

Advance Reading for *Community-Minded Leadership: Dare Great Things*

Continuing Clergy Education Thursday June 17, 2021

Almost twenty years ago, Fr Thomas Hopko wrote a study paper for the 13th OCA All-American Council, entitled [“The Orthodox Parish in North America.”](#) In his words, *“The purpose of this paper is ... to examine our parish life, rejoice and give thanks for the godly aspects of our communities and enable us to see the shortcomings as challenges and opportunities to strengthen and grow our life in Christ.”* **This paper is recommended to be read in advance by the participants in our next continuing education session on June 17 (Third Thursday).**



In that session next week, Protodeacon Peter Danilchick, author of [Thy Will Be Done](#), will lead us through **the basics of Christian leadership and the “why and what” of parish strategic planning** in which we seek to discover and fulfill God’s will for our parishes and the people they serve. (The **“how to”** of strategic planning will be reserved for the second session on July 15.) Fr Thomas’s paper serves as a wonderful “setting the stage” for us to think about our roles as Christian leaders and the need to plan appropriately. As Fr Thomas once said: “The parish which fails to plan strategically, plans to fail strategically.”

Don’t miss this opportunity to learn and to be inspired. If you haven’t done so already, **register [here](#).**