



# Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA

## Consistory Circular

### April-June 2017

Office of the Consistory President

#### *A Note from Vladyka Daniel:*

##### ***The Church is Alive! Indeed it is!***

Despite what reporters claim based on national and international surveys, regardless of impressions some might want to create, notwithstanding the ongoing secularization of the world, the Body of Christ – His Holy Church - is Alive.

*“Go out and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit” (Matthew 28:19).*

A priest I knew once and a mentor of mine said that the greatest fear of modern times is that Jesus actually meant what He said. And right there in the Gospel according to Holy Evangelist Matthew He gave us our marching orders.

Here’s the truth: at baptism you and I are given a mission. This is our baptismal call. We are all entrusted with a sacred purpose to do for others in Christ’s name.

Our mission is to take the many gifts that God has entrusted to us and build his kingdom on earth. The primary gift we are given is the love of the Holy Spirit. That love sanctifies us as we share it with others.

The word “mission” means “sent.” To be on mission is to know that, with the love of the Holy Spirit in our hearts, we are to live each day as bearers of the Gospel. A mission is always a movement toward others and for others.

As announced by Metropolitan Antony, the Strategic Plan of the Church is a planning initiative designed to help us discover how best to be on mission in this present moment of the church.

At our baptism we received a number of powerful gifts from the Holy Spirit to equip us for this mission. The first of these are the virtues of faith, hope and charity, which unite us to God directly. These virtues enable us to

make a heroic difference as people of grace. We become a gift to others.

We are called to be an anointing upon the world. This is expressed by charity, the radical gift of self. We can love in this way because we have hope in the promises of God. And we have hope because we have faith in God’s mercy.

At our baptism, we were also given the gifts of the Holy Spirit: wisdom, knowledge, understanding, counsel, reverence, piety and courage. Each of these enables us to serve others in making God known. Often it seems that our world has lost all sense of the sacred. The gifts of the Holy Spirit make us a means for people to encounter the sacred.

Each of us is also gifted with “charismata” designated for a specific purpose. The Holy Spirit empowers each of us to build up the body of Christ in some special manner. Some of these gifts are teaching, prophecy, healing, administration, leadership, mercy, etc.

What are your gifts and how might God be calling you to serve the Living Church of Christ – our Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA?

This is the question we are asking ourselves together - every member of this Metropolia during this time of prayer and study of our Strategic Plan of the UOC of the USA. What gifts has God given to you and me, and how can we use them to advance the mission of Jesus Christ?

Do you believe you have a mission from Jesus? As a bishop of the Church I want you to believe this. It is a mission to “learn Christ, love Christ and live Christ.” We are to live out our baptismal call of love in whatever ways the Holy Spirit leads us.

***And that puts us on our “mission from God.”***

***+Daniel,***

*By the Grace of God your bishop and brother in the Lord*

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### METROPOLIA COUNCIL MEETS

Semi-Annual Meeting of the Council of Metropolia of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA took place at the Spiritual Center of the Church in South Bound Brook, NJ on 20-22 April, 2017. Present were His Eminence Metropolitan Antony, His Eminence Archbishop Daniel, along with eight members of the clergy and seven laypeople, as well as the presidents of the Central Organizations of the Church: Ukrainian Orthodox League and St. Andrew Society.

The Seminarians of the St. Sophia Theological Seminary, and the Consistory staff joined the Council members and hierarchs for the Moleben which opened the meeting. Having prayed and asked for God's guidance, everyone settled down to intently listen, confer, and discuss the status of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A.

In his opening remarks, His Eminence Metropolitan Antony reminded everyone the true purpose of the Council, which was to follow in the footsteps of the Apostles, and nurture, support and further Christ's Church. It is truly a heavy responsibility, and not to be taken lightly. To encourage and bolster his audience, His Eminence cited several quotes from Scripture, which he instructed his listeners to contemplate and live by. Vladyka Antony emphasized Galatians 6:9, "*Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.*"

With everyone still pondering the Scriptural wisdom, His Eminence Archbishop Daniel reported on the life of the Western Eparchy. He was pleased to inform those gathered that things are looking good, and the future is bright for the UOC of the USA. While there are certain hardships to overcome, and issues to handle, overall, the Church is growing and things are hopeful.

Archbishop Daniel noted that some parishes are becoming parochial. This congregational thinking limits the scope and growth of parishes, as they begin to lose their connection with the greater Orthodox Church, and become more introspective and focus merely on their local parishes. Vladyka stressed that it is important for us to minister not only to our own parish families, but, to our local communities, and worldwide.

