



# Holy Assumption Orthodox Church

OCA - Diocese of the Midwest

V. Rev. Archpriest Andrew Bartek, Rector Parish Council President: Ron Royhab



## September Bulletin Sponsor:

*From Fr. Andrew in memory of His Grace Bishop John Martin*

### Liturgical & Events Schedule

#### Sunday, September 25

9:10 AM: Hours / Divine Liturgy / Social

4:00 PM: Retirement Dinner for 2 Deanery Priests

#### Wednesday, September 28

Fr. Andrew leaves for Chicago

#### Sunday, October 2

9:10 am Hours / Divine Liturgy / Social

Fr. Andrew returns in the afternoon

#### Sunday September 25, 2022

**Gospel:** Luke 5:1-11 & 6:17-23

**Epistle:** 2nd Corinthians 4:6-15 / Galatians 5:22-6:2

**Tone 6. 15th Sunday After Pentecost.** Ven Euphrosyne of Alexandria. Martyr Paphnutius and 546 companions in Egypt. Ven. Euphrosyne of Suzdal. Repose of Ven. Sergius (Sergii), Abbot and Wonderworker of Radonezh and all Russia. Translation of the relics of St Herman, Archbishop of Kazan. New Martyr Aleksy (Alexius) Voroshin, Fool for Christ.



### SEPTEMBER BULLETIN CANDLE SPONSORS

**Bulletin:** (\$50) From Fr. Andrew in Memory of His Grace Bishop John

**Chandelier:** (\$50) From Joe & Valerie in memory of Rose Haburt / From Fr. Andrew in memory of my grandfather Steve Bartek

**Altar Candles:** (\$50) From Joe & Valerie in memory of Gordon Schutt

**Eternal Light & Icon Screen:** (\$25) From Joe & Valerie in memory of Violet Bargdill & Laverne Schutt

**Candles @ the Cross:** From Laura for Birthday blessings to Fin & Jack / From Fr. Andrew in memory of my family & friends

**Candles @ St Tikhon's Icon:** For the safety of Nicholas, Tikhon & Gleice and her unborn baby / From Fr. Andrew in memory of the former Pastors AP John Grandziuk, AP Michael Dziama; AP George Breyan

### OCTOBER BULLETIN CANDLE SPONSORS

**Bulletin:** (\$50) Open

**Chandelier:** (\$50)

**Altar Candles:** (\$50) Open

**Eternal Light & Icon Screen:** (\$25) Open

**Candles @ the Cross:** (\$15) Laura Birthday blessings to Katelyn & in memory of Uncle Alex & John Kovach

**Candles @ St Tikhon's Icon:** (\$15) For the safety of Nicholas, Tikhon & Gleice and her unborn baby

## SEPTEMBER: MONTHLY TITHE ONLY

Goal Pledged per month: \$5,667

(average of \$1,307 per week)

September 4: \$1,012

September 11: \$592

September 18: \$1,112

## SEPTEMBER LITURGICAL ATTENDANCE

**Saturday, Sept. 3:** 6 attended vespers (2 of which were guests)

**Sunday, Sept. 4:** 35 attended Liturgy (20 of which were guests) / 26 Communicants

**Wednesday, Sept. 7:** 10 attended Vespers

**Thursday, Sept. 8:** 12 attended Liturgy (2 of which were guests)

**Sunday, Sept. 11:** 25 attended Liturgy (11 of which were guests) / 10 Communicants

**Tuesday, Sept 13:** 9 attended Vespers (1 was a guest)

**Wednesday, Sept 12:** 6 attended Liturgy

**Sunday, Sept. 18:** 16 attended Liturgy (4 of which were guests)

### Premiere Concert Performance for Archdiocesan Choir of Washington, D.C.

The Archdiocesan Choir of Washington, D.C. gave its premiere concert on Sunday, August 28 at Saint Nicholas Orthodox Cathedral. The group was formed earlier this year with the blessing and support of His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon. Led by Juliana Woodill, the choir sang works from Great Vespers and Divine Liturgy written entirely by American Orthodox composers for the English language. This project began with a call for compositions in February and over one hundred pieces were received for consideration. In selecting music, singability for the average church choir was of primary importance, keeping in mind the need for simplicity, beauty, and flexible voicings. Secondly, the hope was to share music that is both uniquely American and liturgically appropriate.

