



Council Information

PO Box 675, Syosset, NY 11791-0675 – 516-922-0550 – Fax 516-922-0954
 Website: www.oca.org – Email aac@oca.org

Location

All liturgical services and Council sessions will be held at the Sheraton Centre Toronto
 123 Queen Street West, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5H 2M9
 (416) 361-1000 – Fax (416) 947-4854

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

As of July 1, 2005

**Friday, July 15 and
 Saturday, July 16**

Bulgarian Diocesan Assembly
 Military Chaplains Meeting

Saturday, July 16
 1:30-4:30 PM

(Registration 1:00 – 10:00 PM) (Exhibit Area 1:00 – 8:00 PM)
 Pre Council Workshops

1:30- 3:00 PM Understanding the Statutes
1:30-3:00 PM Preventing Sexual Misconduct
3:00 – 4:30 PM Continuing Education for Clergy on Homiletics
3:00 – 4:30 PM Liturgical Music Workshop

6:00-7:00 PM
 10:00 PM

Great Vespers
 Confessions

Sunday, July 17
 9:45 AM

(Registration 2:00 – 11:00 PM) (Exhibit Area 1:00 – 10:00 PM)
 Entrance of Hierarchs, Vesting of Metropolitan, Divine Liturgy
 Continental Breakfast for all in attendance

6:00-7:00 PM
 8:30-10:00 PM
 10:00 PM

Vespers
 Welcome Reception for all Council Participants
 Confessions

Monday, July 18

7:30 AM
 9:45 AM
 10:30 AM-1:00 PM

(Registration 9:30 AM-6:00 PM) (Exhibit Area 9:30 AM – 9:00 PM)
 Divine Liturgy
 Continental Breakfast for delegates and observers
 PLENARY I – Opening Prayer, Call to Order, Preconciliar Commission Report, Council Organization “Getting the Most Out of the Council”

ADDRESS OF THE PRIMATE

1:00-2:30 PM
 2:45-5:00 PM

Lunch and Luncheon Forums
 PLENARY II - Nomination Procedures.

Vision and Identity

6:00-7:00 PM
 8:30-10:00 PM

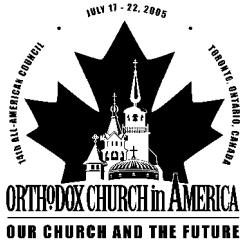
Vespers
 Dinner Break
 FOS MEMBERS RECEPTION

Tuesday, July 19

7:30 AM

(Registration in Secretarial Office remainder of Council)
(Exhibit Area 8:30 AM – 9:00 PM)
 Matins

8:30 AM	Clergy Wives Breakfast
9:45 -10:45 AM	PLENARY III – Summary Team Update, Report of the Chancellor
11:00 AM–1:00 PM	Clergy Formation
1:00-2:30 PM	Lunch and Luncheon Discussions
2:45-5:30 PM	PLENARY IV Nominations. Parish Health
	Diocesan Spotlights
6:00-7:00 PM	Akathist to the North American Saints
	Dinner Break
8:30-10:00 PM	Receptions (St. Vladimir, St. Tikhon, others)
Wednesday, July 20	<i>(Exhibit Area 8:30 AM – 9:00 PM)</i>
7:30 AM	Matins
9:45 AM -12:30 PM	PLENARY V Summary Team Update Evangelization
	Workshops on Parish Health and Evangelization
2:00-6:00 PM	Diocesan Assemblies <i>Diocese of the Midwest</i> <i>Diocese of the South</i>
6:00 PM-7:00 PM	Vespers followed by Confessions
10:00 PM	Confessions
Thursday, July 21	<i>(Exhibit Area 9:30 AM –3:00 PM /Exhibit Area Closes for Council)</i>
7:30 AM	Divine Liturgy
9:45 AM	Continental Breakfast for delegates and observers
10:30 AM-1:00 PM	PLENARY VI Summary Team Update, Elections Orthodox Relations
1:00 – 2:30 PM	Lunch and Luncheon Forums
2:45 – 4:30 PM	PLENARY VII Report of the Treasurer/Fairshare Election Results
5:00 – 5:30 PM	Vespers
6:00 PM	Banquet Reception Hour
7:15 PM	Grand Banquet <i>Doors Open</i>
7:30 PM	Grand Banquet
Friday, July 22	
7:30 AM	Matins
9:45 AM–11:30 AM	PLENARY VIII Summary Team Report, Youth Presentation
12:00 PM	Installation and Closing Prayer Service



