

# The Forerunner

St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church

301 Struthers Liberty Rd Campbell, OH 44405 OCA - Diocese of the Midwest



#### OCTOBER BULLETIN SPONSOR

Sue Kennedy in memory of Robert on the occasion of their Anniversary

#### Weekly Liturgical & Events Schedule

Sunday, October 29

9:35 AM: Hours

10:00 AM: Divine Liturgy / Presentation by Fr. Andrew & Deacon James / Social by Reader Nick & Monica

Vansuch / Festival Meeting

Monday, October 30 6:00 PM: Orthodoxy 101

Wednesday, November 1

6:30 PM: City Council Meeting (open to public)

**Thursday, November 2** 11:00 AM: Book Club

**Saturday, November 4** 4:00 PM: Bible Study

6:00 PM: Vespers / Confessions

**Sunday, November 5** 9:35 AM: Hours

10:00 AM: Divine Liturgy / Social by "O" Club

# Galatians 2:16-20 (Epistle)

knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified. But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is Christ therefore a minister of sin? Certainly not! For if I build again those things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

# SIGN-UP / VOLUNTEERS FOR SOCIALS

It has been customary that the "O" Club, Sisterhood, & council sponsor the coffee socials.

We are asking for individuals or families to please sponsor a social on a rotating basis. With enough volunteers, the rotation of sponsors could be once a quarter. Even though the above groups take a particular Sunday, getting a break would be nice.

Bagels, donuts and coffee is perfectly fine. A simple meal is perfectly fine.

Please see Fr. Andrew so he can put you on a schedule.

As of right now on any given month:
First Sunday "O" Club
Second Sunday Council
Third Sunday Sisterhood
Fourth Sunday Open

Fifth Sunday Open (when applicable)



#### SINGERS NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING

The City of Campbell has asked our parish if we would lead the singing at this year's

Christmas Tree Lighting which will take place on Sunday, December 3rd @ 3:00pm.

It will be all American Christmas carols & it will be a sing along. They said singing will be for 10 to 15 minutes. If interested, please sign up with Dr. Nicoloff. Thank you.

Office: 330-755-4931 / Cell: 570-212-8747

https://www.stjohnthebaptist-campbell.org/

padrebartek@gmail.com

#### PLEASE KEEP OUR SHUT-INS IN YOUR PRAYERS

Send a "Thinking of You" card or remember their Birthday with a card. If anyone needs to be added, please contact Fr. Andrew.

# Metropolitan Council approves recommendation for 2% employer contribution increase

On October 11 and 12, the Metropolitan Council of the Orthodox Church in America met in person, under the presidency of His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon, to resume the Regular Fall 2023 Session, which began on September 28 via teleconference.

Wednesday, October 11, was dedicated exclusively to a discussion of the OCA Pension Plan with the participation of the Pension Board. In the morning, and in accordance with the resolution approved at the 20th All-American Council—"That professional third party benefit plan administrative training should be provided to the Metropolitan Council and the Pension Board and the Officers of the church"—the two bodies welcomed Mr. James Heinzman, CPA, CFP, partner at Schultheis & Panettieri, LLP, who offered a presentation on defined benefit pension plans followed by general comments on the OCA Pension Plan.

In the afternoon, the Metropolitan Council resumed its Regular Fall 2023 Session welcoming His Eminence Archbishop Daniel, Episcopal Moderator, the Pension Board, and the Pension Plan Administrator, Mr. Michael Stieglitz.

The Metropolitan Council heard the report of the Pension Board on the state of the Pension Plan, its funding status, compliance levels, cash flow analysis, investments performance, and administrative expenses. From the report received, the Pension Board noted that the Plan is currently solvent and continues to pay benefits regularly. Nonetheless, there was full agreement that measures must be undertaken urgently to guarantee its future.

The Pension Board made the recommendation to continue the \$9.000/month contribution from the Central Administration to the Pension Plan to offset administrative costs, which began on January 1, 2023, by the decision of the Metropolitan Council at its Regular Fall 2022 Session. Further, the Pension Board recommended an additional 2% in employer contribution in line with the decision of the Metropolitan Council at its Regular Fall 2022 Session. According to that decision, the Council resolved "To approve a 2% increase of employer contributions for participants in the OCA Pension Plan effective January 1, 2023 and an additional 2% increase effective January 1, 2024, subject to review of parish compliance of participation in the OCA Pension Plan at the regular Fall 2023 Session of the Metropolitan Council."