While the choir is a project of the Orthodox Church in America, it includes singers *Con't pg 10*

## VIGILS 9-18

**Basil Glovinsky 3** In loving memory of Jean's birthday 9/14, health of Ron, health of Joe & Valerie

**Laura Kovach 4** Birthday blessings to Fin. For the health and recovery of Ed, Sonya, Paul E, and John D.

For health of Betty K., Ben F., Earl R., Mary P., Margaret M., Mark M., Dana M., Bodhi C., Hattie & Molly K., Kathie J., Joe R., Pete R., Sharon D., and Rick & Jill. Special intentions

**Sandy Martin 1** Special intentions

**Royhab 1** In blessed memory of Eileen Libb, Bobbie's sister-in-law

**Natalie Twarek 8** Birthday Blessings to Wyatt 9/17, Birthday blessings to Father David 9/18, Anniversary blessings to Zach & Amber 9/19, Health and recovery of Heather, and Ron, God's blessing for Nikki and unborn baby, For the health and recovery of Valerie, Ed, Mark, Carole, Sharon and Charlie, Kurt, Leslie & Ed, Health of Amber, Dottie, Joe, Jamie, Jim, Stephanie, Ezra, David, Helen Lis and Tina's dad, Earl, Matt, Tom, Loren, Joe, Sonya, Margi & Joe, Betty, Jackie, MaryAnn & Bob, Chuck, Bohdi, Katie, David, Diane, Stella, Jake, Pat, Karen, special intentions

## FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Diane Tryon  
109 Joslyn Street  
Arcadia, OH 44804

Joe & Sonya Rose  
4351 East Norma Drive  
Port Clinton, OH 43452

Ed & Irene Vangeloff  
454 Strouse Lane  
Sandusky, OH 44870



## **Bishop Daniel Celebrates Patronal Feast of Cleveland Cathedral**

The historic cathedral in Cleveland, St. Theodosius Cathedral, celebrated the feast of their heavenly patron, St. Theodosius, Wonderworker of Chernigov this past weekend, Friday, September 9, through Sunday, September 11. This important feast for the cathedral community was marked by the archpastoral visit of His Grace Bishop Daniel of Chicago and the Midwest.

Divine Liturgy was held on Friday, September 9, the translation of the relics of St. Theodosius, and was led by the Cathedral Dean, Priest Ján Čižmár, and concelebrating with him was Priest Alexander Koranda, Dean of Holy Trinity Cathedral. Fr. Ján offered a reflection on the life of St. Theodosius after the liturgy highlighting the saint's attention to the good order of the divine services. He reminded those gathered of the importance of this being at the center of community life above all else.

Great Vespers were held Saturday evening where His Grace was welcomed, commemorating his first visit as Diocesan Hierarch to the cathedral, and Cleveland.

On Sunday morning Bishop Daniel entered the cathedral and was greeted by the clergy and the faithful. Serving with the Bishop of Chicago were Priest Ján Čižmár, Archpriest Basil Stoyka, Archpriest John Adamcio, Archpriest Alexander Garklavs, Archpriest John Zdinak, Priest Alexander Koranda, and Protodeacon Samuel Slimak. The homily was offered by Bishop Daniel.

At the Little Entrance, Fr. Ján received the nabadrennik, and kamilavka as Diocesan Awards, and awarded the Gold Cross on behalf of the Synod of the Orthodox Church in America. Upon bestowing these priestly awards, the Bishop expressed his gratitude for Fr. Ján's work, but also mentioned that these awards are in anticipation for the continued good work and labors that will be accomplished.

