



**Counter Schedule:**

	Council Member	2 <sup>nd</sup> Counter
Feb. 25	Paula	Joseph
Mar. 3	Rebecca	Svetlana
Mar. 10	Rebecca	Nancy
Mar. 17	Rebecca	Mike
Mar. 24	Rebecca	Stephanie
Mar. 31	Rebecca	Arlene
April 7	Ryan	Joseph

**Handmaidens at the wine and bread tables:**

	Right Side	Left Side
Mar. 3	Naomi	Joy
Mar. 10	Joy	Ava
Mar. 17	Ava	Naomi
Mar. 31	Joy	Ava
Apr. 7	Joy	Ava

**Prayer Corner:** Please send prayer requests to Rebecca Delp by text at (813) 763-5225, email at delp10290@yahoo.com or message Rebecca on facebook.

**Living:** Please pray for the ailing:  
 Mike, Stella, Amanda, Darla, Stacy, Bruce, Arlene, Laura, Nicole, Martha, Tim, Vilma, Dan, John, Sherrie, Chuck, Rick, Tony, Michelle, Jana, Roy, Erin, Cynthia, Rebecca, Stephanie, Denise, Steven, Nora, Keith, Kassey, Clay, and Alyssa, Lola, Chris, Andrea, Archie, Gwen, Robert, Celina, Amy, Christina, Robert, Soccorro, Travis, Charles, James, Maggie, Eli, Paula, Laura, Kyle, Carol, Sally, Avi, Jean, Ray, Pat, Rebeka, Barbara, Susan, Deborah, Joseph, Brandon, Rebekah, Pani Sue, Father Frederick, Lynn, Mollie, and Jennifer,

**Reposed:** Please pray for the departed:  
 John, George, Pavel, Subdeacon John, Jack, Nathaniel, PJ, Dorothy, Thomas, Kristy, Pani, Fr. Anastaje, Archbishop Vsevelod, Metropolitan Constantine, Harry, Mary, Marie Mary, Helen, Jeannette, Betty, Joe, Lucy, George, Fr. Martin, Sue, Vera, Michael, Ertelle, Cletus, Joshua, Sara, Dawn, and Jean.

**Christian Education:**

**Bible Study:**

A Bible Study meets on Wednesday evenings at the Fellowship Hall first and third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm. All are welcome to attend.

**Adult Christian Education:**

On the second Sunday of each month Father Frederick will pass out Icons of a Saint and explain the details of the Icon.

**Children’s Christian Education Classes:**

Children and Teens meet at the back of the Fellowship Hall. Teens will meet the first and third Sunday of each month, or as needed. All are welcome to attend whenever they can. Children ‘s Focus will be on the Divine Liturgy while the Teens will study The Ten Commandments. There are optional take home lessons and projects for interested teens.

**Fellowship:** If you can bring something for fellowship on Sunday, it would be appreciated. We will continue having a “Theme” of the week. If you have a suggestion place it in the box in the hall, on the dessert table.

Fellowship Themes:

- Mar. 3 – Potluck
- Mar, 10 - Meat fare
- Mar. 17 – Cheese fare
- Mar. 24 – Fasting Potluck
- Mar. 31 – Fasting Potluck
- Apr. 7 – Fasting Potluck

Please continue to bring in non-perishable food items and paper goods. The Fellowship Hall is in need of the following Items:

Luncheon size plates -Bowls

- Dessert size plates -Kleenex
- Snack bars -Coffee
- Toilet Paper -Gal. Baggies
- Paper towels -Qt..Baggies
- Garbage Bags, (33 gal. and 13 gal.)
- Bags of Chips

**Ministries:**

**Communications:**

Brian Delp is leader of the Communications Ministry, which includes the church website, Newsletter and videos of the Liturgy on U-tube. If you would like to join this ministry, contact Brian Delp during coffee hour.

