



GREEK ORTHODOX
METROPOLIS OF
NEW JERSEY

SAINT ANDREW GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Rev. John Theodosion
Pastor

Giving Thanks: Eucharistic Stewardship

Dear Saint Andrew Parishioner,

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 our small piece of the world back to God in thanksgiving with the words, “Thine own of Thine own we offer to Thee....”

In this our 60th year as a Community of Saint Andrew we have bounced back in many ways from the effects of the Coronavirus, however I would say we are not out of the woods. So many of our programs are operating like they were before the pandemic began. At this time, though, some have not, namely the Agape group, Sunday School and the PTA. We are counting on all of our families to help get these programs back up and running like they did in the past. As well, in the coming year we will be focusing our efforts to provide Faith and Family Evenings at the church, to expand our ministries to the poor and needy and continue to minister to all of our parishioners both young and old. I invite you to be with us at Saint Andrew Greek Orthodox Church for three special Sundays beginning on October 30th and concluding on November 20th. Over these 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,

Rev. Fr. John Theodosion
Parish Priest