During the divine services, Bishop Daniel remembered those who lost their life in the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001.

At the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, His Grace greeted the cathedral community congratulating them on their parish feast and recalled visiting the parish as

a priest, and his excitement to now serve the community as their hierarch. Fr. Ján welcomed His Grace, and all were invited to a festive meal in the parish hall.

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### **Feast of the Cross Celebrated by Bishop Daniel of Chicago**

On Wednesday, September 14, the Great Feast of the Elevation of the Life-giving Cross, His Grace Bishop Daniel of Chicago and the Diocese of the Midwest served the festal services at his Diocesan Cathedral, Holy Trinity Cathedral.

On Tuesday, September 13, Bishop Daniel celebrated the All Night Vigil for the feast of the Cross and preformed the Rite of Elevation. The next day, His Grace celebrated Divine Liturgy and was joined by Priest Alexander Koranda, Cathedral Dean, Protodeacon Thomas Keith, and Deacon Paul Garklavs.

His Grace offered a homily on the Holy Cross, in which the faithful venerated following the sermon.

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### **Metropolitan Tikhon represented at the enthronement of His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas**

On Sunday, September 18, 2022, Archpriest Alexander Rentel, Chancellor of the Orthodox Church in America, represented His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon at the celebration of the Divine Liturgy and enthronement of His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas of Manhattan, newly elected First Hierarch of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia. At the banquet following the Divine Liturgy, Father Alexander read a letter of greeting from Metropolitan Tikhon to Metropolitan Nicholas, and presented Metropolitan Nicholas with a gift from His Beatitude. Letter on Page 13.

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### **SEPTEMBER CLEANING SCHEDULE**

|                   |             |
|-------------------|-------------|
| Week of Sept. 25: | Laura       |
| Week of Oct. 2:   | Basil / Tim |
| Week of the 9:    | Laura       |
| Week of the 16:   | Susan       |
| Week of the 23:   | Laura       |



## PRAYER LIST- UPDATED September 21

**HIERARCH'S / CLERGY:** Archbishop Benjamin from San Francisco; Archbishop Melchizedek of Western PA; John Duranko (Father's home pastor); James Gleason (Father's Spiritual Father); Moses Berry; Emilian Hutnyan; Deacon Paul Gansle ;Deacon Peter Rentsch; Deacon Michael Wilson; Sub-deacon Wylie Meath

**MATUSHKII:** Pani Patricia Duranko; Pani Helen Shuytak; Virginia Lecko

**PARISHIONERS & THEIR FAMILIES:** James Bargdill (Schutt); John Beadle (Elchisco); Kristen Cassell; Carole Conaway (Twarek); Maryann Cook (Twarek); Sharon Dietrich (Twarek); Charlie Dietrich (Twarek); Michael Glovinsky; Shirley Gresh (Glovinsky); Joseph Habegger (Kovach); Elaine Hileman; Joe Kollar (Fr.); Betty Kovach; Helen Lis; Walter Litzie; Sandy Martin; David Martin; David Mazurik; Mark Mazurik; Child Stella Miller (Elchisco); William Pipenur(Hileman); Earl Rindfleisch; Helen Jean Rofkar (Elchisco); Joe Rose; Sonya Rose; Ron Royhab; Maryann Royhab; Stephanie Royhab; Donna Schoonmaker; Valerie Schutt; Joe Schutt; Tom Twarek; Diane Tryon; Ed Vangeloff, Child Bodhi (Cassell); Brittany Lariccia & her unborn child (Fr.); Nikki and her unborn child; Gleice & her unborn child

**OTHER REQUESTS:** Donny (Jake); Marge Dziama; Child Ezra; Kurt Franck (Royhab); Ben Franklin (Kovach); Dorothy Goldman (Twarek); Donald Gresh (Glovinsky); Tod Kelly; Jake Lipstraw (Twarek); Mark Ludvik (Guzy); Marsha (Rose); Mark Masica (Kovach); Pauline Meath; Karen Muzyka; Jamie Philpot (Twarek); Robert Piznar (Rentz); William Romanchak; Rick Rowe (Kovach); Sandy Scafaria (Hileman); David Warner (Schutt); Chuck Wiedenhoft (Twarek); Sara (Jake); Chris Quotap; Zoland Zile; Ashley and her unborn child (Fr.) ; Elizabeth And her unborn child (Fr.)

