



# Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA

## Consistory Circular

### June-September 2018

Office of the Consistory President

## AND THEN WHAT?

Just over a year ago – on 17 August 2017 – the Council of Bishops of the our Holy Church issued a proclamation of the following year – 2018 as a Jubilee Year of the CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF OUR HOLY UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE USA. Along with this proclamation we issued a prayer for our Church and all her clergy and faithful beseeching God’s guidance upon us as we contemplate our history and imagine what will come for the next 100 years to come. We directed that this prayer be read during every single Divine Liturgy through the end of the Jubilee Year to assist us all in spiritual, mental and emotional preparation for the GREAT CELEBRATION scheduled to take place at our Metropolia Center in South Bound Brook, NJ on 28 July 2018.

That great celebration did, indeed take place and because of circumstances beyond our control neither of us was able to be present for it! We do not pretend to comprehend how and why this happened, that our faithful were left as orphans during the celebration. We must simply have full faith in the fact that for everything there is a reason and no matter how much we suffered within that very day and how distressed many of our faithful spiritual children felt within during that celebration, it was a glorious day! It was a day in which our brothers in the episcopacy from the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada and other Orthodox jurisdictions around the USA stepped in to lead in our behalf.

It was a day that God was glorified as the prayers of all those gathered under the tents before St. Andrew Memorial Church rose up with the incense not just within the walls of the Church itself but into the open sky. It was a day in which the prayers of the living were united with the memories of the 8,000 already resting in the Cemetery and boldly proclaimed our gratitude to God, our devotion to God, our love to God, our unity with His purpose, our commitment to remain His faithful servants and witnesses before the world.

And the celebrations continue as these words appear before our readers. On Labor Day weekend the second Great

Celebration will take place at All Saints Camp in Emlenton, PA where the youth of our Church have gathered each summer for 40 years and for twenty years before that at Camp Kon-O-Kwee just a short distance away. We will gather in St. Thomas Chapel at the tenth anniversary of its consecration to offer the same gratitude, devotion, love, unity of purpose and commitment to God in the Holy Trinity.

We will continue with two more celebrations: St. Andrew Parish and St. Volodymyr Parish, Los Angeles, CA on 22-23 September and in St. Volodymyr Cathedral on 12-13 October in Chicago, IL – the oldest parish of our Metropolia, which was actually established in 1915.

What strikes us most profoundly about the first celebration that took place at the Metropolia Center is that the faithful entrusted to our spiritual care did not panic, did not falter but rather carried on! This makes us incredibly proud as your hierarchs and encourages us as we begin to ask the question at the head of these words: “WHAT THEN?” We have been so positively struck with the initial responses we have “experienced” to this question. We have heard literally hundreds of participants that day about how their hearts were lifted up and how their faith and choice of commitment was strengthened. If this is the consequence of our long-awaited celebrations, then our hopes and dreams can and will be fulfilled. How will the celebration of our centennial affect you, dear reader? Are you willing to open yourself to the Spirit of God? Are you willing to allow the Grace implanted within during all the Holy Sacraments celebrated for and through you to fulfill that which is lacking in you and to enhance what is powerful within you? Will you allow your faith to carry you beyond all past spiritual expectations you have limited yourself to? Will you permit yourself to become the instruments of God in building your parishes into havens of peace, comfort and safety for ALL who seek Christ in a very secular society? “WHAT NOW?” for you on a personal spiritual level?

+*Antony*, Metropolitan  
+*Daniel*, Archbishop

### *From the Consistory Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry*

The Consistory Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry has completed a very busy and productive summer and is looking forward to an exciting fall.

