



The Weekly Forerunner

St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church

301 Struthers Liberty Rd

Campbell, OH 44405

OCA - Diocese of the Midwest



October Bulletin Sponsor

OPEN

Liturgical & Events Schedule

Sunday, October 20

9:35 AM: Hours

10:00 AM: Divine Liturgy / Monthly Panachida
Social

Tuesday, October 22

11:00 AM: Orthodoxy 101 Class

Wednesday, October 23

6:00 PM: Fire Training

Thursday, October 24

11:00 AM: Book Club

Saturday, October 26

6:00 PM: Vespers / Confessions

Sunday, October 27

9:35 AM: Hours

10:00 AM: Divine Liturgy / Social / Church

AB Address con't from last week at Diocesan Assembly

Twentieth Anniversary of the Return of the Tikhvin Icon:

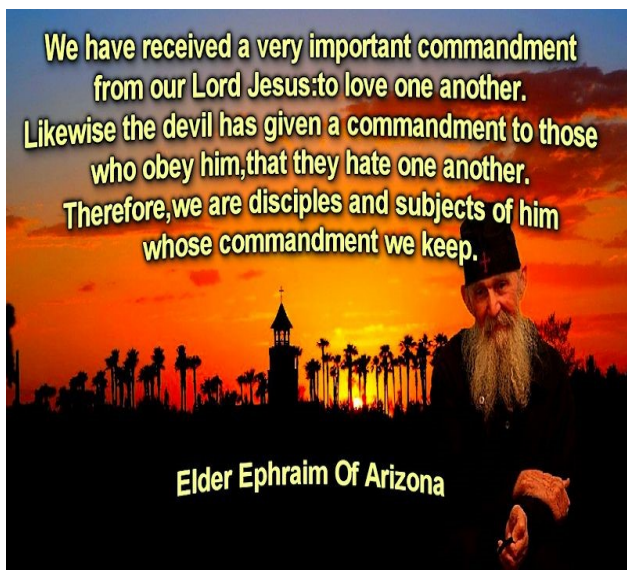
This past June 26th marked the twentieth anniversary of the return of the Wonderworking Tikhvin from our Diocese, where it was guarded for over fifty years, to the Monastery of the Dormition in the city of Tikhvin, Russia, its home for centuries. To observe this significant anniversary, a special celebration was held at Holy Trinity Cathedral, Chicago. His Beatitude Metropolitan TIKHON led eight additional hierarchs and hundreds of clergy, monastics, and faithful from throughout the Diocese and beyond in praying the Vigil Service and the Divine Liturgy of the Feast. The Liturgy was followed by a procession through the streets of Chicago to Saint George Cathedral where a closing moleben was sung and a festal luncheon was served. It was a highpoint of the year for our Diocese and, having heard from many who were present, also a source of great blessings. I want to note that on that day I also issued an archpastoral decree (ukaz) establishing the feast of the Finding of the Tikhvin Icon as a vigil-rank feast to be celebrated in all the churches, missions, and chapels of the Diocese of the Midwest.

The celebration held in Chicago was brought to fulfillment when, at the invitation of His Grace Bishop Mstislav of Tikhon, I participated in the anniversary celebration held at the Monastery in Tikhvin. To return to the Monastery after having been there when the Icon was transferred there twenty years ago was a great personal blessing. I was accompanied on that pilgrimage by Archbishop Alexander Garklavs, Priest Alexander Koranda, and Reader Justinian Tatoes, my kelenik.

If not already the case, it is my hope that all the parishes and missions of our Diocese will obtain a copy of the Tikhvin Icon of the Mother of God for veneration in our temples and as a reminder that the Diocese has been dedicated to the Mother of God under this special title and as venerated in this Holy Icon. The Chancery staff is available to help facilitate this.