**MILITARY:** Craig Cassell, Cory Deaton , Jake Ellithorpe, Jordan Fulton, Alena Grabavoy, Justin Issler; Nicholas & Tikhon

**CAPTIVES:** Metropolitan Paul (Orthodox Archdiocese of Aleppo), Archbishop John Syriac Archdiocese of Aleppo, The UN & IOCC humanitarian aid workers in & around Syria; Those suffering persecution in Iraq, Syria, Israel, Egypt, Ukraine and throughout the world



**NOTE:** Please let Fr. Andrew know who can come off the list or be put on.

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### Luke 5:1-11 (Gospel)

So it was, as the multitude pressed about Him to hear the word of God, that He stood by the Lake of Gennesaret, and saw two boats standing by the lake; but the fishermen had gone from them and were washing their nets. Then He got into one of the boats, which was Simon's, and asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the multitudes from the boat. When He had stopped speaking, He said to Simon, "Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." But Simon answered and said to Him, "Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless at Your word I will let down the net." And when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their net was breaking. So they signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!" For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish which they had taken; and so also were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid. From now on you will catch men." So when they had brought their boats to land, they forsook all and followed Him.

## SEPTEMBER CELEBRATIONS

| ANNIVERSARIES  | BIRTHDAYS  |   |
|--|--|---|
| 3- Frank & Crystal Batura<br>11- David & Roddie Mazurik<br>11- Wayne & Heidi Golob<br>13- Sam & Angie Dardovski<br>13- Fr. Peter Zarynow priestly ann.<br>13- Tom & Jean Hileman<br>15- Nikki & Sean Williams<br>19- Zach & Amber Twarek<br>24- Mike & Diane Tryon<br>25- Karen & Vitaly Muzyka<br>9-28-1990: Retired Bishop Lazar of Ottawa<br><br><p style="text-align: center;"><b>NAMESDAY</b></p> 9-30: Archbishop Michael of NY & NJ | 1-Denny Bird<br>3- Lynn Basala<br>3- William Demkosky<br>5-Chico Elchisco<br>8- Zach Twarek<br>11- Fr. John Beskid<br>11- Brian Lucas<br>14- Debbie Perman<br>14- Chris Baxter<br>15- Walter Litzie Sr<br>15 Braelynn Williams<br>17- Wyatt Schlotterer<br>18- Fr. David Lis | 19- Cooper Kowal<br>20- Charisse Hileman<br>22- Pani Bethany Mihaly<br>23- Rita Mazur<br>24- Benjamin Otis Franklin<br>25- Nikki Twarek<br>25- Noah Adamcio<br>25- Michael Litzie<br>26- Jim Basala<br>26- Amber Twarek<br>26- Greg Twarek<br>30- Jaxson Monschein<br>30- Jack Kovach |

### 2 Corinthians 4:6-15 (Epistle)

For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed –always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus’ sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So then death is working in us, but life in you. And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, “I believed and therefore I spoke,” we also believe and therefore speak, knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present us with you. For all things are for your sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God.

