
**ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON
ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA
Minutes of the Annual Assembly
11-15-2014**

The meeting was opened with the singing of "O Heavenly King" at 11:50am.

IN ATTENDANCE:

His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon, presided over the Assembly, which was attended by the following participants.

	Clergy	Lay	Attached	Observers
All Saints of N. America		Robert Paduchik		
Christ the Savior	Rev. John Parsells	Cheryl Kokkinos George Kaloroumakis Noel Brockett		
Holy Archangels		Matthew Matyuf		Nancy Williams
Holy Trinity		Yuriy Dzambasow	VRev. Peter Bakis	
St. Andrew	VRev. Theodore Boback	Jamie Magruder		
St. Catherine	VRev. Dennis Buck	Dn. Timothy Skuby		
St. Mark	VRev. Gregory Safchuk	Michael Hydock Gene Jacobsen	VRev. Mark Koczak VRev. Timothy Perry Dn. David Phelps Dn. Matthew Prentice	Marcella Hydock James Mersereau Mark Phinny
St. Matthew		John Jubinski		
St. Nicholas	VRev. George Kokhno VRev. Valery Shemchuk	Walter Alesevich Marina Poutiatine Clarie Nobles	Pdn. Blagoje Siljegovic	Mary Jane Maxwell
St. Luke	Rev. John Vitko	Stefan Glomazic Katherine Vitko		
	7	16	6	5

1. Report of the Metropolitan

His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon presented his report covering a variety of subjects related to the Archdiocese of Washington, the Orthodox Church in America and the Assembly of Bishops. This report is available as an addendum to the Minutes.

Metropolitan Tikhon also shared his log of travel and activities covering his various capacities including those pertaining to: 1) Primatial 2) Archdiocese of Washington, 3) Stavropegial Institutions, 4) External Affairs, and 5) Logistics and Personal.

2. Report of the Chancellor

Priest John Vitko, Chancellor of the Archdiocese of Washington, presented his report covering matters pertaining to the Archdiocese in general and parishes in particular as well as pan-Orthodox cooperation among the local clergy and faithful.

This report is available as an addendum to the Minutes.

3. Appointment of Clergy and Lay Chairs

His Beatitude appointed Priest John Vitko and Yuriy Dzambasow as clergy and lay chairs, respectively.

4. Report of the Credentials Committee

Priest John Parsells certified that in addition to Metropolitan Tikhon, there were 7 clergy delegates, 16 lay delegates, 6 attached clergy, and 5 observers present.

5. Acceptance of the Minutes of the 2014 Archdiocesan Assembly

Michael Hydock noted that the Minutes should say that the reimbursement to St. Nicholas Cathedral would take place in one year as opposed to multiple years.

Motion to accept the minutes: John Jubinski

Second: Robert Paduchik

Vote: Carried, 1 abstention.

6. Report of the Treasurer

Michael Hydock, Treasurer of the Archdiocese of Washington, presented his report covering the finances of the archdiocese.

This report is available as an addendum to the Minutes.

Discussion ensued regarding the process and philosophy behind the development of the Archdiocesan budget.

- John Jubinski expressed a concern that the investment St. Matthew's is making into their property and the associated mortgage is not being considered or reflected in the budget. A request was made to include mortgage deductions in the formula used to determine assessments in the preparation of the budget.
- Archpriest Theodore Boback inquired regarding 1) the level of support for theological education in the budget, 2) the compliance of the Annapolis Mission with federal regulations on campus, 3) the distinction of funds and the use thereof between the designated OCF and Mission support from the Archdiocese as well as the OCA Mission planting grants funds, vis-à-vis the Annapolis Mission.
- Priest John Vitko explained that the Annapolis Mission receives support from the Archdiocese as a Mission and as an OCF. He also explained that support for theological education is being addressed via the Distinguished Diocesan Benefactors program as well as in the individual parish budgets, which are encouraged to give 1% of their annual income to support the seminaries.
- Reader Noel outlined the developmental history of the dual ministry of Holy Archangels as a Mission and an OCF, affirming that despite semantically unclear statements in the past in regard to Real Break expenditures, earmarked funds are used for their designated purposes. He also recommended that questions regarding compliance with federal regulations on campus be directed to Priest Robert MicLean.

Michael was thanked for this exemplary service to the Archdiocese as treasurer for many years. It was requested that those interested in potentially taking over this responsibility might make themselves known.

Motion to accept the treasurer's report: Gene Jacobsen

Second: John Jubinski

Vote: Carried.

7. Report of the Auditing Committee

Archpriest Timothy Perry, Matthew Matyuf, and Peter Mazikins completed the audit, finding the books to be in good order and commended the treasurer, Michael Hydock on his excellent bookkeeping.

An audit by the same committee on the books of Ss. Cyril and Methodius, in conjunction with their transfer from the Archdiocese of Washington, was also completed and found in good order.

Motion to accept the auditors' report: John Jubinski

Second: Priest John Vitko

Vote: Carried Unanimously.

6. Report of the Mission Board

Archpriest Mark Kozak the chair of the Mission's Board offered the report, stating that although the board did not meet in 2014, he was able to make ten visitations to two of the missions: Holy Archangels in Annapolis and Christ the Savior in Berlin.

He also recommended the following locales and ideas for future missions in 1) Cumberland and Western Maryland, 2) Southern Maryland, 3) Northeastern Eastern Shore, 4) Northern Virginia, and 5) a portable mission vehicle to travel throughout the region.

After making a request that those interested in serving on the Mission Board contact him, Fr. Mark reported on this history of missions in the Archdiocese of Washington. His Beatitude pointed out that this storied history is very important and offers encouragement to our existing missions and to the entire diocese.

Finally, Fr. Mark agreed to prepare a strategic plan for missions in the Archdiocese of Washington.

This report is available as an addendum to the Minutes.

7. Report of the Distinguished Diocesan Benefactors

Yuriy Dzambasow, chair of the Distinguished Diocesan Benefactors' (DDB) Committee reported on the initial formation, development, organization and goals of the DDB. Three areas of focus include assistance for: 1) clergy and their families, 2) Orthodox institutions, and 3) new projects and ministries.

Materials were distributed in hardcopy as well as being made available on the Archdiocesan website.

This report is available as an addendum to the Minutes.

8. Report on the All American Council

Priest John Vitko offered a report on the 18th All American Council to be held in Atlanta, GA from July 20-24, 2015.

This report is available as an addendum to the Minutes.

Discussion was had in relation to the cost for parishes as well as some of the particulars of the council itself, such as the presence of a parliamentarian and the role of the Pre-Conciliar Commission.