Reconciliation Services:

On Saturday, July 20, I had the joy of blessing the newly renovated building at Reconciliation Services in Kansas City. This included the blessing of the new chapel, dedicated in name of Saint Maria of Paris. **Con't next pg**



PLEASE KEEP OUR ELDERS OF THE CHURCH & SHUT-INS IN YOUR PRAYERS– UPDATED 9-25-24

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

Mrs. Mary Fredericks

648 Dumont Ave
Campbell, OH 44405

Mrs. Audrey Chengelis
c/o Assumption Village
9802 Market Street / Room 132
North Lima, OH 44452

Mrs. Julia Simko
c/ o Inn At Poland Way
6501 Poland Way / Rm 122
Poland OH, 44514

Sub-Deacon Vladimir Rusnak

208 Ash Court
Campbell, OH 4405

Emilia Yannitto
8017 Salinas Tr.
Boardman, OH 44512-5402

Matushka Helen Psinka
1040 State St / Rm 1015
Concordia Villa St Joseph
Baden, PA 15005

Mrs. Dorothy Shirilla

8362 Van Dr.
Poland, OH 44514

Mrs. Pauline Fesz
488 Harmony Lane
Campbell, OH 44405

Mrs. Marion Zwinski
9190 Springfield Rd / Apt 17c
Poland, OH 44514-3196

Joan Cross
97 Butler Street / Apt 1-rear
Brooklyn , NY 11201

Irene & Al Mazanek
1285 Fairfax-Manor Dr
Carmel, IN 46032

Helen Colaluca
2513 Manor Ave
Poland, OH 44514-1541

George Horodnic, Sr.
c/o The Inn at Walker Mill
8060 South Ave., Rm. 216
Boardmen, OH 44512

Sue Kennedy
593 Hyatt Ave
Campbell, OH 44405-1479

Ann Cvercko
1875 Mallard Ln.
North Lima, OH 4445208570

Geogr Kolesar
4030 Cascade Dr.
Youngstown, OH 44511-3538

Carol Ruff
2207 Birch Trail Blvd
Austintown, OH 44515-4910

AB address con't from previous pg

On Monday, the 22nd, I also offered the prayer for the official ribbon cutting re-opening the building and marking its return as the home for this important and historic ministry. If you do not know about Reconciliation Services, I invite you to do some research. Although not officially a ministry of the Orthodox Church or of the Diocese of the Midwest, its work and ministry are deeply rooted in Orthodox values. Many of our local clergy and faithful are directly involved in its work, including its director and CEO, Archpriest Justin Mathews. In addition to the very comprehensive level of services offered to the public, Reconciliation Services is also a very visible witness to the Orthodox Church serving in the midst of the world.

Dakota Mission District, Saint Andrew of Crete Ministry, Saint Macrina Institute, Youth Ministry, and Camps:

There are many other activities, ministries, and projects taking place in our Diocese, such as the Dakota Mission District, Saint Andrew of Crete Music Ministry, Saint Macrina Institute, Clergy Wives Outreach, Youth Ministry, and our Diocesan Camps. I will not go into those now as reports are being provided about these and other areas of Diocesan life during out time together this week.

I have not covered everything that is happening within the Diocese; as I just mentioned, reports and presentations will be given throughout our time together. However, this brief highlight of life in our Diocese over these past twelve months is reflective of what has taken place throughout its long history. Allow me to note that the clergy and faithful of our Diocese are significantly involved on all the usual levels of parish and diocesan life and also in a wide array of outward-looking social ministries and services. Our priests, deacons, and lay faithful are incredibly involved, indeed, leading the various parish, diocesan, and national groups that are meeting the needs of a large number of our brothers and sisters in need. I will also mention here organizations which, while not specifically diocesan, are served largely by our own clergy and faithful: Reconciliation Services, FOCUS, St Herman House, OCAMPR, IOCC and OCMC, Project Mexico, the annual Parish Life Conference, prison and jail ministry, ZOE for Life, promoting the sanctity of human life and the dignity of each human person, soup kitchens, ministry to the homeless, etc. **Con't pg 6**

PRAYER LIST– Updated 10-09-24

PARISHIONERS: Achilles Arvan / Audrey Chengelis / Helen Colaluca / Joan Cross / Ann Cvercko / Pauline Fesz / Mary Fredericks / Sherrie Fredericks / George Horodnic / Sue Kennedy / George Kolesar / Barbara Kolesar / Matushka Helen Psinka / Carol Ruff / Sub-deacon Vladimir Rusnak / Dorothy Shirilla / Julia Simko / Emilia Yannitto / Marion Zwinski

