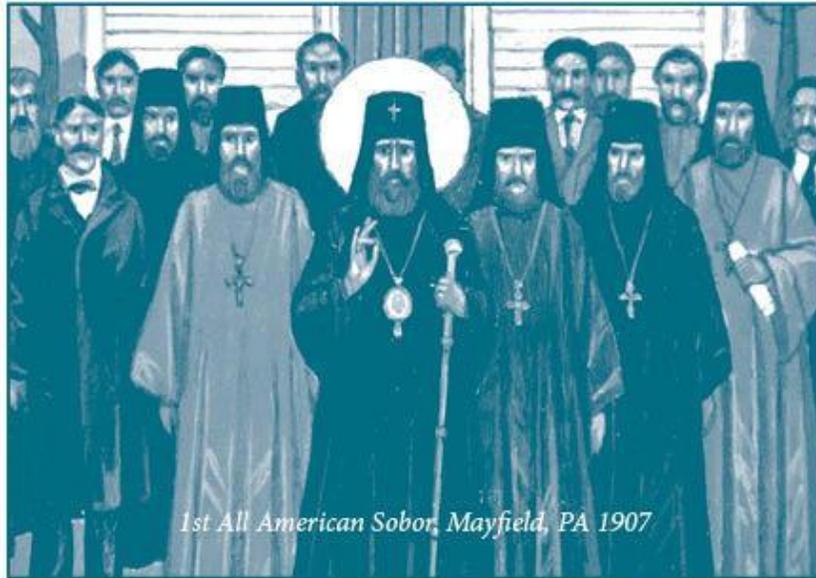


# THE 18TH ALL AMERICAN COUNCIL



## HOW TO EXPAND THE MISSION

JULY 20-24 2015 • ATLANTA, GA

**POWERPOINT  
PRESENTATIONS OF THE 18<sup>TH</sup>  
ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL**

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

This report contains the PowerPoint presentations of the 18<sup>th</sup> All-American Council to be held in Atlanta, Georgia from July 20 through July 24, 2015.

This report contains the master PowerPoint slides for each plenary session as well as any other additional presentations given during the plenary sessions. A separate report contains the official minutes of the plenary sessions of the 18<sup>th</sup> All-American Council. The video presentations presented at each plenary session may also be found online. All of the reports that were sent prior to the Council may be found online at [www.OCA.org](http://www.OCA.org) in the Archive section under All-American Councils. These reports include the Official Delegates' Handbook, Officers' Report, Departments and Institutions' Report and Financial Reports. Also included online are the various videos that were presented at the plenary sessions.

## *1. Plenary Session I*

- Welcome Letter from Governor of Georgia*
- Welcome Letter from Mayor of Atlanta*
- PowerPoint that accompanied the opening address of His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon*

## *2. Plenary Session II*

- Guidelines for submitting resolutions*
- Guidelines for submitting nominations*

## *3. Plenary Session III*

- Finance Resolution Presentation*
- Final Finance Resolution*

## *4. Plenary Session IV*

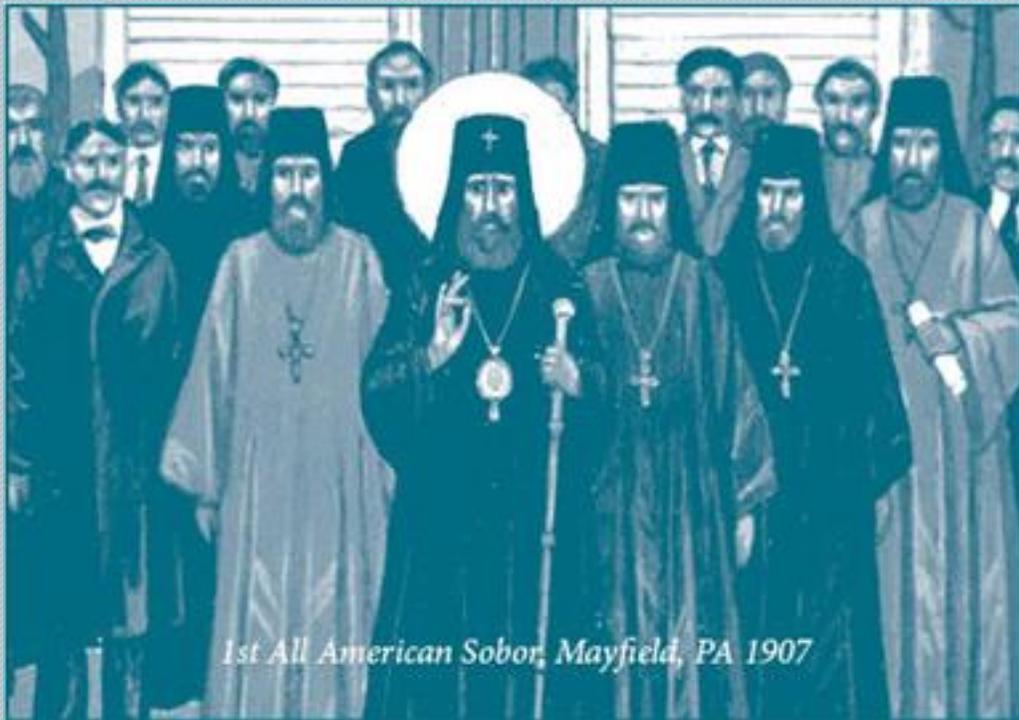
- Final Report on the Strategic Plan*
- Office of Military and VA Chaplains*
- Department of Christian Education*
- Department of Christian Service and Humanitarian Aide*
- Department of Evangelization*
- Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America*

## *5. Plenary Session V*

- Guidelines for voting*
- Mission School Presentation*
- Assembly of Bishops Presentation*
- Orthodoxy in America*

