

St. Vasilios is blessed to have such a robust scholarship program, which has been made possible through the generosity of individuals, families, and organizations who recognize the value of education.

As a steward of these funds, St. Vasilios must assure that the scholarship aligns with Church practice and the wishes of the donors. Therefore, those young adults receiving benefits through our parish should be knowledgeable of the Orthodox Faith and involved in the life of the Church. These criteria have always been clear, since applicants have always been required to be of the Greek Orthodox faith, actively involved in their faith, and at least one parent in good standing for a minimum of the previous five consecutive years.

Recently, parishioners asked the Parish Council to better explain what “actively involved” meant, and last year, a committee was formed to undertake that project. After consultation with church members ranging from ministry heads to our parish priests, we have clarified some of the scholarship application criteria and added new ones. The changes were presented to the Parish Council and approved. The new points will be phased in over the coming years, and it is the expectation that this will help families, especially students, engage more fully in the Orthodox Faith.

We will now require that all scholarship applicants meet with one of the parish priests. They can schedule this on their own with either Fr. Chris or Fr. Yanni. This will be an opportunity for our young adults to have a more personal relationship with our clergy.

Second, all scholarship applicants must have volunteer hours that directly serve our parish. For high school students, this will be 20 hours per year of volunteering in church activities like assisting with festivals, coffee hours, or our community dinner programs, and other approved programs. For college students, 15 hours per year will be expected. This can be with any community or church program where they are attending school, in addition to here at St Vasilios

To receive multiple scholarships there will be added requirements.

To receive more than one scholarship from the church, an applicant will be expected to meet the same requirements as noted above. Additionally, the applicant, during their High School years must be an Acolyte (altar boy), Myrofora, Choir member, or a graduate of Church School.

We anticipate that our scholarship program will continue to be strong, and that our scholarship recipients will have a better experience in the life of our church.