

Twenty-six clergy, lay leaders, complete second OCA Mission School

HUNTINGTON, NY – Twenty-six clergy and lay leaders representing every diocese completed the OCA's second annual Mission School, held at Immaculate Conception Seminary here August 22-26, 2016.



2016 Mission School faculty, participants

Organized with the blessing of the Holy Synod of Bishops and funded through a bequest to the OCA earmarked for missions and evangelism, the program was facilitated by eight instructors with vast experience in the mission field, including Archpriests Chad Hatfield, Timothy Hojnicky, John Jillions, Daniel Kovalak, David Rucker, Eric Tosi and Steven Voytovich, and Priest John Parker. The instructors presented a wide variety of topics in an intense series of sessions.

In his opening address, His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon emphasized the importance of sharing lessons learned at the Mission School in the participants' dioceses and parishes. Metropolitan Tikhon further moderated a roundtable discussion that focused on practical aspects of evangelism in the parish. His Eminence, Archbishop Michael also moderated a roundtable that attracted nearly 50 additional individuals who participated on-line via the OCA Facebook page. ■ **FULL STORY:** <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/twenty-six-clergy-lay-leaders-complete-ocas-second-mission-school>

OCA representatives, traditionalist Anglicans meet

SYOSSET, NY – With the blessing of His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon, a meeting between the Orthodox Church in America and the Anglican Church in North America [ACNA] was held August 17-18, 2016.

Shortly after its establishment in 2009 by traditionalists who left the Episcopal Church in the USA and the Anglican Church of Canada, the ACNA entered into informal conversations with the OCA.

Among those participating in the meeting were His Eminence, Archbishop Melchisedek; Archpriest Chad Hatfield; and Priest John Parker. Also in attendance was Protospesbyter Leonid Kishkovsky, OCA Director of External Affairs, who said that "conversations with the ACNA are valuable because we are discovering significant theological affinities as well as identifying some significant theological differences."

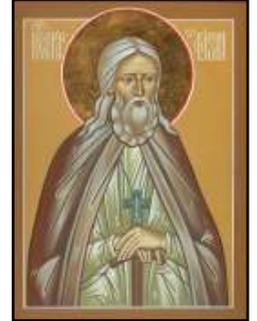
Metropolitan Tikhon welcomes ACNA representatives at OCA Chancery.



On Thursday, August 18, Metropolitan Tikhon welcomed Archbishop Foley Beach, ACNA Primate, and his delegation at the OCA Chancery. ■ **FULL STORY:** <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/meeting-between-the-oca-and-traditionalist-anglicans-held>

Stewards of the OCA opens St. Herman Appeal!

SYOSSET, NY – In a letter dated August 9, 2016, His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon, invited the faithful to join him in supporting the Stewards of the Orthodox Church in America's Saint Herman Appeal.



"Saint Herman was at once a humble monk and a strong missionary, an ascetic in prayer and a model of Christian stewardship," Metropolitan Tikhon wrote. "His deep love for God was reflected in his care for orphans, his attentiveness to the sick and the comfort he offered to the afflicted."

Donations may be made on-line at <https://oca.org/become-a-steward> or mailed to SOCA, PO Box 675, Syosset, NY 11791. ■ **FULL STORY:** <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/join-the-oca-stewards-make-your-donation-today-to-this-years-st-herman-app> ■ **VIDEO:** <https://oca.org/media/video/stewards-of-the-oca-2016-saint-herman-appeal>

Fire destroys Ascension Monastery church

CLINTON, MI – The church at the Monastery of the Ascension of the Lord here was destroyed by fire on Friday, August 12, 2016. The cause of the blaze has yet to be determined.

His Eminence, Archbishop Nathaniel of Detroit and the Romanian Episcopate and Priest Vicar Dan Hoarste traveled to the monastery immediately upon learning of the blaze. His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon requested the faithful to keep the monastery brotherhood in their prayers.

