



ALL SAINTS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Faithful stewards of All Saints,

The world around us has started to re-open and is determining how to move forward in this new, (God willing) temporary reality. The last few months have been exceedingly difficult on each one of us. Many have lost their jobs; Many parents gained another role as homeschool teachers. Regardless, your reality and life as you knew it changed. This change also had a great effect on your life in Christ and your participation in our All Saints Parish. We thank you for your continued patience, prayers, and understanding. All the decisions and restrictions were made for the benefit and the health and safety of our community.

Towards the beginning of this pandemic we wrote and reminded you to remain faithful stewards of our community. You exceeded our expectations and your financial assistance came in a timely manner. We thank you for taking heed to the needs of our parish and for stepping up to the challenge.

We have now reached the summer months. Over the last month, we would have had our annual Food Festival. Your children and grandchildren would now be heading to summer camp. All these things have taken on a new form. As many of you know, we remain hopeful and have changed the dates of our festival to September, and summer camp is being managed “virtually” this year. Our Metropolis, our parish and your clergy are doing their best to minister to the needs of the faithful within this “new” reality.

Part of the challenge we now face is managing financially as All Saints’ stream of assistance including general contributions, offerings and stewardship has steadily and significantly declined. We realize that as the parish continues to reopen that reality may change, but we want to take this opportunity to call your attention to the needs of our parish.

What do we need from you? First and foremost, please continue to keep yourself Christ centered and do not let down your guard in your spiritual life. Pray, read scripture, fast, confess, and Commune the precious Body and Blood of Christ. Allow this relationship with Him to inspire you to contribute to your stewardship pledges as often as possible. The church needs to have a healthy and steady cash flow during these uncertain times. Second, if you have not pledged for the year please prayerfully consider. Third, if you can and God has blessed you during this period, please consider increasing your offerings. God has never been stingy with us!

Our parish was very blessed to receive the PPP-SBA loan (specifically covering payroll and utilities) that was passed by our federal government during this pandemic. We also received an emergency disaster relief grant. While this all was occurring, our parish also opened a line of credit with our local financial institution. These measures were taken to help safeguard our parish during this pandemic and future, unforeseen events. Regardless of the safety nets that have been put into place, we need to now rally financially for our church so these safeguards can be used as they were intended, as an emergency fund, rather than our primary source of income.

We know that times are tough... We are all feeling this pandemic in different tangible ways, but during this unprecedented historical moment full of countless unknowns, we ask that you continue to give to our beloved All Saints prayerfully, responsibly, and from the heart. May our Lord continue to bless you, keep you safe and healthy. Your church has never left you; she is here for you and will always be here for you!

In His service,

*Fr. George Livanos, Fr. George Athanasiou
& the Parish Council of All Saints Canonsburg*