Having received and considered the report and recommendation of the Pension Board, the Metropolitan Council approved its recommendation to continue the \$9,000 contribution in 2024, and to raise the employer contribution level from 12% to 14% beginning on January 1, 2024.

As such, all parishes and institutions of the Orthodox Church in America Con't pg 4

## PRAYER LIST- Updated 10-24-23

**PARISHIONERS:** Achiles Arvan / Audrey Chengelis / George Horodnic / Irene Horodnic / Pauline Fesz / Mary Fredericks / Paula Kennedy / George Kolesar / Barbara Kolesar / Mary Jane Puskas / Kenny Ruff / Dorothy Shirilla / Julia Simko / Marion Zwinski / Mary and her newborn Emilia

FAMILY & FRIENDS: Archbishop Benjamin / Archbishop Alexander / Archbishop Melchizedek / Bishop Matthias / Fr. James Gleason (Fr.) / Sub-deacon Wylie Meath (Fr) / Bret (Zelinsky) / Dominic (Centofanti) / Ellen (Clark) / Katie (Garrity) / Basil Glovinsky (Fr.) / Mark Hruban (Fr.) / Ellen (Kessler) / Eleanor Marie (Kidder) / Paul (Kolesar) / Kathy (Kolesar) / Malakai (Kolesar) / Joe Kollar (Fr.) / Andrew LaChard (Jesko) / Mea (Mahan) / Mary (Mahan) / Pauline Meath (Fr.) / Matushka Raissa (Nicoloff) / Eugene (Pallai) / Ksenia and her unborn child (Petrochko) / Matushka Helen (Psinka) / Chris Quotap (Fr.) / Kristianna & infant Mary Louise (Robinson) / William Romanchak (Fr.) / Roxanne (Yannitto) / Julia (Shirilla) / Katherine (Steffaro) / Johanna (Tusinac) / Richard (Tusinac) / Brian (Shirilla) / Joseph (Vansuch) / Eleanor Marie (Vansuch) / Paula (Voytilla) / Mary Ann Bozichovich (Kennedy) / Patty Bozichovich (Vansuch) / Drew (Willison) / Emilia Yannitto / Zoland Zile, (Fr.)

MILITARY FAMILY & FRIENDS: Cory Deaton (Fr.) / Alena Grabavoy (Fr.) / Liam Garrity (Zelinsky)

MISCELLANEOUS: Metropolitan Paul (Orthodox Diocese of Aleppo) & Archbishop John (Archdiocese of Aleppo) still being held captive / The UN & IOCC humanitarian aid workers around the world / Those suffering persecution in Syria, Iraq, Israel, Egypt, Ukraine and around the world.

#### Monastic Martyr Anastasia of Rome / Commemorated on October 29

The Monastic Martyr Anastasia the Roman lost her parents when she was three years old, and was taken to be raised by the Igoumeness of a women's monastery, whose name was Sophia, a nun who had attained a high degree of spiritual perfection. She raised Anastasia in fervent faith, in the fear of God, and obedience. After seventeen years, Anastasia became known as a great ascetic, and she was very beautiful.

The Emperor Decius (249-251) began his persecution of Christians at that time. The city administrator, Probus, following the Emperor's orders, commanded that Anastasia be brought to him. Blessed by her Igoumeness to suffer for Christ, the young martyr Anastasia went out to meet the armed soldiers. Seeing her youth and beauty, Probus first tried flattery to make her deny Christ.

"Why do you waste your youth deprived of pleasure?" he asked. "What is to be gained by enduring tortures and death for the Crucified? Worship our gods, marry a handsome husband, and live with glory and honor."

While Saint Anastasia stood before the ruler, her mind stood before Christ, and with her spiritual eyes, she beheld the comeliness of her Bridegroom.

The Saint replied, "My spouse, my riches, my life and my happiness are my Lord Jesus Christ, and you cannot turn me away from Him by your deceit!"

Probus had her stripped of her clothing, in order to humiliate her. She told him, "You can have me whipped, beaten, and cut to pieces, and then my nakedness will be hidden by my wounds, and my blood will cover my shame."