## *6. Plenary Session VI*

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL

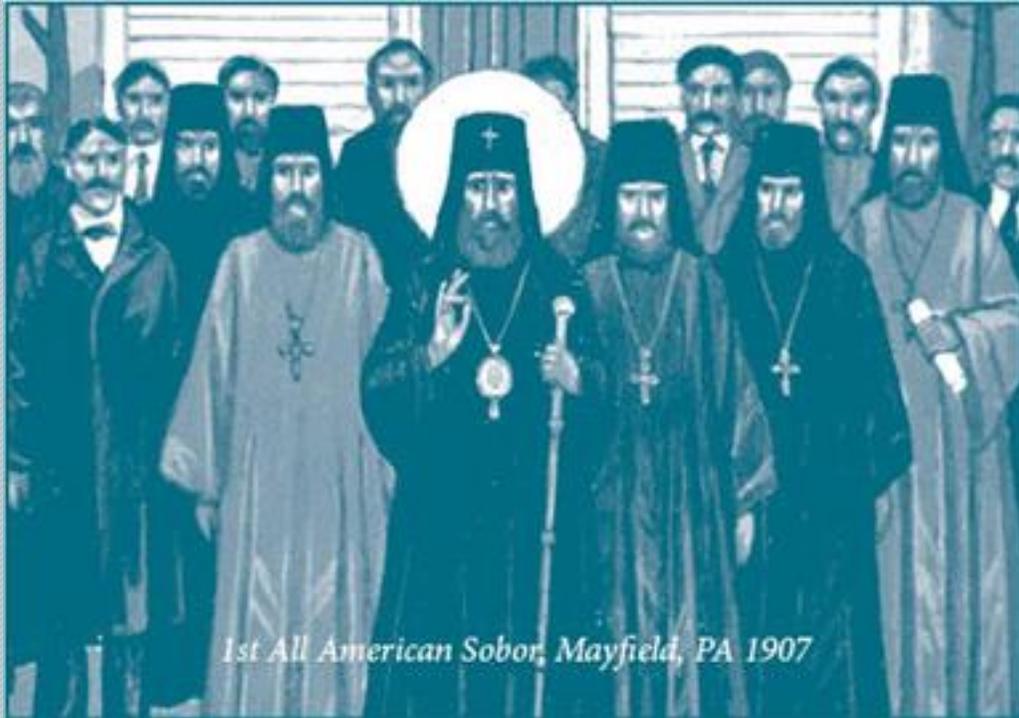


**“HOW TO  
EXPAND THE  
MISSION”**

**JULY 20-24, 2015  
ATLANTA, GA**

**WELCOME!**

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



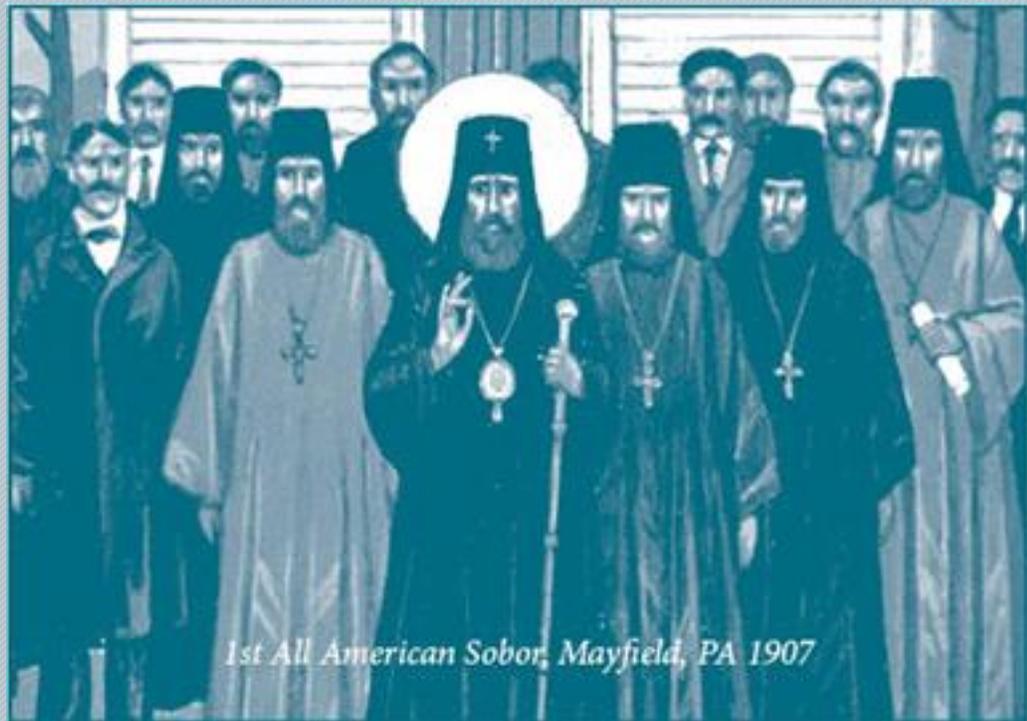
OPENING  
MOLEBEN

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



## PLENARY SESSION I

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



*1st All American Sobor, Mayfield, PA 1907*

METROPOLITAN  
TIKHON OPENS  
THE 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-  
AMERICAN  
COUNCIL

# ORGANIZATION OF COUNCIL

THE 18TH  
ALL AMERICAN  
COUNCIL



HOW TO EXPAND  
THE MISSION

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## Council Clergy and Lay Chairpersons

- Fr. Peter Baktis, Diocese of New York and New Jersey, Clergy Chair
- Judge E. R. Lanier, Diocese of South, Lay Chair

# ORGANIZATION OF COUNCIL

THE 18TH  
ALL AMERICAN  
COUNCIL



HOW TO EXPAND  
THE MISSION

JULY 20-24 2015 • ATLANTA, GA

## Council Parliamentarian

- Ms. Gloria Cofer
- Professional Registered Parliamentarian since 1992 by National Association of Parliamentarians (NAP) and Georgia Association of Parliamentarians (GAP). Past president of the GAP and Committee chair of NAP.

# COUNCIL SECRETARIAT

**THIS TEAM TAKES THE MINUTES DURING PLENARY SESSIONS. THESE MINUTES WILL BE SUBMITTED AFTER EACH SESSION TO THE HOLY SYNOD FOR APPROVAL AND DISTRIBUTED TO THE COUNCIL AT THE NEXT SESSION**

- Elizabeth Mikhalevsky, Chair, Wash
- Alexis Liberovsky, Stav
- Fr. David Cowan, NYNJ
- Fr. Nicholas Roth, DoS
- Philip Sokolov, DoMW
- Lynnell Brunswig, DoW

THE 18TH  
ALL AMERICAN  
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HOW TO EXPAND  
THE MISSION

JULY 20-24 2015 • ATLANTA, GA

# COUNCIL TELLERS

**THIS TEAM WILL DO THE ACTUAL COUNTING OF VOTES. THEY ENSURE AND CERTIFY AN ACCURATE COUNT OF VOTES.**

- **Fr. Timothy Hojnicky, Chair, EPA**
- Fr. Daniel Matthewson, WPA
- Fr. Mikel Bock, Alas
- Fr. David Koles, DNE
- Fr. Joel Weir, DoMW
- FR. Stephen Soot, DoW
- Fr. Vasyl Kolega, Can
- Tamara Skvir, NYNJ
- Nicholas Van Such, DoMW
- Angela Parks, DoS
- Sdn Johann Morse, DoW
- Justin Nescott, WPA
- James Magruder, Wash

THE 18TH  
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HOW TO EXPAND  
THE MISSION

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# COUNCIL CREDENTIALS

**THIS TEAM IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE COLLECTION OF ALL CREDENTIALS AT EACH PLENARY SESSION. THEIR COUNT IS THE OFFICIAL ATTENDANCE AT THE AAC AND SESSIONS.**

- Dn. Justin Mitchell, Chair, Can
- Fr. Elijah Mueller, DoMW
- Fr. Leonid Schmidt, NYNJ
- Fr. Victor Nick, Alas
- Katherine Wilkalis, DoW
- Chris Herbert, DoS
- Barry Migyanko, Consultant
- Ryan Platte, Consultant

THE 18TH  
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HOW TO EXPAND  
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# COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

**THIS TEAM COLLECTS AND PRESENTS NOMINATION TO CHURCH-WIDE OFFICES THAT WILL BE ELECTED AT THE ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL.**

- **Fr. David Lowell, Chair, DoW**
- **Fr. Paul Jannakos, Bulg**
- **Fr. Ignatius Gouvain, EPA**
- **Fr. James Dank, DoMW**
- **Dn. Alexander Cadman, WPA**
- **Dr. Bill Samsonoff, Stav**
- **Dn. Brendan Doss, DoW**
- **Taylor Hostetter, DoS**

THE 18TH  
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COUNCIL



HOW TO EXPAND  
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# COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

**THIS TEAM COLLECTS AND PRESENTS RESOLUTIONS FROM THE FLOOR THAT WILL BE VOTED ON AT THE ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL WITH THE BLESSING OF THE HOLY SYNOD.**

- Fr. Timothy Sawchak, Chair, DoMW
- Fr. James Parnell, DNE
- Fr. John Diamantis, NYNJ
- Fr. Thomas Moore, DoS
- Larry Skvir, EPA
- Jean Nelson, DoW
- Dr. Paul Meyendorff, Stav
- Albert Foundos, Alb

THE 18TH  
ALL AMERICAN  
COUNCIL



HOW TO EXPAND  
THE MISSION

JULY 20-24 2015 • ATLANTA, GA

# COUNCIL PRESS & INFO

**THIS TEAM COLLECTS, PUBLISHES AND DISSEMINATES ALL INTERACTION WITH THE LOCAL AND NATIONAL PRESS INCLUDING DAILY PRESS RELEASES.**

