

MINUTES

Monday, July 18, 2005

Plenary Session I

Pre-Council Registration as of the morning of Monday, July 18, 2005

Hierarchs:	13
Guest & Retired Hierarchs:	3
Clergy Delegates:	264
Lay Delegates:	266
Observers: OCA:	290
Guests:	53
Youth:	240
Total Registered:	1129

1. Following the entrance of the hierarchs, the celebration of the Service of Prayer at the Opening of the Sacred Council and the singing of “The Grace of the Holy Spirit,” His Beatitude, Metropolitan HERMAN, declared the 14th All-American Council open at 11:25 A.M.

2. The national anthems of Canada, the United States, and Mexico were sung.

3. His Beatitude, Metropolitan HERMAN, introduced His Grace, Bishop SERAPHIM of Ottawa, host bishop and Episcopal Moderator of the Pre-Conciliar Commission, who offered words of welcome to the delegates, outlined the Pre-Conciliar Commission's work and offered words of thanks to those who worked so hard to organize this Council.

4. His Grace, Bishop SERAPHIM, then presented nominations for the organization of the Council, as follows:

Council Vice-Chairs

Archpriest Gregory Safchuk, Clergy Vice-Chair
Dr. Alice Woog, Lay Vice-Chair

Resolutions Committee

Dr. Paul Meyendorff, Chair
Archpriest Peter Baktis
Archpriest Daniel Kovalak
V. Rev. David Mahaffey
Priest Lawrence Margitich
Igumen Joseph (Hoffman)
Dr. John Barnett
Mr. David Drillock
Mr. Nicholas Ressetar

Tellers

Archpriest John Zdinak, Chair
Archpriest John Adamcio
Priest Daniel Degyansky
Priest Timothy Hojnicky
Mr. David Donlick
Ms. Leda Dzwonczyk
Mr. Harold Homyak
Mr. Peter Junda
Mr. John Mindala, Sr.
Mr. Hennock Sook
Mr. Alexie Vassiouchkine
Mrs. Pauline Walker
Mr. Coy Williamson

Credentials Committee

Priest Steven Voytovich, Chair
Priest John Chudik
Mr. Theodore Csernica
Mrs. Mary Jane Lucak
Ms. Eleana Silk
Mr. Gregory Sulich
Mr. Frank Tkacz
Mrs. Nadine Wood
Mr. Jerry Wilson, Consultant

Council Secretariat

Priest John Hopko, Chair
Archpriest Andrew Morbey
Archpriest Constantine White
Archpriest Basil Zebrun
Priest John Hainsworth
Mrs. Cheryl Anna Andrew

Nominations

Archpriest Michael Westerberg, Chair
Archpriest Theodore Boback
Archpriest Laurence Lazar
Archpriest Michael Matsko
Archpriest Dennis Rhodes
Archpriest Michael Senyo
Archpriest David Shewczyk
Archimandrite Isidore (Brittain)
Mr. Nicholas Lezinsky
Dr. Faith Skordinski
Mrs. Christine Zebrun

Press and Information

Archpriest John Matusiak, Chair
Archpriest John Dresko
Archpriest George Gray
Archpriest Leonid Kishkovsky
Priest Eric Tosi
Mr. David Lucs
Mr. John Mindala
Mr. Martin Paluch

Parliamentary Procedure

Archpriest David Brum, Chair
Archpriest Leonid Kishkovsky
Priest John Mikita
Priest Ian Pac-Urar
Priest Alexander Rentel
Mr. Michael Herzak
Mr. Jonathan Russin

Summary Team

Mrs. Valerie Zahirsky, Co-Chair
Mr. David Wagschal, Co-Chair
Archpriest Michael Dahulich
Archpriest John Kowalczyk
Archpriest Ken James Stavrevsky
Priest Lawrence Margitich
Priest Jacob Myers
Priest Thomas Soroka
Priest Timothy Ullman
Mrs. Victoria Jones
Mrs. Mary Ann Lopoukhine
Mrs. Joan Skrobat

5. His Grace, Bishop SERAPHIM, moved the acceptance of the nominations, seconded by Archpriest John Dresko. The motion was unanimously accepted.

