

WEEK 26: TOUCH - PRIEST BLESSING & ADDRESSING CLERGY

PRE-K - KINDERGARTEN

GOALS

How do we receive a blessing from a priest?
How do we address our deacon, priest, and bishop?
How do we address the wives of our deacon and priest?

LESSON

Let's Practice what to say and do when we see a deacon, priest, or bishop!

RECEIVING A BLESSING:

When you see a priest or bishop outside of a church service, you can approach them and ask them for a blessing. After doing so, the priest or bishop will trace the sign of the cross over you with their fingers positioned in a special way. (We do not ask for a blessing from a deacon, nor do we kiss his hand.)

When approaching a priest -

- Put your hands together in front of him (left hand on bottom, right hand on top)
- Ask for a blessing by saying, "Father bless."
- Wait until he gives you the blessing
- Then kiss his right hand

When approaching a bishop (or priest monk) -

- If you make a small prostration, do so without making the sign of the cross
- Then place your hands together as you would for a priest
- Ask for a blessing by saying, "Master bless."
- Wait until he gives you the blessing
- Then kiss his right hand

ADDRESSING A DEACON, PRIEST, OR BISHOP:

When you want to say, “Hi” to our deacon during fellowship hour at the hall, you can wave at him and say, “Good morning Deacon George!” or “Good morning Deacon!”

When you see our priest during fellowship hour at the hall, you can approach him, ask for a blessing, and then tell him, “Good morning Father Vasile!” or “Good morning Father!”

If our bishop is visiting us and he goes to our hall for fellowship hour, you can approach him, ask for a blessing, and then tell him, “Good morning Your Eminence!”

ADDRESSING THE WIVES OF OUR DEACONS AND PRIESTS:

When you see Deacon George’s wife during fellowship hour at the hall, you can smile and tell her, “Good morning Diakonissa Olympia!” or “Good morning Diakonissa!”
(Diakonissa /thee-a-kō-nee-sa/)

When you see Father Vasile’s wife during fellowship hour at the hall, you can smile and tell her, “Good morning Presvytera Mirela!” or “Good morning Presvytera!”
(Presvytera /prez-vee-té-ra/)

We have special names for the wives of deacons and priests because they play a big role in helping their husbands and we show respect for all that they do for them and us.

REVIEW:

- Let me see how you would hold your hands when you ask for a blessing from a priest or bishop.
 - If you saw our deacon in the hall, what would you say to him? (“Hi Deacon George.”)
 - If you saw our priest in the hall, what would you do? (Ask him for a blessing and then say, “Hi Father Vasile.”)
 - If you saw our bishop in the hall, what would you do? (Ask him for a blessing and then say, “Hi Your Eminence.”)
 - If you saw our deacon’s wife in the hall, what would you say to her? (“Hi Diakonissa Olympia.”)
 - If you saw our priest’s wife in the hall, what would you say to her? (“Hi Presvytera Mirela.”)
-



PLACE YOUR HANDS FOR A BLESSING
AND THEN
KISS FATHER'S HAND

WEEK 26: TOUCH - PRIEST BLESSING & ADDRESSING CLERGY

1ST - 2ND GRADE

GOALS

How do we receive a blessing from a priest?
How do we address our deacon, priest, and bishop?
How do we address the wives of our deacon and priest?

LESSON

Let's Practice what to say and do when we see a deacon, priest, or bishop!

RECEIVING A BLESSING:

When you see a priest or bishop outside of a church service, you can approach them and ask them for a blessing. After doing so, the priest or bishop will trace the sign of the cross over you with their fingers positioned in a special way. (We do not ask for a blessing from a deacon, nor do we kiss his hand.)

When approaching a priest -

- Put your hands together in front of him (left hand on bottom, right hand on top)
- Ask for a blessing by saying, "Father bless."
- Wait until he gives you the blessing
- Then kiss his right hand

When approaching a bishop (or priest monk) -

- If you make a small prostration, do so without making the sign of the cross
- Then place your hands together as you would for a priest
- Ask for a blessing by saying, "Master bless."
- Wait until he gives you the blessing
- Then kiss his right hand

ADDRESSING A DEACON, PRIEST, OR BISHOP:

When you want to say, “Hi” to our deacon during fellowship hour at the hall, you can wave at him and say, “Good morning Deacon George!” or “Good morning Deacon!”