- Fr. Dennis Rhodes, Chair, Alb
- Fr. Gregory Safchuk, Wash
- Fr. Victor Gorodenchuk, EPA
- Fr. John Parsells, Wash
- Dn Gabe Aldridge, DoS
- Fr. Stephen Freeman, DoS
- Claire Nobles, Wash

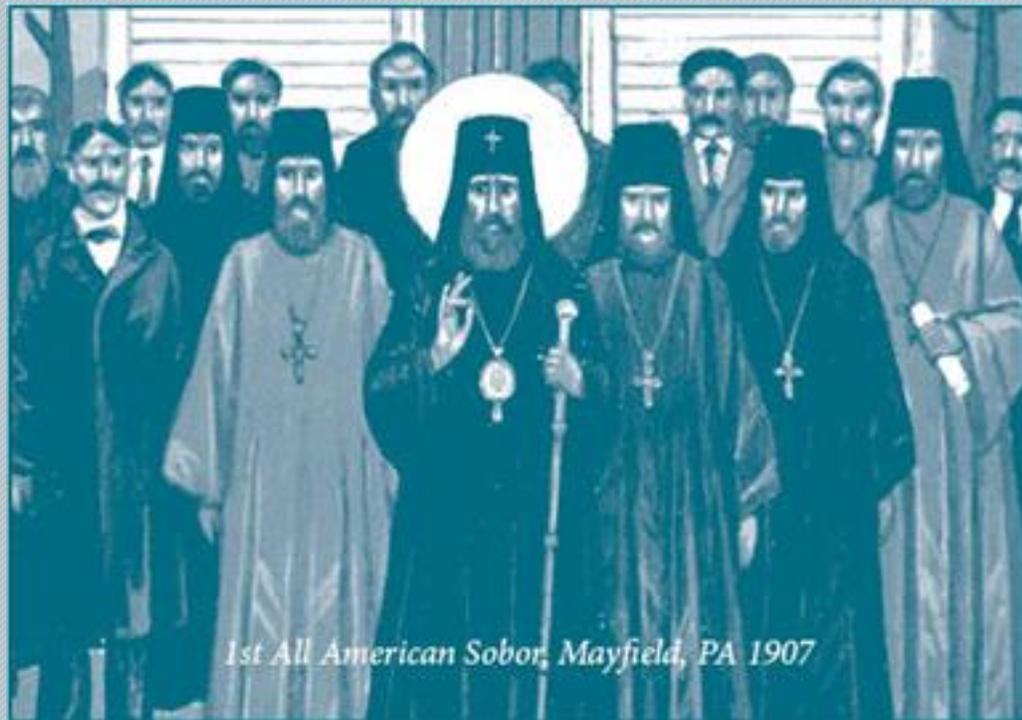
THE 18TH  
ALL AMERICAN  
COUNCIL



HOW TO EXPAND  
THE MISSION

JULY 20-24 2015 • ATLANTA, GA

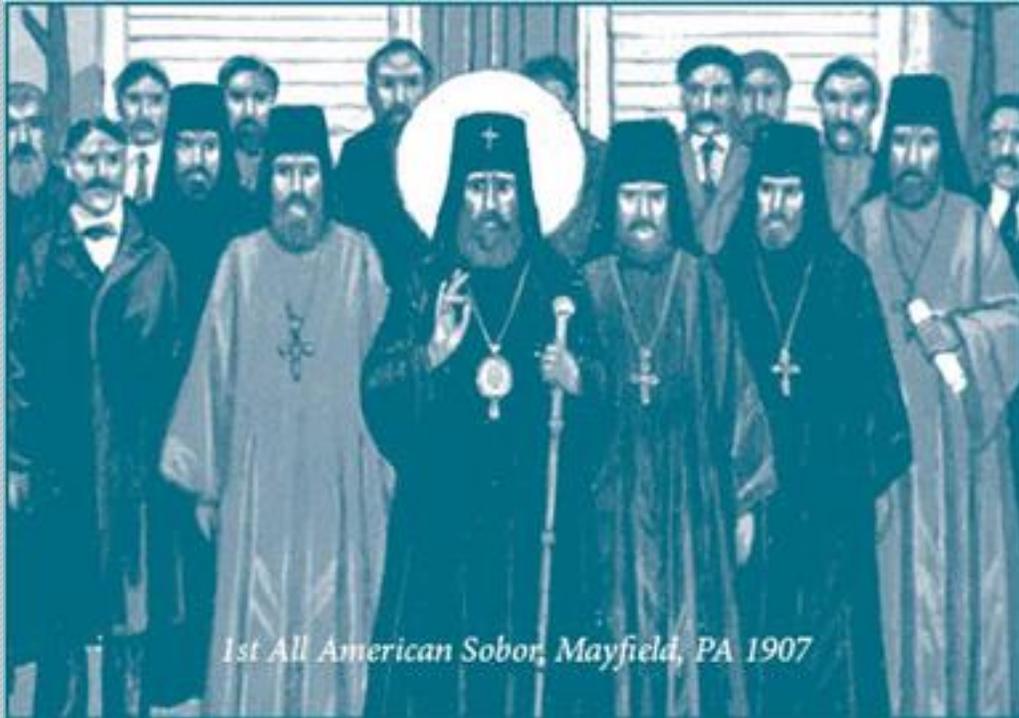
# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



PRESENTATION  
AND  
ACCEPTANCE OF  
AGENDA

VICE-CHAIRPERSONS

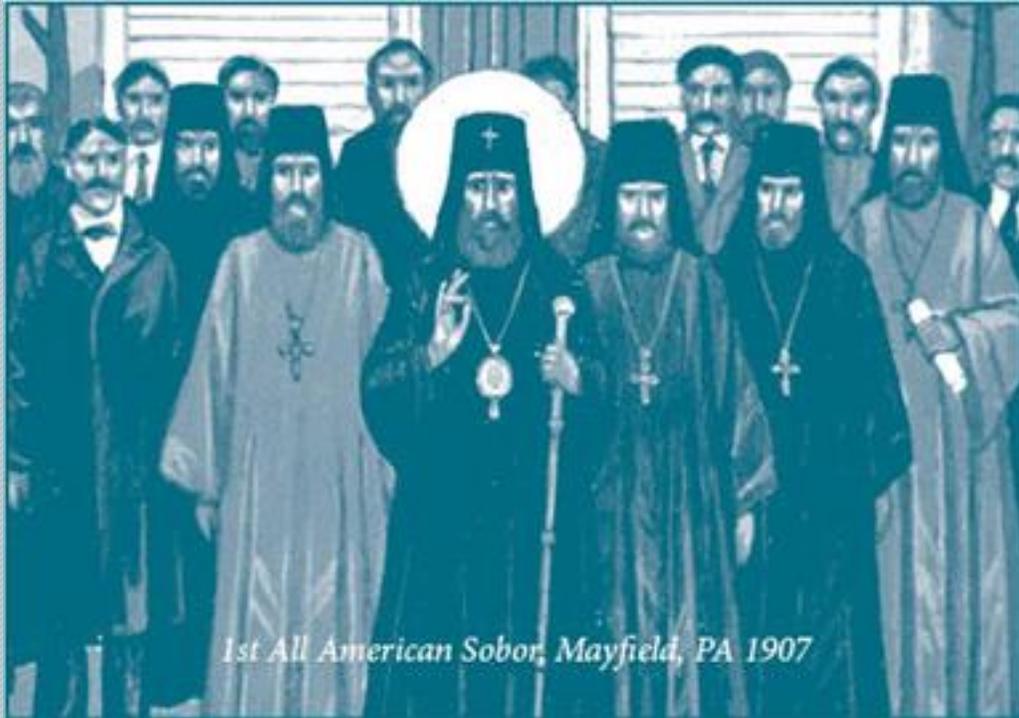
# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



