

June 28, 2006

Dear Parishioners,

You and I, and the rest of our church members, are joined in a wonderful fellowship. We have the privilege of worshiping God together, of supporting one another in sorrow and in trial, aiding others in our community or other parishes, and supporting many charitable organizations. To a world enmeshed in conflicts and fears of losing our identity and heritage, in a home away from home, we present the Community Center. The proposed Community Center will provide the tools and means to help preserve our heritage, which we have learned from our parents and grandparents.

The time has finally arrived! We have obtained the necessary permits from the City of Norwalk that will enable us to begin the construction of our Community Center. We can now begin the task of making our dream become a reality. Our dream of building a center has kept this community captive for years; we are now breaking through the barrier and facing the future. Being dissatisfied with our present conditions for supporting our youth programs and wanting something more for our children, we are determined to go out into larger fields of service, as part of our overall parish. With your help and the help of other members and friends, we can realize our proposed program to build a Community Center next to our beloved church, which we could all be proud of. Your time, your prayers, your support, and your gifts are all essential.

Attached you will find a pledge card that is asking for your contribution towards the construction of the proposed Community Center. Before you fill in a dollar amount, please take a moment and reflect a little on the enormity of this project and what it will take for it to be achieved. We estimate that the project upon completion will cost somewhere in the neighborhood of 4.5 million dollars (including Architectural and Engineering fees); that averages out to approximately \$12.5 thousand dollars per member family.

- If we were to divide the \$12.5 thousand by 3 years (the anticipated period for completion) that would average out to approximately \$4,200 per year, per member family;
- If we are to complete this project in the projected 3 year period, we would need to collect as a minimum, 50% of the estimated funds by March 2007 so that we can commence with construction.

We know that many of us will not be able to meet that quota due to our income and personal responsibilities, but there are many of us who will surpass that amount and hopefully make up the difference. Think about what this building will mean to you, your children, grandchildren, and their offspring; think about the future of this church and give with your heart. We all know the sacrifices that were made by our predecessors in order to build this magnificent church that we so dearly love and attend to give prayer and thanks to our Lord for all that he has given us. It is time friends that we make this sacrifice ourselves, let's all together gather our strength and make this long awaited dream finally become a reality!

- Please note that the profit from the Gift Certificate Program is for the Cultural Center. As you know, we receive a 10 percent kick-back from Stew Leonard and Zeytinia and 5 percent from Stop & Shop and Shop Rite. You can purchase your certificates after Church Services. You may also purchase them from Leonard's Upholstery and Jimmy's Deli. If you have any questions about the program, please contact either Sophie Paschalides or Effie Afentoulides, the two responsible for the program.
- Also, the second collection tray every Sunday is dedicated towards the Community Center.

Please keep in mind that the Stewardship Program is completely separate from the Capital Campaign of the Community Center. The Capital Campaign Program is solely to collect funds for the construction of the proposed Community Center; a center that will house our Greek School, Sunday School, Athletic Programs, and cultural events.

The enclosed pamphlet will give you a summary of the project details and objectives. For more information, please visit the St. George Church website at www.StGeorgeCT.org or contact any of the Community Center Committee members consisting of the following individuals:

Community Center Committee:

Fr. Nicholas Dassouras, Protosphyter	203/849-0611
Nick Triantafilidis, Chairman	203/854-0724
Panagiotis Kutrubis, Parish Council President (ex officio member)	203/849-0611
Chris Bakes, Treasurer	203/847-1884
Helen Tsagas Boyian, Secretary	203/831-8339
Tasos Tsilfidis, Fund Raising Chairman	203/454-2079
Jim Erotopoulos, Public Relations Chairman	203/838-0055
Harry Sandalidis	203/664-1067
George P. Tsilfidis	203/966-9793

Capital Campaign Sub-Committee:

Effie Afentoulides	203/354-9214
Stacey Klourembanas	203/834-1686
Sophia Paschalidis	203/847-9770

Please complete and return the attached pledge card in the envelope provided to: *St. George Church Community Center Capital Campaign, Attention: Mr. Chris Bakes*, St. George Greek Orthodox Church, 238 West Rocks, Norwalk, CT 06851. We pray that you may give in proportion to the great need and your ability. Our church aspires to strengthen our witness for Christ in our community. It all depends upon your help.

Respectfully,

Community Center Capital Campaign Committee

Attachments: flyer and pledge card