Another concern was the secularization of society, including our faithful. Our churches should not be run like a business. Instead they should be our spiritual homes, aiding us to acquire a Christian mindset. While the business end is important, we need to emphasize and refocus our goals, with the intent of nurturing our ministries, so they can further minister to the world.

Vladyka continued by stating how pleased he is to see the parishes filled with faithful when he visits. Whether actual dues paying members, or visitors, it is heartening to see so many people come to worship and pray together. We need to deemphasize our differences, and expound upon our commonalities, unifying us all as one Church, with the Metropolia Center being our Spiritual Home.

With great geographical distances dividing the parishes of the Western Eparchy, plans are under way to bring them spiritually closer together. It is crucial in today's technologically savvy society to find new ways of promoting unity, spreading information, and working together for our common good and success of the Church.

Archbishop Daniel concluded his report on a positive note, stating that there exists a new excitement, and new energy within the parishes. Many people are living the Faith, attending more services and acknowledging the need of God in their lives. With several new Mission parishes opening, people are turning to Christ, and it is for us all to support each other and do our part to grow the Church.

Metropolitan Antony next reported on the status of the Eastern Eparchy. Vladyka noted that many parishes are suffering financial difficulties, mostly due to the deterioration of the vicinities in which they are located. However, he too stressed that the Church is doing well. The faithful gather and worship, filling the parishes and growing the Church.

The afternoon was filled reviewing reports of the various Church Ministries. Among these were the Offices of Stewardship, Youth and Young Adult, Religious Education, Christian Charity, Liturgical Publications, Public Relations, and Development. Each Office reported on the active work that is being done in the life of the Church and expressed their joy at seeing positive results.

In addition to the various Church Ministries, the Council members were updated on various aspects of the St. Andrew's Cemetery, the UOC of the USA St. Sophia Library, the Bookstore, Cultural Center and Metropolia property.

After a quick break for lunch, the session continued with a review of the budget, the report of the Audit Commission, the Seminary, the Ukrainian Orthodox League, St. Andrew's Society and All Saints Camp. The members deliberated at length upon various aspects pertaining to each area of discussion. While some concerns exist, there are solid plans to overcome them.

Overall, the Church as a whole is prospering. The parishes donate time, talent and funds to their local communities, to various interests in Ukraine, as well as support the IOCC, the OCF and the Prison Ministries. In other words, the UOC of the USA members are living the Faith and thereby, growing the Church.

Feeling hopeful and re-energized the Metropolitan Council ended the day with a prayer on their lips and hope in their hearts.

With the Metropolia Center bustling with activity as preparations were underway for the St. Thomas Sunday weekend festivities, the second day of the annual Metropolitan Council meeting convened with a short prayer and the blessing of the hierarchs.

First on the day's agenda was an update on the progress of the Strategic Plan of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. His Eminence Metropolitan Antony opened the discussion explaining how impressed he was with the regular

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meetings and updates. While the plan is still in its opening phase, it has already produced a number of positive results. The work completed thus far, has reenergized and awoken the faithful, allowing the Holy Spirit to work through them as agents of change, growing and revitalizing the Church. There is nothing “revolutionary” in the Strategic Plan, it is merely a means of organizing ideas that were proposed and agreed upon by the Strategic Plan Committee members, composed of the faithful of the UOC of the USA, from various walks of life, various age groups, and various backgrounds.

Gayle Woloschak and Lisa Ryan, presented the various goals. While some are merely starting to get off the ground, others are already producing results. The Goals are as diverse as the faithful of the Church, covering various aspects from Administration, Communication, Leadership, Education, Outreach, Stewardship, Clergy and Technology.

While the plan might seem overwhelming, the goals are geared to benefit each individual parish. Some of the deliverables that will immediately benefit the parishes will be a welcome packet which will provide information on the Orthodox Church, her teachings and beliefs; as well as information pertaining to each particular parish, detailing their individual ministries – school, sisterhood, choir, special events, etc. This information will be valuable to both current parish members, and visitors, thus educating and growing the parishes.

To improve communication between the parishes and their faithful a goal was developed to assist with the creation of Web pages, Facebook accounts, etc. These technological means of communication would reach a broad audience providing them with critical parish level information, including location, service times, and vital contact information.