9. Report on the Proposed Statute Revisions

Priest John Vitko offered a report on the process and status of the proposed revisions to the Statute of the Orthodox Church in America.

This report is available as an addendum to the Minutes.

Discussion ensued as to the pros and cons of block voting as well as the seemingly ambitious goal of completing the review and revisions to the Statute during the short time frame before the All American Council.

10. Report of the Metropolitan Council

Priest John Vitko offered a report on the work of the Metropolitan Council. This report is available as an addendum to the Minutes.

11. Report on the Mission School

The Mission School was discussed in part under the Report of the Metropolitan.

Additionally, request was made for clergy and lay candidates to be identified to attend the Mission School, with the hope of not only receiving instruction but also communicating this teaching and experience to the Archdiocese. Details will be forthcoming, including the possibility of scholarships at the national or diocesan levels.

12. Vote on the 2015 Budget

The 2015 Budget was discussed considerably during the Report of the Treasurer. No modifications to the budget were brought forward at this time.

Motion to accept the 2015 Budget: Gene Jacobsen

Second: Matthew Matyuf

Vote: Carried Unanimously.

13. Election for the Auditing Committee

Priest John Vitko offered a description of the work of the auditing committee, noting the need of a clergy auditor. Archpriest Mark Kozak offered to serve in this capacity for a 3 year-term (2014-2017), and it was accepted by general consensus with the blessing of Metropolitan Tikhon.

14. Report on Communications

Priest John Parsells offered a report on communications in the Archdiocese of Washington, first with regard to the internal work of the officers and committees, who have been meeting via teleconference and email and have been making use of project management software for organizational purposes. Fr. John also covered the creation and use of new email lists for assigned and attached clergy as well as lay leaders.

Secondly, he spoke to the updates on the Archdiocesan website which now includes areas for documents, donations, and the Distinguished Diocesan Benefactor program. Request was made that news items, photos, announcements, and other contributions continue to be submitted for publication on the Archdiocesan website, which is in process of a complete overhaul. Those with ideas are asked to please submit them for consideration during development.

His Beatitude encouraged each parish and mission to find someone who would submit content for posting on wdco.org, which serves as an informational hub for the work of the Archdiocese.

15. Parish Updates and Announcements

Updates submitted in hardcopy are available as an addendum. Other parishes, missions, departments, organizations, and individuals provided short oral reports and invitations to upcoming anniversaries and various events.

16. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting: Stefan Glomazic

Second: John Jubinski

Vote: All in favor

The meeting was adjourned with the singing of "It is Truly Meet" at 4:25pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Priest John Parsells

DRAFT COPY

AGENDA

Assembly of the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C.
St. Mark Orthodox Church, Nov. 15, 2014

Saturday, November 15, 2014

9:00 am	Divine Liturgy	Church
10:45 am	Brunch	Social Hall

Diocesan Assembly

11:30 am	Opening Prayer	Church
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Officer Reports and Approval of Minutes (150 min)

Metropolitan's Address.....Metropolitan Tikhon
Q&A

Chancellor's Report.....Fr. John Vitko

Appointment of Clergy & Lay Chairs.....Metropolitan Tikhon

Report of Credentials Committee.....Fr. John Parsells

Acceptance of Last Year's Assembly Minutes

Financial Report.....Michael Hydock
Actuals for 2014

Proposed Budget & Assessments for 2015

2:00 pm	BREAK (20 min)
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2:20 pm	Old Business (30 min)
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Report of Auditing CommitteeFr. Timothy Perry

Report of the Mission Board.....Fr. Mark Kozzak

Report of the Distinguished Diocesan Benefactors (DDB)

Committee.....Yuriy Dzambasow

2:50 pm	New Business: (130 min)
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Brief description of the upcoming 18th AAC.....Fr. John Vitko

Proposed Statute Revisions.....Fr. John Vitko

Report from the Metropolitan Council.....Lisa Mikhalevsky

Mission School.....Metropolitan Tikhon

Vote on Proposed FY 2015 Budget & Assessments

Election: Clergy Member & Alternate for Auditing Committee

Communications Report.....Fr. John Parsells

Parish Announcements of Upcoming Events

Closing Prayer

5:00 pm	Great Vespers
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REPORT OF THE METROPOLITAN

ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY
ST MARK ORTHODOX CHURCH, BETHESDA, MARYLAND
NOVEMBER 15, 2014

Very Reverend and Reverend Fathers, Beloved Brothers and Sisters:

Christ is in our midst!

I. Introduction

- A. This is our third Assembly since my election as Metropolitan but only the second one at which I am present with you, due to my bout with pneumonia last year. By your prayers, I am pleased to be with you this year as we gather as a diocesan family to pray together and discuss together the Apostolic Work of the Archdiocese of Washington.
- B. Before I speak in more detail about our Archdiocese, I thought I would offer just a few words as an overview of the life of the Orthodox Church in America and some updates on the Assembly of Bishops process.
- C. I begin with this broader context within world Orthodoxy and the Orthodox Church in America, precisely because our existence as a diocese, as parishes within that diocese and as individuals within those parishes, is inseparable from the universal dimensions of our Holy Orthodox Church.
- D. In my homily at this morning's Divine Liturgy, I mentioned St Tikhon Patriarch Tikhon, one of the great saints of our North American Church. He spoke of this universal dimension of the Church when he said:
- E. "The light of Orthodoxy was not lit to shine only on a small number of men. The Orthodox Church is universal; it remembers the words of its Founder: *Go ye unto all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature* (Mark 16:15) ... We ought to share our spiritual wealth, our truth, light, and joy with others who are deprived of these blessings, but often are seeking them and thirsting for them..." [*St. Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow and Enlightener of North America Homily for the Sunday of Orthodoxy, 1903, San Francisco*]

II. Assembly of Bishops

- A. The Assembly of Bishops met for its fifth gathering in as many years this past September in Dallas. Overall, it was a pleasant gathering with some positive discussion on a number of issues. Very inspiring was a comprehensive presentation by the various Agencies and Endorsed Organizations, each of these is offering concrete programs and activities that manifest the de facto unity of the Orthodox Churches in the United States (Canada has its own Assembly at this point).
1. IOCC (International Orthodox Christian Charities)
 2. OCMC (Orthodox Christian Mission Center)
 3. OCN (Orthodox Christian Network)
 4. OCPM (Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry)
 5. OCEC (Orthodox Christian Education Commission)
 6. EOCS (Eastern Orthodox Christian Scouts)
- B. There were also very constructive discussions on the means by which this de facto unity might be made more real in terms of the administrative unity for which we are striving. While it is clear that there are strong differences of opinion on whether this administrative unity is even desirable, there is a definite sense that something must be done to strengthen our cooperation.
- C. Two proposals were considered by the Assembly, each being an expansion and revision of a proposal that was presented at last year's Assembly.
1. The first envisioned a 10-year period in which all the jurisdictions would be granted a status of autonomy under the direction, not of one, but of all the Patriarchs and Heads of the worldwide Autocephalous Churches. This 10-year process would conclude, it would be hoped, with the granting of autocephaly.
 2. The second proposal was less specific concerning the overall administrative structure and encouraged a more active role of the present Assembly Committees and the concrete alignment of existing departments and organizations of each jurisdiction. In other words, the second proposal did not speak of a concrete plan for canonical re-organization, but rather placed the emphasis on the need of all the jurisdictions to get to know each other better, to work more closely together and to strengthen our unity in those ways rather than trying to impose some sort of external administrative unity.