## SEPTEMBER REPOSED

|  |  |
|--|--|
| 1-His Eminence AB Bishop Nikon (2019)<br>2- David Douglas (2015)<br>4- John Mataleska (1986)<br>4- Archpriest John Grandziuk (1947) Former Pastor<br>5- Archpriest Michael Dziama (1944) Former Pastor<br>5- Archpriest Anastasy Richter (2021)<br>7- Lisa Monak (2020)<br>14- Archpriest George Breyan (2009) Former Pastor<br>14- Mary Kamiotis (2017)<br>15- Steve Bartek (1962) (Grandfather)<br>15- Infant Sloane Swanton (2021) -<br>15- Terri Lariccia (2021)<br>16- John George Mazurik (1997) | 18- Bernie Labouda (2018)<br>18- Stephen Sature (2004)<br>18- Bob Whitham Sr (2020)<br>19- Peter Rindfleisch (2006)<br>20- Nora Bird (2017)<br>21- Joseph Mazur (2002)<br>26- Pastor Kevin Brown (2020)<br>27- Michael Ittescu (1968)<br>27- Alison Pickney (2017)<br>27- Karen Milano (2017)<br>28- William Felenchak (1977)<br>30- Bishop John Martin (1984)<br>30- Tommy- Leonchik (2020) |
|--|--|

## Bishop Daniel Meets with Seminarians

On Friday, September 16, His Grace Bishop Daniel of Chicago and the Diocese of the Midwest met with the diocesan seminarians from St. Tikhon Orthodox Theological Seminary, South Canaan, PA. His Grace was at the monastery for the funeral services of Metropolitan Herman (Swaiko), of blessed memory.

During the informal meeting, Bishop Daniel was able to discuss a number of topics with his seminarians about their current life at seminary, as well as life within the diocese. The seminarians also had a chance to ask questions and share their experiences of seminary with the Bishop.

The seminarians also noted their excitement for the upcoming enthronement taking place in Chicago on September 30 and October 1. His Grace invited the theological students to be a part of this important moment in the life of the diocese.

As previously announced, September is "Support Our Seminarians" month within the diocese. This annual appeal focuses on directly helping the seminarians and their families who are studying to serve the Church.

Before departing to Chicago, Bishop Daniel offered prayers before the graves of former hierarchs of the Midwest, including, Metropolitan Leonty (Turkevich), and Archbishop John (Garklavs).

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### Detroit Ministry Seeking Assistance to Continue Good Work

The community of St. Peter and St. Paul Cathedral, Detroit, MI, launch a campaign seeking assistance to upgrade their community center which serves weekly meals to those in need. The present center lacks a functioning kitchen which many local residents rely on to serve them meals.

For the past ten years, the cathedral community has focused on local service ministry assisting those in southwest Detroit a warm meal every Sunday afternoon. During this time many surrounding church communities and organizations have joined the effort by preparing food and serving on Sundays.

Other ministries hosted at the community center include Orthodox Detroit Outreach weekly food distribution, St. Maria Food Pantry and Clothing Closet, St. Herman Children's Ministries, St. Elizabeth End-of-life Ministries, and an enquirer's Study/Library.

"We hope you will help us to further this work with your generosity and prayers," said, Archpriest Paul Albert, Rector of St. Peter and St. Paul Cathedral. "Over the past ten years we have been blessed to host our brothers and sisters from parishes throughout the Midwest who have come to work and serve in our setting. We thank you all for helping sustain our Orthodox Christian presence here in the inner city of Detroit."

"We now make an appeal for your help with the renovation of our new kitchen. As the center of any community, a functioning kitchen is essential to our continued missionary efforts in the inner-city. The new kitchen will serve as the heart of our missionary center, providing a place to prepare food for our various ministries and neighborhood gatherings, serving the men, women, and children of our beloved community of southwest Detroit."

The project has been in the works for over a year, but unexpected increases in costs have slowed the process down. The goal is to raise \$50,000.00 towards the purchase of exhaust system and cooking appliances still needed to complete the project.

"The funds we raise through this appeal will go directly to our kitchen renovation project. We ask that you take a moment to help us, thinking about the positive impacts your contribution can make on the lives of so many other people."