When you see our priest during fellowship hour at the hall, you can approach him, ask for a blessing, and then tell him, “Good morning Father Vasile!” or “Good morning Father!”

If our bishop is visiting us and he goes to our hall for fellowship hour, you can approach him, ask for a blessing, and then tell him, “Good morning Your Eminence!”

ADDRESSING THE WIVES OF OUR DEACONS AND PRIESTS:

When you see Deacon George’s wife during fellowship hour at the hall, you can smile and tell her, “Good morning Diakonissa Olympia!” or “Good morning Diakonissa!”
(Diakonissa /thee-a-kō-nee-sa/)

When you see Father Vasile’s wife during fellowship hour at the hall, you can smile and tell her, “Good morning Presvytera Mirela!” or “Good morning Presvytera!”
(Presvytera /prez-vee-té-ra/)

We have special names for the wives of deacons and priests because they play a big role in helping their husbands and we show respect for all that they do for them and us.

REVIEW:

- Let me see how you would hold your hands when you ask for a blessing from a priest or bishop.
 - If you saw our deacon in the hall, what would you say to him? (“Hi Deacon George.”)
 - If you saw our priest in the hall, what would you do? (Ask him for a blessing and then say, “Hi Father Vasile.”)
 - If you saw our bishop in the hall, what would you do? (Ask him for a blessing and then say, “Hi Your Eminence.”)
 - If you saw our deacon’s wife in the hall, what would you say to her? (“Hi Diakonissa Olympia.”)
 - If you saw our priest’s wife in the hall, what would you say to her? (“Hi Presvytera Mirela.”)
-



**PLACE YOUR HANDS FOR A BLESSING
AND THEN
KISS FATHER'S HAND**

WEEK 26: TOUCH - PRIEST BLESSING & ADDRESSING CLERGY

3RD - 5TH GRADES

GOALS

How do we receive a blessing from a priest?
How do we address our deacon, priest, and bishop?
How do we address the wives of our deacon and priest?

LESSON

Let's Practice what to say and do when we see a deacon, priest, or bishop!

RECEIVING A BLESSING:

When you see a priest or bishop outside of a church service, you can approach them and ask them for a blessing. After doing so, the priest or bishop will trace the sign of the cross over you with their fingers positioned in a special way. (We do not ask for a blessing from a deacon, nor do we kiss his hand.)

When approaching a priest -

- Put your hands together in front of him (left hand on bottom, right hand on top)
- Ask for a blessing by saying, "Father bless."
- Wait until he gives you the blessing
- Then kiss his right hand

When approaching a bishop (or priest monk) -

- If you make a small prostration, do so without making the sign of the cross
- Then place your hands together as you would for a priest
- Ask for a blessing by saying, "Master bless."
- Wait until he gives you the blessing
- Then kiss his right hand

Why do we ask for a blessing? We do this because we are showing respect to our priest because he prepares and offers the Holy Gifts on our behalf as well as touches the Holy Body and Blood of Christ for all of us to receive. We also ask for a blessing out of humility. We have learned about many, many people in the Bible who humbly approached Christ

and we imitate their example by humbly and faithfully approaching our priests as well - for they are our spiritual fathers who guide us and are also icons of Christ.

We also kiss our priest's hand, without asking for a blessing, as we receive a piece of anathoron (blessed bread) from him at the end of the Divine Liturgy or after kissing the cross or Gospel book he is holding.

ADDRESSING A DEACON, PRIEST, OR BISHOP:

We do not simply call our deacons, priests, and bishops by their first names. All of them have been called to serve God and we show reverence for the role they play in our lives.

When you see our deacon in our fellowship hall, in the parking lot, or run into him at the grocery store, you can greet him by saying, “Hi Deacon George!” or “Hi Deacon!”

When you see our priest during fellowship hour in the hall, when he comes over to your house, or anywhere else you might see him, you can approach him, ask for a blessing, and then tell him, “Hi Father Vasile!” or “Good morning Father!”

If our bishop is visiting us and he goes to our hall for fellowship hour, you can approach him, ask for a blessing, and then tell him, “Good morning Your Eminence!”

ADDRESSING THE WIVES OF OUR DEACONS AND PRIESTS:

We have special names for the wives of our deacons and priests because they play an important role in helping and supporting their husbands. We also want to show our love and respect for all that they do for us as well.