Probus subjected Anastasia to horrible tortures. The holy martyr bravely endured all of them, glorifying and praising God. When she became thirsty she asked for some water, and a Christian named Cyril gave her a drink. She thanked him, but Probus had him beheaded.

Then her tormentors cut off her breasts and ripped out her tongue, while an Angel held her upright. When the people witnessed the inhuman and disgusting treatment the Saint received, they became indignant, and Probus was forced to end the tortures by having her beheaded. In this manner, Saint Anastasia received the unfading crown of martyrdom.

Saint Anastasia's body was thrown outside the city limits to be eaten by wild animals, but the Lord did not permit her holy relics to be dishonored. By the instructions of a holy Angel, Igoumeness Sophia found Saint Anastasia's mutilated body. With the help of two Christians, she buried it in the earth.

Her right tibia with the skin is at Grigoriou Monastery on Mount Athos, and pieces of her relics are at the Saint Alexander Nevsky Lavra in St. Petersburg. Saint Anastasia the Roman should not be confused with Saint Anastasia Pharmakolytria, who is commemorated on December 22.

#### Pension increase con't from pg 2

in the United States are urged to begin planning for the contribution level increase, which will go into effect in less than three months.

Extensive discussion took place between the two bodies that share the unanimous goal of providing retirement benefits for the clergy and lay workers of the Orthodox Church in America. The two bodies renewed their commitment to cooperate and further improve communication and sharing of reports and documents, including the actuarial evaluation from the new actuary firm that is expected to be received by the Pension Board in the next few months.

On the advice of Mr. Heinzman, there was mutual consent by both bodies at the need to establish a Funding Improvement Plan (FIP) geared to solve the Plan's funding deficit. The Pension Board will work together with the actuary on the FIP once the actuarial analysis is received. It is anticipated that the Pension Board will present a draft of the Funding Improvement Plan at the Regular Fall 2024 Session of the Metropolitan Council.

The Metropolitan Council and Pension Board agreed that unstable compliance levels have had and continue to have detrimental effects on the Plan. Participation in the Pension Plan is a requirement for all eligible clergy and lay employees of the Orthodox Church in America.

Following the joint meeting with the Pension Board, on October 12, the Metropolitan Council issued the following statement:

The Metropolitan Council appreciates the renewed spirit of cooperation between the Pension Board and the Council exhibited at their joint meeting. The Council acknowledges the expediency of the mutual sharing of documents and information by the Pension Board, the Metropolitan Council Pension Committee, and the Metropolitan Council as a whole.

The Council looks forward to a Funding Improvement Plan (FIP) to be presented prior to the Regular Fall 2024 Session of the Metropolitan Council.

The Council looks forward to receiving the actuarial valuation report in early 2024 and the actuarial projection report that the Pension Board expects to receive at the conclusion of the 2023 calendar year.

Pursuant to item seven (7) of the resolution adopted at the 20th All-American Council, Mr. James Heinzman, CPA, CFP, presented benefit pension plan training to the joint meeting of the Pension Board and Metropolitan Council. The

Metropolitan Council found this training, and the questions and answers associated with it, very valuable.

## **November Candle & Bulletin Sponsors**

Bulletin: In memory of my Mother, Dorothy- Given

by Fr. Andrew Bartek

Wine: AVAILABLE Incense: AVAILABLE

Iconostasis Candles & Eternal Light: In memory of Mary Kennedy on the occasion of your anniversary of repose - Given by Martha Centofanti & Sue Ken-

In honor of our three Grandchildren Ava, Ethan & Elliot who are celebrating their birthdays Given by

Reader Nick & Monica Vansuch Altar Candles: AVAILABLE

Tetrapod Candles: AVAILABLE

St. Herman Candles: Taken

St. Panteleimon Icon Candles: AVAILABLE

Protection Icon Candles: AVAILABLE

St. John the Baptist Candles: AVAILABLE

Flowers: AVAILABLE

\$50 per month \$30 per month

Wine St. Herman candles Bulletin

**Iconostasis Candles** candles

& Eternal Light **Altar Candles** 

**Tetrapod Candles** 

St. Panteleimon Icon

Protection Icon can-

dles

St. John the Baptist

candles



#### 40 DAY REMEBRANCE

November 19– Ramiro Albarran

Office: 330-755-4931 / Cell: 570-212-8747

\$25 per month

Flowers - \$75

Incense

#### REPOSED LIST FOR OCTOBER

Michael Kropenoh (1987) ©

Louis Boldish (1960)

