**Letter No. 1: New Member Letter**

**Use Welcome Folder and Enclose a Stewardship Form & Information Card**

Giving Thanks : **Eucharistic Stewardship**

Orthodox Christian Stewardship Program

[Parish Name] Greek Orthodox Church

Address, City, State, Zip and Telephone

[Date]

Mr. & Mrs. John Member

Letter should be personalized

1 Yourstreet Place

Yourtown, ST 33740

Use first names

Dear John and Mary,

The Holy Eucharist is called Holy Communion because it unites us to one another as the Body of Christ. The word *Eucharist* comes from the Greek word for thanksgiving. This is what we do when we celebrate the Divine Liturgy – we are giving thanks. The Eucharist – the sacrament of Holy Communion – is the focus of our parish life. As Eucharistic Orthodox Christians, we see the world as God’s gift. We offer the world back to God in thanksgiving with the words, “Thine own of Thine own we offer to Thee….”

This past year we initiated ministry programs in the areas of Youth, Seniors and Outreach [briefly describe programs and include streaming of services and support of those affected by the pandemic if applicable]. In the coming year we expect to launch the following ministry initiatives [briefly describe ministry initiatives].

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, “What are the dues?” but “How can I thank God for my many blessings?” We are stewards of the Gospel and the stewards of our parish. We see our church, not as it is, but as it could be. We offer our treasure and ourselves sacrificially, so that, as members of the Body of Christ, we may reach our full potential in Him.

Before completing the enclosed Commitment Card and Information Form, 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 commitment. Giving is not a substitute for commitment – it is an expression of your commitment and an expression of thanks for the many blessings in your life.

Yours in Christ,

[Signature]

Rev. Fr. [Name of Priest]

**Letter No. 2: Initial Stewardship Letter**

**Enclose with current Stewardship Tri-Fold Brochure**

Giving Thanks : **Eucharistic Stewardship**

Orthodox Christian Stewardship Program

[Parish Name] Greek Orthodox Church

Address, City, State, Zip and Telephone

 [Date]

Mr. & Mrs. John Member

Letter should be personalized

1 Yourstreet Place

Yourtown, ST 33740

Dear John & Mary,

Use first names

The Holy Eucharist is called Holy Communion because it unites us to one another as the Body of Christ. The word *Eucharist* comes from the Greek word for thanksgiving. This is what we do when we celebrate the Divine Liturgy – we are giving thanks. The Eucharist – the sacrament of Holy Communion – is the focus of our parish life. As Eucharistic Orthodox Christians, we see the world as God’s gift. We offer the world back to God in thanksgiving with the words, “Thine own of Thine own we offer to Thee….”

This past year we initiated ministry programs in the areas of Youth, Seniors and Outreach [briefly describe programs and include streaming of services and support of those affected by the pandemic if applicable]. In the coming year we expect to launch the following ministry initiatives [briefly describe ministry initiatives].

I invite you to be with us at [*insert name of church*] Church for three special Sundays beginning on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and concluding on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Over these three weeks we will worship together as we do every Sunday. In addition, we will learn more about our parish, our leadership and our ministries.

At the conclusion of these three weeks, we will initiate our plan to visit/meet with all of our parishioners to share the current vision of our parish leadership and seek your participation in realizing this vision. We see our church, not as it is, but as it could be. We offer our treasure and ourselves sacrificially, so that, as members of the Body of Christ, we may reach our full potential in Him.

I offer you my thanks for your dedication to our parish and your participation in Christ’s work of salvation.

Yours in Christ,

[Signature]

Rev. Fr. [Name of Priest]

**Letter No. 3: Quarterly Statement Letter to Fulfilled And Ongoing Stewards**

**Enclose a Stewardship Statement**

Giving Thanks : **Eucharistic Stewardship**

Orthodox Christian Stewardship Program

[Parish Name] Greek Orthodox Church

Address, City, State, Zip and Telephone

[Date]

Mr. & Mrs. John Member

Letter should be personalized

1 Yourstreet Place

Yourtown, ST 33740

Dear John & Mary,

Use first names

Enclosed is your Stewardship Commitment Statement as of [date]. Thank you for your support of the [Parish Name] Orthodox Christian Stewardship and Ministries Program.

Stewardship is an opportunity to examine our priorities and values, to express our thankfulness, to give of ourselves and to grow in grace. It allows us to participate in the work of God. Bearing fruit in the world is the visible result of our abiding in Christ, the True Vine.

You are encouraged to offer your prayerful thanks and continue in the fulfillment of your commitment to Christ’s Church in thanksgiving for His many blessings to you.

