



**Everything has a cycle. We know that a minute ends, in well, a minute. Hours, days, months, years... they are all defined. Although not easy to foresee, our planet is probably at some point in its cycle. Everything has a cycle. Our life is a cycle although a bit more open-ended as to its length; life as we know it will end, and our faith tells us it will then continue for all times.**

**We are approaching a new cycle in our Stewardship to St. Vasilios Church and our “family” within the church. Soon we will see that annual appeal for every member to pledge, and make a pledge for the upcoming cycle 2020. I hope that you will again consider this, and make your pledge higher than last year. Double would be nice. 50% more, 25% more, or even 10% more would all get us out of treading water, and give us the resources necessary to keep our parish vibrant.**

**Many of us belong to other organizations. Personally, I belong to a community service group, a public speaking group, a martial arts organization, and a fraternity with many connected groups. Each one has a membership fee. At church though, we consider the “Stewardship” program as a replacement for a formalized dues structure and annual bill.**

**As you are well aware, we also ask people to give what they can give. Do we make suggestions? Sure. We have “suggested” donations for candles (\$2) and weekly donations to the basket (\$5) and others. Can everyone do that? Not always. However, I have seen members donate \$20 for the “\$2” candle.**

**Back to donating though... Generally in other organizations, I can pay annually for the operations of the group, and often there is another fund for the long-term operations. At St. Vasilios Church, that’s the difference between our annual Stewardship pledge and a donation to our endowment fund.**

**As I look around our church, I see things that are the result of gifts by men and woman from years past and generations gone by. If it weren’t for their generosity, where would we be? Our forefathers and foremothers did much to give us our house of worship on Paleologos Street.**

**If you want to make an impact on the future generations who will sit in the pews, sing in the choir, play basketball in the center, work the picnic and festival, lead our Parish Council, and worship together, please consider giving generously to both our Stewardship program and our endowment program. Make your annual pledge, and start your gift to our endowment fund.**

**Charity is love.**

**John Maihos, President, Parish Council**