

2020 Vision - In Hindsight

Selected Facts, Figures & Ministry Ideas in the COVID-19 Environment

Bill Marianes

Bill@stewardshipcalling.com



Helping people and parishes discover and live their stewardship callings so that they may have a good account before the awesome judgment seat of Christ

www.stewardshipcalling.com



**ORTHODOX
MINISTRY
SERVICES**

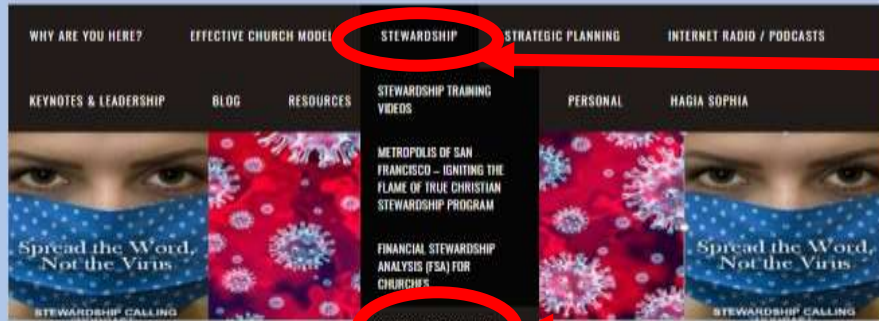
Helping transform and improve Orthodox Church parishes, organizations, and ministries in order to strengthen the Body of Christ.

www.orthodoxministry.org/

You can download this presentation at:
www.stewardshipcalling.com

Stewardship Calling

What are you doing with all of the gifts God has given you?



2020 GOA Clergy Laity Stewardship &

Here is the Short COVID-19 Stewardship
Clergy Laity Congress:

[POWERPOINT PRESENTATION - COVID-19 AND OTHER
DISRUPTIVE CRISES IMPACT ON PARISH STEWARDSHIP](#)



Check out this Stewardship Calling
podcast for extensive content on
things parishes should do in the face
of any crisis:

[BEST PRACTICES FOR PARISHES IN THE FACE OF COVID-19 OR OTHER
DISRUPTIVE CRISES PODCAST](#)

10 Areas and Resources for Parish Action in Times of COVID-19 - (abbreviation of full
script)

Under the Stewardship
Tab go to the:
2020 GOA Clergy Laity
Stewardship & COVID-19
page at
<https://stewardshipcalling.com/2020-go-clergy-laity-stewardship-covid-19/>

Written detailed
documentation of things
parishes can do and a full
podcast transcript

