

Strong Orthodox Christian presence at 44th annual DC March for Life

WASHINGTON, DC – His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon was among the Orthodox hierarchs, clergy, seminarians and faithful who participated in the 44th annual March for Life in the US capital on January 27, 2017. The theme of this year's March was "The Power of One".

Other participating hierarchs included His Eminence, Archbishop Nathaniel; His Eminence, Archbishop Melchisedek; His Eminence, Archbishop Michael; His Grace, Bishop Dimitrios of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago; and His Grace, Bishop John of Brooklyn of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese. Representatives of the Oriental Orthodox Church also were present.

"What, in fact, has legalized abortion led to?" asked Metropolitan Tikhon in his annual Sanctity of Life Sunday message, issued on January 22. "We need to ask this question and provide a frank, if only partial, answer, because in the nearly five decades since *Roe v. Wade*, a deep cultural and moral cynicism has set in, and I fear that our ears, our minds and our hearts may have grown dull to the full horror of abortion. For many, this is but one among several political 'issues' – stale, overemphasized, and divisive – while for others, it can bring long-hidden pain and grief to the surface. In either case, the Church, so it is sometimes suggested, is better off not speaking out.

"The Lord, however, has endowed His Church with a voice of mercy and truth, a voice of righteousness and peace [cf. Psalm 84:10]," Metropolitan Tikhon added. "And as long as Rachel continues to weep for her children because they are no more, the Church's voice cannot be silent [cf. Matthew 2:18]."

■ **FULL STORIES:** <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/strong-orthodox-christian-presence-at-dc-march-for-life> and <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/metropolitan-tikhons-sanctity-of-life-message-video-now-available>

Metropolitan Tikhon to consecrate Holy Chrism

SOUTH CANAAN, PA – His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon will consecrate Holy Chrism at Saint Tikhon's Monastery on Great and Holy Thursday – April 13, 2017.

The consecration of Chrism is a Rite reserved for the Primate of autocephalous Churches. The last time the Rite was celebrated in the Orthodox Church in America was in 2012. Distinct from Holy Unction and other blessed oils, Holy Chrism contains multiple ingredients that are blended on Holy Monday and stirred continuously during the first half of Holy Week. The Gospels are read throughout the Rite.

"We are asking for clergy to assist with the preparation of the Chrism," said Archpriest John Jillions, OCA Chancellor. "It is planned that the reading of the Gospels and stirring of the Chrism will be done in two-hour shifts."

Clergy who are able to assist are asked to contact Archpriest Joseph Martin at 570-378-2920 or frmartin@epix.net. ■ **FULL STORY:** <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/metropolitan-tikhon-to-consecrate-holy-chrism-during-holy-week>



Metropolitan Tikhon celebrates Memorial before March.



Metropolitan Tikhon with Archbishop Alejo and faithful at Mexico City's Ascension Cathedral.

Metropolitan Tikhon visits Diocese of Mexico

SYOSSET, NY – For decades, it has been customary for the Primate of the Orthodox Church in America to visit the Diocese of Mexico during the Theophany season. This year, His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon made his second archpastoral visit to Mexico City January 13-16, 2017. He was warmly welcomed by His Eminence, Archbishop Alejo and the diocese's clergy and faithful.

During his brief stay, Metropolitan Tikhon visited Holy Cross parish in Ecatepec, a Mexico City suburb, and Holy Trinity Church, where he met with area clergy and monastics and blessed the cornerstone of a new monastic house that will be attached to the parish. He also attended Great Vespers at Mexico City's Ascension Cathedral, where he concelebrated the Sunday Divine Liturgy and the Great Blessing of Water with Archbishop Alejo.

Archbishop Alejo announced that 2017 has been dedicated to the memory and

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Villanova U exhibit remembers St. Tikhon

VILLANOVA, PA – His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon celebrated a Memorial Service for the victims of the 1917 Russian Revolutions and their aftermath and opening prayers for a major exhibit at Villanova University. Titled “Blood and Soul,” the exhibit in part marks the 100th Anniversary of Saint Patriarch Tikhon’s enthronement as Patriarch of Moscow.