**Camping Ministry** - We were pleased to share faith, fellowship and fun with over 200 campers and staff. The programs delved into the theme *Christ IS Risen!* through daily faith education and services. In addition to the theological aspect of the theme, campers worked on various practical aspects such as creating Paschal lanterns and basket covers, putting together traditional pascha baskets, learning the art of pysanky and haiuvky dances/games and learning the special music associated with the feast. The program also included wonderful activities such as: hiking, swimming, Ukrainian dance/history, crafts, social dances, sports, game nights and much more. A special aspect of this year's program was learning about and celebrating the Centennial of the UOC of the USA.

The campers created 100 hand painted and sequined sunflowers for a display at the Metropolia Center. They also created 16 unique cross that will be installed on the camp prayer trail, *Hill of Crosses*. Our longest-running program, Teenage Conference, is celebrating its 60th year. Information and registration for the 2019 season will be available in February.

**Christ IS Risen! 2018/2019 Theme** - The OYM will be producing the 2018/2019 curriculum September 5th. The material will explore not only the Lenten Triodion, Holy Week and Paschal Season but will also challenge our youth to discover how Christ IS risen everyday of their lives. The curriculum will be provided in three levels: middle/high school, grade school and pre-school. You will be able to download the materials from the OYM website.

**Faith & Photography Contest** - Our youth are once again encouraged to express their faith through the art of photography. This year we are asking that the submissions reflect an aspect of the history of your parish. The theme is in honor of the UOC of USA Centennial. ***Submission will be accepted through November 15th.*** We have garnered feedback that some youth feel that their photos "aren't good enough" for submission. Please promote the contest, advising your youth that its not about the skill level but about the effort! Information about the contest will be sent to your parishes through email and postal service. You may also download at the OYM Website.

**Youth Ministry Certification Course** - The best way to "train up our youth" is to train ourselves. If your parish youth workers (church school teachers, administrators, youth group advisers, Jr UOL advisers), are looking to strengthen their skills, this is a wonderful course to give them not only the basics of youth work but tools they can utilize to enhance their ministry. The course is offered through St. Sophia Seminary and is a distance learning program. There are four classes: Youth Ministry Fundamentals and Ideology, Basic Theology for Youth Ministry, Youth Ministry Practicum, and Social Moral Issues and Teenagers. The first semester begins September 23rd. The course is taught by Fr. Gregory Jenkins and Natalie Kapeluck Nixon. More information may be found at [www.uocyouth.org](http://www.uocyouth.org)

### *New Web Site: A Note from Metropolitan Antony and Archbishop Daniel:*

**[www.uocofusa.org](http://www.uocofusa.org)**

*"We Invite You to Explore This Website Now  
and Then Visit Again!"*

At its founding in 1918 the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA immediately began serving the immigrant communities that settled in the continental United States of America. Today, a century later, we continue to serve over sixty thousand Ukrainian Orthodox Christians in two Eparchies – Eastern and Western. Within our Metropolia you will find 100 parishes and missions with liturgical services offered in Ukrainian and English languages. We worship together and also serve our neighbors through active social service, education and charitable outreach.

The Metropolia is a small but ancient Christian Community, that can trace its roots back to Holy Apostle Andrew and the very origins of the Sacred Christian tradition. Today, our Church aims to incorporate and preserve the best of that rich seam of tradition in a diverse, vibrant and multicultural society and all the challenges and opportunities that it brings.

The website of our Church is not only a place to access practical information about the Metropolia and "what's going on", but also where to learn more about our Church, the Church in the World, and also help us to reflect on our Christian faith and vocation, and what it means to be disciples of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim his "good news" of Justice, Peace, Forgiveness and Love in our world today.

It is very much a "work in progress", and so if not all the information is immediately accessible and some pages remain under construction, please bear with us.

"Rooted in Christ" and the unchanging riches of his grace, the Christian Community throughout history is called to the "noble adventure" of proclaiming with joy and hope the Good News of the Gospel of salvation to the world. The commission of the Risen Lord to His people – to go out into the world and be bearers of this news – compels us to rise to the challenge of speaking the languages of our times, so that – even in virtual worlds where all too often very different languages and logics hold sway – the work of Evangelization continues and God's Kingdom becomes reality in the here and now of life. We must be fearless in adopting the new ways of communication thus proclaiming the Word of God to the world around us whether through this web site or any parochial web (electronic) means of communication.