The Strategic Plan is well under way. What it needs, is volunteers. The faithful of the Church need to realize that they are being called to serve Christ, by service to His Church. If we all pitch in, if we all volunteer our specific strengths and talents, this Strategic Plan will be successful and everyone shall benefit from it. The faithful of the UOC of USA comprise the living Body of Christ, and as such it is not only our responsibility, but, our duty to utilize our God-given skills and talents for the good of this Church, and thereby for the good of all those around us.

Having reviewed the Strategic Plan, answered all questions and inquiries, and with new excitement and determination, the Metropolitan Council continued with the next item on the Agenda which was a brief discussion about His Eminence Archbishop Daniel’s visit to Constantinople and meeting with His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch.

Vladyka Daniel continued by updating the members of the Metropolitan Council on the Assembly of Bishops, as well as discussing various other topics of interest before breaking for lunch.

The second half of the day revolved around discussions pertaining to the final reports including the Historic and Educational Center, the status of the Museum project and the Library.

The final subject to be discussed was the upcoming Centennial Celebration. The UOC of USA will be having a Jubilee celebration in 2018, with the main event taking place at the Metropolia Center, on July 28, 2018, which corresponds with the feast day of St. Volodymyr the Great. The hierarchs hope that each parish will send representatives, and that those within driving distance, will hire a bus to transport as many of their parishioners as possible to the festivities. The hope is that this will be a great celebration, bringing together the faithful of our Church from all ends of the country. It is an excellent opportunity to introduce people to the Consistory, the Memorial Church, the Museum, and the entire complex of the Metropolia Center.

The celebration taking place on the 28<sup>th</sup> of July, will coincide with the 2018 UOL Convention, which will be taking place in South Bound Brook next year. It is hoped that by joining these two wonderful celebrations, the faithful of the Church will be encouraged to attend the various events and symposiums and enjoy the week getting to know not only the complex at the Consistory, but, getting to know each other, building life long bonds and friendships.

Smaller celebrations will take place throughout the year, following the grand event in July. There will be a less formal celebration at All Saints Camp over the Labor Day weekend; followed by a grand celebration on the West Coast in California on September 22, 2018 and in Chicago Metropolitan Area on October 14, 2018.

The Metropolitan Council finished their annual meeting by reviewing and approving the budget for the upcoming year. While funds are tight, the Church continues to do good work in the world. The Council reviewed the expenses involved in running the Church, the funds required in growing the Faith, spreading the word, educating the youth, encouraging the faithful, caring for the needy, doing the work of Christ, and being the light in the world.

Having reviewed the items on the agenda, His Eminence Metropolitan Antony offered the closing remarks. He reiterated the necessity for everyone being involved in the life of the Church. As members, we have all been designated the responsibility of furthering the Church and her teachings. It is up to us to carry the torch passed down to us from the Apostles, to grow the Church not only for our personal gain or benefit, but, for future generations. If we all do our part, there is no doubt we will succeed.

Everyone felt energized by Vladyka Antony’s words, realizing what an honor it is to serve the Church, thereby all the faithful, and through them to serve Christ. Contemplating the gravity of the responsibility given to them, they all rose for the Benediction given by His Eminence Archbishop Daniel.

Having concluded the formal portion of the annual meeting of the Metropolitan Council, the members walked over to the UOC of USA St. Sophia Library, which serves as the temporary home for Museum Exhibits. The members were awed

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### NEW MISSION COMMUNITY OF THE CHURCH

With the blessing of Archbishop Daniel, Ruling Hierarch of the Western Eparchy of the UOC of the USA, a new Ukrainian Orthodox Mission community was established in Sacramento, CA. With a core group of about 30 individuals, a proposed mission plan was presented to Archbishop Daniel, who upon consultation with His Eminence Metropolitan Antony and the Consistory of the UOC of the USA, Vladyka Daniel traveled to Sacramento, CA and formally presided over the formation meeting, thus creating Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox Mission in Sacramento, CA. The community already purchased a building and in process of final adjustments to the property, thus ensuring that the first Divine Liturgy will be served in the near future.

### 125 YEARS OF ORTHODOXY IN CHICAGO, IL

Orthodox Christianity in Metropolitan Chicago has maintained an active and vital presence since the founding of its first parishes over a century ago. This year, on September 30<sup>th</sup>, the Orthodox Christians of Mid-West will mark a 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Orthodox Christianity in Chicago, IL. Please visit the web site of the UOCoftheUSA in order to receive the most up-to-date information on the upcoming celebration in Chicago.

