



INTRODUCTION TO FIRST OFFERINGS IN THE DIVINE LITURGY



THE WORD “OFFERING” IS OFTEN ONLY THOUGHT OF IN MONETARY FUNDS. ALTHOUGH MONETARY FUNDS ARE IMPORTANT OFFERINGS IN THE CHURCH, IT IS IMPORTANT TO RECOGNIZE THAT OUR FIRST OFFERINGS FIRST STEM FROM OUR PARTICIPATION IN THE DIVINE LITURGY.

Light

It is custom in the Ukrainian Orthodox Church to light a candle as a way of saying “hello” to God when we enter Church. Light, after all, is the first thing that God created (Genesis 1:3), so it makes sense that Light is one of our first offerings to God in the church.



Fellowship: The Work of the People

Divine Liturgy stems from the Greek word “Θεία Λειτουργία” which means “the work of the people”. Our work as the gathering of God’s people is a first offering, and in a way, is a training for us to go out into the world and accomplish the great commission of Christ (Matthew 28:16-20).

Time

Time is a gift from God. Using our time on Sunday mornings to attend Matins and Divine Liturgy is an offering in of itself, and is one we should always commit to.

