



Vision Statement for our Ideal Future of the Church

We the participants of the 1st Youth Sobor envision our church of the future as a place where our main focus is on Christ and our faith, while not forgetting to honor our heritage. A place where our people encourage and pray for our clergy and our clergy are an active part of parish life. A place where religious education would not always be segregated by age and that all people would be well informed, educated Orthodox Christians about all aspects of our faith - who would then fully participate and live all of those aspects. A place where it is normal for there to be regular prayer and liturgical services, more than just on a Sunday. A place of peace. A place welcoming to all people, where converts will be given proper introduction to the Faith, respect is given to all people of every race and religion, and language is not a debate. A place where each generation takes the time to teach the upcoming generations the traditions of the church, which will build a strong parish community. A community that supports all life, exposes non-Orthodox to Orthodoxy and raises awareness about Orthodoxy which will bring to it the same respect within the secular world as others faiths. A community that begins by helping those outside of the church so that when we meet our Lord He will say to us, "for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in ; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me." (Matthew 25:35-36)

October 16, 2004