#### ***“Go and Make Disciples: Evangelization and Outreach in US Orthodox Parishes” Study***

An urgent need exists in Orthodox parishes in the United States for a much stronger emphasis on evangelization and outreach. The national studies conducted in 2015-2016 indicated that without paying serious attention to evangelization and missionary outreach, the Orthodox Church in the United States is likely to stagnate, lose its vibrancy and vitality, and decline in members.

The ***“Go and Make Disciples: Evangelization and Outreach in US Orthodox Parishes”*** is the first ever national study on evangelization and outreach practices in US Orthodox Christian Churches. It examined the strategies and practices developed by some Orthodox parishes that can be viewed as “exemplary” in their evangelization and outreach efforts. The study summarizes the experiences of these “exemplary” parishes, so that they can be adopted by other “normal” parish communities. The selection of both “exemplary” and “normal” parishes for the study was done by seven jurisdictions participating in this study. The examples of what is discussed in the study report include:

- How do “exemplary” parishes achieve a high degree of involvement of their members in the life of a parish;
- Four distinct features of religious education in the “exemplary” parishes;
- The “secrets” of being a parish that attracts and welcomes new members;
- Eight good practices of welcoming first time visitors and inquirers about the Faith;

### ***Update on the STRATEGIC PLAN of the CHURCH***

The Implementation phase of the Strategic Plan of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA has begun! The 25 Strategic Goals have begun work and are at various steps in their Action Plans. Each of the Goal Captains have been in regular communication with their Task Force Coordinator. All 9 of the Task Force Coordinators have been working with the two Head Coaches to improve the process. The Implementation Headquarters (IHQ), consisting of His Eminence Metropolitan Antony, His Eminence Archbishop Daniel, and both Head Coaches have conducted monthly meetings. Several of the Strategic Goal teams have been educated on survey methodology to assist them in conducting research. We can't list everything the teams have accomplished thus far, but here are noteworthy accomplishments for a couple of Strategic Goals:

· Technology Goal 9.4: National Collaborative Website Portal has been implemented and is in use by the Strategic Planning Leadership.

· Administration goal 1.1: Empirical Metrics team has assisted the Consistory of the UOC of USA in its annual Parish Information survey

The first orientation session of Parish Champions took place on Thursday, April 6; the second session should take place shortly. Not every Parish in the UOC of USA has selected their Parish Champion yet: priests and Parish board presidents, please do have the conversation with any likely recruits and send the approved Parish Champion's email address and phone number to [uocofusastrategicplan@gmail.com](mailto:uocofusastrategicplan@gmail.com)

Later this year, we hope to have presentations at each of the Deaneries to provide more information about the Strategic Plan and give an opportunity for our clergy (and any laity who wish to attend) to speak with our Hierarchs and the Head Coaches about the process and ask questions.

· Six “lessons” that Church leadership (bishops) can learn from the “exemplary” parishes.

*The Study* describes in detail the distinct features of the “exemplary” parishes that make them “stronger magnets” for new members and inquirers about the Orthodox Faith than the “normal” parishes.

This study thus far was based exclusively on experiences, information, and perceptions on the part of the parish clergy. Accordingly, the next stage of study on Orthodox evangelism and outreach in the United States will approach our lay church members: old and young, cradle Orthodox and converts to Orthodoxy, those who are very involved in their parishes and those who participate “once in a while.”

*The Study* has seventeen chapters as outlined in the Table of Contents at the end of this executive summary. Of a particular interest for the church leadership could be the chapter on **“Six ‘Lessons’ that Church Leadership Could Learn.”**

You may access the study at <http://www.assemblyofbishops.org/news/2017/evangelization-study-report>

*With the blessing of the Council of Bishops of the Church, two parishes of the UOCoftheUSA took part in this study.*

### PETRYKIVKA SPRING Exhibit

Currently on view in the Ukrainian History and Education Center Library Gallery (*Metropolitan John Library*) is the exhibit “Petrykiva Spring”, which presents the decorative painting style from the village of Petrykivka, Ukraine. This style originated from an ancient art tradition in central Ukraine that was used to ornament whitewashed walls, ceiling beams, hearths, and household items. Over the course of the past century, it has gone from obscurity to becoming a major part of Ukrainian visual culture. In 2013 it was declared added to the list of UNESCO Intangible World Heritage.