As you visit the various pages on this web site, the mission of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA will become clear – "...to offer healing, comfort, wholeness, spiritual fulfillment and joy as we work together to reveal the beauty of God's creation by proclaiming and living the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

That is the mission of the Church, and this website should be, above all, an instrument towards achieving that goal, together. To join us in our work, please visit one of our churches or learn how you can support our charitable, educational, and pastoral mission.

## Consistory Circular 3

### *From the Consistory Office of Stewardship*

The goal of the Consistory Office of Stewardship is to serve as a resource for clergy and parish leaders who seek to develop their parish life through the implementation of the principles of Orthodox Christian Stewardship.

The website: [www.orthodoxsteward.com](http://www.orthodoxsteward.com) serves as a resource for information on stewardship from an Orthodox Christian perspective. The Director offers a series of podcasts exploring stewardship topics on Ancient Faith radio titled 'First Fruits of Christian Living': <http://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/firstfruits>. A series of pamphlets and informational materials, specifically on Ukrainian Orthodox stewardship is available by contacting Fr. Robert Holet, the Office Director, at [stewardship@uocusa.net](mailto:stewardship@uocusa.net) or 434-973-2500.

*Note: There were no inquiries made of the office requesting information or support during the past quarter.*

#### **Strategic Plan 7.2 Missions**

Anyone else who would like to explore the topic of mission parishes and the development of this goal should contact Fr. Robert Holet at [fr.r.holet@uocusa.net](mailto:fr.r.holet@uocusa.net).

### *St. Sophia Seminary Library Offers Its Service...*

The Fall Semester is quickly approaching, and the staff of the Library is ready to tackle the needs of the students throughout the school year. Borrowing privileges are free to all students of St. Sophia Seminary and clergy of the UOC of USA, which means that you have access to several thousands of books and periodicals. New students and prospective Library patrons just need to stop by during the day to sign-up.

*Working from home?* Not a problem, browse our on-line catalog (<http://www.uocofusa.org/library.html>) to see what books we already have cataloged. About every month, approximately 400 books get added to the catalog.

*Can't find what you are looking for?* Not a problem, contact the Library staff and we can help you find what you are looking for.

*Writing a paper or looking for books for class?* Check with us first, we probably have it in the library and you can loan it out for the length of the semester. Just don't forget to bring it back!

### *From the Office of Religious Education*

Several videos have been produced by Fr. Harry, and the first half of the series is planned for release in September. In this model, the children go to youth education, while the parents (and rest of the adults) receive instruction based on the interaction of parents and children. It is known as a "perpetual-communication" model. In this model, the parents are given things to discuss with the children at the dinner table. The parents take the feedback from the children, including their particular needs and concerns. The adult educator (be it priest or other person) takes the input, and formulates the lessons for

### *From the Vocations Director of St. Sophia Seminary*

**Graduations:** In May, we celebrated the graduation of Fr. Volodymyr Yavorskyi from our Full-Time Residency Program, Subdeacon Valentine Olynyk and Subdeacon Clint Kifolo from our Distance Learning Program, and Tracy Galla, Danielle Geeza, Anna Kobliaski, Daria Pishko-Komichak, Mary Ost, Oksana Pasakas, Andrea Roelofs, and Elizabeth Symonenko from our Youth Ministry program.

**Current Enrollment:** As of the beginning of Fall Semester, we have three advanced theology seminarians in our Full-Time Residency Program: Subdeacon Yuri Bobko, Subdeacon Mykola Zomchak, and Subdeacon Ihor Protsak; four beginning theology students: Oleh Kravchenko, Myroslav Mykytyuk, Ivan Venhryn, and Yaroslav Bilohan; and two students in preparatory theology classes: *Pavlo Vysotskyi and Deacon Sviatoslav Hot* for a total of nine students.