## AGENDA CHANGES:

1. SWITCH NEW ENGLAND PRESENTATION WITH BULGARIAN PRESENTATION IN SESSION 2 AND 4

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL

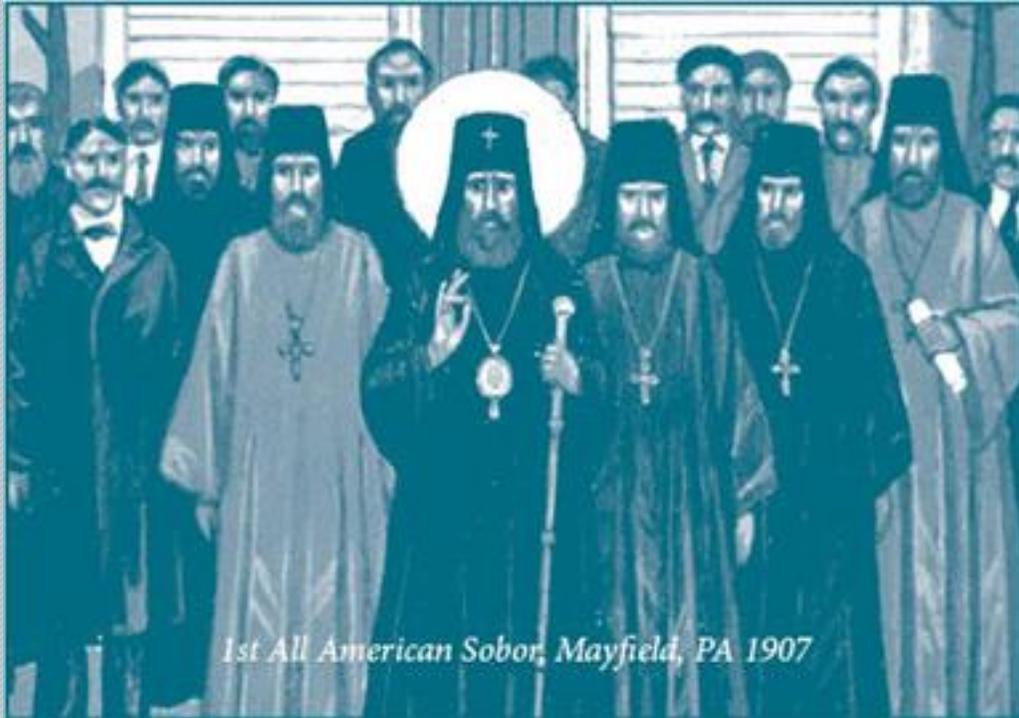


*1st All American Sobor, Mayfield, PA 1907*

**PRECONCILAR  
COMMISSION  
CHAIRPERSON  
WELCOME**

**ARCHBISHOP MARK OF  
PHILADELPHIA AND EASTERN  
PENNSYLVANIA**

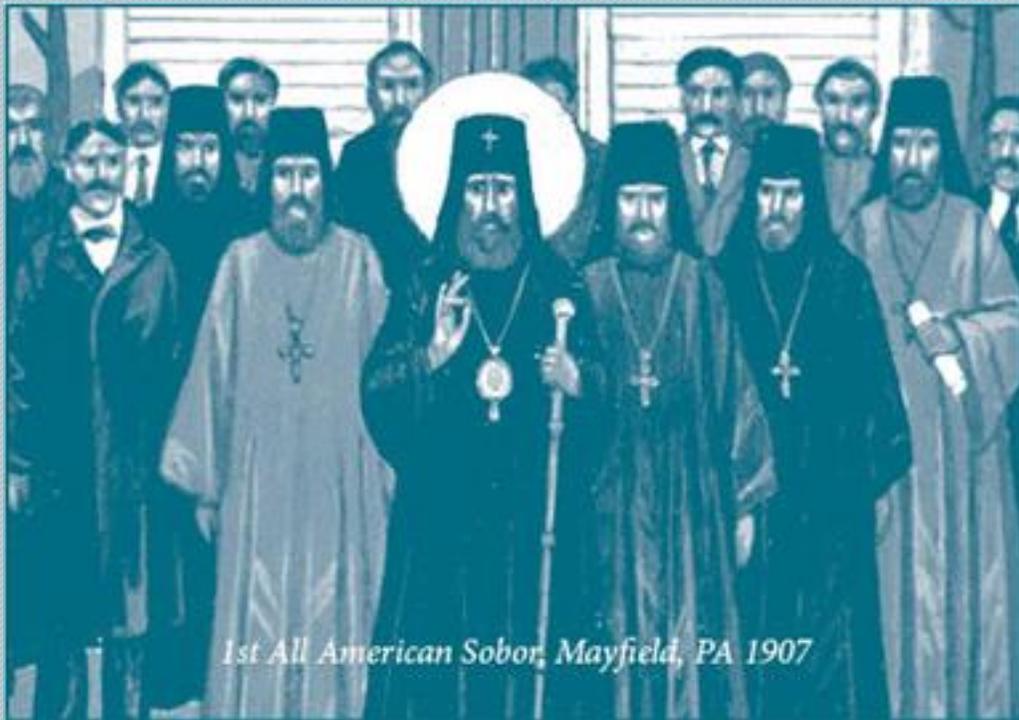
# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



LOCAL  
COMMITTEE  
WELCOME

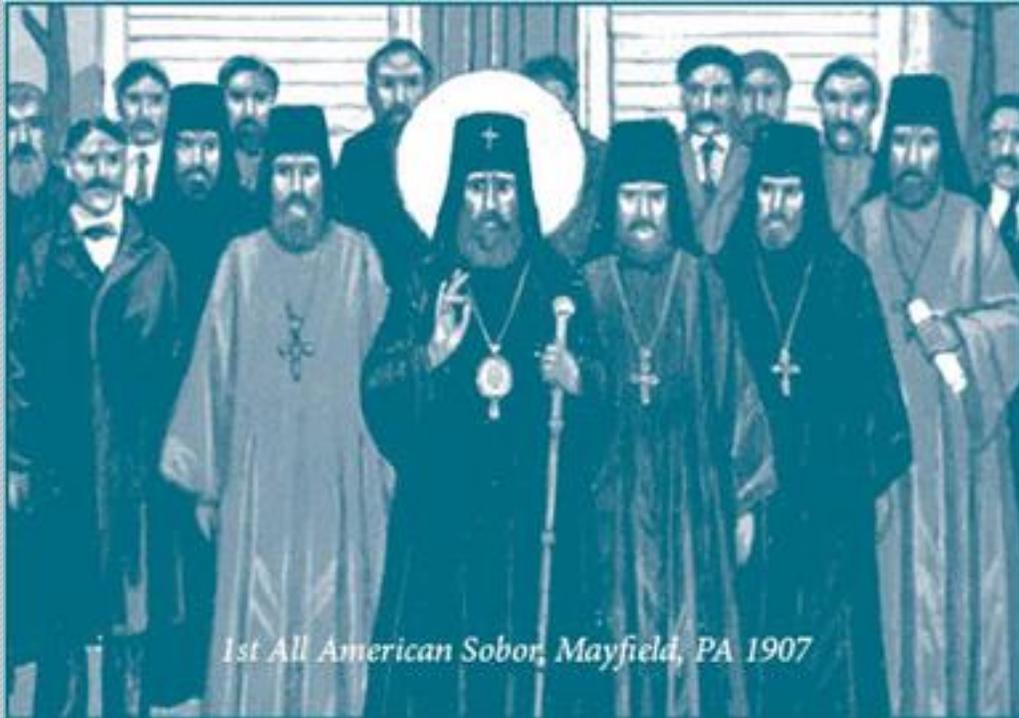
FR. GERASIM ELIEL, FR.  
ALEXANDER FECANIN,  
BARBARA MASSOUDI &  
MICHAELA STASKIEWICZ

