



## ***Metropolitan Tikhon presides at 113th Pilgrimage to St. Tikhon's***

**SOUTH CANAAN, PA** – His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon presided at services throughout the 113th annual Memorial Day Pilgrimage to Saint Tikhon's Monastery May 26-29, 2017.

A pilgrimage highlight was the presence of the Myrrh Streaming Hawaiian Icon of the Iveron Mother of God, which scores of faithful venerated throughout the weekend.

Concelebrating the Divine Liturgy with Metropolitan Tikhon on Memorial Day was His Grace, Bishop Thomas of the Diocese of Charleston, Oakland, and the Mid-Atlantic of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America, who addressed graduates of Saint Tikhon's Seminary at commencement exercises and was awarded a Doctorate of Divinity *Honoris Causa*. Also concelebrating were His Eminence, Archbishop Mark; His Eminence, Archbishop Irénée; and His Eminence, Archbishop Michael. ■ **FULL STORY:** <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/metropolitan-tikhon-presides-at-113th-annual-memorial-day-pilgrimage>

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## ***Metropolitan Tikhon addresses World Summit in Defense of Persecuted Christians***

**WASHINGTON, DC** – His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon offered welcoming remarks at the opening of "Martyrs for Christ," the World Summit in Defense of Persecuted Christians, May 10-13, 2017.

"This Summit takes place during the season of the resurrection of Christ, in which we celebrate the victory of the Life-giver over death and the destruction of corruption by the Divine Physician," said Metropolitan Tikhon. "As Christians, we participate in this victory and this destruction not by the external imposition of force and violence upon others, but rather through our struggle to attain the love of Christ in the Holy Spirit, which is accomplished through humility and patience."

Also addressing the gathering was His Eminence, Metropolitan Hilarion [Alfeyev] of Volokolamsk, Chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations. On the Sunday after the Summit, Metropolitan Tikhon and Metropolitan Hilarion concelebrated the Divine Liturgy at the OCA's Saint Nicholas Cathedral in the US capital.

Sponsored by the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, the gathering considered the plight of persecuted Christians in 60 nations. Over 100 victims of persecution were among participants from 130 countries.

Accompanying Metropolitan Tikhon were His Grace, Bishop Daniel of Santa Rosa and Archpriests John Jillions and Eric G. Tosi, OCA Chancellor and Secretary respectively. Also participating were His Eminence, Archbishop Demetrios of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America; His Eminence, Metropolitan Joseph of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America; representatives from the Patriarchates of Antioch and Russia; participants from the Oriental Churches; and numerous Roman Catholics and Protestants. ■ **FULL STORY:** <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/metropolitan-tikhon-addresses-world-summit-in-defense-of-persecuted-christians>



## ***Third annual OCA Mission School opens August 21***

**HUNTINGTON, NY** – The third annual Mission School of the Orthodox Church in America will be held at Immaculate Conception Seminary here August 21-25, 2017. Each diocesan hierarch will select two participants – one clergy, one lay – to attend the program.

Among the topics that will be developed during the week-long gathering are Missiology and Evangelism Theory, Creating and Understanding a Mission's Vision, Community Building, Revitalizing a Parish, and Mission Community in Sacramental and Developmental Practice.

"The Mission School is an initiative of the Holy Synod of Bishops that utilizes a bequest to the OCA earmarked for missions and evangelism," said Archpriest Eric G. Tosi, OCA Secretary and Mission School Coordinator. In addition to Father Eric, guest faculty will include Archpriests Chad Hatfield, Timothy Hojnicky, John Jillions, David Rucker, Thomas Soroka, and Steven Voytovich; Priest John Parker; and Archdeacon Joseph Matusiak. ■ **FULL STORY:** <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/third-annual-oca-mission-school-to-convene-august-21-25>

***OCA seminaries honor over three dozen graduates***

Over three dozen seminarians were honored at commencement exercises at the Orthodox Church in America’s seminaries in May 2017.

On May 14, His Grace, Bishop David of Sitka and Alaska presented diplomas to Deacon Herman Madsen and Elena Levi during the 44th annual commencement exercises at Saint Herman’s Seminary, Kodiak, AK. Several other students were awarded Clinical Pastoral Education certificates. Archpriest David Shewczyk, Professor of Pastoral Theology at Saint Tikhon’s Seminary, South Canaan, PA, delivered the commencement address.