- D. No conclusion was reached in Dallas on the validity of either plan presented, so it was decided that the Committee on Canonical Regional Planning would continue to review the plans, with each jurisdiction preparing a more formal response to the question. This response has, in fact been requested by December 31 of this year and a special Assembly has been called at the end of March in order for our Assembly to finalize whatever proposal it will make (if any) to the Pre-Conciliar Commission which is organizing the Great and Holy Council which will take place in 2016.
- E. The Holy Synod of the OCA made a formal (but preliminary) response to these proposals at the time of the Assembly, which is available on the OCA website. I would like to highlight just one passage here:
- F. *6) Although both plans present concrete solutions, the Holy Synod of the OCA feels that both options require further discussion and analysis both within the Assembly and within each of our respective jurisdictions. Nevertheless, in terms of a principle of approach, we remain committed to the vision of a fully functioning and canonical local Church in our region. Therefore, we continue to maintain the principle that the best solution for this region is a canonically and administratively united local Church with a properly functioning Holy Synod.*
- G. It is important for us, as the OCA, to humbly continue to present our vision of a local Church here in North America. To do this, we must continue our present course with faith, hope and love and place our energies into developing and enhancing the great work that is already being done throughout the Orthodox Church in America.

III. The Orthodox Church in America

A. My Travel and Activities

1. I will not cover in detail my travels and activities as Primate over the past year but rather summarize them for you here.
2. Nevertheless, so that the delegates at our Assembly can get a sense of those travels and activities, I am passing out a **log** of my schedule over the past year, color-coded to reflect my various areas of responsibility.
 - a. Primatial (in blue)
 - b. Archdiocese of Washington (in red)
 - c. Stavropegial Institutions (in green)

- d. External Affairs (in orange)
 - e. Logistics and Personal (in black)
3. I am providing this log to the Assembly in three (3) hard copies for perusal by the delegates and I ask that they be returned to me at the conclusion of the Assembly.

B. Vision for the OCA

1. While our broader ecclesial context in world Orthodoxy is crucial, it is more important for our energies to be directed to the Apostolic work that lies before us on the local level: in our dioceses, in our parishes and monasteries and in our families.
2. Some may question our strong emphasis on a local church when the past ten years within the OCA have seen their fair share of difficulties and challenges which might give evidence of internal weakness and disorganization.
3. I would counter that, rather than weakness, it is rather the strength of Christ, made perfect in weakness, that has been revealed through the trials of the past.
 - a. The Holy Synod has reached a very healthy level of cooperation and **conciliarity**.
 - b. Our **vacant dioceses** are being slowly filled, with the Diocese of the Midwest and the Archdiocese of Canada recently holding special nominating assemblies and presenting candidates who were then elected by the Holy Synod at their Fall Session last month.
 - c. We have established a strong system of **financial accountability**, with the Metropolitan Council taking on its rightful role as legal and financial fiduciaries for the Church.
 - d. We are all working diligently at arriving at a method of **stewardship** and financial support for the Church on all levels, which though not easy, has yielded some fruitful discussion and progress.
 - e. We have gone through a **Strategic Plan** process that, while perhaps not perfect, nevertheless established some concrete goals and programs that have been implemented on all levels within the Church.
 - f. We are preparing for the All American Council in which we will consider a **revision of the OCA Statute**

which will take into consideration the experience of our Church (both positive and negative) over the past 45 years

C. Three Areas of Focus.

1. In January of this year, I began a process of reflection and discussion concerning the vision that we should focus on for the Orthodox Church in America. I drafted a **“Focused Statement of Purpose”** in which I outlined a number of areas that seemed to require our attention as a Church. This process had begun in January of this year and involved a dialogue with a number of institutions and groups within the OCA, in which I tried to get a sense of everyone’s thoughts on those priorities.
2. In March, I presented a draft statement to the Holy Synod, with the title **“The Apostolic Work of the Church”**, in which I highlighted the three areas that seemed to rise to the top in terms of interest from those various groups.
 - a. **Missions and Evangelism**
 - a. Mission School Update
 - b. Planned for before the All American Council
 - b. **Clergy Health**
 - a. Clergy Continuing Education
 - i. Session yesterday with Fr Ian Pac-Urar
 - ii. St Tikhon’s: education
 - iii. St Vladimir’s Seminary offering of classes
 - b. PAP
 - i. 6 sessions
 - ii. free
 - c. **The strength of our institutions, particularly our Monasteries and Seminaries**
 - a. Need to really support our Seminaries
 - b. Synaxis of Monastery Superiors on July 21-23
 - c. Another Synaxis has been scheduled at a location to be determined.
 - d. Both of these provide the theological and ascetical foundations to our mission and to the health of our clergy.
 - e. Our parishes need to consider, if they have not done so already, participating in the **1% initiative**, in which each parish would set aside

- 1% of its budgeted income to be directed towards one or all of our three OCA Seminaries.
- f. St Nicholas Cathedral has been supporting a Seminarian at St Herman's in Alaska for the past several years.

D. The All American Council

1. Fr. John will offer some more details about the work of our 2015 AAC in Atlanta, but I did want to make a general comment.
2. It seems to me that this present period, between 2011 and 2015, has been one of the **most productive** in terms of consistency, implementation and follow-up. I believe that our Orthodox Church in America is in a good position to move forward with even greater zeal and sense of purpose

IV. The Archdiocese of Washington

A. Overview and Vision

1. I have been more or less successful in maintaining a presence here in the Archdiocese. I have not been able to reach my goal of visiting every parish twice a year, but I will continue to strive for this.