14th All-American Council Luncheon Forum Topics

1:30 –2:30 PM

In support of the Council Theme, the Luncheon Forums will provide a small Group format to offer skill sharing

Tentative Schedule – Subject to Change

Monday, July 18

How do I as an Orthodox Christian Evangelize? What Skills Do I Need?
Orthodox Prison Ministry – How a Parish Can Become Involved
Hosting a Seminarian Intern, What It Involves for a Parish
A Pan-Orthodox Singles Group, It's Success in the DC Area
Tips for Healthy Christian Parenting
Worship and Pastoral Coverage in Times of War and Conflict:
Connecting Our Youth Across Parish Boundaries

Tuesday, July 19

“Chew and Chat” about Christian Education
Parish and Pan-Orthodox Outreach to the Hungry and Homeless
Overcoming Hurdles in Developing Parish Ministries
Strengthening the Parish Family
Sanctity of Life Issues: From Conception to Death
Overcoming Stress, Depression, Addictions through Faith
Engaging Young Adults in Church Life
“Q and A” OCA Pension Plan – Latest Information

Thursday, July 21

The Parish Learns Together: Sessions for All-Parish Education
Working with New Immigrants in the Parish
The Place of Technology in the Church
Conflict Management, How to Deal with Challenging People
A Parish Nursing Program: What It Is, Its Benefits, How to Organize It
Retirees – a Golden Source for Ministries
The Church Choir: Sharing Needs, Challenges, Tools for Growth

**Council
Composition**

The Statute of the Orthodox Church in America, Article III, Section 2, states that the composition of the All American Council is composed of the following:

- The Metropolitan and all bishops of the Church;
- The priests of each parish and an equal number of lay delegates;
- Priests not having parishes if accredited by the Metropolitan Council;
- One lay delegate from each parish not having a priest;
- The members and alternate members of the Metropolitan Council, and the members of the Auditing Committee of the Church;
- Two delegates from each theological seminary;
- Members of the Preconciliar Commission; (and)
- One representative of each Church organization officially accredited by the Holy Synod;

**Delegate/
Alternate
Information**

Article III, Section 6 of the Statute sets forth the following requirements for lay delegates and alternates to be validly elected, qualified, accredited. They must:

- Be elected by a parish meeting;
- Be a member of the parish in good standing (cf. Art. X, Section 5), at least eighteen years of age, having received the Sacraments of Confession and Communion at least annually for the past three years at his/her home parish. (Like holders of all offices in the Church, he/she may not be a person under ecclesiastical interdict, who is in violation of moral standards, who is married outside the Church, who is a member of anti-Church and/or secret societies.)
- Be approved by the parish rector (or dean in the case of vacancy in the parish) to represent the parish.

Once an alternate has been authorized to be a delegate, his/her status is non-transferable.

**Observer
Information**

The following rules apply to Council Observers:

- Parishes may nominate any number of observers.
- Observers must be parish members in good standing and must meet the same ecclesiastical and moral requirements that are applied to delegates.
- Observers must be endorsed by the parish rector and confirmed by the diocesan bishop in order to be registered at the All-American Council.
- Observers must submit payment for the registration fee of \$200.00. The fee includes registration, a banquet ticket, preparatory materials and Council documents.

