



*Dear Friends,*

*God is the ultimate "Giver". Concluding the Divine Liturgy we acknowledge that "every good and perfect gift is from above and cometh down from Thee, the Father of lights." As Orthodox we also believe that God's perfect desire and goal for us personally is that we be like Him, which would surely include being "givers."*

*Scripturally we are bidden to shape our giving by what is called the Tithe, or 10% of our incomes. This teaching is reinforced by the Church Fathers and is the standard accepted by our Antiochian Archdiocese.*

*Because the Bible also teaches that God loves a giver who is "cheerful", we encourage you to prayerfully consider your pledge commitment for 2007 as a response to God's blessings with the joyfulness that marks believers who are under Grace. Do what you can, even stretching yourself, but with trust and gladness in Him.*

*At Holy Cross Church and at the proposed Carroll County Orthodox Mission we will all have much to do: give praise and glory to God and His Saints, build up the Body of Christ, and proclaim the Good News to all. In the Lord's design it will take all of us working together, responding in faithfulness, to do what we believe He is calling us to do.*

**Fr Gregory Mathewes-Green**  
Holy Cross Antiochian Orthodox Church

**Fr Elias Yelovich**  
Orthodox Mission of Carroll County

As outlined in the Annual Report, your tithes and offerings will be funneled first to the Operating Fund, and then to the other funds as necessary or as requested. Please review these brief descriptions and updates on the funds and mark the other side of this form accordingly.

In addition to "Treasure", our parish needs our "Time" and "Talents"! Please use the list of ministries on the other side of this form to indicate your current level of participation and/or willingness to participate in our various ministries.

#### OPERATING FUND

This is the fund that pays for the ongoing operations and ministries of the Parish; this is the 'first stop' for your tithe.

#### BUILDING FUND

Routine maintenance and utilities come out of the Operating Fund, but the purchase of the property, and all major repairs and improvements come from this fund.

#### BENEVOLENT FUND

The Jay Moore Benevolent Fund was started about a year ago when we had a specific need for long-term care for one of our parishioners, Lillian Athas. When she fell asleep in the Lord this spring, we decided to maintain the fund and use it specifically for parishioners with special financial needs.

## Time & Talent Pledge

Ministries	Examples	Already Involved	Wish to Be Involved
<b>Adult Education</b>	Library		
	Bookstore		
<b>Building &amp; Grounds</b>	Building/repair		
	Gardening		
	Cleaning (bathrooms, kitchen, Sunday School rooms, etc)		
	Altar care (cleaning brass, etc)		
	Flower arranging		
<b>Evangelism</b>	Lector (read the epistle)		
	Tract rack		
<b>Outreach</b>	Special activity volunteer (Our Daily Bread, Crisis Pregnancy Center, Linthicum Fair, etc)		
<b>Parish Life</b>	Choir		
	Chanting		
	Refreshments (on Sundays and other occasions)		
	Altar bread baking (Prospora)		
	2007 Parish Life Conference volunteer		
<b>Pastoral Care</b>	Visitation (sick, shut-ins)		
	Correspondence		
<b>Sunday School</b>	Sunday School (teach, substitute, parties)		
	VBS: curriculum development, volunteer		
<b>Welcome/ Hospitality</b>	Greeting (before and after services)		
	Hospitality (dinners at your home)		
<b>Youth Ministries</b>	Youth Advisor/ Meeting Facilitator		
	Chaperoning events		
	Event planning		
	Curriculum development		
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	Making phone calls		
	Baby-sitting		
	Bookkeeping		
	Transportation		
	(other)		

I have \_\_\_\_\_ number of hours per week to offer in the selected ministry areas in 2007.

## Tithe/Offering Pledge

I hereby pledge the amount(s) for tithe and offering as indicated below for 2007\*:

### 2007 ANNUAL TITHE PLEDGE

\$

- My annual tithe represents a Biblical Tithe.
- I am unable to commit to a Biblical Tithe in 2007; this pledge is 'working toward' a Tithe.

### 2007 ANNUAL OFFERING OPPORTUNITIES

*An offering is over and above a 10% Biblical Tithe. As God richly blesses us, we in turn share that blessing with those around us.*

In addition to my Tithe, I pledge an annual offering to the following:

**Building Fund**

\$

**Benevolent Fund**

\$

**Holy Cross Parish**

\$

I am unable to give monetarily at this time, but pledge to continue supporting the Carroll County Mission through my prayers.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(please sign name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(please print name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(please print name)