

POLICY REGARDING ANY ABSENCE FROM YOUR PARISH

PLEASE REMEMBER to consider the following when planning any travel which would take you away from your parish.

A. You may not schedule to be away from your parish at the time of a Great Feast, during a Fast, or during the Diocesan Parish Life Conference, Archdiocesan Convention, Clergy Symposium.

B. Before you schedule to be away you are to ask the blessing of your Diocesan Bishop to absent yourself from your parish and inform him of the name of the priest who has agreed to cover your parish during your absence.

C. Should your travels take you outside the geographic boundaries of your Diocese but NOT outside the geographic boundaries of the Archdiocese of North America (which encompasses the U.S. and Canada), you are also to ask the blessing of the bishop(s) in whose diocese(s) you will be visiting, informing him/them that you have already secured the blessing of your Diocesan Bishop.

D. Should your travels take you outside the geographic boundaries of the Archdiocese of North America (which encompasses the U.S. and Canada), you are also to ask the blessing of Metropolitan Archbishop, informing him that you have already secured the blessing of your Diocesan Bishop, and requesting from him formal certification of your canonical orders which you must then present to any Orthodox hierarch in whose diocese you will be visiting.

E. If you are unable to secure the services of a brother Orthodox priest to serve divine services at your parish during your absence, and, instead, you assign a deacon or subdeacon or tonsured reader to lead the services, refer to the section entitled "Services Without a Priest Present" on the DOWAMA St Raphael Clergy Brotherhood's LITURGICAL WEB SITE at <http://litresswraoc.networks-now.net/Services.htm> A booklet containing text and rubrics for **"The Office of the Typika"** is available for purchase from our Archdiocesan Department of Publications at \$4 per copy plus s/h.

F. If you arrange for the Office of the Typika to be led by a deacon and you desire for him to commune himself and the faithful from the Reserved Sacrament which is kept in the artophorion on your holy table, you must first secure the blessing of your Diocesan Bishop for him to do so.