

REFLECTIONS

Guidelines for Parish Life

As the people of God we are called to the action of stewardship (management). We are stewards of God's creation by being good stewards of His household, His Church, His people.

Christ revealed a new relationship between God and us as that of a father to children. Under the fatherhood of God we become, brothers and sisters to each other. Just as candor and honesty prevail among the members of a family unit and result in rude self-awakening, falling away and coming together, so it is in the life of the parish. This is how the parish, like the family, is an arena of personal purification and salvation.

An Archbishop of the OCA

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PARISH ETIQUETTE

The Holy Orthodox Church is perhaps one of the last social institutions where dignity, protocol, respect and reverence are maintained.

This is primarily because when we come to the church and its services we are entering the Kingdom of God on earth, His habitation, and we choose to honor this sacred place by our attentiveness to what is proper and ordered.

We have the opportunity to reflect the image of Christ within us by our actions. “You are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation” (1 Peter 2:9).

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