We have twelve students in our Distance Learning program: Fr. Volodymyr Yavorski (one class), Christopher Encapera (one class), Elizabeth Symonenko (one class), Alexander Smoktunowicz, Crystal Siniari, Ambrose Tennesen, Dmitriy Medrick, Aaron Holloway, James Cummings, Bryan Sullo, Reader Daniel Petrovich, Volodymyr Pichkurov, and Subdeacon Andrew Stoiko.

We have seven students in our Short-Residency Program: Dn. Michael Abrahamson, Subdeacon David Murphy, Subdeacon Constantin Dancu, Dn. Evan Cliff O'Neil, Frank Lorenzo Lucero, Timothy Kelleher, and Subdeacon Clint Kifolo.

**Additional Items:** This Fall we are holding an iconography workshop for our seminarians, clergy and their wives, 12-16 November 2018 at St. Sophia's (rescheduled from Spring 2018). There are a couple of spaces available.

We continue to work on the Clergy Development, US-Born Clergy Recruitment, and Clergy Wellness and Compensation goals for the UOC-USA Strategic Plan. We are in the process of developing and editing our proposals; if you would like to be a part of this process, we could use your help!

We continue to publish new episodes on vocations for the Ancient Faith Radio podcast, "Good Guys Wear Black" and new articles for the vocations blog of the same name. This Fall, we are planning on recording and publishing a series of videos on Ukrainian Orthodox Teleliturgics.

One of the most important things going on at the seminary is happening outside the classroom: our Academic Dean, His Eminence Archbishop Daniel, is spearheading the effort to get the seminary accredited via ATS. This will open up all kinds of opportunities for our seminarians and graduates.

May God bless this and all the ministries at St. Sophia Seminary for many blessed years!

### *From the Office of Religious Education*

the next couple of months. Toward the end of a cycle, another series of input from the needs of the youth and parents is received and the "winter-spring" semester is formulated based on this...

## Consistory Circular 4

### **Ministry of Saint Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Society: We are expanding our charitable outreach!**

The Ukrainian Orthodox League has raised \$6,000 in 2018 for the St. Andrew's Society Soup Kitchen Project. The UOL has been promoting this charitable effort for over 10 years and has in total donated over \$100,000 for the feeding of the elderly needy in Ukraine. Yearly the UOL promotes the "Soup-er Bowl" fundraiser during the Super Bowl Season in January-February. Local chapters of the UOL and parishes throughout our Metropolia participate.

Presently, the Society is expanding its outreach for the upcoming winter season to another center in Ukraine. Rev. Deacon Ihor Mahlay in June of this year visited the Ascension Parish in Kyiv (Demiiivka neighborhood) and was very impressed with the multifaceted ministries provided by this one parish. In addition to feeding the needy and the disenfranchised, the community hosts an open library, educational classes, an icon studio, a free clinic and social services with a daily Liturgical cycle led by 5 priests and a deacon. We will be providing a monthly gift of aid specifically for food.

*Donations for this ministry may be sent directly to the address of the Consistory written out to St. Andrew's Society.*

As an integral ministry of the Church, the Society's philanthropic mission focuses on providing humanitarian assistance to the needy and supporting church-related projects in Ukraine. Since its founding, the Society has raised over 1.3 million dollars towards the support of religious, educational and humanitarian projects.

Saint Andrew's Society, with the assistance of faithful in Ukraine, provides aid to the needy and disenfranchised in Ukraine.

*(Continued on p. 5)*

### **Pastoral Changes...**

**Rev. Fr. Andriy Matlak** is relieved from his temporary pastoral duties of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Portland, OR effective August 4, 2018.

**Rev. Fr. Volodymyr Yavorskyi** is appointed as pastor of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Portland, OR effective August 5, 2018.

