

Epistle Readers.

Sometime before Sunday's Liturgy

1. Take some time to look over the reading for the upcoming Sunday.
 1. Do not use OCA or Antiochian sources to find out what will be read.
 1. They often have different Epistle readings from the Greek Archdiocese on Sunday mornings throughout the year. This is because of commemorations of local saints, and, in the case of OCA, the churches follow a different Typikon.
 2. A good source to use to find the appropriate reading will be the Archdiocese Website: http://www.goarch.org/resources/monthly_readings
 1. On the above site you can also subscribe to receive the daily readings by email throughout the year.
 3. After you've found the reading, read through it a couple of times.
 1. There may be unfamiliar names, or terminology: practice saying them out loud.

Sunday Morning

1. If you are unable to attend Orthros, then make sure that you arrive - at the very least -10 minutes before the start of Divine Liturgy. (9:20)
 1. The Epistle book is up front by the chanters.
 2. We will have the reading of the day marked.
2. Look through the book and find the assigned reading so that you are familiar with where it sits on the page. Also, look at the prokeimenon, and alleluia verses.
3. You will probably want to find a seat near the front.

During the Divine Liturgy

1. After the Little Entrance with the Gospel Book you should come forward and take up the Epistle book.
2. The choir will sing the appointed Apolytikia (the hymns of the day) and then the Trisagion Hymn (Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us 3x)
3. After the choir has sung "Glory to the Father... Now and ever..." The priest turns to the people to say: "Again, fervently!" The reader should approach the priest at this moment to receive his blessing to read the Epistle.
4. When the Choir has concluded the Trisagion the following dialogue occurs:
 1. Priest: Let us attend!
 2. Reader: *intones the prokeimenon while facing the altar*

3. Priest: Wisdom!
 4. Reader: The reading is from _____ (*while still facing the altar*)
 5. Priest: Let us be attentive!
 6. Reader: *Turns to face the people and reads or intones the Epistle*
 7. At the conclusion of the reading, reader again turns towards the altar.
 8. Priest: Peace be with you the reader.
 9. Reader: And with your spirit, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.
 10. Choir: Alleluia (3X)
 11. Reader: *Intones Alleluia Verse*
 12. Choir: Alleluia (3X)
 13. Reader: *Intones final Alleluia Verse*
 14. Choir: Alleluia (3X)
5. Place the Epistle book on the reader's stand, and listen to the Gospel.