



SAINT PHILIP ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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Forty Days of Growth in Stewardship 2020

"Fervent in Spirit, Serving the Lord"

Romans 12:11

October 1, 2019

Protection of the Theotokos

Dear Tadesse & Hirut Demis,

Glory to Jesus Christ!

The stewardship theme for this year comes from Paul's letter to the Romans, chapter 12, "Fervent in spirit serving the Lord." In this coming year we can become more fervent in spirit by praying, coming to church, by getting involved and doing some of the work that warms and strengthens the community and brings glory to God. While we all have our individual strengths and talents, there are plenty of things we can all come together to do.

This past year we completed the task of paying off the mortgage on the church property and are moving on to add to that the property next door. Thanks be to God who has provided these good things for us to work for and to use in our work in this world. Thanks be to all who have given financially and worked to maintain and beautify our church over the years and to those who have been generous in their giving for this new property. May the fervency that has been established here continue on to the next generation. May they see what has been done here, join in the work and bring their new strengths to it. May we all be fervent in spirit serving the Lord.

Throughout the next forty-days, we will hear from various members of our parish community about the blessings which have come from a life deeply rooted in the life of the Church. We hope that hearing their message will embolden your fervor for Christ and encourage you to increase your offering of time, talent and treasure.

Enclosed in this envelope is a Saint Philip pledge card. Your pledge will help us continue to bring the message of the Gospel to our community! We have new and exciting ministries developing as well as our existing and established ministries which have been making a difference in the life of our parish for years. We ask that you will consider increasing your pledge this year or make a pledge for the first time. For, "the world and its pleasures pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever." (1John 2:17)

By God's Mercy,

The St. Philip Stewardship Team

"And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch." Acts 11:26

Lyrical Musings by Colin Miller

*To be fervent is to have the heat inside you that drives you do the work.
This heat increases as you exert yourself.
You've felt heat inside you if you've worked at the festival preparing food,
carrying heavy things or even welcoming guests.
You've felt it if you've worked hard to provide for your family and others that you love.
You've felt it if as you've worked and given generously over the years
to pay for our church and provide for all we do here.*