**Archimandrite Raphael (Moore)** has retired and is relieved from his pastoral duties of Dormition of the Birth-Giver of God Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Jones, OK effective September 1, 2018.

**Rev. Fr. Myron Korostil** is appointed as pastor of Dormition of the Birth-Giver of God Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Jones, OK effective September 1, 2018.

**Very Rev. Fr. Benjamin Worlinsky** has retired and is relieved from his pastoral duties of St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Blakely, PA effective September 1, 2018.

**Rev. Fr. Philip Harendza** is temporarily assigned to provide spiritual care for the faithful of St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Blakely, PA effective September 2, 2018.

### **From the Junior UOL President Alexis Naumenko:**

This year the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA celebrated its Centennial anniversary. Our ancestors planted the seeds for us without knowing whether our church would still be in existence 100 years later.

But here we are, 100 years later, strong and striving to keep our church alive. For the past century, parishes throughout the country have worked hard on establishing sisterhoods, brotherhoods, church schools, and of course our Ukrainian Orthodox League ("UOL").

The UOL was formed by the seventh Sobor in 1946. The major purposes of the UOL include the development of better knowledge and understanding of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church; encouraging youth interest and participation in the Church; publishing and distributing educational materials; promoting religious, cultural, and social activities and programs; promoting by every means possible the growth and development of the Orthodox Church.

The UOL also administers the Junior Ukrainian Orthodox League, which is composed of youth ranging in the age of 12-18. The Jr. UOL elects its own Executive Board and most participate in teenage conference at All Saints Ukrainian Orthodox Camp, the annual UOL convention, and other youth related activities.

The UOL has played and continues to play a vital role in the life of our church. The organization's saying, "dedicated to our church - devoted to its youth", keeps the UOL focused on its mission, which is supporting and uniting the youth of our church so that they feel like they have a place of belonging. Thank you to all UOL founders, those that are living and those of blessed memory, for building a strong foundation and for creating an organization that harbors love, understanding and unity.

And now it is up to us to ensure that the UOL is alive and strong 100 years from now.

If your parish has a UOL chapter, I applaud you, keep up the good work! But if you hit a roadblock, don't get discouraged - it takes one dedicated person to start something great. You may want to begin by having a social gathering to get to know one another and talk about youth activities that would make your parish community stronger. Focus on the works of God, caregiving to the elderly of your parish, volunteering at a soup kitchen, food bank or children's hospital. Events like that make us stronger as an individual and draw us closer together and to Christ.

As a national board we are here to help and we hope that together we can build a stronger UOL.

### **AXIOS! WORTHY! AXIOS!**

### **Elevations...**

**Very Rev. Fr. Benjamin Worlinsky** was awarded "jeweled" pectoral cross at St. Andrew UOC in Blakely, PA on August 25, 2018 - *Axios!*

## Consistory Circular 5

### *A Note from St. Andrew's Cemetery*

The summer is about to end and St. Andrew's Ukrainian Cemetery is preparing for the fall projects.

Last year we have sent out an appeal to all people who have relatives buried here at the cemetery. The appeal was to help us raise some funds for road repairs around the sacred area of St. Andrew's. This year we will try to send out another appeal, to ask people to take part in this huge project which we will try to accomplish in the near future.

Another project that took place for the first time last year at St. Andrew's Cemetery was more to help people who come to visit their loved ones and place a grave blanket over the graves. It was a nice service and people were satisfied with the cemetery providing a grave blankets.

This year we would like to continue providing the same service and asking parishes to notify their parishioners who have relatives buried here of such a project.

***You can call cemetery office at 732-356-0090 and place an order any time, but not later than December 1, 2018.*** Last year grave blankets were decorated and placed at the graveside by our cemetery staff and this year we are planning to do the same.

Also, after the grave blanket it placed we are taking pictures of the site and if someone desires we can send it via email or sms. We ask you to call earlier and place an order so right after Thanksgiving the grave blankets shall be placed.