HIERARCHS & CLERGY: AP James Gleason (Fr.) / AP Emil Hutyan / AP Vladimir Demshuk / Fr. Michael Rustic / Fr. Edward / Fr. Matthew Nyumu & his family & parish

FAMILY & FRIENDS: Frank Batura (Fr.) / Mary Ann Bozichovich (Kennedy) / Patty Bozichovich (Vansuch) / Karen Debiec / Donna Chiarelli / Trudy Ellmore (Fr.) / Bruce Harris (Sabo) / Basil Glovinsky (Fr.) / Paula Kennedy / Joe Kollar (Fr.) / Andrew LaChard (Jesko) / Jonathan Leso (Fr.) / Mea Mahan / Mary Mahan / Pauline Meath (Fr.) / Matushka Raisa (Nicoloff) / Eugene Pallai / Teri Petroff (Fr.) / Chris Quotap (Fr.) / Joanna Shepelevich / Julia Shirilla / Bob Smrek (Sirilla) / Catherine Zile (Fr.) / Zoland Zile / Brian (Shirilla) / David (Willison) / Drew (Willison) / Eleanor Marie (Vansuch) / Ellen (Clark) / Ellen (Kessler) / Johanna (Tusinac) / Joseph (Vansuch) / Karen (Gemmell) / Karen (Vansuch) / Katherine (Steffaro) / Kathy (Kolesar) / Katie (Garrity) / Paul (Kolesar) / Paula (Voytilla) / Malakai (Kolesar) / Richard (Tusinac)

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 & Metropolitan Arseny imprisoned / The UN & IOCC humanitarian aid workers around the world / Those suffering persecution in Syria, Iraq, Israel, Egypt, Ukraine and around the world.



October Celebrations

Birthday

- 1 Trudy Ellmore
- 2 Tina Litzie / Nathaniel Willison
- 3 Ethan Chendorain
- 5 Maya Kubancsek / Karen Debiec
- 6 Michelle Horodnic
- 7 Gabriella Hryb / Sophia Jesko
- 8 Monica Vansuch
- 9 Kelly Ann Ferrick
- 13 Colin Henry Felker / Shelia Jesko
- 14 Fr. Andrew Groom
- 16 Fr George Lardas / Mary Ruth Mico
- 17 Tim Glovinsky
- 18 Nicole Batura
- 25 Sam Dardovsky
- 31 Fr. Peter Zarynow

Anniversary

- 1-2009 AB Irene of Canada / Joseph & Mary Ruth Mico / Gary & Patty Thompson
- Fr. Matthew & Pani Eleni Stagon
- 3 Fr. Matt Stagon Priestly ordination
- 7 Fr. Eli & Mat. Larissa Bremer
- 9 David & Terrie Konik
- 14 Michael & Lynn Polewan
- 19 Archpriest John & Mat. Cynthia Zidinak
- 31 Paul & Layne Demkosky

Names Day

- 9 The Most Blessed Tikhon

OCTOBER FINANCIALS

Expenses	\$10, 528.77
Income	<u>\$7,250.00</u>
TOTAL	-\$3,278.77
Weekly Tithe	\$6,774
Weekly Candles	\$93
Icon Screen / Eternal Light	\$100
Unneeded Gifts	\$25
Rubric Book Reimbursement	\$80
St. Herman's Candles	\$30
Coffee Hour	\$54
Monthly Charity Collection: (Hurricane Relief)	\$629

40 DAY REMEMBRANCE

October 27– Mary Jane Puskas
November 17– AP Vladimir Demshuk

OCTOBER CHARITY

UPDATED

Hurricane Relief

OCTOBER Candle & Bulletin Sponsors

NOTE: If anything is missing from the Sponsorships please contact Fr. Andrew ASAP

Bulletin: OPEN

Wine: In memory of my wife Laurissa Rusnak– Given by husband Sub-deacon Vladimir

Incense: In memory of my wife Laurissa Rusnak– Given by husband Sub-deacon Vladimir

Iconostasis Candles & Eternal Light: In memory of my brother George Robert Vasile– Given by Teri Vasile / In memory of my parents George & Mary Rusnak– Given by sub-deacon Vladimir

Altar Candles: In memory of Andrew & Anna Cvercko- Given by Anne Cvercko

Tetrapod Candles: In honor of Karen Debiec on the occasion of her b-day & in memory of Robert Kennedy on the occasion of his wedding anniversary– Given by Sue Kennedy.

