



The Four Circles of GOYA



WORSHIP (LITURGIA)

"Oh come, let us worship and bow down; Let us kneel before the Lord our Maker. For He is our God, And we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand." Psalm 95:6-7

As Orthodox Christians, we believe that God reveals Himself through Holy Tradition and Scripture. Worship is the living expression of these, and is therefore a very important element. It is necessary for us to be active participants in the liturgical life of the church.

GOYAns experience WORSHIP by:

- Actively participating in private and corporate prayer
- Actively participating in the Divine Services and Holy Sacraments of the Orthodox Church including Holy Confession and Holy Communion(not only Divine Liturgy, but the entire Cycle of Worship)
- Becoming familiar with different services of the Church and their role in the service (Paraklesis, Vespers, Compline, etc.)
- Praying for those who are sick or in need
- Becoming familiar with prayers for morning, evening & different occasions (the book of Psalms)
- Observing the Church calendar and prescribed Feasts and Fasts
- Learning the hymns of the Church and using them in prayer
- Offering readings, chanting or participating in the choir
- Serving as an Acolyte (Altar Boy)
- Reading the Bible and other religious writings



FELLOWSHIP (KOINONIA)

"So we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another." *Romans 12:5*

Fellowship is the way Orthodox Christians integrate their faith with daily life. It is sacred when Orthodox Christians gather together in the Lord's name. The relationship of the Holy Trinity is the perfect model of Fellowship—the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit share perfect communion and cooperate in perfect love with each other. By gathering together in fellowship and experiencing this love, we emulate the relationship of the Trinity and develop our life in Christ.

GOYAns experience FELLOWSHIP by:

- Participating in Church sponsored camps and retreat programs
- Participating in Church sponsored athletic programs, ethnic dancing, etc.
- Participating in Inter-Orthodox activities
- Watching films, videos, and multimedia presentations that can spark discussion
- Watching performances of religious productions, musicals, etc.
- Participating in day or overnight outings together
- Volunteering in the Church community and in the greater community
- Participating in group activities on various topics, books, movies, music, etc.
- Attending Church Services, GOYA Ministry gatherings, and other Church community related activities



SERVICE (DIAKONIA)

"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve ..."

Mark 10:45

Christ came to serve, not to be served. We are urged to do the same. We can honor and glorify God by loving and serving humanity in His name. We can use our God-given gifts to serve. For Orthodox Christians, service to God and community is a way of life; the way of living one's Faith. As Jesus Christ said, "Let your light so shine for men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:16). Service is an integral part of the Orthodox Christian's life. We need to inspire each other towards a life of service. How can we use our God-given gifts for service to the needy and service to those less fortunate? How can we be the people of God who respond to His call in Matthew 25:31-46, to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, visit those in prison? Responding to these human needs is the true meaning of service.

GOYAns experience SERVICE by:

- Offering their personal stewardship—giving of time, talents, and treasure—to both the Church community and the greater community charities
- Participating in work projects to beautify and maintain the Church community and greater community
- Outreaching to the elderly, the sick, the shut-ins, etc.
- Supporting and participating in missions abroad and at home
- Supporting Archdiocesan, Metropolitan and Church community
- Volunteering for a local soup kitchen or other community charities
- Working with younger ministry groups in the Church community and children in the greater community



WITNESS (MARTYRIA)

"For you will be His witness to all men of what you have seen and heard."

Acts 22:15

As humans we are both a spiritual and physical being. Unfortunately this spiritual reality is not always expressed in the material world. In order to be true to oneself and to the Orthodox Christian Faith, we should strive to exemplify the teachings of the Church. We are witnessing our faith when we are living as Christ taught us to live, letting Christ shine in all that we do to those around us. This is the true meaning of witness.

GOYans will experience WITNESS by:

- Learning about Christ's teachings and living them
- Learning about the Saints' great witness to the faith and imitating their example
- Finding answers to questions about the Orthodox Christian faith
- Making newcomers feel welcome
- Inviting a non-Orthodox friend to a Church service or event
- Making the sign of the Cross before every meal—no matter where we are
- Supporting and participating in mission work abroad and locally
- Maintaining Christian integrity in all areas of our lives
- Letting Christ's love shine in all we do