stewardship ✓ quick start guide

□ 1. form a parish stewardship team

- □ Form your stewardship team early
- □ Build a team of people blessed with a variety of gifts, training & experience
- □ Choose a Christ-centered chair with proven leadership skills that lives as a true **Orthodox Christian steward**

2. create a year-round calendar

- □ Create a 12-month parish stewardship calendar & put it on the church calendar
- □ Plan for ongoing communication and personal contact with parishioners
- □ Schedule and assign tasks, communications, visitations and events
- **Recognize that stewardship is an ongoing ministry not a single event**

3. communicate

- □ Include a variety of messages pertaining to stewardship in bulletins, e-bulletins, newsletters, bulletin boards, etc.
- □ Plan a strategy of visitations or small group meetings
- **Keep the parish council informed and active in promoting stewardship. Parish Council members should lead by example.**
- □ Contact the Archdiocese for stewardship resources
- Enlist parishioners to offer testimonials following Divine Liturgy
- □ Offer sermons that apply the theme of the Gospel to aspects of Stewardship

□ 4. engage the people □ Get people personally involved in parish ministry □ Welcome new ideas and delegate responsibility □ Listen to and validate the concerns of your parishioners **Create opportunities for people to be heard**

- □ Theme: "Abide in Me"
- □ Icon: Christ the True Vine used with permission from Aperges & Co., www.aperges.com, Athens, Greece
- **Scripture Reference: Gospel of John** Chapter 15
- **Application to Stewardship: We are** called to bear fruit as branches of the True Vine which is Jesus Christ.

Just as a vine bears fruit only through its branches, so Jesus has chosen to work in the world through us. We are the members of His body – the branches through which the True Vine bears fruit. We bear fruit when we serve and support God and His Church.

Assistance and Resources

Available upon request from the Department of STEWARDSHIP, OUTREACH & EVANGELISM GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA www.Stewardship.goarch.org stewardship@goarch.org · 646/519-6160

5. utilize the 2012 theme