6. His Grace, Bishop SERAPHIM, reviewed the procedures on resolutions.
7. His Beatitude, Metropolitan HERMAN, called for a motion to adopt the Rules and the Council Agenda. Dr. Paul Meyendorff moved, seconded by George Ludko. Passed.
8. His Beatitude, Metropolitan HERMAN, reviewed the Procedures for nominations and elections to Church-wide positions.
9. His Beatitude, Metropolitan HERMAN, presented the list of the current holders of those positions, and their remaining terms of office.
10. Protopresbyter Robert S. Kondratich, Chancellor of the Orthodox Church in America, welcomed special guests. His Grace, Bishop DIMITRIOS of Xanthos, Representative of His Eminence, Archbishop DIMITRIOS of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, and General Secretary of the Standing Conference of Canonical Orthodox Bishops in the Americas (SCOBA), presented official greetings from His Eminence, Archbishop DIMITRIOS.
11. Priest Steven Voytovich, Chair of the Credentials Committee, presented the Committee's report, as follows:

Registration at the Council:

Bishops:	13
Retired Bishops:	2
Clergy Delegates:	196
Lay Delegates:	204
Observers:	264
Total:	679

Attendance at Plenary Session I:

Bishops:	13
Retired Bishops:	2
Clergy Delegates:	143
Lay Delegates:	167
Observers:	246
Guest Hierarchy:	1
Other Guests and Visitors:	18
Total:	590

12. Archpriest Gregory Safchuk, Clergy Vice-Chair of the Council, called on Archpriest David Brum, Chair of the Statute Committee, to present the report of the Statute Commission. No proposals for amendment to the Statute were presented.
13. Mr. Joseph Kormos, Project Team Facilitator, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the key issues to be discussed at the Council.
14. Archpriest Gregory Safchuk, Clergy Vice-Chair, introduced Protopresbyter Robert S. Kondratich, Chancellor of the Orthodox Church in America, who in turn introduced His Beatitude, Metropolitan HERMAN. His Beatitude presented his Address as Primate of the Orthodox Church in America.
15. Session I adjourned at 1:22 P.M. with the singing of "It Is Truly Meet..."

Plenary Session II

July 18, 2005

1. Lay Vice-Chair Dr. Alice Woog called Plenary Session II to order at 2:57 P.M. with the singing of "The Grace of the Holy Spirit." Sophia Korloff of Saint George Bulgarian Orthodox Church, Toronto, Ontario, read from the Holy Scriptures.
2. The Secretary of the Holy Synod, His Grace, Bishop SERAPHIM of Ottawa, had no report at this time.
3. Priest Steven Voytovich, Chair of the Credentials Committee, presented the Committee's report, as follows:

Registration at the Council:

Hierarchs:	13
Guest & Retired Hierarchs:	3
Clergy Delegates:	264
Lay Delegates:	266
Observers: OCA:	290
Guests:	53
Youth:	240
Total Registered:	1129

Attendance at Plenary Session II:

Hierarchs:	13
Guest & Retired Hierarchs:	0
Clergy Delegates:	234
Lay Delegates:	227
Observers:	139
Total Attendance:	613

4. Archpriest Michael Westerberg, Chair of the Nominating Committee, explained the procedure for the nomination of delegates to Church-wide positions and introduced the members of the Nominating Committee.
5. Dr. Alice Woog called on Mr. Joseph Kormos to introduce Archpriest Vladimir Berzonsky. Fr. Berzonsky reflected on the first Council study topic: Vision and Identity.
6. Fr. Berzonsky introduced Dr. Constantine Kallaur, who reviewed the historical path of the Orthodox Church in America leading to the reception of Autocephaly in 1970. He introduced Protopresbyter Daniel Hubiak, Former Chancellor of the Orthodox Church in America, who recounted the events surrounding the granting of Autocephaly.
7. A panel comprised of His Grace, Bishop BENJAMIN, Protopresbyter Daniel Hubiak, Archpriest Vladimir Berzonsky, Archpriest Sergei Glagolev, Archpriest Alexis Vinogradov, and Dr. Constantine Kallaur led a discussion on the Study Topic and entertained questions from the floor.
8. Mr. Joseph Kormos outlined the vision exercises of the workshop segment.
9. The Session adjourned at 5:12 P.M. with the singing of "It Is Truly Meet..."

