

Gather my People to My Home
Come and See

See the world as God's gift to you.
See what the Church can become.
See God work through you.
Come and See.



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Icon by the hand of Athanasios Clark

Philip brings Nathaniel to Christ, telling him "Come and see."

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The Calling of the Disciples

...Philip finds Nathaniel, and said to him, “We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.” And Nathaniel said to him, “Can any good thing come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, **“Come and see”** (John 1:45-46).



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Each of us is also called to *Come and See* the One who brings us peace and understanding...

the One who came to be our great example in life...

the One who came to save our souls.



See the World as God's Gift to You

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Come and see God's many blessings in your life. What is your response to His gifts? In gratitude and thanksgiving, you offer your time, talents and treasure in proportion to what you have been given.

Gregory the Theologian writes, "You will never overcome God's generosity, even if you give away all that you have.... And however much you bring to him, always more remains. Nor will you give anything that is your own; for all things flow from God (Or 14.22)."



Gather my People to My Home

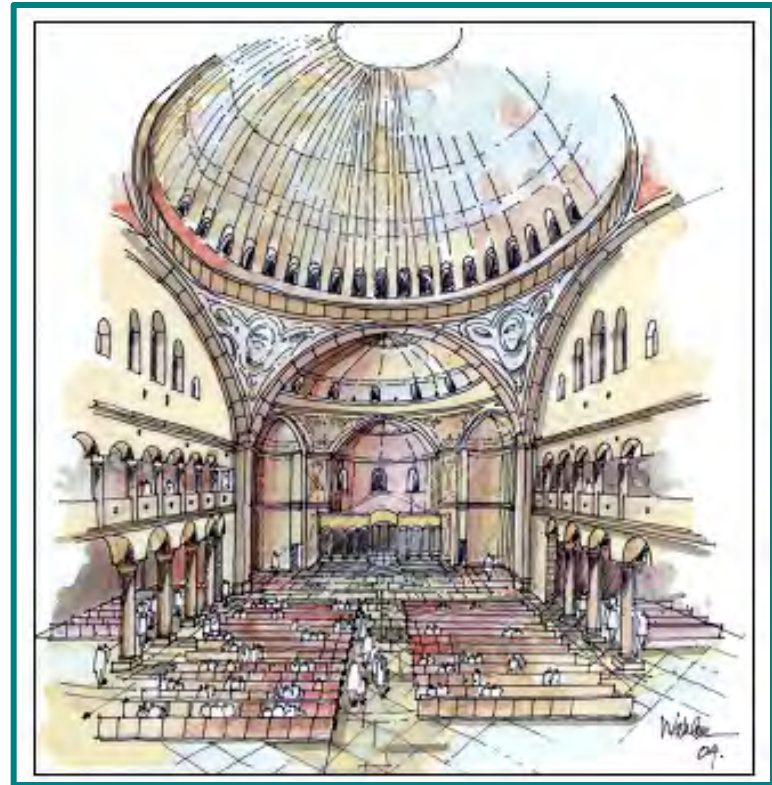
Come and See



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See What the Church can Become

Come and see what the Church can become not just maintaining current programs, but doing the ministries made possible by your support.



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In the early Church, every person coming to the gathering of the Church brought everything they could spare for the needs of the Church. They provided for the sustenance of the clergy, widows and orphans, for helping the poor, and for all the good works of the Church. This is the Church that we as Orthodox Christians claim to be.

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How much can your offering do for Christ? - Only as much as you empower it to do. It depends on your love, because we give to Christ and His Church not according to our means but according to our love for Him. We are called to love God with our entire being – our time, talents and treasury.



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See God Work through You

Come and see God work through
you to serve His Church
and those who seek His Truth.



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Remember the Samaritan woman at the well. After meeting Jesus “...The woman then left her water pot, and went her way into the city, and said to the men, Come, see a man who told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ? Then they went out of the city, and came to him” (John 4).

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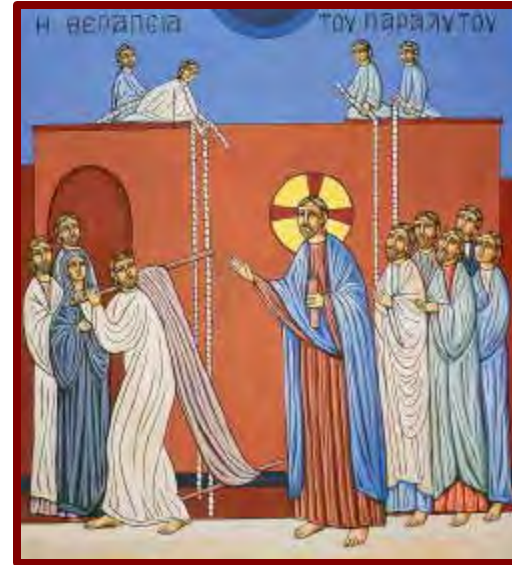
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God will place you in situations to share your faith. As He called upon His disciples on the day of His Ascension, He has also called upon you to be His witness“...in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

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In the Gospel, we read of people coming to see Jesus. There were four men who also brought their friend, a paralyzed man, to be healed. When they found the place so crowded that they couldn't get close, these friends removed part of the roof, and lowered their friend down on a stretcher and laid him at Jesus' feet.



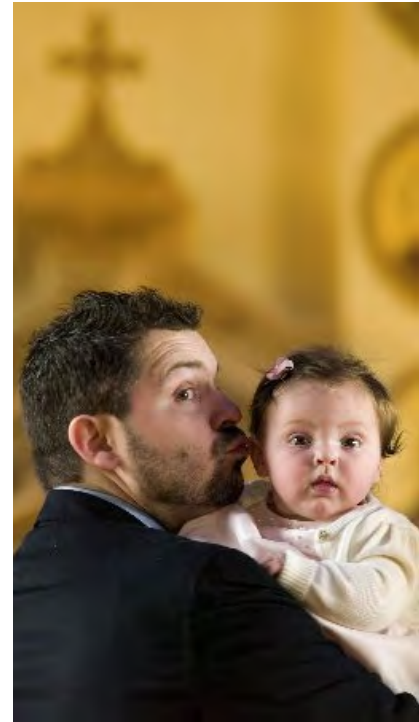
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We also begin by bringing ourselves to Christ. But it doesn't stop there. After we have brought ourselves, we bring others. The greatest gift we can give to another person is Christ, and the ministries of the Church provide the opportunity to do so. But these ministries require your support.

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We are able to fulfill God's mission for the Church only to the extent that we support it. We do this by our physical, spiritual and financial support. Did you know that there are some 500 references to prayer in the Bible? But there are some 2300 references in the Bible about committing to the Church to assist in transforming people.



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“Come and See”



This Phrase is simple yet powerful. It calls us to change our location – physically and spiritually. If we want to find salvation in Christ, we must move toward Him. We must grow and mature in our faith.

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Giving to the Church is an opportunity to examine our priorities and values, to express our thankfulness, to give of ourselves and to grow in grace. It is an opportunity to participate in the work of God. Come and see what we can do together with your support.

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Giving is not a substitute for our commitment – it is an expression of our commitment. Come and see how you can grow through service to the Church.



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**“Come and see
the works of God
Who is awesome.”**

(Psalm 66:5)