To offer assistance, a Go Fund Me link has been made available. <https://www.gofundme.com/f/fundraiser-sts-peter-and-paul-new-kitchen>

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### 40 DAY REMEMBRANCE

**September 25:** Bobby Almashie / Shawn Larrica  
**Oct. 2:** Metro. Kallistos Ware  
**Oct. 15:** His Beatitude Metropolitan .Herman  
**Oct. 23:** Eileen Libb / William Deaton

## **Bishop Daniel attends Funeral of Metropolitan Herman**

Funeral services were held at St. Tikhon of Zadonsk Monastery in South Canaan, PA, for His Beatitude Metropolitan Herman (Swaiko), who reposed on September 6, 2022. Metropolitan Herman served as the Primate of the Orthodox Church in America from 2002 to 2008.

The funeral services for the late Primate were on Thursday, September 15 and Friday, September 16. His Grace Bishop Daniel of Chicago and the Diocese of the Midwest concelebrated with His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon, Archbishop of Washington, Metropolitan of All American and Canada, His Eminence Archbishop Benjamin of San Francisco and the Diocese of the West, His Eminence Archbishop Michael of New York and the Diocese of New York and New Jersey, and His Grace Bishop Alexei of Sitka and the Diocese of Alaska.

A number of clergy from the Diocese of the Midwest were also present, including; Archpriest Andrew Nelko, Archpriest Alexander Garklavs, Archpriest Nicholas Wyslutsky, Archpriest Eilian Hutnyan, Archpriest Andrew Bartek, and Priest Alexander Koranda.

Bishop Daniel offered the eulogy at Divine Liturgy focusing on the Metropolitan's many years of service to the Church.

Metropolitan Herman was laid to rest at St. Tikhon of Zadonsk Monastery, where he lived for most of his earthly life.

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## **Recordings of 20th AAC Plenary Sessions Now Available on National OCA Website**

Audio recordings of the five Plenary Sessions of the 20th All-American Council, held in Baltimore, MD are now available.

- Plenary Session 1 - July 18, 2022
- Plenary Session 2 - July 19, 2022
- Plenary Session 3 - July 20, 2022
- Plenary Session 4 - July 21, 2022
- Plenary Session 5 - July 22, 2022

## **Annual Appeal Calls Clergy and Faithful to Support Seminarians**

The annual "Support Our Seminarians" Month in the Diocese of the Midwest has begun with the blessing of His Grace Bishop Daniel, who calls upon the faithful to support the diocesan seminarians.

In a letter to the clergy and faithful to the diocese, Bishop Daniel conveyed that this annual appeal fosters hope in that God continues to call individuals and families to serve the Church:

"This is a topic that brings us hope in that each seminarian is training to better serve the Church as a future clergyman, choir director, or some other position within our communities. All of these are in great need within our diocese and we are grateful for those who continue to dedicate their lives to the Church in this ministry."

In an effort to build awareness of our seminarians' needs, SOS flyers are available for downloading and distribution in all parishes during the month of September. All donations from parishes as well as individuals — culminating in "SOS Sunday" on September 27 — will be distributed directly to the seminarians to offset the cost of their educational and living expenses.

Regardless of how a parish chooses to raise SOS funds, the result will help ensure that our seminarians and their families will find some measure of "relief" from increasing living and educational expenses.

Individuals are encouraged to donate through their parishes, by mailing a check to the diocese, or online.

*Letter from Bishop Daniel on next Page.*





## LETTER FROM BISHOP DANIEL 2022 SEMINARIAN APPEAL LETTER

To all Rectors, Deacons, Monastics and Laity of the Midwest,

In this month of September, the Diocese annually renews its support of our Diocesan Seminarians. It is a time for our communities to reflect on this important, and often overlooked, vocation that is vital for a healthy diocese. By offering our prayers for our seminarians, joined with our monetary support, we are able to remind them of our love for them and their families, while also reminding ourselves of the importance of fostering this vocation within our own parishes.

This is a topic that brings us hope in that each seminarian is training to better serve the Church as a future clergyman, choir director, or some other position within our communities. All of these are in great need within our diocese and we are grateful for those who continue to dedicate their lives to the Church in this ministry.

