Cultivating a Christ-Centered Family Culture

Not a perfect family—a family continually learning to return to Christ and to one another.

COMMUNION
We belong to one another.

Shared meals • prayer & Liturgy • face-to-face time • stay curious

GRACE
Loved before we perform.

Separate person from behavior • avoid comparison • affection after failure

ATTUNEMENT
Your inner world matters.

Listen before fixing • name feelings • validate emotion • ask what happened inside

HUMILITY
I can be wrong.

Apologize • admit mistakes • ask forgiveness • allow respectful disagreement

REPAIR & FORGIVENESS
Conflict need not end communion.

Return after calming • take responsibility • make amends • reconnect

DIFFERENTIATED LOVE
Close without being the same.

Respect boundaries • allow differences • reduce rescuing • calm I-positions

JOY & GRATITUDE
We notice the gift.

Celebrate • laugh • feast days • stories • traditions • gratitude aloud

MERCY & SERVICE
Our family exists beyond itself.

Hospitality • serve together • pray for others • care for those who struggle

THE TELOS OF THE ORTHODOX FAMILY

To become a "little church"—a home increasingly shaped by Christ, where love, prayer, repentance, forgiveness, healing, and communion form its members toward the Kingdom.

A peek ahead: In what ways does the emotional culture of the "family system" potentially impact the emotional culture of the "parish system"?

Icon image: Christ the Good Shepherd (Byzantine Church Supplies)