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



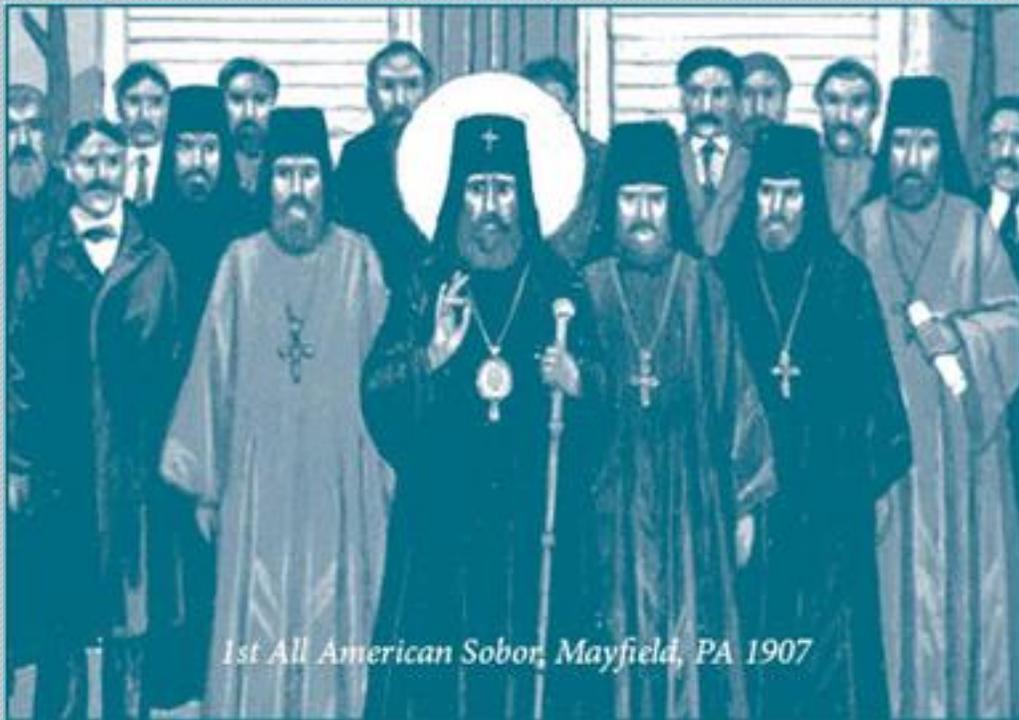
## PART ONE: “EXPANDING THE MISSION”

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



ADDRESS TO THE  
COUNCIL OF HIS  
BEATITUDE  
METROPOLITAN  
TIKHON

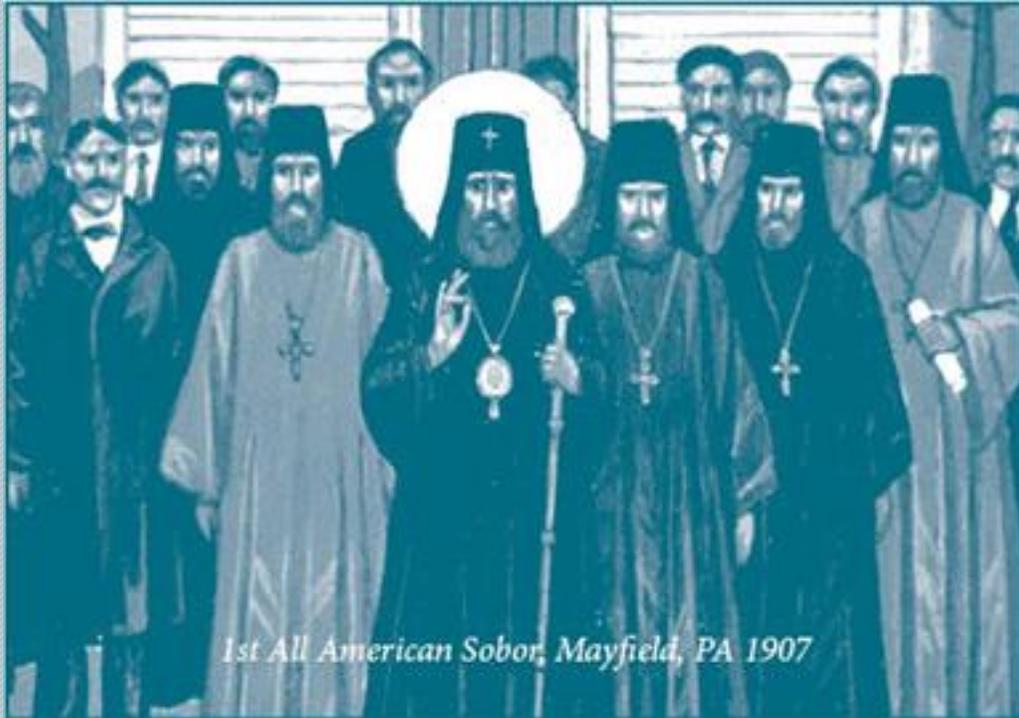
# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



*1st All American Sobor, Mayfield, PA 1907*

QUESTIONS TO  
HIS BEATITUDE  
METROPOLITAN  
TIKHON

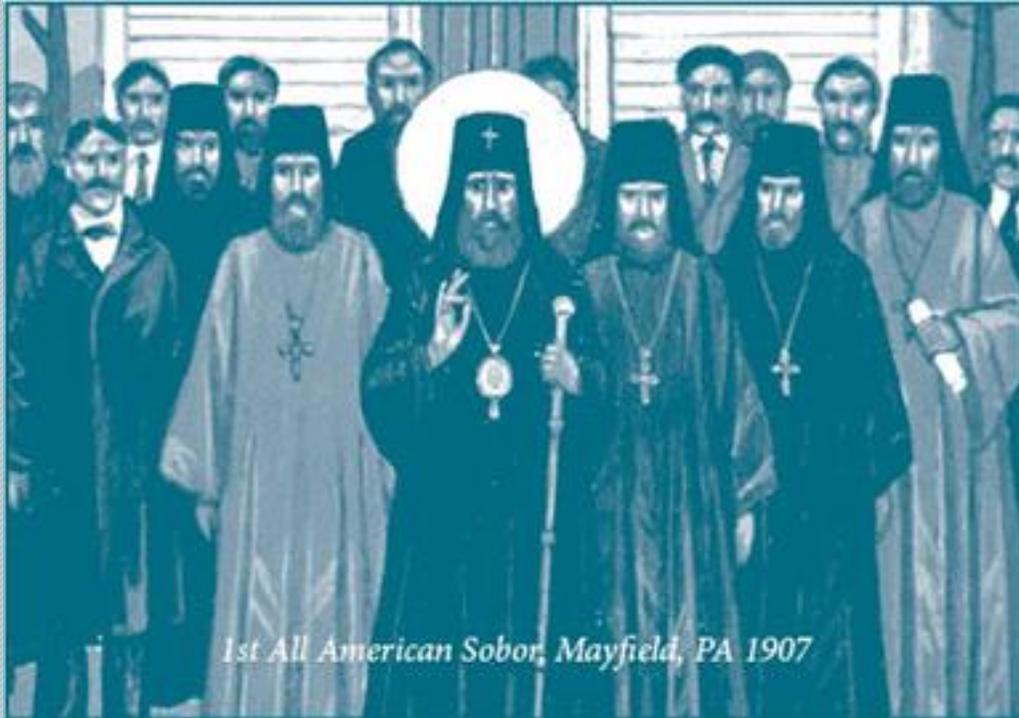
# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



