



“Liturgy of Death” theme of STOTS Clergy Continuing Ed Program

SOUTH CANAAN, PA – “With the Saints Give Rest, O Christ” was the theme of this year’s Clergy Continuing Education Program at Saint Tikhon’s Seminary here June 20-22, 2017.

Participants heard recorded excerpts from the late Protopresbyter Alexander Schmemmann’s course, “The Liturgy of Death,” and viewed recorded presentations by Dr. Irene Kacandes on burial practices and related themes. Archpriest Michael Senyo spoke on the preparation of clergy for burial, while funeral director Joseph Scotchlas shared a wealth of information regarding preplanning and clarified various legal considerations concerning the burial process. A final presentation by Archpriest Steven Voytovich, STOTS Dean, provided insights into ministering to the suffering. ■ **FULL STORY:** <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/stots-continuing-education-program-considers-the-liturgy-of-death>

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Holy Synod commemorates 75th Anniversary of WWII internment of Aleut peoples

RIVES JUNCTION, MI – During their mid-May 2017 retreat at Holy Dormition Monastery here, the Holy Synod of Bishops adopted a resolution commemorating the 75th Anniversary of the World War II internment of the Aleut peoples of the Aleutian and Pribilof Islands.

“Before the Japanese invasion of Attu and Kiska, Alaska in 1942, nearly 900 Aleuts living in the Aleutian and Pribilof Islands had been forced to resettle to camps in southeast Alaska,” explained His Grace, Bishop David of Sitka and Alaska. “It was estimated that over ten percent of the evacuees perished during this little-known era of World War II history.”

The complete text of the resolution appears on-line. ■ **FULL STORY:** <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/holy-synod-commemorates-75th-anniversary-of-wwii-internment-of-aleut-people>



Crosses in Funter Bay, AK cemetery mark graves of many who perished during World War II internment.

47th annual St. Herman Pilgrimage to Spruce Island to be held August 7-9

KODIAK, AK – Hundreds of faithful are expected to participate in the 47th annual Saint Herman Pilgrimage to Spruce Island, home of North America’s first saint, August 7-9, 2017.

The pilgrimage will open on Monday, August 7, with the celebration of the Akathistos Hymn in honor of Saint Herman at Kodiak’s Holy Resurrection Cathedral, in which his relics are enshrined. The annual Bishop’s Tea will follow. On Tuesday, August 8, the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy will be celebrated at the cathedral. A grand banquet and introduction of pilgrims will follow at the Afognak Native Corporation Hall. Vigil will be celebrated in the evening.

Boats will depart Kodiak for Monk’s Lagoon on Spruce Island early on the morning of Wednesday, August 9 – the Feast of Saint Herman. The Hierarchical Divine Liturgy will be celebrated at Saints Sergius and Herman of Valaam Chapel. The original log chapel marking the burial site of Saint Herman was built in 1805, while the present structure dates to 1898. After the Liturgy, pilgrims will enjoy a picnic lunch before returning to Kodiak, where they will partake of a light soup dinner at the cathedral. ■ **FULL STORY:** <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/alaskas-47th-annual-st.-herman-pilgrimage-to-be-held-august-7-9>



Metropolitan Tikhon blesses faithful at 2015 St. Herman Pilgrimage.

Monastery hosts music workshop for young adults

ELLWOOD CITY, PA – A music workshop and retreat for young adults was held at the Monastery of the Transfiguration here June 23-25, 2017.

Sessions were conducted by Harrison Russin, Lecturer in Liturgical Music at Saint Vladimir’s Seminary, Yonkers, NY, and Mother Seraphima, monastery choir director. Participants studied works by classic and



contemporary composers, sang the responses at Sunday’s Divine Liturgy, and presented a public concert that attracted nearly 70 people.

Two additional one-day workshops for youth ages 18 through 25 will be held July 29 and August 19. ■ **FULL STORY:** <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/transfiguration-monastery-hosts-weekend-music-workshop-for-young-adults>

125 Anniversary of Orthodox Christianity in Chicago to be celebrated September 30

CHICAGO, IL – A pan-Orthodox celebration marking the 125th Anniversary of Orthodox Christianity in Chicago is slated to be held September 30, 2017. The day will open with the celebration of a pan-Orthodox Hierarchical Divine Liturgy at Lane Tech Auditorium, Chicago, followed by an anniversary banquet at the Chicago Marriott O’Hare.

His Grace, Bishop Paul of Chicago and the Midwest will be among the celebrants. His Grace, Bishop Irinej of the Serbian Orthodox Diocese of Eastern America will deliver the homily. The Pan-Orthodox Choir of Greater Chicago will sing the liturgical responses.

It was in 1892 that the “Greco Slavonic Brotherhood” was established. Subsequently Saint Vladimir Church [today the OCA’s Holy Trinity Cathedral], Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral and Holy Resurrection Serbian Orthodox Cathedral were founded. Today there are nearly 80 parishes across the Chicagoland area. ■ **FULL STORY:** <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/125th-anniversary-of-orthodox-christianity-in-chicago-to-be-celebrated-sept>

In Brief

OCA summer camp schedules now available

SYOSSET, NY – July and August are the “high season” at the Orthodox Church in America’s coast-to-coast summer camps. A comprehensive directory of over a dozen camps is now available on-line. Photos from camp and Vacation Church School programs also are being accepted for a special gallery and should be sent to info@oca.org. ■ **FULL STORIES:** <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/2017-oca-summer-camp-schedules-announced> and <https://oca.org/media/photos/2017-summer-camps-and-vcs-programs>

New Skete to celebrate annual pilgrimage August 12

CAMBRIDGE, NY – “We Shall All Be Changed” will be the theme of the 51st annual Pilgrimage to New Skete here on Saturday, August 12, 2017. The day will open with the celebration of Matins and the Divine Liturgy, followed by a tour of Holy Wisdom Temple. A talk on monastic life will be offered in the afternoon, as will the keynote presentation on the theme by Dr. Roberta Ervine of Saint Nerses Armenian Seminary, Armonk, NY. Other events will include a guided hike, a photo exhibit, and a dog training workshop. Greek and Lebanese food will be available for purchase throughout the day. ■ **FULL STORY:** <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/new-skete-to-celebrate-annual-pilgrimage-august-12>

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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Fr. John Matusiak, Editor • info@oca.org

Holy Synod renders decision concerning Bishop Irineu

RIVES JUNCTION, MI – Members of the Holy Synod convened a special session of the Synodal Court during their mid-May 2017 retreat here, during which Bishop Irineu [Duvlea], Auxiliary Bishop of the Romanian Orthodox Episcopate of America [ROEA], was deposed from the status and all sacred functions of the episcopacy, removed from the ranks of the clergy, and returned to the status of a lay monk. The letter of His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon to the ROEA appears on-line. ■ **FULL STORY:** <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/the-holy-synod-renders-decision-concerning-bishop-irineu-romanian-orthodox>

In Memoriam

- **Protodeacon Gregory Hatrak**, 46, Director of Marketing and Operations for SVS Press and Bookstore, former Manager of Saint Tikhon’s Seminary and Monastery Bookstore, and son of Archpriest Michael and Matushka Valeria Hatrak, fell asleep in the Lord in Yonkers, NY on July 1, 2017. ■ <https://oca.org/in-memoriam/protodeacon-gregory-hatrak>
- **Andrew Cvercko**, 95, founder of the Ohio District FROC Camp [Saint Vladimir’s Camp], Farmdale, OH; 23rd Past National President of the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America; and well known Church musician and choir director, fell asleep in the Lord on July 3, 2017. ■ <https://oca.org/in-memoriam/andrew-cverko>