St. Herman Candles: Commemorating all who participate in maintenance of the church, the teachers, singers & those who participate in social events. Praying for everyone to love one another.

St. Panteleimon Icon Candles: OPEN

Protection Icon Candles: OPEN

St. John the Baptist Candles: In health of my wife Monica on the occasion of her b-day– Given by Reader Nick Vansuch

Flowers: In memory of my sisters Mary Jane Puskas, Nadine Pallai, Ann Sanders– Given by Sub-deacon Vladimir

\$50 per month

*Wine

*Bulletin

*Iconostasis Candles & Eternal Light

*Altar Candles

*Tetrapod Candles

\$30 per month

*St. Herman candles

*St. Panteleimon Icon candles

*Protection Icon candles

*St. John the Baptist candles

\$25 per month

Incense

Flowers - \$50 for 2 weeks at a time– *Updated*

Choral Conducting and Singing Workshop to be Held at St. Tikhon's Monastery

Orthodox choir directors and church singers, you are warmly invited to join us at St. Tikhon's Monastery November 8-10 for our choral conducting and singing workshop with our featured instructor, Fr. Caleb Lewis, Director of Music at St. Tikhon's.

Come participate in this weekend workshop as either a conductor or as a chorister. Conductors of all levels are welcome! You can expect practical conducting guidance, live feedback, individualized coaching on technique and hands-on problem solving. Singers will enjoy gleaning from being part of the choir and participating in overall ensemble instruction. Student rates are available for both conductors and singers.

Q & A will be offered throughout the weekend to allow you to glean from Fr. Caleb's expertise on both choral conducting and singing. The workshop will culminate with attendees participating in the music for St. Tikhon's Monastery's Sunday Divine Liturgy.

Prior to coming to St. Tikhon's Fr. Caleb Lewis was Director of Choirs at UC Davis. He worked throughout the San Francisco Bay Area as a conductor, clinician, baritone soloist, and chorister with such ensembles as the American Bach Soloists, the San Francisco Choral Artists, and the San Francisco Bach Choir. Fr. Caleb is St. Tikhon's new director of music. He serves as faculty for music residents, as well

as lead music educator for seminarians, preparing future church musicians and priests who can beautify the worship of the Orthodox Church.

Luke 16:19-31 (Gospel)

There was a certain rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and fared sumptuously every day. But there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, full of sores, who was laid at his gate, desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table. Moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. So it was that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died and was buried. And being in torments in Hades, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. Then he cried and said, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.' But Abraham said, 'Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things; but now he is comforted and you are tormented. And besides all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed, so that those who want to pass from here to you cannot, nor can those from there pass to us.' Then he said, 'I beg you therefore, father, that you would send him to my father's house, for I have five brothers, that he may testify to them, lest they also come to this place of torment.' Abraham said to him, 'They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.' And he said, 'No, father Abraham; but if one goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' But he said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.'"

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

padrebartek@gmail.com

October's Reposed List- Updated 10-9

- Michael Kropenoh (1987) ©
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 (2004) ©
3- George Robert Vasile (2019) ©
4- Louis Boldish (1960) ©
4- Michael Tevonyoh (1987) ©
4- John Hanuscin (1920) ©
6- Helen Korechko (2021) ©
6- Kaliopé 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) ©
10- Mary Vasile (1995) ©
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) ©
14- Ramiro Albarran (2023)
15- Helen Feltovich (1919) ©
15- Dorothy Kirtos (1994) ©
15- Peter Nickoloff (1970) ©
15- Anna Simko (1929) ©
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 (Trudy's dad) (2017)
19- His Beatitude Metropolitan Theodosius (2020)
19- Mary Holovatiuk (1933) ©
20- Helen Lebo (1988) ©
20- Mary Ann Volk Dunchak (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)

2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1 (Epistle)

And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they shall be My people." Therefore "Come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, and I will receive you." "I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the LORD Almighty." Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

AB Address con't from pg 2

Restructuring of Diocesan Offices, Departments, and Ministries:

We are richly blessed in the Diocese of the Midwest. We have an immense treasure of talent and resources and are thus able to be involved and lead in so many areas of Church life and mission. Colloquially speaking, there is a lot on our diocesan plate. As a way to be more efficient in ministering the Diocese and, thus, better minister to every aspect of it, the Chancery Office, the Deans, and several consultants throughout the Diocese have recently been involved in a process aimed at providing a more defined and effective structure for the Chancery Office, diocesan departments, ministries, and organizations.