Petrykivka paintings are characterized by flower, tree, and bird imagery painted in vivid colors. The style is the last survivor of a folk art tradition indigenous to the Ukrainian Zaporizhian Cossack heartland. Meaning “beyond the rapids” (of the Dnipro River), the Zaporizhian Sich was a self-governing society with direct democracy that existed from the 16th to the 18th centuries in the margin between the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth and the Russian and Ottoman Empires. Centuries of Russian Imperial and Soviet hegemony stifled the practice of this art form, which shrank to a single locale: the village of Petrykivka.

The exhibit has many examples of original works by contemporary Petrykivka masters from the collection of Yuri Mischenko and Natalie Pawlenko, but also goes “beyond the canvas” to bring the artists and their historical tradition alive.

*It remains on view through June 30, 2017.*

*(Conclusion from p. 3)*

### METROPOLIA COUNCIL MEETS

by the current exhibition of the UNESCO cultural treasure from the village of Petrykivka, Ukraine – Petrykivka Spring. Everyone was impressed with the colorful displays and talented individuals who had painted such wonderful and whimsical creations.

To conclude the day’s activities, the members walked to the museum, which is still under construction. His Eminence Metropolitan Antony gave a tour of the various galleries, explaining what would be displayed where and what to expect when the complex was completed. Listening to His Eminence’s detailed explanations, those gathered could already envision the paintings hanging on the walls, the lights shining down on statues, and show cases displaying manuscripts and ancient documents. The museum will be a gem when it is completed, and a place that will be visited for generations.

Exiting the museum everyone noted that with the onset of the St. Thomas Sunday weekend, the complex was a hive of activity. Vendors had begun to arrive and display their goods, while the seminarians and staff members were busy cleaning, planting, and pruning. The weather conditions look positive for the weekend, and are perfect for a Pilgrimage to the Metropolia Center, and St. Andrew’s Memorial Church and Cemetery.

### Vocations: We are called to serve!

Vocations are not just about priests and deacons; we are all “a royal priesthood... called to declare the wonderful deeds of Him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.” (1 Peter 2:9). The bishops’ report on evangelism (<http://www.assemblyofbishops.org>) found that one of the main differences between high performing and status quo parishes was the degree to which all members were involved in ministry and felt responsible and empowered to spread the Gospel. This can be a tall order when we are used to leaving such things to clergy who have taken classes on such things. Unfortunately, leaving it to the priests is bad for the parish, bad for the priests, and bad for you! *St. Sophia’s is here to help.*

Our programs are not just for men discerning a call to the priesthood; they, like evangelism, are for everyone! Our Distance Learning programs are perfect for lay leaders and catechists; moreover, we keep costs low and the schedule is designed for people who need to balance their studies with an already busy schedule. Check out our website (<http://stsuots.org>) or contact me directly to find out more ([father.anthony@yahoo.com](mailto:father.anthony@yahoo.com)).

*We currently have:*

*Resident Theology - 7*

*Distance Learning - 11*

*Short-term Residency - 5*

*Youth Ministry - 4*

*Independent Study - 2*

We have already accepted several new students to our programs and we would love to add you to the list, as well!

Next fall our Distance Learning courses are Introduction to Orthodox Dogma and Introduction to the Old Testament; either one would be a great course to start with!

Our Youth Ministry course is also perfect for busy people looking for practical training.

### SACRED MUSIC & THEOLOGY RETREAT

In addition, we are offering a Sacred Music and Theology Retreat 12-16 June at the Seminary!

It is designed for prospective and active chanters, choir directors, and anyone who wants to experience seminary life and a daily cycle of services. If you enjoyed the Lehigh Valley Lenten retreat, you will love this one, as well. The cost is only \$300 and it includes meals, instruction, hands’ on experience, and private instruction. Accommodations are on your own, but we can help as necessary. Each evening’s lecture (6:30 PM) is be free and open to the public (as are the morning Divine Liturgies, of course).

*Contact Fr. Anthony ([father.anthony@yahoo.com](mailto:father.anthony@yahoo.com)) for more information and registration!*

*A Note from St. Sophia Seminary Library:*

**ONLINE CATALOG**

In the beginning of May 2017, St. Sophia Library migrated their records to LibraryWorld. The new catalog is up and running, the staff are back to cataloging new titles, and it is now available for everyone to access online. To access the online catalog, simply visit the webpage of the Seminary Library (<http://www.uocofusa.org/library.html>) and click on the link "ON-LINE CATALOG". You will be directed to the new OPAC for a quick and easy search of our Library's holdings. Any questions, don't hesitate to stop in and speak with the Library staff. If you aren't a member yet, consider becoming one and take the opportunity to utilize the fantastic resources of the Library, browse the stacks, or borrow any books.

