

# Come and See

Giving to the Church is an opportunity to examine our priorities and values. It is an opportunity to express our thankfulness, to give of ourselves and to grow in grace. Giving is not a substitute for our commitment – it is an expression of our commitment. **Come And See** what we can do together with your support.

**“Come and See  
the works of God,  
Who is awesome”**

Psalm 66:5

# Additional Information

For further information, please contact Father Stratton or one of the Endowment Fund Board of Trustees

Fr. Stratton (248) 362-9575  
Stephen Karniotis (Chairperson) (248) 408-2918  
Patrick Crosson (586) 665-7201  
Nick Feles (248) 613-1095  
Timo L. Nicholaou (313) 608-1234  
Aaron Cloutier (586) 243-6393  
Dino Kostopoulos (248) 321-3620

# Help is Available

For more information, contact Fr. Stratton for more detailed information and resources.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like information about:

\_\_\_\_\_ Contributing to the Endowment Fund

\_\_\_\_\_ Planned Giving ideas for St. Nicholas, the Metropolis and the Archdiocese

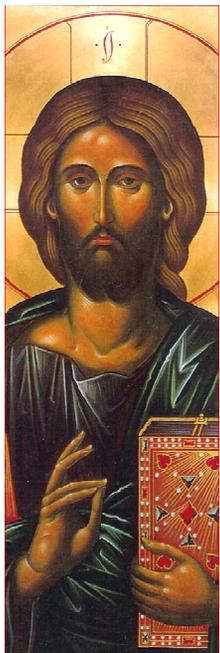
**Saint Nicholas  
Greek Orthodox Church  
Troy, Michigan**



**Saint Nicholas  
Endowment Fund**

**PLANNED GIVING TOWARD  
THE PERPETUAL SUPPORT OF  
OUR SAINT NICHOLAS  
CHURCH**

# The Body of Christ



The Church is the Body of Christ on earth and carries on His ministry in the world today. Giving to the Church is an opportunity to examine our priorities and values, to express our thankfulness, to give of ourselves and to grow in grace.

For most people, the greatest financial gift we are able to give is what we leave behind when we fall asleep in the Lord.

Through a charitable gift, you can have a significant positive effect on the ministries of the Church and those people whose lives are changed because of them. The impact of your gift will be felt for years and generations to come.

A charitable gift may also give you substantial current tax benefits as well as estate tax benefits.

As you explore the ways by which you can support the ministries of the Church, please know that the church staff and endowment committee members are available to assist you in any way possible.

## What Is The Saint Nicholas Endowment Fund?

The Saint Nicholas Endowment Fund is designed to give parishioners a vehicle to donate toward the long-term support of our parish.

The Endowment Fund is a managed investment, with a Board of Trustees overseeing the portfolio as well as a professional investment manager to manage investment decisions for the Trustees.

## How Are The Funds Used?

All of the contributions are pooled together into the Endowment Fund. At the end of the year, the fund is evaluated for profitability. If profitable, only 50% of the profit is used for the organizations, ministries, programs, or as designated by donors to the Endowment Fund. The remaining 50% of growth is retained in the fund for continued investment and growth.

## Ways to Give

Consider making a gift in one of the following ways:

- Bequest (Will)
- Matching Gift
- Gift of Cash
- Gift of Securities
- Gift of Life Insurance
- Gift of Real Estate
- Qualified Retirement Plans
- Charitable Gift Annuity
- Deferred Gift Annuity
- Charitable Lead Trust
- Charitable Remainder Trust

Americans give generously to charitable organizations in this manner. In 2009, more than \$250 billion was given by individuals through their estates.

### RECIPIENTS:

- Religious Organizations: \$90 billion
- Education: \$41.6 billion

(Source: American Association of Fundraising Counsel 2009)

Planned giving can be very rewarding, allowing to you to see your gift at work while receiving tax benefits now.

The material provided here is designed to furnish our Orthodox Christian faithful with general information. It is not intended as legal or financial advice. When considering a charitable gift, be sure to consult your attorney, professional adviser or accountant to ensure that it meets your individual circumstances.