



# What IS Orthodox Christianity?

**Lecture 3: 24 May 2016 @ 7pm**

## What is the Church?

*Sacrament, Theosis and the Body of Christ*

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Speaker: *Fr. Theodore Dorrance*

Fr. Theodore is originally from Denver, CO. He converted to the Orthodox Christian faith during his college years and married Aspasia Maniatis in 1985. He and Presvytera Stacey now have four children and four grandchildren.

Fr. Theodore attended Colorado University and graduated with a BS in Organizational Management and Human Resources. He then worked in the corporate world for a short time before attending Holy Cross School of Theology, graduating from there in 1990 with a Masters of Divinity.

In September 1991, Fr. Theodore was ordained to the Orthodox priesthood. He and his family served in Oakland, CA, for two years and then at St. Katherine in Redondo Beach, CA, for four years. In 1997, with the blessing of Metropolitan Anthony, of blessed memory, the Dorrance family relocated to the Portland area to help found the parish of St. John the Baptist.

In addition to serving St. John the Baptist, Fr. Theodore is a member of the Metropolis Council and is the President and Director of the Commission of Orthodox Missions and Evangelism (C.O.M.E.), the missions and outreach ministry of the Metropolis of San Francisco.

Lecture content:

- What is a sacrament? And how is the Orthodox understanding of sacrament different from the western idea of symbol?
- What is the purpose of the sacraments?
- *What is God's ultimate purpose for the human person?*
- And what *is* the Church, the mystical "Body of Christ"?

*All Are Welcome!*