2018

\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
per WEEK for 2018

You may complete your pledge online - go to [www.goholycross.org/stewardship](http://www.goholycross.org/stewardship)

## TIME & TALENT

**Please indicate below any parish activities in which you have a special interest:**

*Individual stewards should indicate areas of interest with a check (✓).*

*Families should mark "H" for husband, "W" for wife or "C" for children.*

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sunday School               | <input type="checkbox"/> Bible Study / Studies in the Faith |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greek School                | <input type="checkbox"/> Catechism Class                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Preschool                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Outreach                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Toddler Play Group          | <input type="checkbox"/> Choir (Adult & Youth)              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Seniors Group (ORA)         | <input type="checkbox"/> Chanters                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ladies Philoptochos         | <input type="checkbox"/> Ushers                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Young Adults (college age+) | <input type="checkbox"/> Dance                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Groups                | <input type="checkbox"/> Athletics (Adult & Youth)          |
| (for what ages?) _____                               |   |

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**please complete and return to the church office by Sunday, December 31, 2017**

### Greek Orthodox Church of the Holy Cross

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