The foundation of this process has been a 2004 document developed by His Eminence Archbishop JOB, of blessed memory. Some of you were likely involved in that project. This 2004 document had begun to be implemented and was still in process at the time of Archbishop Job's unexpected repose. It was in light of this re-discovered document and those plans from twenty years ago, that I asked Dr. Alice Woog to form a consulting committee so that we could review, revise as necessary, and implement this re-organization of the Diocese's administrative structure. Alice will be presenting on this work later in the Assembly. I am supportive of and grateful for her work as well as for the input of all those who have been involved.

New Officers & Thank You's:

As you are all aware, the past twelve months have also provided the opportunity for the appointment of new diocesan officers. All are well-known to you, so there is no real need for introductions. With the support of the Deans and the concurrence of the Diocesan Council, I accepted the resignation of Archpriest Paul Jannakos as Chancellor and Rob Koncel as Diocesan Treasurer. Both served in their respective capacities with professionalism and dignity and commitment to the well-being of our Diocese. As we know, Rob served as Treasurer for well over thirty years. I am grateful for their dedication and work and have issued Diocesan Gramotas as a formal way of the Diocese expressing its deep gratitude for their service.

With the support of the Deans and the concurrence of the Diocesan Council, I appointed Archpriest Herman Kincaid to serve as Diocesan Chancellor. His service in this role began on July 1. This is now a fulltime position. In consulting with the Deans, it was decided that the time for a fulltime Chancellor has definitely come, given the size and brisk activity of the Diocese of the Midwest. I am grateful to Father Herman for taking on the burdens of this office. Also, Priest Esteban Vazquez was appointed as Vice Chancellor. During the time of transition as I took on the responsibility of Diocesan Bishop and familiarized myself with the Diocese, the effectiveness of his work and his attention to

details were extremely beneficial; he continues to play a significant role in the daily administration of the Diocese. Priest Nikolai Lochmatow, Dean of Saint George Cathedral, has been appointed as corporate secretary and, three days a week, also serves as Secretary to the Archbishop.

Priest Alexander Koranda continues to serve as Communications Director. He is assisted in this by Priest Joel Wilson. Last, but not least, in view of the retirement of Rob Koncel from his role as Diocesan Treasurer, with the concurrence of the Diocesan Council, I have appointed Subdeacon Dimitri Pletz as Diocesan Treasurer. He may be known to some of you, having served as Treasurer of OCCIF (Orthodox Christian Capital Investment Fund), as a member of the Metropolitan Council from the Diocese of the West, and Metropolitan Council Auditor of the Orthodox Church in America. Subdeacon Dimitri and his family moved from Washington State to Kansas City over a year ago; he is now very involved in the life of Holy Trinity Church, Overland Park.

As you can see, with the Diocesan Officers, the Chancery Office Staff, the Deans, and the Diocesan Council, I am surrounded by a talented team that assists me in fulfilling my role as the Chief Shepherd of the Diocese. I am grateful for them and give thanks for their willingness to serve.

As we gather this week, I am grateful to Father Nicholas Wyslutsky and to the Saint Nicholas community for hosting this year's gathering of clergy and faithful from throughout our beloved Diocese of the Midwest. The temple, hall, and parish grounds provide us with a beautiful setting for the work we are doing here.

Of course, as important and essential for the effective administration of the Diocese as these officers are, it is really your own support and involvement in which I trust and upon which I depend. Please know that I am so very grateful for the clergy in our Diocese who are carrying the heavy load and doing work of fulfilling of the mission of the Local Church which is the proclamation of the Saving Gospel of Jesus Christ and the salvation of souls. Thank you. I am grateful to all of you, most especially for your daily fidelity to the work of ministry.

