

Dear Friends,

To be a member of the Church is not the same as being a member of a club or civic group. The Church is the "Body of Christ." Just as every member has a different function in the human body, so do we each have a specific function or calling in His Church. God did not create each of us to do the same thing.

When Jesus called His disciples, we read that Phillip brought Nathaniel to Jesus, telling him to "Come and See" – "Ερχου και Ιδε". We extend this same invitation to you to come and see what the Church can become with your time, talent, and treasure dedicated to the Lord's ministries.

The past year (2011) we initiated ministry programs, in the area of Youth, family and outreach placing special focus on each age range and bringing the community together as one family. Our Youth Ministries are operating in a high level by functioning more personally and efficiently. Our Family Ministry Night invites the entire family to share in a common theme and grow closer to Christ. Our "Compassionate Friends" has engaged in a year-round food drive, seasonal toiletry drives, and a Blood drive in January. Dear friend, we are more than a parish festival held in July. We are the Body of Christ. We are the Church called to actively participate within our Church walls, but also to reach out to the greater community around us.

We ask you to support these worthy ministries. Giving to His Church is a way to thank God for His grace and generosity. The question is not, "How much do I give to stay in the club?" or "What are the dues?" but "How can I thank God for my many blessings?"

Ειθε ο Θεος να συνεχιζει να ευλογει εσας και ολοκληρη την οικογενια σας παντοτε. Παρατηρηστε οτι χρησιμοποιησα τη λεξη <συνεχιζει>. Σκεφτειτε για μια στιγμη ολες τις ευλογιες που ο Θεος σας εχει στείλει απο την γεννηση σας. Ο Θεος σας αγαπα και σας κρατα στα χερια Του. Μην αφεθητε απο τα χερια Του! Στο διαστημα που χρειαζεστε να συμπληρωσετε αυτη την καρτα υποσχεσης, λετε <Κυριε, ειμαι τοσο ευγνωμων για ολα στη ζωη μου και καταλαβαινω οτι μου εχεις ζητησει να δεσμευσω ολοκληρη τη ζωη μου σε Σενα. Κυριε, αυτη ειναι η δεσμευση μου για την Εκκλησια Σου. Επισης αναγνωριζω οτι τιποτα δεν ανηκει σε εμενα, ουτε ο Ναος της Αγιας Σοφιας, ουτε αυτα που ειναι στην κατοχη μου και στην οικογενεια μου. Αναγνωριζω οτι ολα αυτα ειναι προσωρινα, και ειναι δωρα απο τον Κυριο και Θεο μου. Επομενως με τηνσυμπληρωση αυτης της καρτας υποσχεσης, προσφερω πισω ενα μικρο μεριδιο <δωρα απο τα δωρα>. Σε Σας Κυριε ολα κα ι για ολα. Συνεχισε να μας ευλογεις παντοτε Κυριε, και ελεησον μας.

Before completing and mailing the enclosed Commitment and Information Card, please give prayerful consideration to the commitment you are making. A check mailed to the Church is most meaningful when accompanied by your presence, by your willingness to serve by your prayers, and by your dedication. Giving is not a substitute for commitment – it is an expression of your commitment. "Now you are the body of Christ, and individually members of it."

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Andrew

## The Greek Orthodox Church of Saint Sophia FAMILY INFORMATION & STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT CARD