**Connections:**

Jacob Beyea is leader of the Connections Ministry where he welcomes parish members and new guests to the Liturgy. He gives a newcomer a Liturgy Book and answers any questions they may have. Contact Jacob during the coffee hour if you would like to join this ministry.

**Out Reach Ministry:**

The Souper Bowl Sunday Project collected a total of \$572, which went to the IOCC, International Orthodox Christian Charities to help those worldwide who are most in need. Thank you for your generosity!

During March and the time of Great Lent, we will be collecting new baby items for the Plant City Pregnancy Center to support young mothers in need who decide to keep their children rather than choose abortion. The most needed items will be on handouts in the Narthex.

Our collection will culminate in The Center's Walk For Life. Holy Protection would like to have a nice number of members sign up for our Church Team. A sign-up sheet will be in the narthex. The walk will take place April 13, Saturday morning at the Pregnancy Center in Plant City. Walkers can raise money on their own or just join the team. A monetary collection will take place in early April.

There is usually a project every one or two months. Ideas and suggestions are welcome. If you would like to join this ministry, see Arlene Tonjes or Rebekah Becker during the Fellowship.

**M u s i c M i n i s t r y :**

If you would like to learn how they sound, [holyyorthodoxmusic.org](http://holyyorthodoxmusic.org)

- March 3 Tone 6
- March 10 Tone 7
- March 17 tone 8
- March 24 Tone 1
- March 31 Tone 2

# On Stewardship and the Orthodox Life

by Father Frederick Watson

## The Loyalty Test I

“Every tith of the land, whether of the seed of the land or of the fruit of the trees, is the LORD’s; it is holy to the Lord” (Leviticus 27:30)

In the beginning, so are we taught from the Book of Genesis, the Lord God set our first parents in the Garden of Eden. He surrounded them with everything they needed for their happiness and contentment. In that very garden, the same Lord God showed that He was the possessor of all things. He caused every tree that was pleasant to the eye to grow and provide good food. But among all the trees, God made one stand out from others. Of all the trees, Adam and Eve may eat, but of the One Tree, God said, “You shall not eat from it.” Here was the test of their gratitude and loyalty to God.

When the Law of God came to Moses, the same Lord God provided a way for His people to acknowledge Him as that Giver of all good things. God says, “Every tith of the land, whether of the seed of the land or of the fruit of the trees, is the LORD’s; it is holy to the Lord” (Leviticus 27:30). And “the people of Israel gave in abundance the first fruits of grain, wine, oil, honey,

Every tith of the land, whether of the seed of the land or of the fruit of the trees, is the LORD’s; it is holy to the Lord” (Leviticus 27:30). And “the people of Israel gave in abundance the first fruits of grain, wine, oil, honey,

and of all the produce of the field. they brought in abundantly the tithe of everything” (4 Kings 31:5). For His Old Testament people, God laid down the law of the tithe – one tenth of all that was received by God’s people during the year was to be returned to the owner of all good things, God Himself. Here was a test of their gratitude and loyalty to God.

For you and me, the same Lord God has given to us His richest treasure in the gift of His Son Jesus Christ. In Christ has come God’s plan for our salvation. In Christ has come the Church with all the means provided to gain salvation. With Jesus Christ, our Lord, God has gone even further. He has given us all things to enjoy. The produce of the earth, the bountiful harvest, the treasures of gold and silver – all are His gifts. Houses and land, food and clothing – all this God has placed in our possession. He asks us to acknowledge Him as the Giver of all good things. This is our test of gratitude and loyalty to God.

As New Testament people who enjoy the great abundance of these material and spiritual gifts, how do we pass this test of gratitude and loyalty now? The tithe was the Old Testament requirement. There was no refusal on the part of God’s Old Testament people. The legal test was there. It was 10% returned, or one faced expulsion from the community. Under the New

Testament Law of Love, how do we respond?

**P a r i s h   C o u n c i l :**

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