

Home Worship Guidelines:

“For where two or three are gathered in my Name, there I am also.” **Matthew 18:20**

As Orthodox Christians we all know the vital importance of gathering together and worshipping as an Orthodox Community. Yet during this very unique period of human history, we are forced to utilize modern technology as a means to participate in our Church Services.

So below you will find some guidelines to follow to make the best of the virtual service opportunities, as we all patiently wait for the opportunity to worship together again in person.

Streaming Church Services at Home:

1. This is “God’s Time”:
 - Prepare as you would before attending any Church Service: find some time for silent prayer and stillness before the service begins.
2. Location, Location, Location:
 - If possible, your viewing device (phone, laptop, tablet etc.) should be set up in a quiet location of your residence that can avoid distractions.
 - An Icon and a candle are also nice touches to add to this location to prepare for worship.
3. How do I look today?
 - Why do we dress up before going to church? It is not to impress others. But rather to show proper respect for worshipping our Lord and Savior – our King!
 - You do not need to worry about dressing formally at home. But streaming a church service while still in your PJ’s is also not the best way to spiritually prepare for worship.
4. How is your posture?
 - Are you lying in bed or on the couch? That posture does not promote a spiritual connection during the service.
 - As much as possible: make the sign of the cross, bow, stand and sit during the various parts of the service – as you would in church.
 - To keep spiritually connected and focused during any church service - whether in person in church or while streaming at home - PARTICIPATE!
5. Pay Attention!
 - Even during a regular church service we can get distracted. So do your best to pay attention during the service.
 - Don’t multi-task. Would you check your phone, send a text or do the dishes at church?
 - “Service Surfing” – a new phenomenon when you now can switch around between various church services being streamed. This should be avoided.
 - Put your attention on the one service you are streaming.

“Seek the Lord and His strength: seek His presence continually.” **1 Chronicles 16:11**