Tuesday, July 19

Plenary Session III

1. Lay Vice-Chair Dr Alice Woog called Plenary Session III to order at 9:55 A.M. with the singing of “The Grace of the Holy Spirit.” Priest Timothy Hojnicky, Pastor of Holy Apostles Mission, Mechanicsburg, PA, read from the Holy Scripture.

2. Ms. Rehka Khote, General Manager of the Sheraton Centre Toronto, welcomed delegates.

3. Dr. Woog introduced Protopresbyter Robert S. Kondratich, who presented his Report as Chancellor of the Orthodox Church in America.

4. Priest Steven Voytovich, Chair of the Credentials Committee, presented the Committee's report, as follows:

Registration at the Council

(as of 3:00 P.M. 7/18. Additional registrations took place after the above this report. See 7/19)

Hierarchs:	13
Guest & Retired Hierarchs:	3
Clergy Delegates:	264
Lay Delegates:	266
Observers: OCA:	290
Guests:	53
Youth:	240
Total Registered:	1129

Attendance at Plenary Session III:

Hierarchs:	12
Guest & Retired Hierarchs:	1
Clergy Delegates:	273
Lay Delegates:	242
Observers:	197
Total Attendance:	725

5. Dr. Woog called on Archpriest Chad Hatfield, Dean of St. Herman Seminary, to introduce Priest Jonathan Ivanoff. Fr. Ivanoff presented an analysis of Clergy Statistics in support of the second Council Study Topic: Clergy Formation and Development.

6. A panel comprised of Fr. Hatfield, Fr. Ivanoff, Archpriest Michael Dahulich, Dean of St. Tikhon Seminary, and Professor John Erickson, Dean of St. Vladimir Seminary led discussion on the study topic and entertained questions from the floor.

7. Archpriest Michael Westerberg reviewed the rules and procedures for nominating candidates to Church-wide positions. He identified those already nominated and asked for nominations from the floor for clergy and lay representatives to the Metropolitan Council, the Pension Board, and the Audit Committee.

Paul Culton moved, Archpriest David Mahaffey seconded, to close nominations for Metropolitan Council Clergy Representatives. Passed.

Archpriest John Voytilla moved, Peter Junda seconded, to close nominations for Metropolitan Council Lay Representatives. Passed.

Deacon Michael Suvak moved, Peter Junda seconded, to close nominations for Clergy Representatives to the Pension Board. Passed. Dr. Paul Meyendorff moved, Fr. John Dresko seconded, to close nominations for Lay Representatives to the Pension Board. Passed.

Daniel Crosby moved, Priest Marcus Burch seconded, to close nominations for Clergy Representatives to the Audit Committee. Passed.

Chaplain John Steffero moved, Archpriest Ernesto Rios seconded, to close nominations for Lay Representatives to the Audit Committee. Passed.

8. The Session adjourned at 1:15 P.M. with the singing of “It Is Truly Meet...”.

Tuesday, July 19

Plenary Session IV

1. Clergy Vice-Chair Fr. Gregory Safchuk called Plenary Session IV to order at 2:43 P.M. with the singing of “The Grace of the Holy Spirit.” Kara Yakubik, from St. Mark's Church, Bethesda, MD, read from the Holy Scripture.

2. Dr. Alice Woog, Lay Vice-Chair, outlined the vision exercises for the workshop segment dealing with Clergy Formation.

3. Fr. Steven Voytovich, Chair of the Credentials Committee, presented the Committee's report, as follows:

Registration at the Council:

Hierarchs:	13
Guest & Retired Hierarchs:	3
Clergy Delegates:	288
Lay Delegates:	272
Observers: OCA:	301
Guests:	57
Youth:	245
Total Registered:	1179

Attendance at Plenary Session IV:

Hierarchs:	13
Guest & Retired Hierarchs:	0
Clergy Delegates:	236
Lay Delegates:	231
Observers:	149
Total Attendance:	629

4. Fr. Gregory Safchuk introduced the Co-Chairs of the Council Summary Team, Mrs. Valerie Zahirsky and Mr. David Wagschal, who updated the delegates concerning the work of the Team.

5. Fr. Gregory Safchuk introduced Archpriest William Evansky, who moderated the discussion of the third Council study topic: Parish Health.