Please complete both sides of this form and return to the Church Office

<b>Family Name</b> _____				
<b>First Name</b> _____		<b>Baptismal Name</b> _____		
Name Day _____				
Address _____			City _____	
Zip Code _____		Home # (____) _____		
Cell # (____) _____		E-mail _____		
<b>Name of Spouse</b> _____		<b>Baptismal Name</b> _____		
Name Day _____		Cell # (____) _____		
E-mail _____				
<b>Child's Name</b> _____		<b>Baptismal Name</b> _____		
Grade in Fall 2011 _____		Name Day _____		
<b>Child's Name</b> _____		<b>Baptismal Name</b> _____		
Grade in Fall 2011 _____		Name Day _____		
<b>Child's Name</b> _____		<b>Baptismal Name</b> _____		
Grade in Fall 2011 _____		Name Day _____		
<b>Child's Name</b> _____		<b>Baptismal Name</b> _____		
Grade in Fall 2011 _____		Name Day _____		
<b>For 2012, I/we pledge the total sum of:</b>				
\$500	\$700	\$850	\$1000	\$1,500
\$2,000	\$2,500	\$5,000	\$ _____ Other	
<b>For 2012, I/we will fulfill our pledge:</b>				
Weekly	Monthly	Quarterly	Semi-Annually	Annually
<b>ΑΩΡΕΕΣ ΚΑΤΑ ΤΗΝ ΔΙΑΡΚΕΙΑ ΤΟΥ 2012</b>				
Εγω/Εμεις υπολογιζουμε οτι θα δωσω/δωσουμε για την υποστηριξη της κοινοτηνας στο εργο του Θεου.				
\$500	\$700	\$850	\$1000	\$1,500
\$2,000	\$2,500	\$5,000	\$ _____ other	
Εβδομαδιαιως# _____ Μηνιαιως _____ Τριμηνιαιως _____ Ημι-Ετησιως _____ Ετησιως_   _____				
Εγω/Εμεις καταλαβαινω/καταλαβαινουμε οτι με αυτην την «καλη τη πιστη» υπολογισμου και με την υποσχεση του χρονου και των ταλεντων μου/μας στην πισω πλευρα αυτης της καρτας, εγω/εμεις θα εμαι/ειμαστε μελη του Ναου της Αγιας Σοφιας κατα τη διαρκεια του 2012.				

The Greek Orthodox Church of Saint Sophia  
2012 STEWARDSHIP OF TIME & TALENT

**LITURGICAL**

- Music (Choir/Chanting)
- Sanctuary & Altar Care
- Altar Boys /Acolytes
- Baking Prosfora & Artoklasia

**MINISTRIES**

- HOPE (40 day's up to 5 years of age)
- FAITH (K, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grades)
- J.O.Y. (3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Grades)
- JR. G.O.Y.A (6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> Grades)
- SR. G.O.Y.A. (High School)
- Sunday Church School (Pre-K – High School)
- Fanari Summer Camp (6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grades)
- Oratorical & Arts Festival
- Christmas Pageant
- Epiphany Dive for the Cross (All Ages)
- Jr. Olympics

**EDUCATION**

- Youth Ministry Leader
- Teaching Sunday Church School
- Bible Study (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays)
- Bookstore
- Stewardship
- Vacation Bible School

**PHILANTHROPY**

- Ladies Philoptochos Society
- Shut-In or Elderly Visitations

**FUNDRAISERS**

- Parish Festival
- Fall Glendi
- Golf Outing
- Dinner Dance
- Apokreatiko

**ADMINISTRATION**

- Office Support/Date Entry
- Computer/Technical Support
- Office Staff Volunteer

**COMMUNICATIONS**

- Web Site / E-mail
- Bulletin/Newsletter/P.R.

**BUILDING & GROUNDS**

- Garden & Landscape
- Maintenance Projects
- Plumbing / Electrical
- Roofing

**HELLENIC HERITAGE**

- Ελληνικη παιδεια / Greek Letters Program
- Greek Independence Day Parade
- Volunteers
- Pericles Greek School

# COME AND SEE ΕΡΧΟΥ ΚΑΙ ΙΔΕ



GATHER MY PEOPLE TO MY HOME  
ΑΝΑΓΚΑΣΟΥ ΕΞΕΛΘΕΙΝ ΙΝΑ ΓΕΜΙΣΘΕΙ Ο ΟΙΚΟΣ ΜΟΥ

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**THE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH  
OF SAINT SOPHIA  
ELGIN, ILLINOIS  
STEWARDSHIP 2012**

I WOULD LIKE TO GIVE MY TIME AND TALENTS TO THE ST. IAKOVOS METROPOLIS RETREAT CENTER IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS: