# **Attitudes:**

1. **Love –** Leadership is both defined and refined in and by love.Good leaders see each person as a child of God for us to focus on, care for, and love.
2. **Humility and Gratitude (toward God) –** Orthodox leaders realize their gifts and blessings come from the grace of God.
3. **Conciliar –** Leadership in Orthodoxy must be exercised in a conciliar environment.Leaders express their opinions while also fostering dialogue and seeking multiple perspectives and consensus on future direction.
4. **Authentic – Good leaders are uniquely and authentically themselves.** "Being" comes before "doing." Clergy and lay leaders are WHO they are in God's eyes and not someone else.
5. **Gratitude (toward others) –** Say thank you often. Acknowledging and appreciating the efforts of others helps people to contribute more and better.
6. **Hopeful –** Leaders help the parish to hope. It counteracts denial, resistance and “ruts”. Hope generates the feeling that deeper human desires can be fulfilled.
7. **Empathy** **–** Leading means listening, influencing and engaging. Leaders consistently improve their relationships with people, look at issues from their perspective. They give the benefit of the doubt.They presume positive intentions of others.
8. **Continue to Grow/Improve** **–** Leaders are not at rest with their own skills and competencies. They look for ways to improve.
9. **Discern God’s Will – Leaders understand the importance of and strive to discern God’s will for their parish through various means.**
10. **Excellence Oriented –** Leaders define excellence and push for it.They establish what right looks like and inspire pursuit of same. They dislike mediocrity.

# **Abilities:**

1. **Delegate – Good leaders** have the ability and confidence to delegate **tasks to others. When delegating, they express desired results without micromanaging. (‘What’ not ‘How’.)**
2. **Communication** **–** Leaders communicate clearly, openly and regularly. They work to create an environment of **honest and open communications** without the fear of retribution. They get others to talk and they listen. They actively seek opinions on the margins of the parish.
3. **Nurture Community –** Leaders work to build trust, and collaboration among the priest, the parish council, and the parish. They promote calm, harmony, peace.
4. **Stimulators** **–** Leaders add positive energy, urgency and intelligent risk taking to parish situations and the parish future. They are dissatisfied with the status quo.
5. **Set an Example –** Realizing they are seen by other parishioners as exemplars and as such are evaluated by their behavior, attitude and actions, leaders work to model good Orthodox Christian behavior. *They come to church. (Vespers, feast days and (virtually) every Sunday.) They maintain good sacramental standing.*
6. **Select Priorities –** In the context of an overarching vision, leaders articulate a clear set of parish prioritiesthat guide parish actions.
7. **Lessons Learned –** In general, mistakes are proof that something is being done[[1]](#footnote-1). If everything has always been done perfectly, the ability to review and improve is lost. Good leaders are wise enough to learn from every experience.
8. **Actively Participate –** Don't just give orders, help.
9. **Develop Others – Good leaders are coaches and mentors.** They find **personal satisfaction i**n the growth and progress of others and **seeing them succeed.** Leaders are the ones who empower people to discover and use their greatest potential. They work to build personal initiative among parishioners.
10. **Act –** Much talking and little acting is ineffective. What people see affects them many times greater than what they hear. Good leaders move from plan to actions avoiding endless conversation.

1. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)