## CHANCELLOR OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA'S REPORT

FR. JOHN JILLIONS

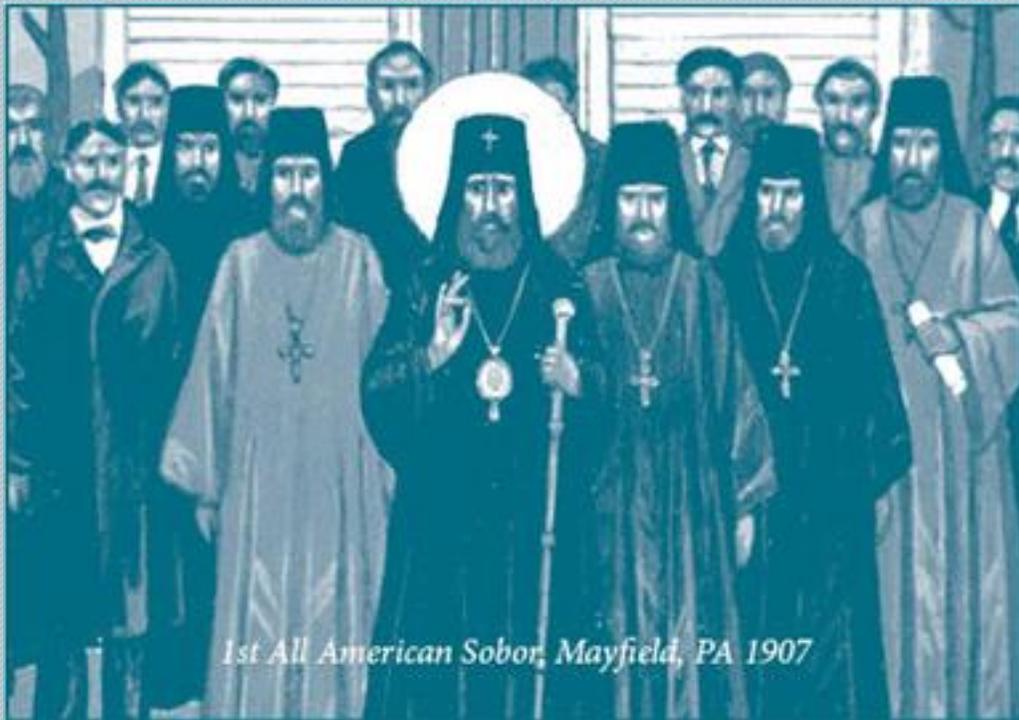
# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



## SECRETARY OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA'S REPORT

FR. ERIC G. TOSI

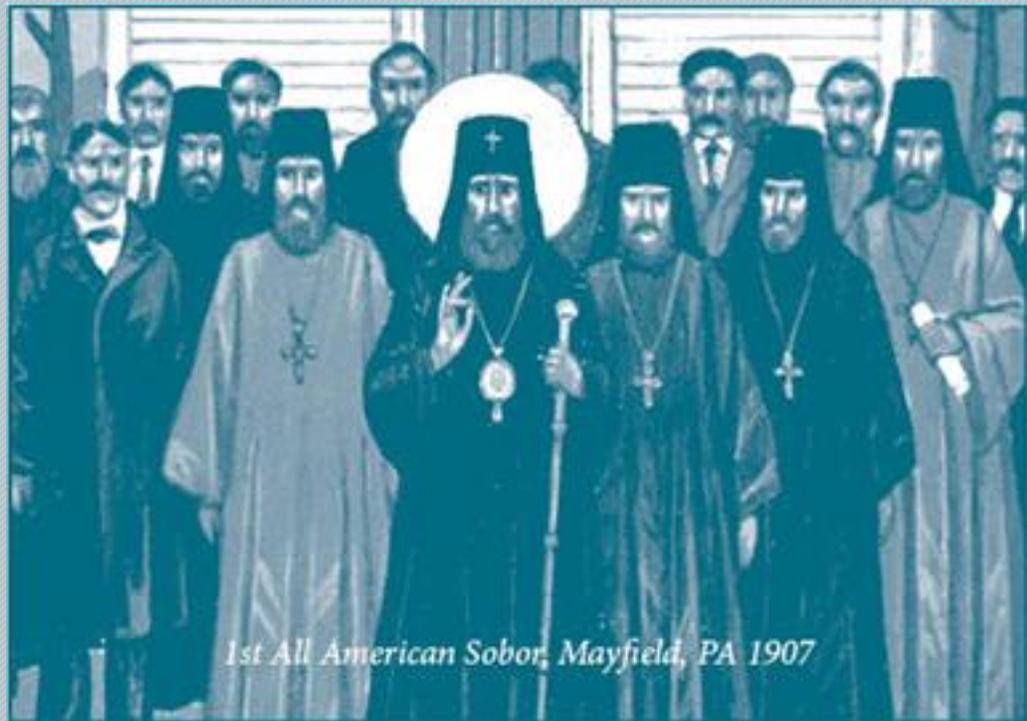
# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



## HOUSEKEEPING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

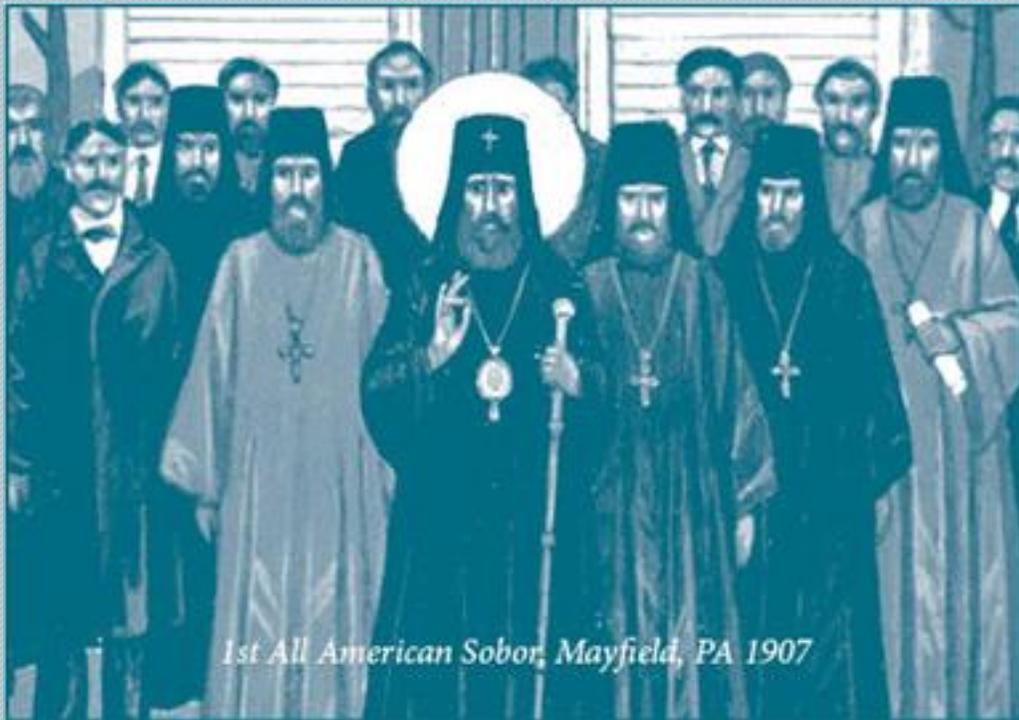
FR. ERIC G. TOSI

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



COUNCIL TEAMS  
TO MEET AT  
PODIUM AT CLOSE  
OF SESSION

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



**“HOW TO EXPAND  
THE MISSION”**

**JULY 20-24, 2015**

**ATLANTA, GA**

**SESSION TWO AT  
9:30 AM  
TOMORROW**

# The Apostolic Work of the Church

Address of His Beatitude

Metropolitan

TIKHON

*O Eternal God, Holy King, Maker of Heaven and earth,  
Jesus Christ, Son without beginning of the Father without  
beginning, Who with incomprehensible goodness hast called  
me from nonbeing to this life Who hast granted to me the  
blessing of baptism and heavenly rebirth And hast set the  
seal of Thy Holy Spirit on the members of my body, As Thou  
has kindled the desire to seek after Thee, the only one true  
God, Hear now my prayer.*