This is an important time for our students as they discern the will of God and prepare themselves to serve His Holy Church. This discernment takes a great deal of focus and commitment which leaves our seminarians unable to seek employment, but still with the burden of living expenses and families to attend to.

With this in mind, I ask every community, along with each faithful member of this Diocese to prayerfully consider making a contribution to this important effort. By supporting our future leaders, we allow them to better focus on their formation, while also bringing them a bit of relief from their financial burdens.

With gratitude for your generosity, in Christ,

+DANIEL

Bishop of Chicago and the Midwest

## His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon Offers Condolences for the Repose of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

On September 8, 2022 His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon sent a letter of condolence to His Majesty King Charles III on the occasion of the repose of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, the longest reigning British monarch and the head of state of the United Kingdom, Canada, and many Commonwealth countries around the world.

The text of the letter reads as follows:

Your Majesty:

I write to express my condolences on the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Your mother's long reign as Queen of the United Kingdom, Canada, and the other Commonwealth realms was one marked by many changes, and throughout all of them, she maintained and cultivated the esteem not only of her subjects, but of all the peoples of the Anglophone world and beyond. She was, for many, the only monarch of the United Kingdom and Canada in their lifetime, and doubtless, she will be remembered for many years longer.

For my part, I assure Your Majesty of my prayers in this season of grief. All of the faithful of the Orthodox Church in America join together with our Canadian faithful in praying for Your Majesty and the people of the United Kingdom, Canada, and the other Commonwealth realms during this difficult time of mourning and transition. We pray also for the well-being of Your Majesty and the royal family, and that the Lord God would prosper Your Majesty's reign.

Respectfully,

+ TIKHON

Archbishop of Washington  
Metropolitan of all America and Canada





## Remarks for Beginning of the School Year at Saint Vladimir's Seminary

I would like briefly to address the seminarians as they begin their new academic year.

Today, as we exalt the most precious and life-giving Cross, we see an instrument of torture and death that has been transformed, by the power of Christ's Passion and Resurrection, into a instrument of victory over death, the world, and the devil. Through Christ's Pascha, the Cross has become our greatest weapon against temptation, sin, and spiritual death.

We are surrounded by temptations to conform ourselves to the ways of the world and to substitute the life in Christ for the spiritual death of sin. Some of these temptations are obvious, and some are less so.

On the one hand, we are called to conform the practices and rhythms of our lives to the feasts and fasts of the Christian year, not to the pleasures and sorrows of this passing world. We are called to receive and teach the holy doctrines of the apostles and the fathers, not the novelties and perversions of this age. And we are called to live according to those teachings, not according to our own appetites and desires and notions.

And yet we are also called to avoid vainglory, pride, anger, and judgment. Our fasts and our feasts will not please the Lord if we do them for display—whether that display is directed towards our physical communities or our online social networks. Our faithfulness to the doctrines of the Church is of no avail if we angrily dispute with our neighbors or with acquaintances and strangers on social media. Our efforts to live a moral, virtuous life mean nothing if our mind is filled with anger and judgment against others.

As Christians, we are called to a life of perfect action and perfect contemplation. We must be active in studying and teaching the truth, in the preaching and practice of virtue. But we must also remain at all times recollected in God, asking him for his aid, and offering up all our efforts to him. We must remember that all of our efforts are nothing but steps toward the knowledge of God, the love of the Lord, and everlasting union with him, a possibility which has been opened unto us by the great work of Jesus

Christ, our true God and only Savior.

As a new academic year begins, you are embarking upon a season of especially intense study and formation. I pray that, during this time, you will keep the Lord at the center of your efforts, avoid unprofitable distractions and habits, and focus all your words, deeds, and thoughts on the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ, the good news of our salvation.

May you always fix your gaze on the image of the Cross and sign yourselves with that holy sign, reminding yourselves of the crucified Lord whom you serve and the cruciform shape of your service. May the Cross of Christ be your strength, your joy, and your salvation amid all the challenges, inner and outer, that face you during your time at seminary and throughout the days of your life.