The Episcopate has established a fund for the monastery. ■ **FULL STORY:** <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/fire-engulfs-holy-ascension-monastery-clinton-mi>

Sitka cathedral on most endangered property list

SITKA, AK – Historic Saint Michael the Archangel Cathedral here is one of two churches in the Diocese of Alaska that appears on the Alaska Association for Historic Preservation’s [AAHP] “Ten Most Endangered Historic Properties” list for 2016. Also on this year’s list is the Ascension of Our Lord Church, Karluk, AK, which was constructed in 1888.

Designed by Saint Innocent Veniaminov, Saint Michael Cathedral was built between 1844 and 1848. The present structure is a reconstruction of the original building which burned to the ground in 1966.

“The cathedral is once again being threatened by issues related to ongoing water damage,” said His Grace, Bishop David of Sitka and Alaska. “Efforts are underway by several Alaskan organizations to put together engineering studies to obtain a solid overall picture of what is wrong and what is needed to repair the structure.”

The AAHP helps provide funding for hands-on preservation work on endangered properties. The two churches and other eight properties on the 2016 list will be eligible to apply to AAHP for matching grants for ongoing preservation efforts. ■

FULL STORY: <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/sitka-cathedral-among-alaskas-top-ten-most-endangered-historic-properties>



SVOTS to host Orthodox Education Day October 1

YONKERS, NY – Saint Vladimir’s Seminary here will hold its annual open house and fall festival, Orthodox Education Day, on the Feast of the Protection of the Theotokos – Saturday, October 1, 2016

Renowned scholar Dr. Mary B. Cunningham of the University of Nottingham, UK, author of *Gateway of Life: Orthodox Thinking on the Mother of God*, will deliver the event’s keynote address. The day also will feature liturgical services, numerous presentations, children’s activities, and a marketplace filled with international cuisine and Orthodox Christian books and gifts. Admission is free.

■ **FULL STORY:** <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/svots-to-host-orthodox-education-day-saturday-october-1>

STOTS announces lay leadership training program

SOUTH CANAAN, PA – Saint Tikhon’s Seminary is hosting a new program this fall that provides theological training to lay persons involved in parish leadership.

An expansion of the highly successful Diaconal Formation Program offered for the last nine years, the new program spans four semesters of graduate level courses in theology, scripture, Church history, and liturgics. Classes for the initial program will meet at Philadelphia’s Saint Stephen Cathedral, whose Dean, Archpriest Victor Gorodenchuk, also serves as the new program’s Administrator. ■ **FULL STORY:** <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/stots-to-hold-parish-lay-leaderswhip-training-program-in-philadelphia-pa>

Giving in US parishes subject of new publication

NEW YORK, NY – *Twelve Facts About the Generosity of Our Church Members* is the title of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the USA’s latest publication. According to author Alexei Krindatch, Assembly Research Coordinator, the study draws upon responses from over 3,000 individuals from all jurisdictions and parishes across the US – the largest survey-based study of US Orthodox Christian communities to date. The publication provides insights into how Orthodox Christians contribute to their parishes and what can be done to increase the generosity of their members. ■ **FULL STORY:** <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/new-assembly-of-bishops-publication-tracks-giving-in-us-parishes>

A monthly digest highlighting news and features from the web site of the Orthodox Church in America – <http://oca.org> – published with the blessing of His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon.

Parishes are kindly asked to duplicate and distribute *OCAreview*, especially to those without internet access.

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On-line choral conducting class begins September 12

SYOSSET, NY – Prof. David Drillock, who chairs the OCA’s Department of Liturgical Music, will be the instructor for an on-line course, “Choral Conducting for Beginners,” slated to start on September 12, 2016. The course will consist of 12 sessions over a 13-week period.

“The relationship between text and music and accented and non-accented syllables, will be emphasized in the first six sessions, with practical exercises focusing on basic beat patterns, various forms of cutoffs, use of the left hand, basic dynamics, and the analysis of the music used in the exercises and assignments,” Prof. Drillock explained. “The second half of the course will concentrate on techniques of conducting chant, singing in phrases, analyzing metered and unmetered music, and preparing music for conducting. ■ **FULL**

STORY: <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/on-line-beginners-conducting-course-to-start-september-12>

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