



SAINT
ATHANASIOS

RISE UP AND BUILD

2026 STEWARDSHIP

In the Book of Nehemiah, we read the words of a leader who inspired his people to tend to their future. This Prophet gathered the faithful and said, “*Let us rise up and build.*” (Nehemiah 2:18) With courage and conviction, the people responded: “*So they strengthened their hands for the good work.*” These ancient words echo in our hearts today as we look toward a new year in the life of our parish.

Our 2026 Stewardship theme, “**Rise Up and Build,**” calls each of us to strengthen our parish through faith, generosity, and shared commitment. For generations, St. Athanasios has been built by the hands and hearts of its faithful members—those who gave not only their resources, but their love, their prayers, and their time for the glory of God. Now, as we look to the future, we are called to continue this sacred work by striving toward **Stewardship Independence**: ensuring that the full operation and ministry of our parish are sustained entirely by the stewardship offerings of our faithful.

This vision is both achievable and inspiring. If, on average, each household in our parish family offered \$2,400 (*which is less than 2% of the median household income in our surrounding area*) in financial stewardship, our community would reach complete financial independence—allowing every ministry, every act of service, and every outreach to be funded by our shared commitment to Christ and His Church. Together, we can build a future where our parish’s vitality and growth depend not on fundraisers, but on the prayerful generosity of its members.

Your stewardship is not simply a financial contribution—it is a statement of faith, a participation in the holy work of building the Body of Christ here at St. Athanasios. We invite you to reflect on how you can *rise up and build* with us in 2026. Please complete and return the enclosed 2026 Stewardship Commitment Card as we join together in the good work of Christ.

In Christ,

✙ Fr. Panagiotis Boznos

