

## Pledging to Give in Stewardship

### Article #1

The phrase “**Pledging to Give in Stewardship**,”—rightly and fully understood from the Orthodox Christian perspective—contains a message that is critical to our faith.

**a) Pledging...** means formally promising to give something in the future to help our community plan (“budget”) to achieve goals together with God’s help that none of us could achieve alone. We currently have **[insert number, if faithful can pledge for more than one project]** major pledging opportunities at **[insert name of parish]** **(1) [insert project(s)] (2) pledging for the 2006 operating budget.**

**b) To Give...** means voluntarily transferring ownership of anything of value, in love, free of transfer charge. Such giving may be one time or periodic (weekly, monthly, etc.); it may be of money, stocks, bonds or of property (real or personal objects). Christian giving is cheerfully and humbly done, and blesses the donor, as well as others. God has revealed two major ways of giving: “*tithes and offerings.*”

**c) In Stewardship...** means that the giving occurs within the relationship of a steward or a trustee acting for the benefit of an owner or superior. We are all stewards of God the Owner and Lord. He *entrusts us* with money, jobs, family, and life itself. We are to administer wisely what He has given us, which includes tithing and offerings, which will be addressed in these on-going articles.

“**Pledging to Give in Stewardship**” is crucial to our spiritual development as individual Christians and as a parish within Christ’s Church. The concept of pledging, giving, and stewardship are life-changing. Please take time to read the brief articles, and pray that you will know what God wants you to return to him

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