- 2- His Grace Bishop Antoun (2017)
- 2- Mary Evanoff (1970) ©
- 2- George Graban (2004) ©
- 2- Anna Kristian (1932) ©
- 3- Mary Libertin (1986) ©
- 3- George Kalas (1994) ©
- 3- Mary Novak (1994) ©
- 3- Anthony Shepelevich (24) ©
- 4- Louis Boldish (1960) ©
- 4- Michael Tevonyoh (1987) ©
- 4- John Hanuscin (1920) ©
- 6- Helen Korechko (2021) ©
- 6- Kaliope Ellinos (1941) ©
- 8- Still Born Rosko (1923) © Twins
- 8- Still Born Rosko (1923) © Twins
- 8- Matthew Shirilla (1939) ©
- 9- Barbara Matzye (1971) ©
- 9- Walter Wilfong (2012) ©
- 11- Helen Zelina (1982) ©
- 11- Paul Zeleniuk (1924) ©
- 11- Olga Roman (1926) ©
- 12- Eli Tsvetanoff (1953) ©
- 13- Mary Basala (2006)
- 13- John Kristian (1994) ©
- 13- Mary Vodilko (1998) ©
- 13- N. Musolin (1923) ©
- 14- John Livosky (1985) ©
- 14- Larry Sozur (1998) ©
- 14- Joseph Jackubek (2022) ©
- 14- Mary Papac (1928) ©
- 14- Veronica Kristian (1936) ©
- 14- Anna Ivancho (1939) ©
- 14- Anna Midlik (1943) ©
- 14- Dan Vansuch (1965) ©
- 14- Margaret Zappia (2006) ©
- 15- Helen Feltovich (1919) ©
- 15- Dorothy Kirtos (1994) ©
- 15- Peter Nickoloff (1970) ©
- 15- Anna Simko (1929) ©
- 15- George Petro (1959) ©

- 16- Frank Flaherty (1999)
- 16- Ronald Tucci (2013) ©
- 16- Nicholas Hamamzis (1959) ©
- 17- Mary Kalas (1939) ©
- 17- Nicholas Ellinos (1953) ©
- 17- Mary Milner (1967) ©
- 17- Sophie Sobey (2002) ©
- 18- Joseph Sirilla ((2012) ©
- 18- Helen Macala (1958) ©
- 19- Christopher John White (1973) ©
- 19- Rochelle McIntire (1993) ©
- 19- Archpriest Sergei Garklavs (2015)
- 19- Gori Pietropolo (2017)
- 19- His Beatitude Metropolitan Theodosius

(2020)

- 19- Mary Holovatiuk (1933) ©
- 20- Helen Lebo (1988) ©
- 20- Mary Ann Dunchak Volk (2018) ©
- 20- Magdalene Carantonis (1940) ©
- 21- Regina Lomme (2021)
- 21- Helen Bura (2006) ©
- 21- Andy Cvercko (1960) ©
- 22- Thelma Jean Cialella (2021) ©
- 22- Helen Gerakios (1924) ©
- 22- John Patzakes (1945) ©
- 24- Arnold Bickley (1977) ©
- 24- Infant Lyras (1950) ©
- 24- Martha Voytilla (1960) ©
- 24- John Matzye (1964) ©
- 24- Mike Despatorich (1965) ©
- 25- Serge Mihaly Jr (2019)
- 25- John Rosko (1920) ©
- 25- Victor Zelina (1963) ©
- 26- Emil Gozur (2006) ©
- 26- Irene Gozur (2006) ©
- 27- Eva Zurau (1982) ©
- 27- Richard Guerrieri (2005) ©
- 28- Kathryn Puharich (2005) ©
- 28- Christallou Demetrios (1942) ©
- 28- Steve Koties (1953) ©
- 30- Joseph Malchisky (1993)
- 30- Harold Zastany (2017) ©
- 31- Margaret Basala (2002)
- 31- Still born Zlatkoff (1937) ©