6. Fr. Jonathan Ivanoff presented the results of an online survey of parish clergy concerning their parishes.

7. A panel comprised of Fr. Evansky, Archpriest Theodore Bobosh, Priest Thomas Soroka, Michelle Jannakos, Mary Ann Lopoukhine, and Archpriest Ian Mackinnon led discussion on the study topic and entertained questions from the floor.

8. A new documentary presentation entitled “Diocesan Spotlight” was premiered.

9. The Session adjourned at 5:25 P.M. with the singing of “It Is Truly Meet....”

Wednesday, July 20

Plenary Session V

1. Clergy Vice-Chair Fr. Gregory Safchuk called Plenary Session V to order at 9:58 A.M. with the singing of “The Grace of the Holy Spirit.” Reader Todd Elias Walker, from St. Mary's Cathedral, Minneapolis, MN, read from the Holy Scripture.
2. Bishop SERAPHIM announced the Holy Synod's approval of the minutes of the first three Plenary Sessions.
3. Fr. Robert Kondratick, Chancellor of The Orthodox Church in America, introduced members of the Department of Christian Education and thanked them for their work.
4. Fr. Robert Kondratick welcomed Fr. Christopher Metropoulos, Director of the Orthodox Christian Network (a ministry of the Standing Conference of Orthodox Bishops). Fr. Metropoulos explained the work of OCN and encouraged OCA participation and support.
5. Fr. Steven Voytovich, Chair of the Credentials Committee, presented the Committee's report, as follows:

Registration at the Council:

Hierarchs:	13
Guest & Retired Hierarchs:	3
Clergy Delegates:	288
Lay Delegates:	272
Observers: OCA:	302
Guests:	57
Youth:	245
Total Registered:	1180

Attendance at Plenary Session V:

Hierarchs:	12
Guest & Retired Hierarchs:	0
Clergy Delegates:	248
Lay Delegates:	236
Observers:	160
Total Attendance:	656

6. Dr. Alice Woog, Lay Vice-Chair, introduced the Co-Chairs of the Council Summary Team, Mrs. Valerie Zahirsky and Mr. David Wagschal, who updated the delegates concerning the work of the Team.
7. Fr. Gregory Safchuk called on Archpriest Daniel Kovalak, Pastor of the Elevation of the Holy Cross Church in Williamsport, PA, to introduce the fourth Council study topic: Evangelization.
8. Fr. Kovalak introduced Priest Eric Tosi, Director of the Department of Evangelization and pastor of St Paul the Apostle Church, Las Vegas, NV, who offered an analysis of the mission and evangelization activities of The Orthodox Church in America.
9. Fr. Kovalak opened the floor for comments and reflections on mission, evangelization, and revitalization of older parishes.
10. The plenary segment of the Session adjourned at 11:42 A.M. with the singing of “It Is Truly Meet.” Participants then broke into small group workshops on Parish Health and Evangelization.

Thursday, July 21

Plenary Session VI

1. Clergy Vice-Chair Fr. Gregory Safchuk called Plenary Session VI to order at 11:02 A.M. with the singing of “The Grace of the Holy Spirit.” Archpriest John Mack from Saint Nicholas Church, Auburn, NY, read from the Holy Scripture.
2. The Secretary of the Holy Synod, His Grace, Bishop SERAPHIM of Ottawa, had no report.
3. Fr. Gregory Safchuk introduced the Co-Chairs of the Council Summary Team, Mrs. Valerie Zahirsky and Mr. David Wagschal, who updated the delegates concerning the work of the Team.
4. Fr. Steven Voytovich, Chair of the Credentials Committee, presented the Committee's report, as follows:

Registration at the Council:

Hierarchs:	13
Guest & Retired Hierarchs:	3
Clergy Delegates:	289
Lay Delegates:	273
Observers: OCA:	305
Guests:	58
Youth:	245
Total Registered:	1186

Attendance at Plenary Session VI:

Hierarchs:	12
Guest & Retired Hierarchs:	1
Clergy Delegates:	242
Lay Delegates:	242
Observers:	158
Total Attendance:	655