Send questions to: Bill@stewardshipcalling.com

A Typical Church Response To A Crisis

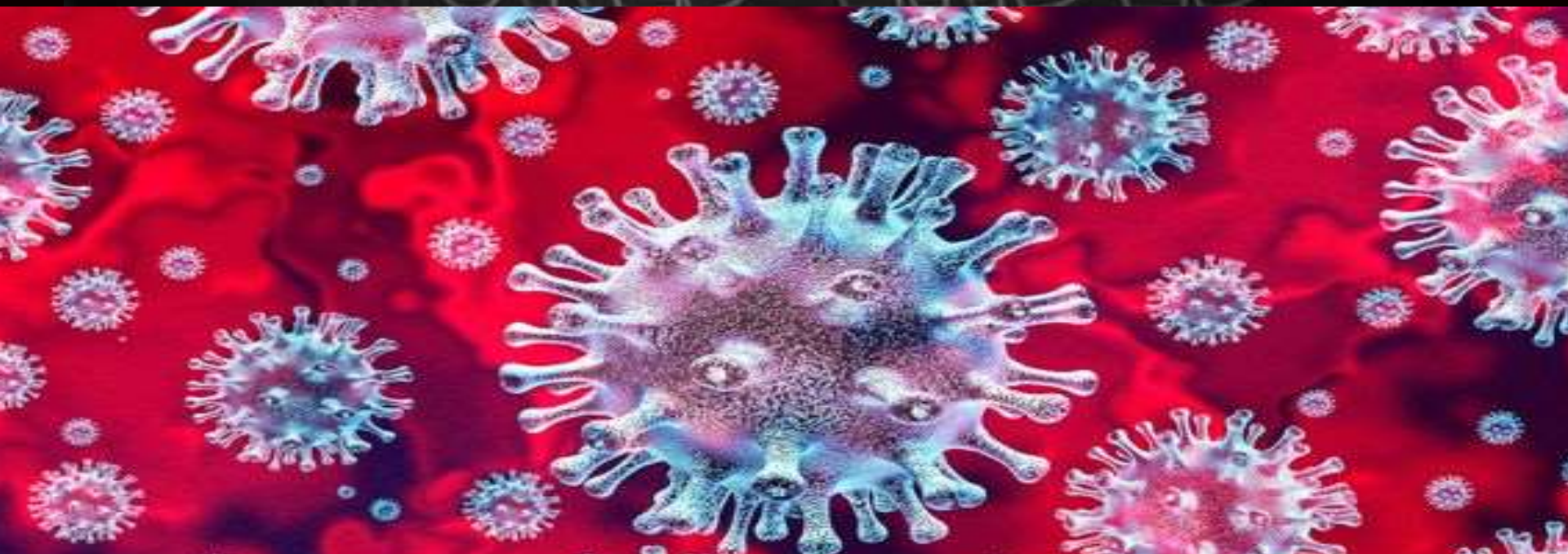


50% of the
parishioners

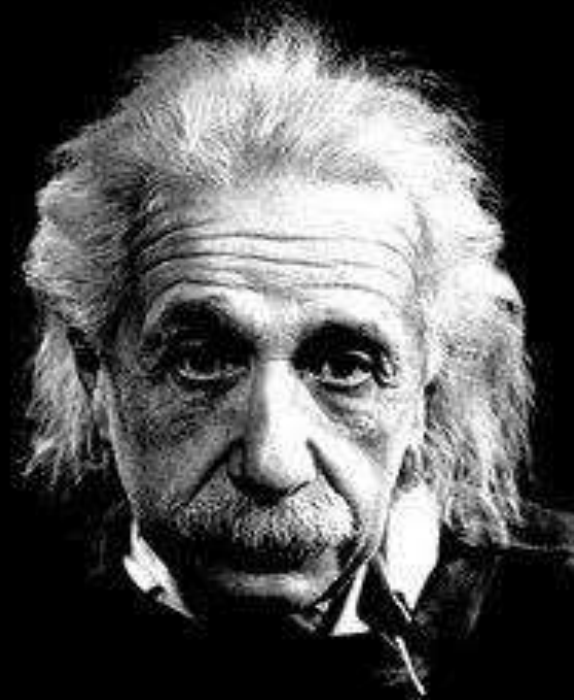
the other 50%

JAMES H. NICHOLSON and SAMUEL Z. ARKOFF
present

DAY THE WORLD ENDED



"WE CANNOT
SOLVE OUR
PROBLEMS
WITH THE SAME
THINKING WE
USED WHEN WE
CREATED THEM"





Pandemic Empirical Data^{1 2}



- ~ By early March 2020¹, 59% of Christians who typically attended church at least monthly said they were going less often in person because of the virus, and 40% shifted to virtual attendance
- ~ By August, 2020², 91% of Americans who watched services online were either “very” (54%) or “somewhat” (37%) satisfied with the experience
- ~ 92% of respondents who previously said they went to services at least once or twice a month said they will attend physical services at least as often as before, once the pandemic is fully behind them

¹ “Most Americans Say Coronavirus Outbreak Has Impacted Their Lives” – Pew Research Center **March 30, 2020** <https://www.pewsocialtrends.org/2020/03/30/most-americans-say-coronavirus-outbreak-has-impacted-their-lives/>

² Will the coronavirus permanently convert in-person worshippers to online streamers? They don't think so. - Pew Research Center **August 27, 2020** <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2020/08/17/will-the-coronavirus-permanently-convert-in-person-worshippers-to-online-streamers-they-dont-think-so/>

Top 10 Lessons Learned From COVID-19 & Other Crises

1. Crises out of our control WILL happen. So, it's critical to have a comprehensive, written Crisis Preparedness Plan. (WIN = write it now)



*“The best time
to plant a tree
was 20 years
ago.*

*The second best
time is today.”*



Old Chinese Proverb

Top 10 Lessons Learned From COVID-19 & Other Crises

2. A church that does not have a fully enculturated stewardship of generosity program will suffer more significantly.
3. A tithing parish does not suffer as much.
4. When a typical GOA parish is impacted or closed, it should budget losing between 40% - 50% of its income during that period (on top of their Stewardship income declines)!
[**≈ 28%** loss of “Non-Orthodox income” (e.g., festivals and rentals) + **≈ 20%** loss of “Disguised Stewardship” parishioner nickel and diming (e.g., candles, trays, fundraisers, misc. donations)]