With that, I wish you all a joyous feast of the Cross. I pray that the Lord will make this academic year fruitful for you all.

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### **BUILDING / RESTORATION FUND**

Our 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is coming!

Fund Purpose: To collect funds to pay for the restoration, repair and beautification of the building and parish room. This will avoid using general funds which are earmarked for budgetary items.

Please consider contributing generously to the *Building/Restoration Fund*.

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### **CATASTROPHIC RELIEF FUND**

Purpose of fund: To provide some small financial assistance to a parishioner, family member or community member who has suffered a catastrophic event.

Funds will be offered at the discretion & blessing of the Rector and the discretion of the Board.

This money can also be used for outreach programs in the parish. Thank you and God bless!

## DC Choir con't from pg 2

While the choir is a project of the Orthodox Church in America, it includes singers from area parishes of many other jurisdictions as well, bringing together those who share a common faith and are separated only administratively. The Archdiocesan Choir is not a professional or auditioned ensemble and does not require a particular level of musical education or even the ability to read music. It is a group of Orthodox Christians desiring to sing praises to God, to learn, and to grow. The choir's primary purpose will be liturgical, singing for various services and events in the Archdiocese and for His Beatitude. In the future, the choir hopes to facilitate events for community and fellowship as well as educational opportunities for Orthodox singers in the National Capital Region.

In his remarks at the conclusion of the concert, His Beatitude summed up the evening and the importance of liturgical music:

“What we have experienced this evening is not simply a concert but rather an immersion in the sacred liturgical life of the Orthodox Church. It is an experience that elicits something deeper than the merely aesthetical or emotional response of worldly entertainment. Rather, it is an experience that introduces us into the very life of God. These sacred offerings both lift us up, in all our human brokenness and suffering, to the edges of the heavenly and life-giving kingdom and draw down the light of that kingdom to illumine our world of darkness, war, and isolation. Our liturgical hymns and our sacred worship do not provide escapes for us but rather provide a conduit for the grace of God to fill and strengthen our hearts, whether they be joyful or suffering, and bind us together in one of the few ways that human beings can be truly united: communion with Christ through sacred worship.”

It was announced at the 20th All-American Council of the Orthodox Church in America in Baltimore, MD that the first Sunday after the feast of Saint Romanus the Melodist (October 1) would be designated Musician Sunday. This day recognizes the vital ministry of our choirs in the life of the Church and honors those who serve as musicians in our parishes. His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon reminds us in his Encyclical from 2018 that “Music is often the first thing which deeply strikes people when they walk into an Orthodox church, even before they absorb the iconography, the architecture, the words of the services, or the preaching.” Often, our congregations see only the product of the work of the choir and *Con't Pg 13*

## 100 ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Our sister parish Archangel Michael in Broadview Heights will be celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of their parish.

The celebration will be held on the weekend of November 5-6.

His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon, and His Grace Bishop Daniel will concelebrate liturgies on both Saturday and Sunday. The main banquet will be held on Saturday, November 5 to accommodate the deanery clergy and parishes.

Saturday, November 5

Hierarchal Divine Liturgy @ 9:30 am followed by the Grand Banquet @1:00 pm. RSVP required. Advance purchase tickets only.

Price: \$50 Adult Ticket. Youth 11-17 \$25. Child's ticket 10 & under \$10.

Great Vespers will be served @ 6pm.

Sunday, November 6

9:30 am Hierarchical Divine Liturgy. Children our encouraged to sing responses.

Noon: After Liturgy, weather permitting, we hope to make a procession and plant a commemorative tree and time capsule marking the occasion.

1 pm: Family Brunch

A celebratory brunch will conclude our weekend, filled with games and activities for our youth and all to enjoy. RSVP required to help us plan for food.

Price \$5 per person 18 & older

### READER

|               |     |
|---------------|-----|
| September 25: | Joe |
| October 2:    | Tim |
| October 9:    | Joe |
| October 16    | Tim |
| October 23    | Joe |
| October 30    | Tim |