5. Fr. Gregory Safchuk introduced the candidates for clergy and lay representative positions on the Metropolitan Council, Pension Board, and Audit Committee.
6. The elections for Church-wide offices took place.
7. Fr. Gregory Safchuk called on David Wagschal, a member of the OCA Department of External Affairs and Interchurch Relations, to introduce the fifth Council study topic: Orthodox Relations.
8. Mr. Wagschal introduced Archpriest Leonid Kishkovsky, Assistant to the Chancellor for External Affairs and Interchurch Relations, who offered an analysis of Orthodox Relations.
9. A panel, comprised of His Eminence, Archbishop NATHANIEL of Detroit, His Grace, Bishop SERAPHIM of Ottawa, His Grace, Bishop BASIL, Bishop of Wichita and Mid-America, Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America, Archpriest Andrew Morbey, Archpriest Paul Yerger, Dr. Peter Bouteneff, and Dr. Richard Schneider, provided remarks on the study topic. His Grace, Bishop BASIL, presented his remarks via videotape.
10. Fr. Gregory Safchuk introduced the Most Rev. Jean-Louis Plouffe, Roman Catholic Bishop of Sault Ste-Marie and Past President of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, a guest at this session.
11. The Session adjourned at 1:35 P.M. with the singing of “It Is Truly Meet...”

Thursday, July 21

Plenary Session VII

Pending the arrival of the Holy Synod, Priest Sam Kedala from Holy Spirit Church, Wantage, NJ, read from the Holy Scripture. Questions carrying over from the previous Session regarding Orthodox Relations were entertained.

1. Clergy Vice-Chair Fr. Gregory Safchuk called Plenary Session VII to order at 2:52 P.M. with the singing of “The Grace of the Holy Spirit.”

2. Fr. Gregory Safchuk announced the results of the elections for Clergy and Lay Representative positions on the Metropolitan Council, the Pension Board, and the Audit Committee:

Clergy Representatives to the Metropolitan Council: Archpriest Theodore Boback (six-year term), Archpriest Constantine White (three-year term), Priest John Maxwell (alternate).

Lay Representatives to the Metropolitan Council: Professor John H. Erickson (six-year term), Dr. Faith Skordinski (three-year term), Ms. Eleana Silk (alternate).

Clergy Representatives to the Pension Board: Archpriest Dimitri Oselinsky (six-year term), Archpriest John R. Steffaro (three-year term), Archpriest John Zdinak (alternate).

Lay Representatives to the Pension Board: Mr. David Drillock (six-year term), Mr. Gregory Shesko (three-year term), Mr. Nicholas Lezinsky (alternate).

Representatives to the Audit Committee: Archpriest Paul Suda, Mr. David Donlick, Mr. Frank Tkacz (alternate).

3. The Lay Vice-Chair, Dr. Alice Woog, thanked Fr. Michael Westerberg, Chair, and the Nominations Committee for their work.

4. Dr. Woog introduced Archpriest Dimitri Oselinsky, who presented his Report as Treasurer of the Orthodox Church in America and, together with Archpriest Stavros Strikis, Comptroller of the Orthodox Church in America, entertained questions.

5. Fr. Steven Voytovich, Chair of the Credentials Committee, presented the Committee's report, as follows:

Registration at the Council:

Hierarchs:	13
Guest & Retired Hierarchs:	3
Clergy Delegates:	289
Lay Delegates:	273
Observers: OCA:	305
Guests:	58
Youth:	245
Total Registered:	1186

Attendance at Plenary Session VII:

Hierarchs:	11
Guest & Retired Hierarchs:	1
Clergy Delegates:	246
Lay Delegates:	236
Observers:	171
Total Attendance:	665

6. Dr. Woog introduced Archpriest John Dresko, who presented and moved the Fair Share Resolution of the Orthodox Church in America. Fr. Michael Westerberg seconded the motion. Discussion on the motion followed, after which the chair called for a vote. Using voting cards, a first vote was taken. Results were inconclusive, because of a problem with verification of credentials. Therefore, a second vote was taken.

Affirmative votes, 237, Negative votes, 175. Passed.