Top 10 Lessons Learned From COVID-19 & Other Crises



- 5. You must have an easy online giving platform because a high percentage of stewards will give online, and it substantially increases your yield and reduces your losses from any disruption.**
(e.g., 49% of all church giving is made with a credit/debit card, and 60% of parishioners are willing to give to their church digitally)
- 6. You must offer as many online and virtual services, ministry events /activities, small group events, etc. as possible. So, have the infrastructure, accounts and systems in place and tested well in advance.**
- 7. Be creative!!!!** (“Corona contribution challenge,” virtual coffee hours & camps, food collections and deliveries, rides, personalized candle contributions, drive-thru festivals, etc.)



Top 10 Lessons Learned From COVID-19 & Other Crises



- 8. Staying in personal contact with all parishioners and their needs (especially impacted / vulnerable ones) is more critical than ever (and not just by email).**
- 9. The more your ministries can function during the crises, the more engaged your faithful remain, the more your church fulfills its mission, and the more generosity will be reinforced and inspire even greater generosity.**
- 10. You must always have a financial reserve and cushion for just such emergencies. (practice the “10/10/80 rule” or “Give Save Live”)**



ANCIENT FAITH RADIO

Bringing the Ancient Christian Faith to the Modern World

Ancient Faith Ministries

BILL MARIANES

REVITALIZE STEWARDSHIP IN
YOUR PARISH AND PERSONAL LIFE

A STEWARDSHIP CALLING



Ancient Faith
PODCASTS

COVID-19 BEST PRACTICES FOR PARISHES

“When the COVID-19 pandemic is just the story that we tell, what will be the story you tell?”

Spread The Word, not the virus.”

https://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/stewardshipcalling/spread_the_word_not_the_virus



April 1, 2020



Selected Additional Orthodox COVID-19 Church Resources¹



- ~ **Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops - Coronavirus Resource Center:**
<http://www.assemblyofbishops.org/covid19/>

- ~ **GOA Coronavirus Resource Center:**
<https://www.goarch.org/covid19>

- ~ **OCA Resources for Coronavirus Outbreak:**
<https://www.oca.org/resources-coronavirus>

- ~ **Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese:**
<https://www.antiochian.org/dashboard?name=COVID-19>

¹ These resources are offered without endorsement and not as the provision of medical or legal advice



Selected Other COVID-19 Church Resources¹



~Barna Research Group Pulse Weekly:

<https://churchpulseweekly.org/>

~ Vanderbloemen - Church Resources For Navigating

COVID-19:**<https://www.vanderbloemen.com/covid19>**

~ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - Community
and Faith-Based Organizations:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019ncov/community/organizations/index.html>

~ Coronavirus and the Church:

<https://coronavirusandthechurch.com/>

~ Church of the Nativity Covid-19 Resource Packet: **[https://
www.rebuiltparish.com/offers/pyqTgRmv/checkout](https://www.rebuiltparish.com/offers/pyqTgRmv/checkout)**

¹ These resources are offered without endorsement and not as the provision of medical or legal advice

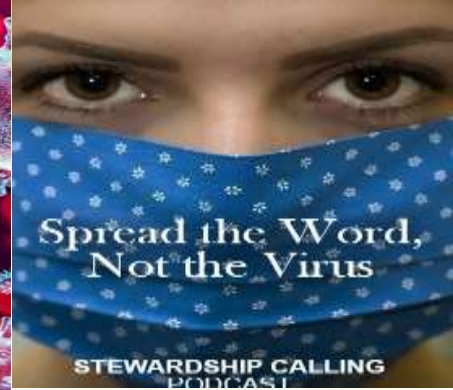
**“Leaders of a Church will
either be risk takers,
caretakers or undertakers.”**



Pastor Rick Warren



When COVID-19 is just the story that you tell, what will be the story that you and your parish tells?



2020 Vision - In Hindsight

Selected Facts, Figures & Ministry Ideas in the COVID-19 Environment

Bill Marianes

Bill@stewardshipcalling.com



Helping people and parishes discover and live their stewardship callings so that they may have a good account before the awesome judgment seat of Christ

www.stewardshipcalling.com



**ORTHODOX
MINISTRY
SERVICES**

Helping transform and improve Orthodox Church parishes, organizations, and ministries in order to strengthen the Body of Christ.

www.orthodoxministry.org/