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SAINTS CONSTANTINE AND HELEN GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

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“All Things are Possible to the one Who Believes in Christ”

In the Gospel of Mark, a father brings his epileptic son to Jesus in desperation, saying, “...if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us.” Jesus replies to the father’s lack of faith, “If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes.” The father’s response is a prayer we can pray every day: “Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!” When we believe, stewardship follows. Stewardship is faith in action; action motivated by humble gratitude to God for his blessings in our life.

On Sunday, December 9, 2018, I invite you to celebrate **Stewardship Sunday** together, when we will learn more about our 2019 Stewardship objectives, our parish, our leadership, and our ministries. Periodically throughout the first half of the year, you will also hear what Stewardship means from a few of our parish members as a continuation of our internal “Why I Give” initiative.

For our current Stewards, I would like to remind you to please look at your 2018 contributions before year end and help us by meeting and fulfilling your financial commitment to the Cathedral. For those members who have not made a financial commitment to our Cathedral, I ask you to please consider making a gift to the church before year-end. Your Stewardship Commitment is a testimony of your dedication to your own spiritual growth and the spreading our beloved Orthodox Faith. 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?”

Lastly, before completing and returning the enclosed Stewardship Commitment Card, 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.

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

Yours in Christ,
Mike Pantele

Michael J. Pantele, 2019 Stewardship Chairman