## **Birthdays**

1-Trudy Ellmore

2-Tina Litzie, Reader Nataniel Willison

3-Ethan Chendorain, Alicia Calzone

5-Maya Kubancsek

6-Michelle Horodnic, Brian Lariccia, Ron Royhab

7-Gabriella Hryb, Sophia Jesko

8– Monica Vansuch

9-Kelly Ann Ferrick

10-Walter Litzie

12-Granger Matthew Lariccia

13-Colin Felker, Shelia Jesko

14-Fr. Andrew Groom

16-Fr George Lardas, Mary Ruth Mico

17-Tim Glovinsky

18-Nicole Batura

20-Helen Lis (100th)

25–Sam Dardovsky

# October Celebrations

#### Anniversaries

1-Joseph & Mary Ruth Mico; AB Irenee of Canada (2009)

2-Fr. Matthew & Pani Eleni Stagon

3-Fr. Matt Stagon (Priestly ordination)

7-Fr. Eli & Mat. Larissa Bremer

9-Sub-deacon Wylie & Pauline Meath, David & Terrie Konik

11-Ron & Charlotte Zenko

14-Michael & Lynn Polewan

19-Archpriest John & Mat. Cynthia Zdinak

31-Paul & Layne Demkosky

#### Name Day

9- The Most Blessed His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon

October Liturgical Attendance			
Day	Vespers	Divine Liturgy	Communi- cants
Sun. Oct. 1		76	45
Sat. Oct. 7	9		
Sun. Oct. 8		61	42
Sat. Oct 14	5		
Sub. Oct. 15		57	36
Sun. Oct 22		58	36

#### **October Financials**

Expenses	\$12,276.77
Income	\$10,919.00
TOTAL	\$1,357.77
Weekly Tithe	\$10,073
Weekly Candles	\$406
Tetrapod Candles	\$ 50
Protection Icon	\$ 30
Unneeded Gifts	\$ 50
Advent Social	\$ 40
Altar Candles	\$100
Stewardship	\$110
Christmas Card	\$ 60
Other Income:	

Religious Item .....\$115



Through the month of November, Dcn. Jimmy & Mat. Hyrb are collecting food for the Second Harvest Food Bank.

All donations can be placed on the table in the vestibule.

Thank you for your generosity!

#### **October Social Schedule**

**Sunday, October 29** – Reader Nick & Monica Vansuch

Thank you for volunteering!

Office: 330-755-4931 / Cell: 570-212-8747

## **Luke 8:26-39 (Gospel)**

Then they sailed to the country of the Gadarenes, which is opposite Galilee. And when He stepped out on the land, there met Him a certain man from the city who had demons for a long time. And he wore no clothes, nor did he live in a house but in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he cried out, fell down before Him, and with a loud voice said, "What have I to do with You, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg You, do not torment me!" For He had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. For it had often seized him, and he was kept under guard, bound with chains and shackles; and he broke the bonds and was driven by the demon into the wilderness. Jesus asked him, saying, "What is your name?" And he said, "Legion," because many demons had entered him. And they begged Him that He would not command them to go out into the abyss. Now a herd of many swine was feeding there on the mountain. So they begged Him that He would permit them to enter them. And He permitted them. Then the demons went out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd ran violently down the steep place into the lake and drowned. When those who fed them saw what had happened, they fled and told it in the city and in the country. Then they went out to see what had happened, and came to Jesus, and found the man from whom the demons had departed, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. They also who had seen it told them by what means he who had been demonpossessed was healed. Then the whole multitude of the surrounding region of the Gadarenes asked Him to depart from them, for they were seized with great fear. And He got into the boat and returned. Now the man from whom the demons had departed begged Him that he might be with Him. But Jesus sent him away, saying, "Return to your own house, and tell what great things God has done for you." And he went his way and proclaimed throughout the whole city what great things Jesus had done for him.

## National Clergy Retreat Concludes Four Day Gathering in the Diocese of the Midwest

The "Synaxis: National Clergy Retreat for Active and Retired Priests" was held this past week from October 17-20, 2023, at the University of Saint Mary of the Lake Conference Center in Mundelein, IL. The inaugural conference put on by the OCA Office of Pastoral Life brought together more than 120 hierarchs and clergy from the various dioceses of the Orthodox Church in America

The conference began Tuesday evening with an opening prayer service led by His Eminence Archbishop Daniel of Chicago and the Midwest. His Eminence also took the opportunity to welcome the visiting hierarchs and clergy to the Diocese of the Midwest and shared some of the various activities of the diocese.