**METROPOLITAN JOHN LIBRARY BOOK CLUB**

This May, the Library in conjunction with St. Sophia Theological Seminary launched a new "Book Club". The Book Club meets every 3rd Thursday of the month from 6:30 to 8:30 to discuss a new book and topic each month. The Book Club is free to the public (donations are always welcome) and light refreshments are served.

The first speaker was Rev. Andrew Damick who spoke about his latest book "Orthodoxy and Heterodoxy Finding the Way to Christ in a Complicated Religious Landscape".

The next meeting will take place on June 15th to discuss N. Gogol's book "Mediations on the Divine Liturgy".

To find out more about the upcoming meetings, visit the UOC of USA webpage or call the Library (732-356-0090).

**ATTENTION: Scholarships Available**

The Consistory Offices of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA have been informed that the students of our Metropolia may be eligible for an Undergraduate Scholarship from Ukrainian American Veterans.

The Scholarship Committee of the Ukrainian American Veterans decides and awards scholarship money to college students who are descendants or relatives Ukrainian American Veterans.

To be eligible for a UAV scholarship, applicants must be descendants or related to Ukrainian American Veterans and be a full-time matriculated college student in a degree program. Additionally, students from accredited trade schools or institutions that have degree programs are eligible as well. Students can apply while in their senior year of high school, college attendance will be verified before the awards are given in the fall semester. Applications are accepted all-year-round and the deadline for each year is on the last day of August. Moreover, undergraduate students may reapply for scholarship awards.

For more information, visit - <http://www.uavets.org/programs-and-services/scholarship-fund>

**AXIOS! WORTHY! AXIOS!**

**Elevations...**

*His Eminence Archbishop Daniel was formally written into the Dyptics of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople as the Archbishop of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA. Axios!*

*V. Rev. Fr. Timothy Tomson was elevated to Mitred Priest on the occasion of 25th anniversary of Holy Priesthood on May 14, 2017 - Axios!*

*V. Rev. Fr. John Haluszczak was elevated to Mitred Priest on the occasion of 25th anniversary of Holy Priesthood on May 21, 2017 - Axios!*

**Assignments and Releases...**

*Rev. Fr. Andrei Kulyk is relieved of his pastoral duties of All Saints Ukrainian Orthodox Church, New York City, NY and granted Retirement Status effective May 1, 2017.*

*Very Rev. Fr. Vitaliy Pavlykivskyy is assigned to All Saints Ukrainian Orthodox Church, New York City, NY effective May 1, 2017.*

*Very Rev. Fr. Myroslav Turchak received a blessing to temporary serve at the Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox Mission in Sacramento, CA effective May 1, 2017.*

**Mark Your Calendars:**

*2-17 June, 2017 - College Mission Trip to Ukrainian Orphanages*

*12-16 June, 2017 - Sacred Music Workshop at the Seminary*

*15 June, 2017 - Monthly Book Club at St. Sophia Library*

*16-19 June, 2017 - St. Nicholas Program for the Youth with Disabilities (ages 9-19) and their families*

*25 June - 8 July, 2017 - Diocesan Church School Camp*

*9-22 July, 2017 - Teenage Conference*

*20 July, 2017 - Monthly Book Club at St. Sophia Library*

*26-30 July, 2017 - Annual UOL Convention*

*31 July - 4 August, 2017 - Mommy&Me - Daddy&Me Camp*

*10-12 August, 2017 - Annual Altar Servers Conference*

*15-18 October, 2017 - Annual Clergy Conference*

*5-15 November, 2017 - Pilgrimage to the Holy Land with Metropolitan Antony*

**Learn About: ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN PRISON MINISTRY (OCPM)**

We who do not live in the darkness of a prison or jail cannot truly comprehend the incredible distress men and women prisoners live with each and every day. Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry, an Agency of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops, needs all our help to bring the love and light of Christ to these precious souls. The Orthodox Church, through OCPM, offers both hope and healing to those living in such distress.

OCPM's Mission is "to bring the love of Christ to those who are in prison by providing encouragement, material support, transition and reintegration guidance, Christian education, spiritual guidance and the sacramental life of the Church."

To learn more, please visit: <https://theocpm.org/>