*And I, a sinner, have tried to love God for more than forty years, and I cannot say that I perfectly love Him,” ... “at least let us make a vow to ourselves, that from this day, from this hour, from this very moment, we shall strive above all else to love God and to fulfill His Holy Will!*

**St Herman of Alaska**

*Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it; Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.*

Matthew 7:13-14

*By the will of God, I, too, in my unworthiness, was called to apostolic service here, and so now I too will say to those called 'not my people,' 'You are my people;' I will call 'beloved' the one called 'not my loved one.' Until now, we had been strangers to each other, and did not know each other. Henceforth, the Lord Himself is placing us into a bond of closeness, into a mutual relationship of bishop with his flock and flock with her bishop.*

**St Tikhon of Moscow**

*...to observe the canons of the Holy Apostles, and of the Seven Ecumenical Councils, and of the pious Provincial Councils, the traditions of the Church, and the decrees, orders and rules of the Holy Fathers. All things which they have accepted I accept. All things which they have rejected I reject. I promise to preserve the peace of the Church, and firmly to hold and to teach with zeal the people entrusted to me. I promise to devise nothing whatsoever which is contrary to the Orthodox Catholic Christian Faith all the days of my life.*

*The homosexual Christian is called to a particularly rigorous battle. His or her struggle is an especially ferocious one. It is not made any easier by the mindless, truly demonic hatred of those who despise and ridicule those who carry this painful and burdensome cross; nor by the mindless, equally demonic affirmation of homosexual activity by its misguided advocates and enablers.*

Protopresbyter Thomas Hopko

*I am going to Town Meeting with a heavy heart. The meanest, most vicious, ignorant and contemptable democrat will nullify my vote by depositing his own. This single circumstance, [namely] the suffrage of the rabble (always dupes to the most artful demagogue) is a mortal, destructive germ in our constitution. But what remedy is possible? I wish I could repel every tho't of political matters, which cannot affect my usefulness; repel it as effectually as an impious man casts off fear and puts far away the evil day.*

*“It’s such a fine line between stupid and clever.”*  
*David St Hubbins*

*You sit in the corner and say over and over again, 'I am dust, I am ashes, take my soul.' And suddenly your soul is taken up and sees God face to face. But you cannot endure this, and you say to Him, 'I am not ready, I can't... send me back.' And so once more you sit there, for hours on end, repeating: 'I am dust, I am ashes, take my soul.' And once more, the Lord catches you up. Were it possible, I would exchange what remains of my life for one more hour in [Dachau].*

St Nicholai of Zicha

*And I said, now have I made a beginning; this change hath  
been wrought by the right hand of the Most High*

Psalm 76:11

*You know the treacherous demons -- you know how savage they are, even though weakened in strength. Therefore do not fear them, but rather draw inspiration from Christ always, and trust in Him. And live as though dying daily, paying heed to yourselves and remembering what you heard from my preaching.*

St Anthony the Great

*I am going the way of the Fathers, as it is written (Joshua 23:14), for I see myself summoned by the Lord. Be watchful and do not destroy your lengthy discipline, but as if you were making a beginning now, strive to preserve your enthusiasm. You know the treacherous demons -- you know how savage they are, even though weakened in strength. Therefore do not fear them, but rather draw inspiration from Christ always, and trust in Him. And live as though dying daily, paying heed to yourselves and remembering what you heard from my preaching.*

**St Anthony the Great**

*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.*

Archbishop Anastasios of Tirana

*...most importantly, the Orthodox Church accomplishes her [missionary] task in silence, with humility and godliness, with an understanding of human frailty and divine power.*

St Tikhon of Moscow

*His whole life was above everything else a ministry, a liturgy of unity, and in this he fulfilled the first and most essential function of the Bishop. He literally kept us together in his heart, in his prayer, in his love. And his heart was big enough for all and everything. And everyone, whatever his position, his calling, his ideas, could identify himself with the Metropolitan and through him with the Church... Whenever he appeared – all knew immediately that he was the Father, the center unity; all felt immediately secure and confident in his love, understanding and response.*

**Fr Alexander Schmemmann**

*Paradoxically enough, in this perfect harmony between his Russian roots and his American ministry he was more American than many American-born Orthodox, more Russian than many newcomers. He had no fears, no suspicions, no frustrations. He was equally alien to pseudo-conservative negativism and to pseudo-progressive compromise. He simply was what he was – a Russian Orthodox truly aware that God had sent him to America to love it and to dedicate to it his Orthodox faith and his Orthodox heart.*

Fr Alexander Schmemmann

*(Metropolitan Leonty) ...was a man of God. He lived in and by God, and no one has ever approached him without feeling that he has touched and entered upon the reality of the spiritual world. No one has ever approached him without feeling that he has touched and entered upon the reality of the spiritual world.*

Fr Alexander Schmemmann

*Therefore, whoever hears these sayings of mine and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: and the rain descended, the floods came and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.*

Matthew 7:24-25



STATE OF GEORGIA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
ATLANTA 30334-0900

Nathan Deal  
GOVERNOR

July 18, 2015

To: The Attendees of the 18<sup>th</sup> All-American Council

GREETINGS:

I am pleased to extend my warmest regards to the Orthodox Church in America as you host the 18<sup>th</sup> All-American Council. On behalf of the State of Georgia, it is a pleasure to be a part of your event.

Please allow me to welcome your distinguished guests and other attendees. The Orthodox Church in America plays an important role in the well-being of our state through its dedication to the spiritual health of Georgia. You have influenced the lives of many through your witness, and I respect and appreciate the qualities you have demonstrated. I am confident that the same enthusiasm and dedication that have characterized the Orthodox Church of America thus far will continue to mark its future service.

I commend the Orthodox Church in America for organizing this event and send my best wishes for a successful and enjoyable meeting. To all those visiting from out of state, I hope you enjoy your time here and I wish you safe travels home.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nathan Deal".

Nathan Deal

ND:kp



KASIM REED  
MAYOR



## CITY OF ATLANTA

55 TRINITY AVE, S.W.  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30335-0300

TEL (404) 330-6100

July 18, 2015

Greetings:

As Mayor of Atlanta, I am pleased to welcome His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon, Archbishop of Washington, Metropolitan of All American and Canada and the Orthodox Church in America as you host your *18<sup>th</sup> All-American Council*.

Since its inception, the Orthodox Church in America has been a pillar of faith in our community. As dedicated and distinguished members of the clergy, you have demonstrated a strong commitment to enhancing the community through spirituality, service and humanity. As you gather in fellowship and prayer, your dedication to serving others demonstrates the rich spiritual heritage that is rooted in your church.

While in our city, we encourage attendees to explore the many attractions Atlanta has to offer including: the Dr. Martin L. King Jr. Center, the Georgia Aquarium, the World of Coca-Cola, CNN Center, Centennial Olympic Park, Woodruff Arts Center, Atlanta Botanical Garden, Children's Museum of Atlanta, National Center for Civil and Human Rights, College Football Hall of Fame and many more. We invite you to share in our Southern hospitality, sample cuisine at our many fine restaurants and enjoy the rich and diverse heritage of our city.