B. Administration

1. In terms of administration, although we had a little bit of a lull over the summer months, I have been meeting on at least a monthly basis, via teleconference, with Fr. John Vitko, our Chancellor, and Fr. John Parsells, our Secretary. These meetings often last over 2 hours and we get quite a lot accomplished.
2. With Fr. John Parsells' help, we have established a "Basecamp" system which keeps track of all the ongoing projects and concerns within the Archdiocese and offers a means of assigning tasks for each of us, with very consistent follow-up through email and phone calls.
3. I am grateful to Fr. John V, Fr. John P and Michael Hydock, our Treasurer, for their great work and energetic assistance in the work of the Archdiocese. Michael has continued to do a great job as our Treasurer, and, as far as I know, is still willing to continue, but at the same time, would welcome a transition to a new Treasurer.
4. Altogether, I am very pleased with the work that has been accomplished over the past year. I think we have a very

effective team and I look forward to an even more productive year ahead.

C. Clergy

1. Express my thanks to all the hard work of our clergy and their sacrificial contribution to the life of the Archdiocese
2. Memory eternal to:
 - a. Fr. Robert Miclean's mother: **Charlene**
 - b. Fr. Gregory Safchuk's mother: **Matushka Claudia**
 - c. Fr. Peter Baktis' Mother: **Lubov**
 - d. **Leda Dzwonchik** from St Andrew's in Baltimore
 - e. Fr. John Mason's wife (**Daria**) Doris
3. Prayers for the health of:
 - a. **Fr. Michael Koblosh**
 - b. **Fr. Robert Miclean** who is suffering with Bronchitis

D. Clergy Health

1. Held (almost) bi-monthly informal clergy gatherings, with the next being scheduled as part of the clergy continuing education day immediately before our Assembly.

E. Parishes

1. I won't take the time to highlight the good work that has been taking place in each of our parishes and missions. The Assembly can be the time to hear more about the life of each of our communities. Here I will just highlight some issues that impact the Archdiocese and this Council.
2. St Nicholas Cathedral
 - a. Things have been stable over the past year. There has been some renewed growth both numerically and financially and there is a good sense of stability.
 - b. A Dean has not yet been appointed but the community is focusing now on a Strategic Plan and a self-evaluation which has been very productive.
3. SS Cyril and Methodius
 - a. Last year we lost our Christ the Savior mission and our priest in Stafford to the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia. This year, we are in the process of losing a second mission, although this transfer is a more positive one and one that remains in the OCA. SS Cyril and Methodius Mission is presently in the process of being transferred from my omophorion to

that of Bishop Alexander, of the OCA Bulgarian Diocese.

- b. This move is the result of a year-long process of discussion with the Parish Council of the Mission. I would like to thank Fr John Vitko and Fr. Gregory Safchuk for their excellent help in this matter. They both took many hours of their time to meet with the Parish Council, in person and via telephone and email.
 - c. It was not an easy task, and there were challenges along the way, but the end result is that the mission has voted to transfer to the OCA Bulgarian diocese, under Bishop Alexander.
 - d. This was the result of the choice I offered them: to either remain under the Archdiocese as a multi-ethnic (ie, not exclusively Bulgarian) mission or to unite with the two Bulgarian communities in the DC area which are already within the Bulgarian Diocese.
4. Holy Trinity in Reston will be moving to a different location because of various practical and financial concerns.
- a. Leased new space in Ashburn
 - b. Moving in November

F. Missions and Evangelism

1. We have, within our Archdiocese, both Parishes and Missions. Our **Missions** continue to struggle in their own unique way and with their own particular challenges and I think we need to really focus our attention on helping them as much as possible.
2. At the same time, it is important for us to remember that the work of missions and evangelism is not limited to our missions and our missionary priests, but is rather a responsibility that all of us share. As Archbishop Anastasios of Albania, one of our most inspirational contemporary missionary figures writes:
3. "Each one of us personally, bears his or her share of responsibility, as a living cell of this organic whole. Interest in apostleship, in mission, is not the specialty of particular groups or individuals, but a definitive characteristic of the Church herself. It is designated as the

occupation of the Church. It is the *sine qua non* of its life.”
(page 266)

4. So just as asceticism is not the exclusive responsibility of monastics, so missions and apostleship is not the responsibility of a few specialists, but is a sacred task that belongs to all of us.
5. Nevertheless, we still have the reality of our missions, and one particular way we can help our missions is through our **Mission Board**.
 - a. **Fr. Mark Koczak**, the director of our Mission Board, will speak more about the work that he has done and will offer some ideas for our discussion.
 - b. Although the Mission Board was constituted some 4 years ago, it has not been as active as could have been for various reasons and I would like to ask, at today’s Assembly, that those who would wish to volunteer to serve on this Board make themselves known. This includes anyone who volunteered 4 years ago.
 - c. The Board automatically also includes the current priests serving in Missions.
 - d. The Mission Board will need to do several things
 - a. Primarily encourage the development and growth of our Missions
 - b. I have also asked Fr. Mark to draft a Missions Policy that could help us to have a consistent approach to how and where we establish missions, how we evaluate their progress and assist them in growing and transitioning to full parishes, and how the Archdiocese can fairly and effectively offer its support to our missions.
 - e. That work has been slower than hoped for, but we will try to gain some momentum over the next year.
 - f. Would like to propose that we re-issue a call for volunteers to be on the Mission Board, which includes the Chair, Fr. Mark and all the Mission Priests.

G. Distinguished Diocesan Benefactors of the Archdiocese

1. We will have a report later in this meeting concerning the work of the DDB which was established by decision of last year’s Assembly in order to reduce the financial strain on our parishes and missions, to increase the awareness of

- the activities and needs of our Archdiocese and to broaden the potential pool of donors for those activities and needs.
2. I am very pleased with the work of the Committee that has been working on this important part of our Diocesan life.
 3. The members of the DDB, besides myself and the Chancellor, are
 - a. Yuriy Dzambasow, who is serving as Chair for the Committee
 - b. Fr. John Parsells
 - c. Fr. Mark Kozcak
 - d. Noel Brockett
 4. Hopefully you will have seen the various postings on our Archdiocesan Website.
 5. We will hear more about the specifics of the work to date a little later but I am personally very excited about this project, not because it is a fund-raising organization with the potential to bring in financial contributions, but because of the goal of such fund-raising, which is the continued growth of our diocese.

Chancellor's Report

Fr. John Vitko

Before getting into the heart of this report, let me thank His Beatitude, my fellow diocesan officers (Fr. John Parsells, our secretary and Michael Hydock, our treasurer), my brother clergy, the parish officers I've interacted with and all of you for your commitment to Christ's Church and for the opportunity to work with you. It truly is a joy and a blessing.

