

## Orthodox Potpourri, Fr. Evan Armatas, 1<sup>st</sup> Lecture

### 1. Session 1

#### a. Introduction

##### i. *What is in a name?* (Class names considered)

1. “Everything you wanted to learn in Introduction to Orthodoxy but were afraid to ask.”
2. “What your Yiayia told you and the truth”
3. “The odd but often interesting habits and traditions of the Orthodox Church”
4. Settled on: Orthodox Potpourri

##### ii. Class description

1. Open up the dialogue between priest and parishioner in a classroom setting.
2. Address subjects of interest to me and to others that are normally left on the side.
  - a. Such as pizza crusts.
  - b. We tend to eat the first bits of pizza and leave or cast aside the crusts.
    - i. funny feeling or firm belief that it is the crusts that may be the tastiest part.
3. This being said, consider two areas:
  - a. A little problem/pickle many of us may find ourselves in.
    - i. Namely,
      1. *I am Orthodox but what does that mean?*
        - a. *In other words, what does it mean to be an Orthodox Christian every day?*
          - i. *Is it really that different?*
      - ii. Many of us can claim Orthodoxy as something that has been a part of our lives from the beginning.
      - iii. For others, this exotic, often exhilarating world of Orthodoxy is as fresh and new to us.
        1. Consider the following analogy:
          - a. Being raised Orthodox and having spent years in Church it was only recently they came to realize the great depth of the faith they inherited.
          - b. They described it as a well, that keeps giving up fresh water.



c. Expectations

- i. One, discussion and curiosity
- ii. Two, honesty.
  1. Cannot answer questions you don't ask
- iii. Three, notes.
  1. May not have readings assigned but I am not sure.
- iv. Four, humor and fun
  1. True qualities of the godly life.
    - a. The seminary: one of the most serious and most funniest places and so are healthy monasteries.

d. Syllabus/Calendar

- i. Next week or the week after you will receive one.
- ii. *Why?*
  1. Because you have the opportunity to create it by your questions.

2. For discussion:

- a. *Open?*
- b. Altar Table
- c. Icons
- d. Vestments