

The Clergy Family Initiatives Program of the APC of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America

Section One

Wouldn't you like to be uninhibited to serve Christ more fully, without the distractions of unmerited stress and exhausting financial burdens? We want to help you offer your whole self to Christ even more profoundly – for you to be continually growing healthier and stronger spiritually, physically, mentally, and financially.

We have discovered a large list of financial pressures that undermine the effectiveness of pastoral leaders. This list includes; debt (educational, medical, other non-mortgage), healthcare costs (deductible and co-insurance liabilities), lack of emergency funds, planning for retirement, planning for children's education expenses, personal and parish budgeting and financial planning, and the culture and lack of awareness of our leadership in our communities about clergy finances. If any of the above addresses your needs then you may qualify for a Grant from the Clergy Initiative Program anywhere from \$1,000 to \$10,000.

Here's how it works:

1. Place your application for the clergy Initiative Grant by contacting Fr. Al Demos at [917-1842-9844](tel:917-1842-9844) or Fral@goarch.org to register. You will need to fill out and return the **Section 2 Enrollment Questionnaire** and return it to Fr. Al.
2. Confirm your Archdiocesan status.
3. Once you are registered we will send the David Ramsey course to you.
4. Sign up online and complete the David Ramsey course – **IMPORTANT!!! DO NOT LOSE THE CODE NUMBER.**
5. Use the Pete the Planner Program as our Financial Guide by signing up at: yourmoneyline.com/greekorthodox
6. Fulfill all required educational activities (Ramsey & Pete Planner).
7. Complete the initial financial consultation.
8. Fill out and submit the grant proposal form and explain how the grant will help you to confirm your financial need (debt, healthcare expenses, emergency expenses & retirement).
9. Send your full name, name on the account(s) to be paid, account number(s), amount(s) to be paid, and creditor's complete address where the grant is to be sent.
10. Review by the Committee. (We know that you would like to receive this grant as soon as possible, but please be aware that this process will take time, anywhere from one to two years to complete, depending upon each case, so please be patient be with us. We want to make sure that we help you as much as possible but please know that not all applicants are guaranteed \$10,000.)

Dear Rev. Father,

First, congratulations on enrolling in this life-changing program! Please understand that all your personal private information is kept in strict confidence. Your name is not shared with anyone other than a few people on our committee. Then, when we do give general statistics to the Committee, only me and a brother priest know what statistics belong to you...we are the only two persons who see your private information!

Would you kindly provide a short biographical sketch?

Then, please provide the information requested below:

Last Name

First Name

Cell Phone

Email address

Home Address

Age

Years in the ministry

Number of Family members

Size of your parish

The Metropolis in which you are serving

Proistamenos or Assistant

1st or 2nd career

The purpose of your grant

Student loans

Credit Cards

Medical expenses

Are you a member of the Archdiocese Pension plan and if not, why not?

What other Retirement Plan do you have?

Are you a member of the Archdiocese Health plan and if not, why not?

What other Health Insurance do you have?

Does your spouse work?

Are you or your wife pursuing further education?

Would you or your wife like to pursue furthering your education?

Do you own or rent your home?

How much equity do you have in your home?

What is the value of your stocks and investments?

Do you own or lease a car?

The Amount owed on your student loans?

The Amount owed on your credit cards

The Amount owed for your medical bills?

The above statistics are required for our program from the Lilly Foundation. Two of us are the only persons who see all your *personal information*. The Committee only sees statistics, not your name or your private information!

Once I have this information, you will receive a packet in your email within a few weeks entitled the *Dave Ramsey Course of the Financial Peace University*. Please make sure that you also enroll in the Pete the Planner Program for financial guidance. You can easily participate in this guidance program by signing up for your account by email. Just to be more specific: everyone must participate in the Pete the Planner Program by internet and phone, in order for us to process your grant. Pete the Planner (Your Money Line) is primarily to be used **now in place of your financial adviser**, and you are free to utilize any other information in the program that is of interest to you. In time you may want to go over everything yourself, but it is **not necessary** to complete every aspect of Pete the Planner though it is loaded with helpful information that can only benefit your financial life.

You can easily participate in the program by signing up and registering for your account and by calling the financial helpline. To create your account and access the online platform contact the financial helpline (Your Money Line): email yourmoneyline.com/greekorthodox or call 833-890-4077 as well as email: Answers@YourMoneyLine.com to schedule a time to talk to someone. They will send us a report on your progress.

These two programs can have a most effective impact on your life and in many cases priests have said that these programs have literally changed their personal, family, and ministerial lives in the most positive and meaningful manner! It is inspiring to hear their comments!

Please know that in sharing your personal information, as an older brother priest in Christ with 55 years of experience, I am always available 24/7 to listen to any problems or concerns you may have in your personal life or your ministry. Again, any personal information shared between us is kept in strict confidence.

All the best to you!

May God continually bless you, your family, and your sacred ministry!

In Christ,

Fr. Athanasios Demos

Fr. Athanasios (Al) Demos, D. Min.

Administrator, Ministerial Excellence Fund

of the Clergy Family Initiative

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