This has been a relatively peaceful, blessed and spiritually productive year for the Church as a whole and for our Archdiocese. His Beatitude has covered the events at the central church level and many of the archdiocesan events. But I would like to expand just a bit on our archdiocesan and local events.

At the archdiocesan level:

- We have been blessed with the active involvement of His Beatitude in the life of the archdiocese: he has visited most parishes at least once; has regular teleconference with the archdiocesan officers to address the day-to-day affairs of the parish and has had informal gatherings with his clergy roughly every two months
- We allocate an impressive 40% of our budget to Missions and OCFs.
- Seeking to further our outreach, without overly taxing our parishes, we have formulated and inaugurated a Distinguished Diocesan Benefactors program which you will hear more about later today
- We have worked with Ss. Cyril and Methodius Mission to transfer them to the Bulgarian Diocese of the OCA where they will be united with St. John of Rila Mission to better reach out to broader Bulgarian community
- We continue to emphasize the implementation of two important church-wide programs: compliance with the OCA Standards, Policies and Procedures on Sexual Misconduct and Continuing Education of our clergy. We know these take time in all your busy schedules – but these really are very important programs and we urge and appreciate your participation in these

With that said, we still need to do a better job of communicating the importance of the Archdiocese to our parishes. All too often, parishioners

don't seem to appreciate the role of the diocese – either in the sense of the early church fathers – i.e. where the bishop is there is the church – or in the more practical sense of assigning priests, helping parishes that are experiencing hardships (4 parishes over the past 5 years) and in establishing and growing missions and parishes.

Of course, most of our day-to-day spiritual lives are lived at the parish level. And here, there is much going on as well, for example:

- All Saints of America Mission continues to grow and is once again looking for new space
- Christ the Savior has created a beautiful church in the house they bought in Berlin, MD
- Holy Trinity is moving from Reston to Ashburn and where they will now have full time use of their space
- St. Luke is reaching the limits of their space and has begun exploring options for expansion
- St. Mark is having beautiful new iconography painted in their apse
- St. Nicholas is more actively and creatively reaching out to the community around them
- The Assembly of Bishops has selected the Georgetown OCF as the most vibrant of its 148 OCF chapters and Fr. Constantine and 4 other chaplains as being most involved of all Orthodox chaplains in the U.S. and Canada.
- And so on

So as I said in the beginning, it has been a peaceful, blessed and spiritually productive year and I look forward to continuing to work with all of you in witnessing to our Lord Jesus Christ throughout the Greater Washington D.C. area.

Delegates Report on the Fall 2014 Session of the Metropolitan Council

Fr. John Vitko and Ms. Lisa Mikhalevsky

The Fall Session of the Metropolitan Council was held on Sep. 22-25, 2014 at the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception in Huntington, N.Y. The meeting was chaired by His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon and included members of the Lesser Synod (Abp. Nikon, Abp. Benjamin, Bp. Michael), officers of the central church, and clergy and lay delegates from each of the dioceses (modulo a few absences) and from the church as a whole. Fr. John Vitko and Ms. Lisa Mikhalevsky represented the Archdiocese of Washington D.C. at this meeting.

Retreat on Orthodox Stewardship: The meeting was preceded by a one day “retreat” on Orthodox Stewardship by Fr. Robert Holet of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA. This wonderful retreat built on the Orthodox understanding that each of us – ordained and lay alike – are called to be part of a royal priesthood – and that as priests we are each called to make sacred offerings to God of our first and finest. Fr. Robert traced this theme through the Old and New Testament and then elucidated its practical implications for us today as we are called to give our lives back to Christ in love and gratitude for all that He has given us.

Some highlights of the rest of the meeting are given below.

Metropolitan’s Report: The actual Metropolitan Council meeting began on day 2, with opening prayers and then a report by His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon. He thanked the church officers and others for their support and remembered former Metropolitan Council members who had ‘fallen asleep in the Lord’ in the past year, Metropolitan Tikhon then went on to call the period between the 16th and 18th All American Councils (2011-2015) one of the most productive periods that he is aware of. During this time the church followed up on many of the key themes of the 16th AAC: implementation of the Strategic Plan, a reduction in central assessments and a move toward improved ways of funding the church; annual meetings with the diocesan chancellors and treasurers; and the drafting of needed revisions to the Statutes of the OCA to be presented and voted upon at the 18th AAC.

His Beatitude then laid out his top 3 priorities for the Church as we move forward:

1. Missions and Evangelism
2. Clergy Health
3. Strengthening of the Church’s institutions, particularly seminaries and monasteries

Significant steps have been taken in each of these during the past year and more will be forthcoming. In the area of evangelization, the church has received a \$1M bequest for evangelization and has decided to use the income off this bequest to establish an annual one week long “mission” school for further instructing clergy and laity working or intending to work in this area. In the area of clergy health, we have established an Office

of Continuing Education, addressed important issues to helping prevent sexual misconduct, and have a very good Personal Assistance Program to help clergy and other church workers with various counseling services should they need it. And, in terms of our institutions, there has been a gathering of most of the monastery superiors to share fellowship, experiences, and insights.

Metropolitan Tikhon also reported on the recent meeting of the Assembly of Bishops (AOB) – the gathering of all the canonical Orthodox bishops in the United States. He was most encouraged by the session in which the various pan-Orthodox outreach organizations spoke. These organizations manifested the unity of the Orthodox Church in the U.S. in a defacto way and included the International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC), Orthodox Christian Mission Center (OCMC), Orthodox Christian Network (OCN), Orthodox Christian Education Commission (OCEC), Orthodox Prison Ministries, and the Eastern Orthodox Committee on Scouting (EOCS). The Assembly of Bishops also heard two proposals on different paths toward administrative unity. There is no consensus yet around any of these and each Orthodox jurisdiction has 6 months to reply to these specific proposals. The OCA has issued a formal preliminary response stating that our ultimate goal is a local fully autocephalous Orthodox Church in the United States.

Treasurer’s Report: Melanie Ringa gave a detailed report on the independent audit of the OCA’s 2013 finances (no issues found), on the income and expenses for 2014 and the proposed balanced budget for 2015. The table summarizes the income, total operating expenses and total surplus for 2013-2015 – *all* the supporting details can be found shortly on oca.org once the full Minutes of this Metropolitan Council are published.

	2013 Actual	2014 Projected	2015 Proposed
Operating Income	\$2,190,631	\$1,964,274	\$1,912,570
Total Operating Expenses	\$2,178,544	\$1,889,537	\$1,912,570
Total Operating Surplus	\$ 12,087	\$ 74,437	\$ 0
Per Capita Assessment	\$ 95	\$ 92	\$ 90

Continuing to respond to the mandated of the 16th AAC to reduce costs, the total operating expenses are 12% lower in 2015 than in 2013. The \$90 per capita assessment is \$15 less than the assessment 5 years ago. The proposed 2015 budget was unanimously approved.