Your Stewardship Commitment is a testimony of your dedication to your own spiritual growth and the spreading our beloved Orthodox Faith. I thank you on behalf of [Parish Name].

Yours in Christ,

[Signature]

Rev. Fr. [Name of Priest]

[Title]

**Letter No. 4: Letter to Ongoing Stewards who have not made Offerings Toward their Commitment**

**Enclose a Stewardship Statement**

Giving Thanks : **Eucharistic Stewardship**

Orthodox Christian Stewardship Program

[Parish Name] Greek Orthodox Church

Address, City, State, Zip and Telephone

 [Date]

Mr. & Mrs. John Member

1 Yourstreet Place

Letter should be personalized

Yourtown, ST 33740

Dear John & Mary,

Use first names

Enclosed is your Stewardship Commitment Statement as of [date]. Thank you for signing a [year] Orthodox Christian Stewardship Commitment Form to support the Ministries of [Parish Name]. Your Stewardship provides the foundation for our service in the Lord.

As a valued Steward and supporter of our Parish, we lovingly remind you that as of this writing we have not received any offering toward your annual Stewardship Commitment. Just like the boy who offered his five loaves and two fish, we each offer what we have – however great or small our gift. If we do this prayerfully and humbly, God will take our gifts and multiply them in order to feed His people.

Stewardship is an opportunity to examine our priorities and values, to express our thankfulness, to give of ourselves and to grow in grace. It allows us to participate in the work of God.

Please take the time to make your offering today and enable our Church to continue to enhance the spiritual growth of the Orthodox Christians entrusted to our care.

May our Lord richly bless you in all things.

Yours in Christ,

[Signature]

Rev. Fr. [Name of Priest]

[Title]

**Letter No. 5: Non-Committed Parishioner Quarterly Statement Letter**

**Enclose: Stewardship Statement, New Stewardship Commitment Card and a Return Envelope**

Giving Thanks : **Eucharistic Stewardship**

Orthodox Christian Stewardship Program

[Parish Name] Greek Orthodox Church

Address, City, State, Zip and Telephone

[Date]

Mr. & Mrs. John Member

Letter should be personalized

1 Yourstreet Place

Yourtown, ST 33740

Use first names

Dear John & Mary,

As a valued Steward and supporter of [Parish Name], we lovingly remind you that as of this writing we have not received a Stewardship Commitment Form or an offering to the Church for [year].

Your Stewardship provides the foundation for our Parish Ministries and our efforts in meeting the challenge of spreading Christ’s Word and our Orthodox Faith.

Stewardship is an opportunity to examine our priorities and values, to express our thankfulness, to give of ourselves and to grow in grace. It allows us to participate in the work of God. Giving is not a substitute for commitment – it is an expression of your commitment. As St. John Chrysostom said, “A Rich Man is not one who has much but one who gives much. For what he gives away remains his forever.”

Please take time to make your Stewardship Commitment today and enable our Church to grow her ministries and carry on her mission. For your convenience, we have enclosed are a Stewardship Commitment Form and return envelope.

May our Lord richly bless you and your family in all things.

Yours in Christ,

[Signature]

Rev. Fr. [Name of Priest]

[Title]

**Letter No. 6: Ongoing Stewards December Solicitation Letter**

**Enclose a Stewardship Offering Statement**

Giving Thanks : **Eucharistic Stewardship**

 1Orthodox Christian Stewardship Program

[Parish Name] Greek Orthodox Church

Address, City, State, Zip and Telephone

[Date]

Mr. & Mrs. John Member

1 Yourstreet Place

Yourtown, ST 33740

Dear John & Mary,

With Christmas almost upon us, we at [Parish Name] are truly thankful for you and your family here in our Church. You are a vital part of our Church Community*.*

Please take a few minutes to review your [year] Stewardship Commitment of [$?.00] in support of our Parish Ministries. To date you have sent [$?00] in offerings toward fulfillment of that commitment.

Kindly consider this reminder during this season of joy and good will. Please complete your Stewardship Commitment for [year] and ensure the success of the programs undertaken for the spiritual needs of the families entrusted to our care. Remember that your Stewardship provides the foundation for our Parish Ministries and our efforts in meeting the challenge of spreading Christ’s Word and our Orthodox Faith.

Stewardship is an opportunity to examine our priorities and values, to express our thankfulness, to give of ourselves and to grow in grace. It allows us to participate in the work of God. Giving is not a substitute for commitment – it is an expression of our commitment.

May the grace of our Lord bless you and your loved ones to experience the joy of Christ’s Birth through the joy of giving.

Yours in Christ,

[Signature]

Rev. Fr. [Name of Priest]

[Title]