Among the clergy serving with Metropolitan Tikhon was Archpriest John Perich, co-curator of the exhibit, which features a wealth of rare historical artifacts reflecting the life and ministry of Saint Tikhon. Liturgical responses were sung by a joint choir of students from Saint Tikhon’s and Saint Vladimir’s Seminaries.

At the conclusion of the service, Metropolitan Tikhon offered a reflection on the life and ministry of Saint Patriarch Tikhon during his years as Bishop and later Archbishop of North America and after his return to his homeland in 1907.

Throughout the course of the exhibit, which runs through September 1, several other presentations on related topics will be available to the public. ■ **FULL STORY:** <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/blood-and-soul-metropolitan-tikhon-on-saint-patriarch-tikhon> and <https://oca.org/media/photos/metropolitan-tikhon-opens-villanova-exhibition>

Study resources available for Spirituality volume of Fr. Hopko’s “The Orthodox Faith” series

SYOSSET, NY – The OCA’s Department of Christian Education [DCE] recently released a series of study questions based on the text of *Spirituality*, one of four volumes of the late Protospesbyter Thomas Hopko’s series, *The Orthodox Faith*. In recent months, similar study guides were made available for two other volumes – *Doctrine and Scripture* and *Church History*. ■ **FULL STORY:** <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/study-resources-now-available-for-spirituality-volume-of-the-orthodox-faith>

In Brief

Metropolitan Tikhon attends LI bishop’s installation... His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon attended the installation of Bishop John Oliver Barnes as the fifth Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Rockville Center, NY on January 31, 2017. ■ **FULL STORY:** <https://oca.org/media/photos/metropolitan-tikhon-attends-installation-of-long-island-bishop>

St. Tikhon’s to host annual Florovsky Symposium... Saint Tikhon’s Monastery and Seminary will host the sixth annual Florovsky Symposium February 24-25, 2017. Hieromonk Nikolai [Sakharov], Essex, England, will be the keynote speaker. Other speakers will include Dr. Mary Ford, Saint Tikhon’s Seminary; Brian Dunkle, S.J., Boston College; and Nicholas Marinides, Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology. ■ **FULL STORY:** <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/st-tikhons-site-of-annual-florovsky-symposium-february-24-25>

SVOTS to hold open house for prospective students... Saint Vladimir’s Seminary will hold an open house for prospective students March 15-17, 2017. Participants will have the opportunity to attend chapel services and classes, meet with faculty members, and share fellowship with current seminarians and their families. ■ **FULL STORY:** <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/svots-invites-prospective-students-to-mid-march-open-house>

oca review

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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Visit to Mexico

example of Saint Herman of Alaska as a model of mission and evangelistic outreach. ■ **FULL STORY:** <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/metropolitan-tikhon-concludes-second-archpastoral-visit-to-diocese-of-mexic>

In Memoriam

- **Matushka Juliana Ossorguine Schmemann**, widow of the late Protospesbyter Alexander Schmemann, fell asleep in the Lord in Riverdale, NY January 29, 2017. ■ <https://oca.org/in-memoriam/matushka-juliana-ossorguine-schmemann>
- **Matushka Lydia Malasch**, widow of the late Protodeacon Vladimir Malasch, fell asleep in the Lord in Cheverly, MD on January 24, 2017. ■ <https://oca.org/in-memoriam/matushka-lydia-malasch>
- **Alexis S. Troubetzkoy**, Chairman of the OCA’s Archives Advisory Committee, fell asleep in the Lord in Toronto, ON, Canada on January 22, 2017. ■ <https://oca.org/in-memoriam/alexis-s-troubetzkoy>
- **Priest Ignatius Crockett**, attached in retirement to Saint Symeon the New Theologian Church, Birmingham, AL, fell asleep in the Lord January 12, 2017. ■ <https://oca.org/in-memoriam/priest-ignatius-crockett>
- **Paul Chernay**, Trustee Emeritus of Saint Tikhon’s Seminary, fell asleep in the Lord in Bethlehem, PA January 5, 2017. ■ <https://oca.org/in-memoriam/paul-chernay-stots-trustee-emeritus>