Again, I welcome you to the 63rd Diocesan Assembly. Our discussions, reports, discussions, and conversations will focus on the questions of what it means to be the Church in this time and in this place. And let us remember that this special Midwestern experience of Orthodoxy is an important, though often overlooked component of the larger life, history, legacy, and patrimony of the Church in North America.

Let me simply conclude with the words quoted from the Holy Apostle Peter in his first epistle, the words I quoted at the beginning of this address. May these words assist us as we focus on the work before us at this Assembly: "You are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light" (1 Peter 2:9).

Greatmartyr Artemius at Antioch / Commemorated on October 20

Holy Great Martyr Artemius of Antioch was a prominent military leader during the reigns of the emperor Constantine the Great (May 21), and his son and successor Constantius (337-361). Artemius received many awards for distinguished service and courage. He was appointed viceroy of Egypt. In this official position he did much for the spreading and strengthening Christianity in Egypt.

Saint Artemius was sent by the emperor Constantius to bring the relics of the holy Apostle Andrew from Patras, and the relics of the holy Apostle Luke from Thebes of Boeotia, to Constantinople. The holy relics were placed in the Church of the Holy Apostles beneath the table of oblation. The emperor rewarded him by making him ruler of Egypt.

The emperor Constantius was succeeded on the throne by Julian the Apostate (361-363). Julian in his desire to restore paganism was extremely antagonistic towards Christians, sending hundreds to their death. At Antioch he ordered the torture of two bishops unwilling to forsake the Christian Faith.

During this time, Saint Artemius arrived in Antioch and publicly denounced Julian for his impiety. The enraged Julian subjected the saint to terrible tortures and threw the Great Martyr Artemius into prison. While Artemius was praying, Christ, surrounded by angels, appeared to him and said, "Take courage, Artemius! I am with you and will preserve you from every hurt which is inflicted upon you, and I already have prepared your crown of glory. Since you have confessed Me before the people on earth, so shall I confess you before My Heavenly Father. Therefore, take courage and rejoice, you shall be with Me in My Kingdom." Hearing this, Artemius rejoiced and offered up glory and thanksgiving to Him.

On the following day, Julian demanded that Saint Artemius honor the pagan gods. Meeting with steadfast refusal, the emperor resorted to further tortures. The saint endured all without a single moan. The saint told Julian that he would be justly recompensed for his persecution of Christians. Julian became furious and resorted to even more savage tortures, but they did not break the will of the saint. Finally the Great Martyr Artemius was beheaded.

His relics were buried by Christians. After the death of Saint Artemius, his prophecy about Julian the Apostate's impending death came true.

Julian left Antioch for a war with the Persians. Near the Persian city of Ctesiphon, Julian came upon an elderly Persian, who agreed to betray his countrymen and guide Julian's army. The old man deceived Julian and led his army into the Karmanite wilderness, where there was neither food nor water. Tired from hunger and thirst, Julian's army battled against fresh Persian forces.

Divine retribution caught up with Julian the Apostate. During the battle he was mortally wounded by an unseen hand and an unseen weapon. Julian groaned deeply said, "You

have conquered, Galilean!" After the death of the apostate emperor, the relics of the Great Martyr Artemius were transferred with honor from Antioch to Constantinople.

Saint Artemius is invoked by those suffering from hernias.

ATTENDANCE: A Comparison - OCTOBER	2023	2024
1st Week		
Vespers	Was in Sept.	No Vespers
Liturgy	76 / 45	65 / 44
2nd Week		
Vespers	9	6
Liturgy	61 / 42	63 / 41
3rd Week		
Vespers	5	
Liturgy	57 / 36	
4th Week		
Vespers	No Vespers	
Liturgy	58 / 36	
5th week		
Vespers	8	
Liturgy	70 / 43	

Holy Ascension Church Announces Availability in Parish Cemetery

Holy Ascension Church, Albion, MI recently announced openings in their newly blessed cemetery. His Eminence Archbishop Daniel of Chicago and the Midwest recently blessed the newly formed cemetery this past June.

According to their parish website, the cemetery is located just north of Albion, Michigan, at 13526 29 Mile Road, which is also the location of our planned new temple. "Our cemetery allows us to bury parishioners and other Orthodox Christians without the expensive and unnecessary requirements (vaults, embalming, etc) of municipality-owned cemeteries."