On Wednesday morning the conference welcomed Archimandrite Maximos Constas, PhD, who spoke on Prayer of the Heart in the priestly ministry. Between the presentations, clergy enjoyed conversation and fellowship. The day concluded with the service of Vespers.

The following day, Thursday, the delegation made their way to the historic Holy Trinity Cathedral, Chicago, IL, the Diocesan Cathedral of Chicago and the Midwest. Presiding at the Divine Liturgy was His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon of Washington and All America and Canada, and concelebrated with His Beatitude was His Eminence Archbishop Daniel of Chicago, and Bishop Nikodhim of Boston. Serving with the hierarchs were, Diocesan Chancellor, Archpriest Paul Jannakos, Archimandrite Maximos (Constas), Archpriest William Evansky, Archpriest John Kreta, Archpriest Marcus Burch, Archpriest Kirill Sokolov, Archpriest John Vitko, Archpriest Alessandro Margheritino, Archpriest Nicholas Solak, Archpriest Stephen Vernak, Priest Alexander Koranda, Cathedral Dean, Protodeacon Alexander Kichakov and Deacon Andrew Bender. The choir was directed by Reader Philip Sokolov.

In attendance was Archbishop Nathaniel of the Romanian Episcopate, Archbishop Melchisedek of Pittsburg, Archbishop Alexander of Dallas, the South, and the Bulgarian Diocese, Bishop Andrei of Cleveland, Bishop Gerasim of Fort Worth, and Bishop Demetrios of Mokissos.

Following the liturgy, a memorial service was held for Metropolitan Theodosius (Lazor) and Mitered Archpriest Sergei Garklavs on the occasion of their anniversary of repose. Matushka Priscilla Shipley was also remembered during the service commemorating her 40th day of repose.

His Beatitude then blessed liturgical spears that were distributed to participants of the conference. Fr. Stephen reminded the clergy that this gift was to be a reminder to pray for one another at the liturgy. A group photo was taken at the conclusion of the blessing.

Archbishop Daniel welcomed His Beatitude, hierarchs and all of the clergy who gathered at the Diocesan Cathedral, sharing the *Con't next Pg* 

#### National clergy retreat con't from previous pg

important history of Holy Trinity Cathedral. Words of guidance and encouragement were also offered by His Beatitude who reflected on the meaningful time of the conference. A lunch provided by the cathedral community was held in the parish hall.

Later that day, clergy enjoyed time in the city and gathered again that evening for a banquet was held at the conference center. Friday, the final day of the retreat, Fr. Maximos offered final thoughts and reflections.

This conference provided an opportunity for fellowship, prayer, and education for all priests and bishops of the Orthodox Church in America.

## St. Luke Community Welcomes Archpriest from Romanian Orthodox Church

On Sunday, October 22, St. Luke Church, Palos Hills, IL welcomed the Inspector General of Missions from the Romanian Orthodox Metropolis of Iasi, Archpriest Iulian Negru and his Proetesa Antonetta. Fr. Iulian served the Divine Liturgy with Diocesan Chancellor Archpriest Paul Jannakos. Father spoke with over 100 people during brunch in the parish hall on the topic: "Spirituality, Suffering, & Healing."

Fr. Iulian Negro is a well known pastoral theologian in Romania (and all over Eastern Europe), who has developed Orthodox programs of alcohol and addition recovery based on Orthodox Spirituality not only in Romania, but also in Russia, Ukraine, Kenya, and here in the United States. He is also the Department Chairman for the Romanian Orthodox Church Office of Addiction and Alcohol recovery, and the co-founder of the Board of Addiction Treatment and Recovery for the Romanian government in Bucharest. He is an author of many books and articles on Orthodox Spirituality, a Professor at the Andre Seguna Orthodox Facultet (graduate seminary) in Isai. He currently building a new residential treatment center in Iasi for those suffering from heroin addiction, on 5 hectors of property donated for this purpose by the Neampt Monastery in Bukovina (home of the relics of St. Paisi Velichkovsky).

Fr. Iulian and his wife are touring the monasteries in the Midwest and Pennsylvania and will speak this coming Sunday at St. Mary Romanian Orthodox Church in Chicago.