**Registration
Forms**

The Preconciliar Commission has distributed registration forms to each parish and institution of the Orthodox Church in America. These forms must be fully completed and returned to the OCA Chancery by June 15, 2005. In completing the enclosed forms, please carefully follow these steps:

- The rector and/or parish council secretary complete the enclosed clergy, delegate, and observer registration form.
- The rector and parish council secretary sign the form and affix the parish seal.
- The delegate(s), alternate(s), and observer(s) read Statute Article III, Section 6 (listed above).
- The delegate(s), alternate(s), and observer(s) sign the registration form.
- The rector and/or parish treasurer attach a check to cover additional delegate(s) (if applicable) and any observers.
- The registration form and check are to be mailed to the OCA Chancery no later than June 15, 2005.

The official schedule will be distributed to clergy, delegates, and observers upon registration.

**Council
Assessments**

The treasurer has distributed to parishes and institutions invoices for Council assessments. The Statute requires that each parish or institution must be in compliance with its 2004 financial obligations to the Church in order to have representation at the council.

Youth & Young Adult Activities

The theme for the Youth & Young Adult Activities at the Council is *Our Church and the Future: Become What You Are*. Activities will be available for the following age groups:

Ages 6 and under (*Parent and Me* daily two-hour session)

Ages 7- 9 Registration and Activities Fee \$200

Ages 10-12 Registration and Activities Fee \$200

Ages 13-17 Registration and Activities Fee \$200

Ages 18 + Young Adult Observer Fee \$200. Participants in this category must register as regular observers; for qualifications and requirements see the Observer section above.

Supervision

Youth observers are signed in once at the beginning of the day and then signed out at the conclusion of the day's activities according to the times noted on the youth activity schedule. There is no staff making sure that every youth is at every activity nor will the staff monitor youths' behavior when not signed into a scheduled youth activity. Parents and/or chaperones are responsible for youth at any time they are not signed into one of the Church's youth activities, including all evenings.

Information about the activities can be found on the enclosed flyer or by visiting the OCA Council website at www.oca.org

Travel Documents

Visitors to Canada must provide Canadian customs and immigration officials with proof of citizenship such as:

A valid passport, or

An original or certified copy of your birth certificate with a raised seal, PLUS photo identification.

For information on obtaining a U.S. passport, go to <http://www.travel.state.gov/> or visit your local post office. Visas are not required for U.S. tourists entering Canada from the U.S. for stays up to 180 days. If you are a naturalized U.S. citizen and do not have a passport, you should travel with your naturalization certificate. **A driver's license or Social Security card is not valid proof of citizenship.**

If you are not a U.S. citizen but live and work in the U.S. and carry a valid foreign passport and Green card, you may enter Canada. For all other questions about entering Canada, we advise that you contact your country of origin's consulate. Mexican citizens entering Canada should also check all customs and immigration requirements that Canada and Mexico have with one another.

International Travel With Minors (including Canada & Mexico)

Due to international concern over child abduction, many governments have initiated additional requirements at arrival and departure points when children under 18 years old are not traveling with both parents. Many countries require documentary evidence of the adults' relationship and permission of the parent(s) or legal guardian before they will allow the child to cross the border. Single parents, grandparents, or guardians traveling with children often need proof of custody or notarized letters from the other parent authorizing travel. **These requirements are in addition to passport or proof of citizenship requirements.**

International Travel With Minors (including Canada & Mexico)

If a minor child is traveling with **only one parent**, the other parent must provide **notarized consent**. If **only one parent has legal custody**, that parent should be prepared to provide a court order of child custody to airlines and international authorities. If a minor child is **traveling alone** or in someone else's company, both parents (or the sole, documented custodial parent) must provide **notarized consent**. If a child traveling has a **different last name** from the mother and/or father, the parents should be prepared to provide evidence to airlines and official authorities, such as a birth certificate or adoption decree, to prove that they are the parents. If **one parent is deceased**, a death certificate is required. If the birth certificate shows that the minor **has only one parent**, it will be sufficient to hold only a **notarized copy** of the birth certificate.

GST Refund Information

Visitors to Canada (non-Canadian citizens) are entitled to a full or partial refund on any Canadian national sales tax (GST-Goods and Services Tax) paid while in Canada. Sheraton Centre Toronto staff will supply Council participants with refund forms. You must apply for a GST refund to obtain the refund.