When you see Deacon George’s wife during fellowship hour in the hall, you can smile and tell her, “Good morning Diakonissa Olympia!” or “Good morning Diakonissa!”
(Diakonissa /thee-a-kō-nee-sa/)

When you see Father Vasile’s wife during fellowship hour in the hall, you can smile and

tell her, “Good morning Presvytera Mirela!” or “Good morning Presvytera!”
(Presvytera /prez-vee-té-ra/)

REVIEW:

- Let me see how you would hold your hands when you ask for a blessing from a priest or bishop. How would you ask for a blessing from a priest or bishop? Do we ask a deacon for a blessing? (No)
 - If you saw our deacon in the hall, what would you say to him? (“Hi Deacon George.”)
 - If you saw our priest in the hall, what would you do? (Ask him for a blessing and say, “Hi Father Vasile.”)
 - If you saw our bishop in the hall, what would you do? (Ask him for a blessing and say, “Hi Your Eminence.”)
 - If you saw our deacon’s wife in the hall, what would you say to her? (“Hi Diakonissa Olympia.”)
 - If you saw our priest’s wife in the hall, what would you say to her? (“Hi Presvytera Mirela.”)
-



**PLACE YOUR HANDS FOR A BLESSING
THEN KISS FATHER'S HAND**

LESSON

Let's Practice what to say and do when we see a deacon, priest, or bishop!

RECEIVING A BLESSING:

When you see a priest or bishop outside of a church service, you can approach them and ask them for a blessing. After doing so, the priest or bishop will trace the sign of the cross over you with their fingers positioned in a special way. (We do not ask for a blessing from a deacon, nor do we kiss his hand.)

When approaching a priest -

- Put your hands together in front of him (left hand on bottom, right hand on top)
- Ask for a blessing by saying, "Father bless."
- Wait until he gives you the blessing
- Then kiss his right hand

When approaching a bishop (or priest monk) -

- If you make a small prostration, do so without making the sign of the cross
- Then place your hands together as you would for a priest
- Ask for a blessing by saying, "Master bless."
- Wait until he gives you the blessing
- Then kiss his right hand

Why do we ask for a blessing? We do this because we are showing respect to our priest because he prepares and offers the Holy Gifts on our behalf as well as touches the Holy Body and Blood of Christ for all of us to receive. We also ask for a blessing out of humility. We have learned about many, many people in the Bible who humbly approached Christ

and we imitate their example by humbly and faithfully approaching our priests as well - for they are our spiritual fathers who guide us and are also icons of Christ.

We also kiss our priest's hand, without asking for a blessing, as we receive a piece of anathoron (blessed bread) from him at the end of the Divine Liturgy or after kissing the cross or Gospel book he is holding.

ADDRESSING A DEACON, PRIEST, OR BISHOP:

We do not simply call our deacons, priests, and bishops by their first names. All of them have been called to serve God and we show reverence for the role they play in our lives.

When you see our deacon in our fellowship hall, in the parking lot, or run into him at the grocery store, you can greet him by saying, “Hi Deacon George!” or “Hi Deacon!”

When you see our priest during fellowship hour in the hall, when he comes over to your house, or anywhere else you might see him, you can approach him, ask for a blessing, and then tell him, “Hi Father Vasile!” or “Good morning Father!”

If our bishop is visiting us and he goes to our hall for fellowship hour, you can approach him, ask for a blessing, and then tell him, “Good morning Your Eminence!”

ADDRESSING THE WIVES OF OUR DEACONS AND PRIESTS:

We have special names for the wives of our deacons and priests because they play an important role in helping and supporting their husbands. We also want to show our love and respect for all that they do for us as well.

When you see Deacon George’s wife during fellowship hour in the hall, you can smile and tell her, “Good morning Diakonissa Olympia!” or “Good morning Diakonissa!”
(Diakonissa /thee-a-kō-nee-sa/)

When you see Father Vasile’s wife during fellowship hour in the hall, you can smile and

tell her, “Good morning Presvytera Mirela!” or “Good morning Presvytera!”
(Presvytera /prez-vee-té-ra/)

REVIEW:

- Let me see how you would hold your hands when you ask for a blessing from a priest or bishop. How would you ask for a blessing from a priest or bishop? Do we ask a deacon for a blessing? (No)
 - If you saw our deacon in the hall, what would you say to him? (“Hi Deacon George.”)
 - If you saw our priest in the hall, what would you do? (Ask him for a blessing and say, “Hi Father Vasile.”)
 - If you saw our bishop in the hall, what would you do? (Ask him for a blessing and say, “Hi Your Eminence.”)
 - If you saw our deacon’s wife in the hall, what would you say to her? (“Hi Diakonissa Olympia.”)
 - If you saw our priest’s wife in the hall, what would you say to her? (“Hi Presvytera Mirela.”)
-

WEEK 26: TOUCH - PRIEST BLESSING & ADDRESSING CLERGY

HIGH SCHOOL

GOALS

How do we receive a blessing from a priest?
How do we address our deacon, priest, and bishop?
How do we address the wives of our deacon and priest?