# Archbishop Visits with Diocesan Seminarians at St. Tikhon's Seminary

His Eminence Archbishop Daniel of Chicago and the Midwest traveled to St. Tikhon's Orthodox Theological Seminary, South Canaan, PA, to make a pastoral visit with the diocesan seminarians. The Archbishop arrived the evening of October 22 and returned to Chicago on Tuesday, October 24. Priest Alexander Koranda, Director of Seminarians for the Diocese of the Midwest, accompanied the Archbishop during his visit.

On Monday, October 23, a full day of meetings were arranged with the six Midwest seminarians that attend the seminary. During those meetings, His Eminence and Fr. Alexander met with the seminarians and their wives reviewing their course of study, prayer life, family life, and community life. The Archbishop offered the students words of encouragement and ensured them of the continued support from the diocese.

The Archbishop also met with the seminarians as a group and after attending Vespers, the Archbishop took the seminarians and their families out to dinner.

Throughout the day on Tuesday the Archbishop held meetings with His Eminence Archbishop Michael of New York and the Diocese of New York and New Jersey, Rector of the Seminary, as well as the Seminary Dean, Archpriest John Parker, before departing for Chicago.

The seminarians voiced their gratitude to the Archbishop and the diocese for their continued efforts in love and support.

# FOCUS: ST HERMANS HOUSE IN CLEVELAND

St. Herman House FOCUS Cleveland presents "Encountering Christ" on our daily Pilgrimage. His Eminence Archbishop Daniel will be the presenter.

When: Monday, November 13 6:30-7:30pm Appetizers 7:30-8:30 pm Program

Price: \$30 a ticket

Where: Holy Trinity Orthodox Church 6822 Broadview Rd. Parma, OH 44134

There is a flyer in basement of Church.

## Miraculous Kursk Root Icon Received at Diocesan Cathedral

On Thursday, October 12, His Eminence Archbishop Daniel of Chicago and the Midwest received the miraculous Kursk Root Icon of the Mother of God at the Diocesan Cathedral, Holy Trinity Cathedral, Chicago, IL. The icon's visit was in conjunction with the Cathedral's monthlong celebration of St. John of Chicago.

Upon greeting the icon, His Eminence processed with it into the Cathedral and served an akathist before the venerable image. Serving with him were Priest Alexander Koranda, Cathedral Dean; Priest Antony Alekseyenko (ROCOR); Priest Artemy Makartetsky (ROCOR); and Deacon Paul Garklavs.

At the conclusion of the service, His Eminence offered a reflection on the Mother of God and Her presence at the Cathedral. He also extended his gratitude to Metropolitan Nikolai of Eastern America and Archbishop Peter of Mid-America for blessing the icon to visit.

The 13th-century icon has a long and powerful history of protection, often appearing in times of need. During the Bolshevik revolution, the icon was removed from the Cathedral of the Sign on April 12, 1918. At the end of October 1919, when the White Russian Army was evacuating the city of Kursk, twelve monks of the monastery took the icon to the city of Belgorod, from which it was again transferred, first to Taganrog and Ekaterinodar, and then to Novorossiisk. During the evacuation, with the permission of Metropolitan Anthony (Khrapovitsky) of Kiev and Galich, the icon was taken aboard the steamship St. Nicholas by Bishop Theophan of Kursk on March 1, 1920, and transported to the city of Thessalonica. On April 3, Bishop Theophan took the icon to the city of Peć, the ancient capital of Serbia.

After much travel and displacement, the icon was transferred to the New World where it had its permanent residence first in the New Kursk Hermitage in Mahopac, N.Y., and then in the Synodal Cathedral of the Mother of God of the Sign in New York City, the residence of the First Hierarch of the Russian Orthodox Church Abroad. From there it travels often throughout the Orthodox world to bring consolation to the Christian people wherever they are found. Notably, it was before this very icon that the St Seraphim was healed from grave illness while he was still a child.

# St. Nicholas Wish List Program Updated

For over 24 years the FOCA has gathered wish lists from married students at St. Tikhon's & St. Vladimir's Seminaries (gift card donations are sent to St. Herman's of Alaska.)

