



St George the-Great-Martyr Orthodox Church

Fr. Antonio Perdomo, Rector – 704 W. Sam Houston/P.O. Box 667 - Pharr, Texas 78577 USA

Phone/Fax (956) 781-6114 www.stgeorgetx.org padreantoniop@aol.com

26 November, 2011

Request: What \$1000 per month could do for our pastor and the people needing our aid.

Dear Fr. Evangelos, your blessing! Deacon Fr. John and respected Brothers and Sisters, Share the Faith Ministries' Board of Directors:

Fr. Antonio Perdomo serves as Priest of St. George the Great Martyr (OCA) Church located in Pharr, Texas located in one of the poorest (Hidalgo) counties in the United States. Located just a few miles from the Mexican border and with great need in the area, Fr. Antonio started the St. George Food Pantry, which serves on average 115 families twice a month. Since opening, over 70,000 people have been assisted in this sacred outreach, about ½ children, many elderly and a number of handicapped.

St. George's also offers an annual Young Adult (targeting 14-25 year-olds) Winter Service Retreat. This winter, the 7th Annual WSR will be hosted by our parish with kids from all Orthodox jurisdictions invited to participate in a Spiritual retreat of learning, fellowship and serving the needy. To make their holiday season more meaningful, coats, blankets, children's clothing, special foods, toys and whatever else we collect is distributed to many St. George Food Pantry recipients who struggle just to get by another day.

Besides outreach to the entire Rio Grande Valley, our priest has started a Mission in Monterrey, Mexico and ministers to faithful and seekers in places like Nuevo Laredo, a border town three hours northwest of us. Because of current danger in traveling to Mexico, Fr. Antonio flies to some of these places to build on the work that he has begun. The goal is to have priests in both these locations within a few years, *yet two more reasons why Share the Faith's missionary priest fund for North America is so vitally important.* Due to limited funds though, much of Father's outreach is done by telephone and online, including three Spanish-language Orthodox email forums and a daily podcast in Spanish that can be heard on Ancient Faith Radio.

While our relatively small parish of 50 is learning how to sacrifice and give our best, with monies for our Food Pantry and various outreaches depleted, these ministries cannot continue unless and until we find adequate resources. A grant of \$1,000 per month can solve much, assisting our pastor and his dedicated Matushka Elizabeth to continue ensuring that Christ's Orthodox Church continues to offer spiritual and material food to suffering man. ½ of these funds would go to the Food Pantry, ¼ will be utilized for Spanish-language Outreach Efforts and ¼ will be dedicated to supplement our tireless pastor's relatively lower salary.

Thanking you for this consideration and praying you have great success for the sake of those in great need.

In Christ,

Judie Geil, Warden, Parish Council St. George Orthodox Church

***Orthodox Christianity : Traditional Worship & Traditional Values
Proclaiming True Christian Faith since 33 AD***