The parish also has a vision to develop the new cemetery over time, "We envision it as a place of beauty: trails, pathways, stone walls, a lychgate, benches, and gardens will be added as we continue to develop it. Currently (as of Sept 2024) we have about 240 plots available, with a total over 1000 planned once the rest of the ground is cleared and made ready." For more information, visit – <https://orthodoxchurchalbion.org/cemetery/>.

2024 - COUNCIL MEMBERS

Nancy Tusinac (President)
Phone- 724-456-7366
Cindy Ferrick (Treasurer)
Phone 330-531-1119
Joann Sirilla (Financial Secretary)
Phone 330-881-6775
Sub-deacon Dr. Donald Tamulouis (Council)
Phone 330-774-8860
Natalia Simko (Council) (Cemetery issues)
Phone- 330-980-3033

Maintenance Issues:

Michael Simko - 330-565-0084
Michael Centofanti - 330-544-3518

Fellowship of Saint Moses the Black 2024 Conference

“Equipping for the work of reconciliation and sharing the African roots of Christianity”

The mission of the Fellowship of Saint Moses the Black is to equip Christians for the ministry of reconciliation to Christ. The 31st Annual Ancient Christianity Conference will be in Indianapolis, IN, at Joy of All Who Sorrow Orthodox Church, on October 11 - 13, 2024. The conference will be live streamed for free via our YouTube Channel.

NOTE: Go to Diocesan website to be notified & register.

This year’s guest speaker is Dr. Kathryn Bocanegra from Chicago, Illinois. She is a licensed clinical social worker and also serves as Senior Advisor to Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul on crime victim and violence prevention issues. Abbess Katherine Weston will give the President’s Address and we will hear talks from Fr. Paul Abernathy, Fr. Alexii Altschul, Fr. Dn. John Gresham, and others.

On Saturday, October 12 at 10:00 AM CT, we will celebrate the Divine Liturgy, in the setting of the “Jubilee Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom.” The liturgy is composed by Abbess Katherine Weston and conducted by Dr. Zhanna Lehmann. All the choral pieces are inspired by African American Spirituals.

The program consists of not only lectures, but panel discussion, breakout groups and cultural exchange. The aim of the conference is to address the spiritual as well as practical aspects of the ministry of reconciliation to Christ.

DCE Releases First Lessons in Year-Long Curriculum

The OCA Department of Christian Education has released the first lessons of a new comprehensive school-age curriculum, assisting parishes and Church School teachers in the formation of Orthodox Christian students. The first five lessons in a planned year-long curriculum are now available for download for Preschool, Kindergarten through Second grade, and Third through Fifth grade. Middle school and High School lessons will be released at a future date.

Entitled, “Blessed is the Kingdom,” the new school-age curriculum is based on themes presented in the popular “Essential Orthodox Christian Beliefs” released by the Departments of the Orthodox Church in America last year. Using the Divine Liturgy as a framework for presenting the most essential Orthodox Christian doctrines and practices, the development of this school-age curriculum will now permit a parish-wide coordinated educational program.

The series author, Kelly Potteiger, is creating this new series using the successful format of her previous occasional lessons, “All of Creation Rejoices,” and “Let Your Light So Shine,” often used for short series or Vacation Church School themes.

Fr Thomas Soroka, Project Manager for the Departments of the OCA stated, “this new school-age year-long series is a logical and needed next step in the development of new Church School material. As our parishes and Church Schools across the OCA grow, our pastors and teachers have asked for fresh, interactive lessons which engage students and guide teachers every step of the way.”

The new lessons emphasize scripture and liturgical texts, are written with clear instructions for teachers, and are scripted in order to assist novice teachers. The lessons are created to be highly interactive using questions, activities, and crafts which are especially attractive to young students and enable learning more effectively than paper exercises.

Find the first five lessons for Preschool, Kindergarten through Second grade, and Third through Fifth grade here

You can support the ongoing projects of the Departments of the OCA by considering a gift to the Stewards of the OCA. Your financial support is crucial to the success of these endeavors! For questions about the work of the Departments, contact Father Thomas Soroka at tsoroka@oca.org.