These lists are filled by parishes, chapters, or individuals from around the country. In those 24 years, we have fulfilled the wishes of over 1,000 seminarian families and have donated over \$120,000 to the married seminarians families at St. Herman's seminary.

GIFT CARDS NEEDED:





Amazon Target Kohls

Please see Elizabeth Willison. She is collecting until November 19th.

#### A GENTLE REMINDER

As we are now in the last few months of the year, this is a gentle reminder....

A "member-in-good-standing" who is eligible to speak and vote at the Annual meeting has:

- gone to Holy Confession and received Holy Communion at least (the very bare minimum) 1 time. Frequent participation is extremely encouraged;
- 2) given (at bare minimum) \$350 for the year.

Please contact Father Andrew to discuss further or with questions/concerns.

Note: All college students are considered members in good standing by meeting the 1st requirement is fulfilled. The second is not a requirement.

#### 2023 CHURCH CHRISTMAS CARD

Cost: \$20 (cash or check payable to the church)

Deadline: December 3, 2023

Cindy Ferrick will be collecting for the Christmas card this year. Please stop at the candle desk to sign up or mail in your payment to the church.

If you have any questions, please contact Cindy @ 330-531-1119.

Thank You!

#### YOU ARE INVITED

St. John's of Warren mission and outreach team welcomes us to a free event with Fr. Simon Menya from Northern Uganda.

Fr. Menya will talk about how villages in the region of Northern Uganda are recovering from two decades of civil war. During those years of conflict, infrastructure was destroyed and churches deteriorated. Children were abducted, forced into slavery, and suffered unfathomably. After the signing of a peace agreement in 2008, people began to seek ways to recover and to restore life—especially finding healing from their trauma through the Orthodox Christian Church.

Father Simon will open a window into this story of revival by giving a presentation about the "Northern Ugandan Self-Sufficiency Project", which fosters self-sustainability in his communities by implementing projects that put people to work so that they can own and benefit from what they create: vegetable farming, pig raising, health clinics, water wells, schools, libraries, and most importantly, Orthodox Christian churches to heal devastated souls.

It is a free event to the public to take place on Wed. November 8 @ 6:00pm with a potluck and fellowship given by the parish.



# CHRISTMAS GIFTS NEEDED

The City of Campbell has asked our parish if we would be willing to supply gifts to children up to 8th grade.

Suggestions include small gifts like: paddle & ball, sil-

ly putty, play dough, puzzle books, colored pencils, colored markers, and other small, little fun gifts. Nothing big.

Will be given for the Christmas tree lighting.

Please bring gifts to church by November 12th. Place donations on the table in the vestibule.

Thank you!

#### 3 ETREATS PAN-ORTHODOX RETREAT @ ST. NICHOLAS—MOGADORE

What are 3Etreats? 3Etreats are a free Pan-Orthodox weekend retreat for youth, young adults, parents, priests, youth workers and anyone who cares about young people (in other words, everyone!) to connect with each other and grow closer to Christ as we reflect on Christ's call and answer together how we can become a church where young people want to stay.

Come and:

- -Learn to see Christ in the face of our neighbor
- -Reflect on the need for deep connection with others
- -See how God fills our deepest longings
- -Learn how we can and be ambassadors of God's love to a hurting world.

Why are you doing this? OYM's vision is to pass on a faith where every young person can encounter Christ, embody His Church, and engage the world in His Name. To make this vision possible we are coming to you! WE want to offer a space where pan-Orthodox communities can connect and explore what it means to encounter, embody, and engage!

Who is welcome? Everyone is welcome! The 3Etreat includes: 1) an adult track for young adults (anyone post high school age), parents, and all other adults, and 2) and a youth track for grades 6-12. All Orthodox jurisdictions are welcome!

How much does it cost? OYM's 3Etreats are free! We want you to be in fellowship with other Orthodox Christians and grow closer to Christ together. So we are making this opportunity available to all without charge. But space is limited, so sign up today and invite a friend!

# Session topics: (9am-5pm) (5pm vespers) (7pm young adult event)

#### Youth track

- -Seeking to encounter Christ
- -Embodying Christ's Church as the Family of God
- -Engaging the world as Ambassadors of Christ's love

#### **Adult Track**

- -Coming home to the self
- -Coming home to the household of God
- -Well (coming others) to the household of God

Office: 330-755-4931 / Cell: 570-212-8747