His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon, Chair of Saint Vladimir’s Seminary Board of Trustees, presided at the 75th commencement exercises on the school’s Yonkers, NY campus on May 20. Sixteen graduates from three academic programs received degrees. His Grace, Bishop John of the Antiochian Archdiocese’s Diocese of Worcester and New England, delivered the commencement address, while the seminary’s trustees recognized Archpriest John Behr for his ten years of service as Dean and his recent appointment to the newly established “Father Georges Florovsky Distinguished Professorship of Patristics.”

On May 27, Metropolitan Tikhon, President of Saint Tikhon’s Seminary, presided at the school’s 75th annual commencement exercises. Thirteen graduates received degrees; nine students graduated from the Diaconal Certificate Program; and one student completed the Pastoral Formation Studies Program. ■ **FULL STORIES:** <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/st.-hermans-seminary-honors-graduates-at-44th-annual-commencement>, <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/metropolitan-tikhon-presides-at-svots-commencement>, and <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/metropolitan-tikhon-presides-at-stots-commencement>

***In Brief***

***Registration opens for July Small Parish Forum***

**NEW KENSINGTON, PA** – On-line registration is now open for the Fourth Small Parish Forum to be cosponsored by the Archdiocese of Western Pennsylvania and the Diocese of the Midwest at Saint John the Baptist Church, New Kensington, PA, July 13-15 2017. The \$100.00 per person registration fee includes meals, breaks, a hospitality reception and materials. The Forum is open to clergy and laity. Participation will be limited to 60 individuals.

The Forum theme, “Becoming a Community of Engagement: On Behalf of All,” will be developed in a series of workshops and presentations that will explore ways to inspire and motivate smaller parishes to accept their calling to live a life in Christ without necessarily becoming “big.” The program also will include case studies, discussions, small group conversations and short video contributions.

Co-chairs for the event are Joseph Kormos, Parish Development Ministry Leader for the Archdiocese of Pittsburgh and Archpriest Daniel Rentel, Columbus, OH.

■ **FULL STORY:** <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/registration-opens-for-july-13-15-small-parish-forum>

***Noted musician John Sutko awarded Order of St. Romanos***

**BURR RIDGE, IL** – On behalf of His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon and the members of the Holy Synod of Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America, His Grace, Bishop Paul presented the Order of Saint Romanos to John Sutko at Saint Peter and Saint Paul Church, Burr Ridge, IL on Saturday, May 6, 2017. The award was presented in recognition of Mr. Sutko’s extraordinary contributions to the field of liturgical music, which includes conducting the Burr Ridge parish’s choir for over six decades.

The day’s joy was amplified by the ordination to the priesthood of Mr. Sutko’s grandson, Priest Alexander Koranda. ■ **FULL STORY:** <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/noted-musician-john-sutko-receives-order-of-st.-romanos>

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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***Grant applications now being accepted***

**WILLIAMSPORT, PA** – The Ganister Orthodox Foundation is now accepting applications for grants for organizations and parishes with innovative approaches to advancing the mission of Orthodox Christianity in the US. Deadline for submitting applications is June 30, 2017.

Favor will be given to proposals that address priority needs of the Orthodox Church in America. The selection process also considers leadership experience, clarity of goals, the presence of a stable funding base, and faithfulness to the Church’s teachings and ministry. Applicants must articulate how their undertaking will have a positive impact on a specific priority need without duplicating existing programs serving the Church. ■ **FULL STORY:** <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/application-for-grants-to-further-mission-of-orthodoxy-now-available2>

***In Memoriam***

● **Matushka Barbara Oleynik**, 91, wife of the late Archpriest John Oleynik and mother of Archpriest Joseph Oleynik, Protodeacon John Oleynik and Deacon Mark Oleynik, fell asleep in the Lord on June 12, 2017. ■ <https://oca.org/in-memoriam/matushka-barbara-oleynik>

● **Matushka Olga Kapral**, 92, wife of the late Archpriest Michael Kapral and mother of Protodeacon Sergei Kapral, fell asleep in the Lord in Wilkes-Barre, PA on June 6, 2017. ■ <https://oca.org/in-memoriam/matushka-olga-kapral>