**MINISTRY SUNDAY PLANNING**

This overview will help you focus on the Ministries and help our faithful Stewards recognize how to identify their Talents.

First, the Priest, Parish Council and Stewardship Committee should meet and decide which ministries the parish may need help with or want to expand their support of. You will find a list on the website - not all encompassing, but a good start to generate a discussion (if there are any that you support and are not on this list, please let us know).

Second, beyond the ministries typically supported by the Orthodox Church, are there others that can become a focus of your parish? As we are ministerial in our work, what options are available outside of the Church (i.e. food pantry in your community)?

Third, each parish needs a plan to identify these ministries but most important, determine those who can support them with their Time and Talents. This is where the Ministry Sunday event is most helpful. For example, if the Clergy would benefit from a layperson assisting with Altar Boy training and schedule organization, he may assign a father of one of the Altar Boys to lead this role. The Time and Talents placed in the ministry will result in bountiful fruit from many perspectives.

Last, once you have completed a Ministry Sunday, you can develop an action plan and keep all the faithful Stewards apprised of the parish's progress related to works.

We've found that most parishes have implemented a Ministry Sunday once each year. Our hope is that if even one of our faithful parishioners can exercise his or her Time and Talents doing Christ's work, this will be a blessing for the entire parish.