Financial Development Committee: The Financial Development Committee reported on investment strategies, which included moving assets to the Philadelphia Trust

Company. The Committee also reported on the Stewards of the OCA campaign, which netted \$27,000.00 through August 2014. A stewardship plan for 2015 is in the process of being developed.

18th All American Council: Planning for the 18th All American Council is progressing very well. The Council will be held at the Hilton Atlanta in Atlanta, GA on Jul. 20 – 24, 2015 immediately following the FOCA Convention. The theme draws on theme of the First Sobor, “Expanding the Mission”. Some of the highlights of the 18th AAC include:

- Revisions of the OCA Statutes (see below)
- Plans for future funding of the Church
- Multiple workshops on the theme of “Expanding the Mission”
- And parallel Youth Program on all days of the AAC, culminating in a presentation to the closing plenary session of the AAC on the youth perspective on “Expanding the Mission”

Revisions to the Statutes of the Orthodox Church in America: Since the start of the year, a task force headed by Archbishop Nathaniel and including a broad range of canonical scholars, lawyers, church historians and pastors have been working on proposed revisions to the Statutes of the OCA. These revisions are needed to:

- To allow for a broader range of funding mechanisms for supporting the church (the current Statutes have a per capita assessment built into them);
- To address areas not currently addressed in the Statutes: i.e. Theological Education, Monasticism, Stavropigeal Institutions, and the Office of the Metropolitan;
- To incorporate recent amendments from past AACs;
- To remove elements that need regular update, so that they don’t require continual amendments to update them

The plan/hope is to have these revisions completed in the January timeframe to allow sufficient time for the draft revisions to be presented to the Church at various levels, so as to get feedback before finalizing and sending out prior to the AAC. As soon as they are ready, the draft revisions will be presented to the Holy Synod, the Metropolitan Council, diocesan bodies, and on-line so as to be accessible to the Church as a whole.

Department Reports: In keeping with past practices, the Metropolitan Council heard reports from two of OCA’s Departments: the Department of Liturgical Music and the Office of Military Chaplains:

Department of Liturgical Music (Dave Drillock): This Department continues to produce downloadable sheet music on a weekly and seasonal basis. They have completed over 2400 settings of troparia and kontakia for all the days of the year and in 2015 will complete providing the required music for all the services of Vespers, Matins and Divine Liturgy for the major feasts of the year. Last year they began working on the texts and

music for the Canons of Matins and the stichera at the praises of Matins. They also have an on-line tutorial for learning the 8 tones and offer an online course on choral conducting for existing and aspiring choir directors.

Office of Military Chaplaincies (Fr. Ted Boback and Fr. Joe Gallick): The Office of Military Chaplaincies coordinates and ministers to OCA chaplains in the active duty military, the military reserves and Veterans Affairs and to their families. Currently 24 of the 50 Orthodox active duty chaplains are from the OCA and 8 of the 12 Orthodox military reserve chaplains are from the OCA. There are also nine OCA priests who serve our Veterans Affairs Medical Centers. Combined, these chaplains provide an important ministry and unique ministry to our service men and women, both on active duty and at home. Working through FOCA, this office has been able to provide those in the field with a packet containing a prayer book, icons, cross and pamphlets – but they are still in need of other church supplies for the field, most notably chalice replacement kits and vestments.

Notes: AAC & Statute Revisions

18th All American Council

- Jul. 20-24, 2015 in Atlanta, GA
- Theme: How to Expand the Mission (also theme of the 1st Sobor)
- Major highlights:
 - Statute Revision
 - Funding Revision (as required by the 16th AAC)
 - Parallel Youth Program on all days
 - Workshops on the theme of “How to Expand the Mission”
 - Joint with FOCA (meets the preceding weekend)

Statute Revision

Purpose: to update the Statute:

- To allow for proportional giving and other forms of supporting the Church
- To include recent amendments from past AACs
- To address missing areas: Theological Education; Monasticism; Stavropigeal Institutions; and the Office of the Metropolitan
- To remove elements that need regular updating, so that they don't require amendments to update them – e.g. a new article in the Statutes will provide general guidelines for Ecclesiastical Courts but looks to the Holy Synod to come up with policies and procedures for the Ecclesiastical Courts

The revised Statute is projected to have 18 articles vs. the 14 in the current Statutes.

The Process

A broad, knowledgeable Task Force (10): Abp Nathaniel (Chair), Igumen Daniel, Archpriest Dmitri Cozby, Archpriest John Erickson, Archpriest Alexander Rentel, Priest Ioan Cozma, Judge Ray Lanier, Mr. Alexis Liberovsky

Hope to have the draft revisions complete in the January – February timeframe to allow plenty of time to have the draft revisions presented to the Church at various levels so as to get feedback. (As of Sep. 25th. 8 of the 14 articles have been completed and agreed upon, 2 have been drafted but are still in review and 4 remain to be done.)

The draft revisions will be presented to the Holy Synod, the Metropolitan Council, ORSMA/SMPAC, diocesan bodies, etc. and on-line so as to be accessible to the Church at large.

Comments will be encouraged and accepted at all levels and will be used to revise and finalize the Revisions to the Statutes.

The final draft of the proposed Revisions will be distributed to all AAC delegates no later than 60 days before the start of the AAC.

Given the extensive socialization of these revisions prior to the AAC, the AAC will be asked to vote on accepting the revisions as “one complete package” and not article by article.

Archdiocese of Washington, DC
Budget 2015

Prepared 10/6/2014

Budget 2015 Budget with OCA portion at 90. per
Census 761 Archdiocese budget @ 3.07%