PLACE YOUR HANDS FOR A BLESSING
AND THEN
KISS FATHER'S HAND

LESSON

Let's Practice what to say and do when we see a deacon, priest, or bishop!

RECEIVING A BLESSING:

When you see a priest or bishop outside of a church service, you can approach them and ask them for a blessing. After doing so, the priest or bishop will trace the sign of the cross over you with their fingers positioned in a special way. (We do not ask for a blessing from a deacon, nor do we kiss his hand.)

When approaching a priest -

- Put your hands together in front of him (left hand on bottom, right hand on top)
- Ask for a blessing by saying, "Father bless."
- Wait until he gives you the blessing
- Then kiss his right hand

When approaching a bishop (or priest monk) -

- If you make a small prostration, do so without making the sign of the cross
- Then place your hands together as you would for a priest
- Ask for a blessing by saying, "Master bless."
- Wait until he gives you the blessing
- Then kiss his right hand

Why do we ask for a blessing? We do this because we are showing respect to our priest because he prepares and offers the Holy Gifts on our behalf as well as touches the Holy Body and Blood of Christ for all of us to receive. We also ask for a blessing out of humility. We have learned about many, many people in the Bible who humbly approached Christ

and we imitate their example by humbly and faithfully approaching our priests as well - for they are our spiritual fathers who guide us and are also icons of Christ.

We also kiss our priest's hand, without asking for a blessing, as we receive a piece of anathoron (blessed bread) from him at the end of the Divine Liturgy or after kissing the cross or Gospel book he is holding.

ADDRESSING A DEACON, PRIEST, OR BISHOP:

We do not simply call our deacons, priests, and bishops by their first names. All of them have been called to serve God and we show reverence for the role they play in our lives.

When you see our deacon in our fellowship hall, in the parking lot, or run into him at the grocery store, you can greet him by saying, “Hi Deacon George!” or “Hi Deacon!”

When you see our priest during fellowship hour in the hall, when he comes over to your house, or anywhere else you might see him, you can approach him, ask for a blessing, and then tell him, “Hi Father Vasile!” or “Good morning Father!”

If our bishop is visiting us and he goes to our hall for fellowship hour, you can approach him, ask for a blessing, and then tell him, “Good morning Your Eminence!”

ADDRESSING THE WIVES OF OUR DEACONS AND PRIESTS:

We have special names for the wives of our deacons and priests because they play an important role in helping and supporting their husbands. We also want to show our love and respect for all that they do for us as well.

When you see Deacon George’s wife during fellowship hour in the hall, you can smile and tell her, “Good morning Diakonissa Olympia!” or “Good morning Diakonissa!”
(Diakonissa /thee-a-kō-nee-sa/)

When you see Father Vasile’s wife during fellowship hour in the hall, you can smile and

tell her, “Good morning Presvytera Mirela!” or “Good morning Presvytera!”
(Presvytera /prez-vee-té-ra/)

REVIEW:

- Let me see how you would hold your hands when you ask for a blessing from a priest or bishop. How would you ask for a blessing from a priest or bishop? Do we ask a deacon for a blessing? (No)
 - If you saw our deacon in the hall, what would you say to him? (“Hi Deacon George.”)
 - If you saw our priest in the hall, what would you do? (Ask him for a blessing and say, “Hi Father Vasile.”)
 - If you saw our bishop in the hall, what would you do? (Ask him for a blessing and say, “Hi Your Eminence.”)
 - If you saw our deacon’s wife in the hall, what would you say to her? (“Hi Diakonissa Olympia.”)
 - If you saw our priest’s wife in the hall, what would you say to her? (“Hi Presvytera Mirela.”)
-



PLACE YOUR HANDS FOR A BLESSING
AND THEN
KISS FATHER'S HAND