7. The Session adjourned at 4:40 P.M. with the singing of “It Is Truly Meet...”

Friday, July 22

Plenary Session VIII

1. Clergy Vice-Chair Fr. Gregory Safchuk called Plenary Session VIII to order at 10:05 A.M. with the singing of “The Grace of the Holy Spirit.” Archpriest John R. Steffaro from St. John the Baptist Church, Campbell, OH, read from the Holy Scripture.
2. The Secretary of the Holy Synod, His Grace, Bishop SERAPHIM of Ottawa, announced that the Minutes of the Council, through to and including Plenary Session VI, have been approved by the Holy Synod. The Minutes of Plenary Sessions VII and VIII will be reviewed after the close of the Council.
3. Priest Michael Anderson, Youth Director of the Orthodox Church in America, and the Youth and Young Adult participants in the 14th All-American Council, gave their presentation to the Council.
4. Fr. Steven Voytovich, Chair of the Credentials Committee, thanked all the members of the Credentials Committee, and the seminarian interns who assisted it, and presented the Committee's final report, as follows:

Registration at the Council:

Hierarchs:	13
Guest & Retired Hierarchs:	3
Clergy Delegates:	289
Lay Delegates:	273
Observers: OCA:	305
Guests:	59
Youth:	245
Total Registered:	1187

Attendance at Plenary Session VIII:

Hierarchs:	11
Guests & Retired Hierarchs	3
Clergy Delegates	131
Lay Delegates	165
Observers	134
Total Attendance	442

5. Dr. Paul Meyendorff, Chair of the Resolutions Committee, presented the Committee's report.
6. Mr. Joseph Kormos, Project Team Facilitator, introduced the Co-Chairs of the Council Summary Team, Mrs. Valerie Zahirsky and Mr. David Wagschal, who presented the Summary Team Report, invited comments and responded to questions. Among those providing comments was His Eminence, Archbishop DIMITRI of Dallas and the South. Archpriest Dennis Rhodes moved, seconded by Dr. Paul Meyendorff, that the Summary Team Report be received as presented. Passed.
7. Fr. Robert S. Kondratick moved, seconded by Faith Skordinski, the adoption of a Resolution of Recognition and Thanks as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED that the hierarchs, clergy and laity - all delegates, observers and guests of the 14th All-American Council - express their love and gratitude to the Members of the Local Committee: Archpriest Dennis Pihach, Chairman; Dmitry Chernomorsky, Vice-Chairman; Alexis Troubetzkoy, Treasurer; and Sophia Koloroff, Secretary. Passed.
8. Fr. Robert S. Kondratick moved, seconded by Fr. Ernesto Rios, the adoption of a resolution:

WHEREAS the work of the 14th All-American Council, convened July 17-22, 2005, in the City of Toronto, Ontario, Canada, was most excellently facilitated by the efforts of Bishop SERAPHIM and the Local Committee, so that all participants were assured of all essential services and movement necessary for their deliberations,

WHEREAS the work of the 14th All-American Council, convened July 17-22, 2005, in the City of Toronto, Ontario, Canada, involved the steadfast labor of the delegates and observers in Plenary and Workshop Sessions and their efforts were given to the Summary Team for discernment and reporting to the 14th All-American Council participants,

BE IT RESOLVED that we thank the Summary Team - Mrs. Valerie Zahirsky, Co-Chair, Mr. David Wagschal, Co-Chair, V. Rev. Michael Dahulich, V. Rev. John Kowalczyk, V. Rev. Ken James Stavrevsky, Rev. Lawrence Margitich, Rev. Jacob Myers, Rev. Thomas Soroka, Rev. Timothy Ullman, Mrs. Victoria Jones, Mrs. Mary Ann Lopoukhine, and Mrs. Joan Skrobat - and offer our gratitude and appreciation for their diligent work in discussing our thoughts, discerning our desires and presenting the findings to the participants of the 14th All-American Council. Passed.

9. His Beatitude, Metropolitan HERMAN, gave his concluding remarks.

10. "Memory Eternal" was sung for Protopresbyter John Meyendorff on the 13th anniversary of his repose.

11. "Many Years" was sung for all the participants in the 14th All-American Council.

12. John Mindala, Sr., made a motion, seconded by Fr. Ernesto Rios, to adjourn the 14th American Council. Passed.

13. The Session adjourned at 12:10 P.M. with the celebration of a Service of Prayer and Thanksgiving. At this service those elected to Church-wide offices were installed to office by His Beatitude, Metropolitan HERMAN.