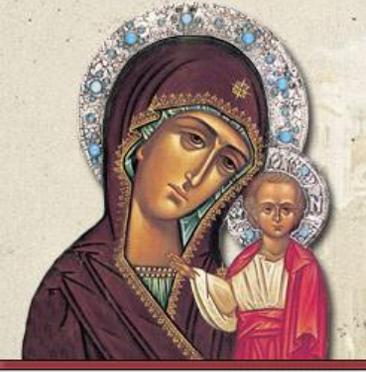
	2014 Budget	2015 Budget
1 Ordinary Income/Expense		
2 Income		
3 Distinguished Diocesan Benefactors Fund	# 25,000.00	# 20,000
4 Benefactor Fund goals		
5 Seminary student		1,000.00
6 Benefactor Fund goals expense		1,000.00
7 Ordinary Income		
8 Assembly	500.00	500.00
9 Archdiocese	56,453.00	59,063.00
10 Total Ordinary Income	56,953.00	59,563.00
11 Expense		
12 Missions		
13 OCF	3,000.00	4,500.00
14 Holy Archangels Mission	7,000.00	10,000.00
15 Christ the Savior	7,000.00	0.00
16 All Saints of N. America	7,000.00	7,000.00
17 Archdiocese mission fund		2,500.00
18 Total Missions	24,000.00	24,000.00
19 Administrative		
20 Miscellaneous	250.00	250.00
21 Banking charges	100.00	100.00
22 Printing, Copying	300.00	300.00
23 Postage, Mailing Service	150.00	150.00
24 Supplies	100.00	100.00
25 All American council fees		1,000.00
26 18th ACC		1,500.00
27 Metropolitan Council	1,000.00	1,000.00
28 Assembly education presentation	2,000.00	3,150.00
29 Insurance - Liability	3,000.00	3,000.00
30 Total Administrative	6,900.00	10,550.00
31 Operations		
32 Outreach	500.00	500.00
33 Total operations	500.00	500.00
34 Episcopal		
35 Housing	21,000.00	22,200.00
36 Pension 8.0%	1,680.00	1,776.00
37 Discretionary	400.00	400.00
38 Total Episcopal	23,080.00	24,376.00
39 Total Ordinary Expense	54,480.00	59,426.00
40 Net Ordinary Income	2,473.00	137.00

41	Other Income		
42	Pass thru		
43	Church parish support (OCA) at 90 per	67,804.00	68,490.00
44	Total Other Income	<u>67,804.00</u>	<u>68,490.00</u>
45	Other expense		
46	Church @90 per of 761 members	69,276.00	68,490.00
47	Total other expense	<u>69,276.00</u>	<u>68,490.00</u>
48	Net other Income/expense	(1,472.00)	0.00
49			
50	Total Expense	<u>123,756.00</u>	<u>143,134.00</u>
51	Net Income Gain/(Loss)	<u>1,001.00</u>	<u>137.00</u>

October 6, 2014
 Diocese Parish census
761

Archdiocese Budget 2015
OCA percentage = 90 per
Archdiocese percentage= 3.11

Parish	Parish Total	Total deduction	Parish less Dedcuctior	2014 Census	OCA 90 per	Diocese Parish % 3.11%	Parish Total	Monthly
St. Catherine	58,154	860	57,294	39	3,510	1,781.84	5,292	440.99
St. Andrew	202,848	15,881	186,967	93	8,370	5,814.67	14,185	1,182.06
All Saints	95,000	7,000	88,000	30	2,700	2,736.80	5,437	453.07
St. Mark	396,968	30,500	366,468	197	17,730	11,397.15	29,127	2,427.26
Christ the Savior, Berli	121,946	60,999	60,947	35	3,150	1,895.45	5,045	420.45
Holy Archangels	62,587	31,000	31,587	7	630	982.36	1,612	134.36
St. Luke	167,538	20,034	147,504	50	4,500	4,587.37	9,087	757.28
St. Matthew	435,062	36,223	398,839	138	12,420	12,403.89	24,824	2,068.66
St. Nicholas Cathedral	518,781	25,151	493,630	139	12,510	15,351.89	27,862	2,321.82
Holy Trinity, Reston	76,382	8,500	67,882	33	2,970	2,111.13	5,081	423.43
Totals	2,135,266	236,148	1,899,118	761	68,490	59,063	127,553	



Distinguished Diocesan Benefactors

Archdiocese of Washington, D.C.



As benefactors, we identify, bring awareness to and support – spiritually, physically and financially -- those activities, projects and ministries requiring substantial and significant need within our Archdiocese. Our goal in our inaugural year is to raise \$20,000!

*Assistance for
Clergy and Their
Families*

*Assistance for
Orthodox
Institutions*

*Assistance for New
Projects &
Ministries*

Contributions made to the Distinguished Diocesan Benefactors Fund for the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C. will be used to provide financial relief for clergy and institutions facing economic hardships, as well as to fund new projects and ministries within our Archdiocese that expand witness of the Orthodox faith.

***Yes! I Pledge My Support as a Distinguished Diocesan Benefactor
for the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C.***

Donate on-line at <http://wdcoca.org/support.html>

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Donation: \$1,000 \$750 \$500 \$250 \$100 \$ _____

Please Designate my Donation for: Clergy Assistance New Projects / Ministries
 Institutional Hardship General Fund

Check Payable To: Archdiocese of Washington, D.C.
7124 River Road, Bethesda, MD 20817-4770



Please name me as a Benefactor on the Archdiocesan Website

DISTINGUISHED DIOCESAN BENEFACTORS

OF THE

ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON, D.C.

MISSION AND PURPOSE: The DISTINGUISHED DIOCESAN BENEFACTORS (DDB) of the ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON, D.C. help the Archdiocese expand Orthodox witness in the Greater Washington, D.C. area within and beyond our existing parishes and missions. We identify, bring awareness to and support – spiritually, physically and financially – those activities, projects and ministries requiring substantial and significant need within our Archdiocese. We then work diligently with our parishes, communities and partners to plan activities (e.g., planting of new missions; sponsoring of local conferences and retreats; participation in local charitable outreach activities; financial relief efforts within the Archdiocese) and obtain the resources necessary to fulfill those needs.

2015 GOAL: 2015 is the inaugural year for establishing the DDB Fund. The initial focus will be to raise funds above and beyond the financial resources currently available within the Archdiocese (e.g., parish and mission budgets) to provide financial assistance to clergy and institutions facing economic hardship, and to fund new projects and ministries that expand witness of the Orthodox faith within our Archdiocese. The goal is to raise \$20,000 in 2015! Individuals and organizations interested in becoming a Distinguished Diocesan Benefactor can donate on-line at <http://wdcoca.org/support.html>, or can mail in a donation using the form at the bottom of the DDB brochure.

REQUESTING ASSISTANCE: Starting 1 January 2015, the DDB Committee will be accepting financial assistance applications to address the needs of institutions facing economic hardship, as well as to start new projects and ministries within the Archdiocese. The DDB financial assistance application form is to be used for such requests, which can be downloaded from the Archdiocesan website at <http://wdcoca.org/support.html>. Applications for financial assistance will require justification of economic hardship or new project, as well as submission of financial documentation to show that existing financial resources are insufficient and additional funding is desired through the DDB. Applications will be reviewed by the DDB Committee on a quarterly basis with the following deadlines: 31 March; 30 June; 30 September; and 31 December. Financial distributions will then be made within 45 days after a quarterly deadline: 15 May; 15 August; 15 November; and 15 February.