Cemetery Administration tries to keep the cemetery grounds well maintained and provides different services such as: Removing Copings, Power Wash, Putting more Top Soil and Seed etc. Don't hesitate to call and ask us to clean up around the graves of your loved ones.

*The contact phone number is above. We look forward to help you out.*

### ***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>

### *News from the Ukrainian History and Education Center*

If you were not able to visit the Metropolia Center for the Centennial Celebration to view the special exhibit installed for the occasion, you will be able to view at the other Centennial celebrations. "Ukrainian Orthodoxy in a New Land: 100 years in the United States of America" will traveling to:

- ***Sept. 1-2, 2018 All Saints Camp, Emlenton, PA***
- ***Sept. 22, 2018 West Coast Centennial Celebration, Los Angeles, CA***
- ***Oct. 13, 2018 Chicago Centennial Celebration, St. Volodymyr Cathedral, Chicago, IL.***

The exhibit features historical documents, photographs and artifacts from the UHEC Archives and the Permanent Collections of the Patriarch Mstyslav Museum that tell the story of the history of the formation of the Church, its central organizations and its activity over the years.

Visit [uocofusa.org](http://uocofusa.org) for additional information about locations, times and registration.

### **Upcoming events:**

*Your Ancestry: Past, Present and Future*

*Nashi Predky – Our Ancestors Family History Group: 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Genealogy Conference*

**Nov. 3-4, 2018:** Join us in Somerset, NJ for this two-day event featuring internationally know experts in Eastern European genealogy, a full day dedicated to DNA, a workshop of Cyrillic, opportunity for networking and a choice of nine lectures. For conference details and registration go to [nashipredky.org](http://nashipredky.org). Register by Sept 30. for a discount.

*UHEC Christmas Tree Trimming and Caroling Fundraiser*

**December 8, 2018:** A festive evening of Ukrainian carols, food and drink while trimming trees with traditional Ukrainian ornaments.

*St. Nicholas Workshop*

**December 16, 2018:** Family fund creating Ukrainian ornaments and decorating traditional St. Nicholas cookies. St. Nicholas visit and picture opportunities for young and old.

*(Continued from p. 5)*

### **Ministry**

***of Saint Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Society:  
We are expanding our charitable outreach!***

... Remember that this program, established early within the multifaceted ministries of the Society, provides hot meals, food staples and other living essentials to pensioners who have no family or social support and are of limited financial resources.

Most recently, the Society began providing aid to refugees in Ukraine. Aid is provided in: Kyiv (3), Pereyaslav, Chernihiv, Ternopil, Chernivtsi, and Mariupol.

*Presidential Award Announcement*

On behalf of His Eminence Metropolitan Antony, Primate of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and Diaspora, members of the Council of Metropolia and Consistory, Clergy and Faithful of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and Diaspora, we greet His Eminence Archbishop Daniel with a Ukrainian State Merit Medal Award, presented by His Excellency President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko on the occasion of the 27th Anniversary of Ukraine's Independence:

Від імені Предстоятеля Української Православної Церкви США та Діаспори - Високопреосвященного Митрополита Антонія, членів Ради Митрополії та Консисторії, духовенства та мирян УПЦ США та Діаспори, вітаємо Архієпископа Даниїла із отриманням Державної Нагороди України від Президента України Петра Порошенка, з нагоди 27-ої річниці Незалежності України:

<https://www.president.gov.ua/documents/2522018-24726>



The Council of Bishops of the Church offers sincere gratitude to everyone, who with dedication worked tirelessly towards the successful celebration of the Centennial of the UOC of the USA

**THANK**  
*...for all your hard work*  
**You**  
**ДЯКУЄМО!**  
*...за вашу працю*

Собор Єпископів Церкви висловлює щирю подяку усім, хто приклав зусиль до успішного відзначення 100-ліття УПЦ США