Requests for clergy financial assistance are to be made directly to His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon. His Beatitude will personally review each request and make a determination of financial assistance based on available resources within the DDB Fund.

DDB RECORD KEEPING: The existing financial and accounting processes within the Archdiocese will be utilized to track all donations and financial disbursements. Financial disbursements for institutional hardship and new projects / ministries will be approved by the DDB Committee, and documented in DDB Committee meeting minutes. Financial disbursements for clergy hardship will be approved by His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon.

MISSION BOARD REPORT
ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON
15 November 2014

Mission Statement

The purpose of the Diocesan Board is to support the work of the various missions in the Archdiocese of Washington. The board will meet at least once each year to provide advice to the Diocesan Bishop and the Diocesan Council on the annual mission budget, and possible mission work in the geographical area of the diocese.

The board will support the missions by regularly visitations and encouraging members and parishes of the diocese to support the missions through prayer.

2013-2014 Report

Although the board did not formally meet during this year, as the board chairman I visited two of the missions a total of ten times. I was able to serve with Fr. John Parcels and the Christ the Savior Mission in Berlin Maryland during Lent and at the baptism of my 23rd godchild in June. I was able to serve with Fr. Robert Miclean and the Holy Archangels Mission in Annapolis, Maryland during Great Lent, in July and after serving the Liturgy with Orthodox Christian plebes during their summer training. It was my great joy to visit these two priests, their families and their missions.

Future Mission Recommendations

1. Cumberland and Western Maryland- This area had an Orthodox mission cared for by Fr. Dennis Buck during the 1990s. It has a population of over 100,000 and there are no Orthodox parishes with in a 40-50 mile radius. This is a prime area for a mission in the near future.
2. Southern Maryland- This area has an Orthodox mission in the northern part of Charles County. The population is over 340,00 and can probably support another mission in St. Mary's County.
3. Northeastern Eastern shore- This area with a population of about 100,000 is north of the Easton/Cambridge area where our Annapolis mission and a possible future Antiochian mission are located. There is no large population center. This is could be an area for future development.
4. Northern Northern Virginia- There are already three Orthodox parishes in this large populated area of over 1.5 million. There could be a need in the northern part of this area.
5. We spoke during the last Diocesan Council about the possibility of a portable diocesan mission visitation vehicle. We have recommended \$2,500 in this coming year's budget for this mission outreach.

Mission History of the Archdiocese of Washington

It is of prime importance to understand where we have come from. The Archdiocese has a brief history of mission in the Washington area. All of us sitting here at this Assembly are an important part of that history.

1970- 44 years ago, the OCA received its Autocephaly. Our diocese did not exist but our two oldest parishes, St. Nicholas Cathedral (1930), and St. Andrew (1940) were the southern part of the Diocese of New York.

Two missions were founded during this decade both daughter churches of St. Nicholas Cathedral; St. Mark (1972) in Bethesda, Maryland and Holy Trinity (1978) in Reston, Virginia.

1980- 34 years ago, our diocese was a small deanery in the diocese of New York/New Jersey. We became the archdiocese for the primate of the OCA in 1981 under Metropolitan Theodosius.

Two missions were founded during this decade; St. Catherine (1981) in Hagerstown, Maryland and St. Mathew (1988) in Columbia, Maryland. Both received help from St. Nicholas and St. Mark parishes.

1990- 24 years ago, our diocese continued to grow with the addition of St. Luke parish in McLean, Virginia, founded in 1962 as a parish in the Serbian diocese.

2000- 14 years ago, our diocese reunited with the Diocese of New York in 2005 and was a deanery again. Two missions were added during this decade; Christ the Savior (2000) Fenwick Island, Delaware, now Berlin, Maryland and All Saints (2008) in Alexandria, Virginia. In 2009 we became a diocese again under Met. Jonah

2010- During the past 4 years, we added the Holy Archangels mission (2012) in Annapolis, Maryland, serving the US Naval Academy and St. John's College.

Our diocese has a unique relationship with Orthodox members of our Armed Forces because of our geographical location. Three of the four OCA Deans of Chaplains have served in our diocese, Fr. Nicholas Kyriluk in the early 1980s, Fr. Gregory Pelesh in the 1990s and the rector of St. Andrew parish in Baltimore, Fr. Theodore Boback, the current Dean. Currently, Fr. Peter Baktis serves at Fort Belvoir. Numerous other Orthodox Chaplains have served with us over the past 40 years. Many Orthodox laypeople have served here often becoming founders and great benefactors of our parishes.

Over fifteen priests and deacons are native sons of our diocese. Fr. Constantine White, our first chancellor and Fr. John Vitko our current chancellor are two of them. The two priests who have the longest service in our diocese spent their entire ministry with us, Fr. Paul Harrilchak came to Holy Trinity in Reston in 1979 and Fr. Dennis Buck came to St. Catherine parish in Hagerstown in 1983.

RESPECTFULLY,

ARCHPRIEST MARK KOZAK

MISSION BOARD CHAIRMAN

FELLOWSHIP OF ORTHODOX CHRISTIANS IN AMERICA
ARCHDIOSECAN MEETING—ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON
NOVEMBER 15, 2014
WALTER C. ALESEVICH, GOVERNOR, ST. NICHOLAS CATHEDRAL

The Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America is a nationwide lay organization of about 3,000 members and is official organization of the Orthodox Church in America, whose spiritual leader is His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon. Our mission is very simple—to proclaim, share and reveal our Orthodox Christian Faith through service, fellowship and example. This year, we are sponsoring our annual convention immediately prior to the All America Council, in an effort to demonstrate our closeness with the Church.

We strive to accomplish our mission by:

- establishing practical means for Orthodox Christians to endure lasting friendships on local and national levels through networking
- support and encourage Orthodox Youth ministries
- support and encourage missionary growth of our church
- encourage and promote unity among all Orthodox jurisdictions
- provide educational, cultural, social and athletic activities for the people of our Orthodox Faith
- studying the tenets of our Faith

The Colonial District, of which the Archdiocese is a part, spans from Philadelphia and Trenton down to Washington. We have Chapters in 5 parishes in our district, three of them (the Cathedral in Washington, St. Mark's in Bethesda and St. Andrew's in Baltimore) are in this Archdiocese. V. Rev. Theodore Boback (from St. Andrew's) is the National Spiritual Advisor, as well as the Colonial District's, for the Fellowship. We encourage all parishes in this Archdiocese to consider starting a chapter of the Fellowship. For further information, please contact me at (703) 413-4168 or by email at walesevich@msn.com.