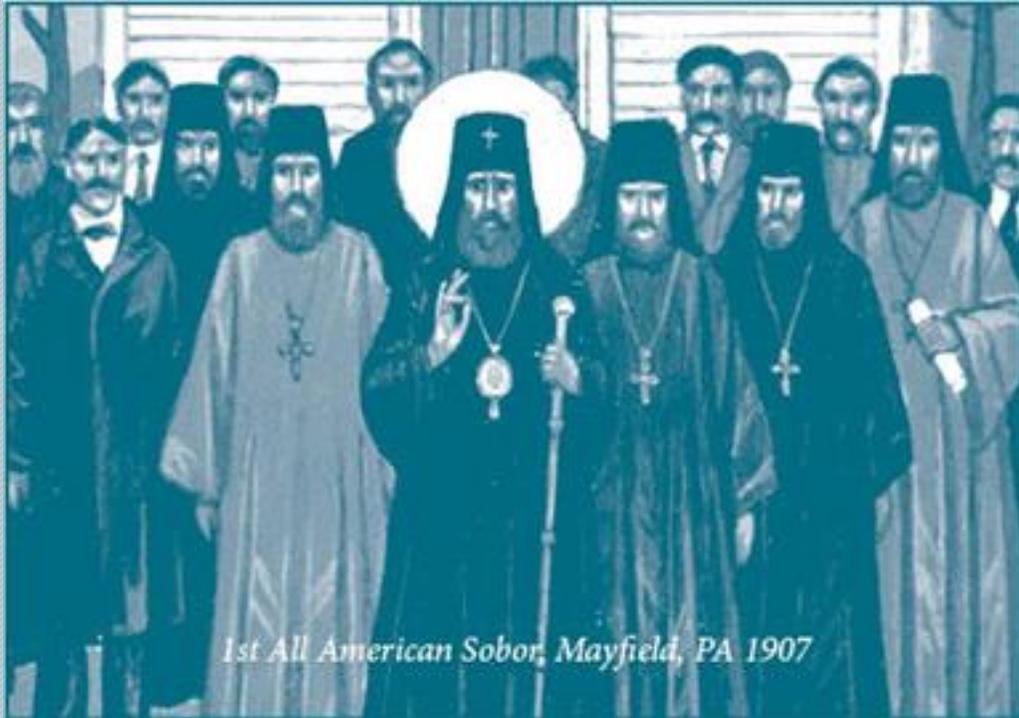
On behalf of the people of Atlanta, I extend best wishes for a memorable Congress.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kasim Reed".

Mayor Kasim Reed

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL

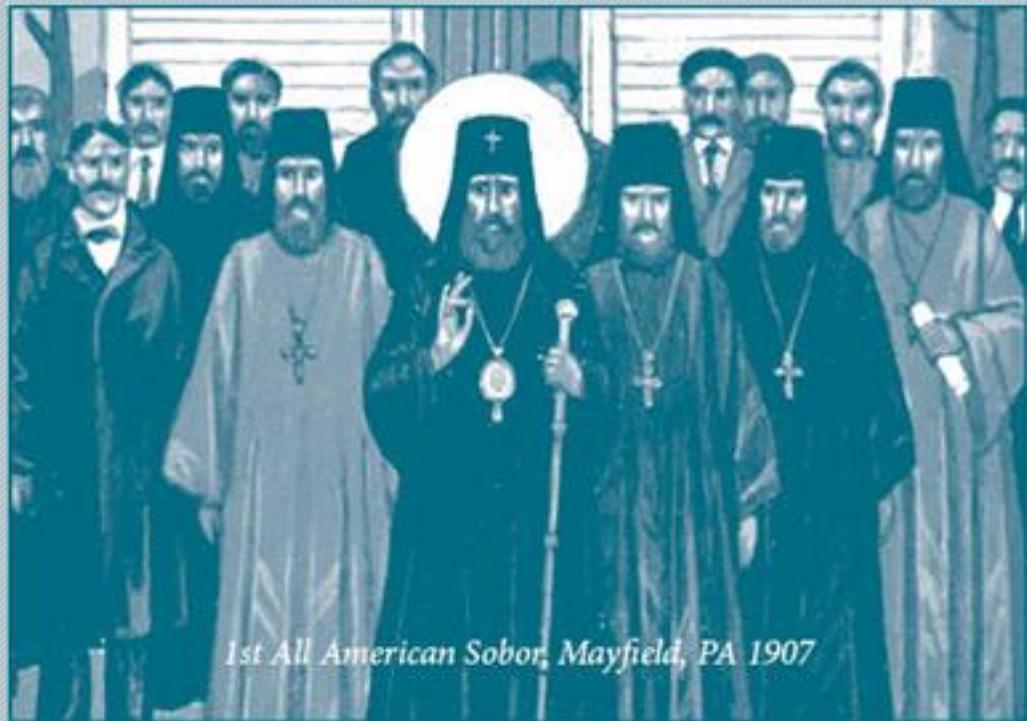


“HOW TO  
EXPAND THE  
MISSION”

JULY 20-24, 2015

ATLANTA, GA

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



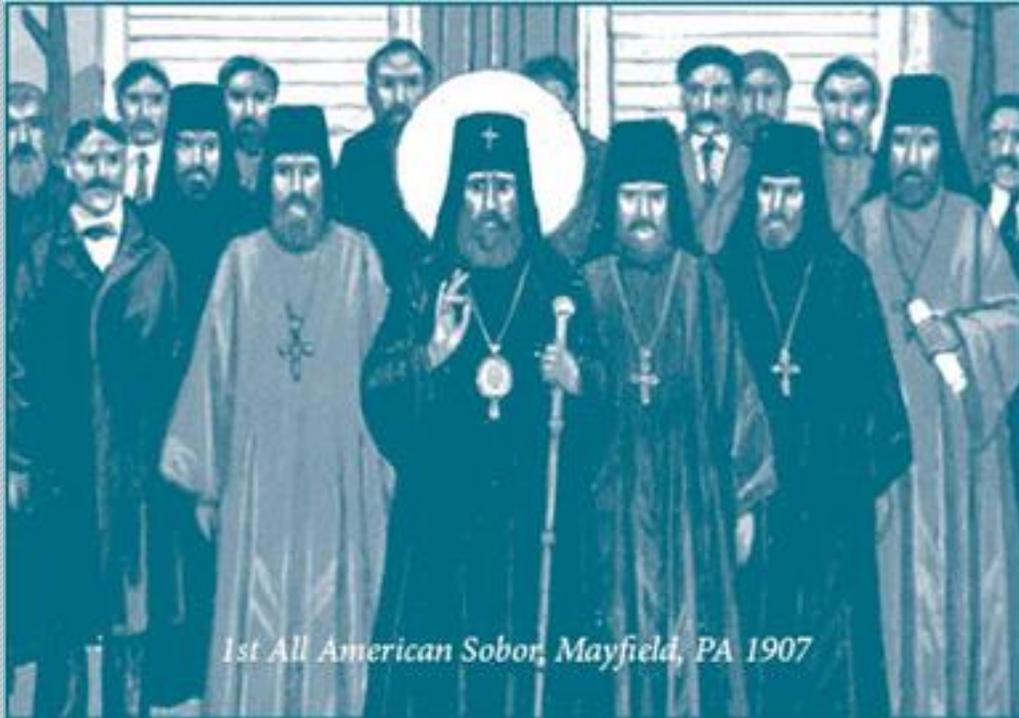
OPENING  
PRAYER

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



## PLENARY SESSION 2

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



*1st All American Sobor, Mayfield, PA 1907*

## RESOLUTIONS PROCEDURES

FR. TIMOTHY SAWCHAK

# RESOLUTIONS PROCEDURES

THE 18TH  
ALL AMERICAN  
COUNCIL



HOW TO EXPAND  
THE MISSION

JULY 20-24 2015 • ATLANTA, GA

- A resolution must be submitted in writing on the official form, signed by a bishop and submitted to the Resolutions Committee at earliest time.
- The Committee will assess resolution and, if they deem it appropriate, will recommend it to the Holy Synod. The Resolutions Committee may also deem it appropriate to consolidate resolutions and redraft them if necessary. If the Holy Synod deems the resolution appropriate for consideration by the Council, it will be brought to the floor of the Council.
- If the Committee deems a proposed resolution lies outside the competence of the All-American Council, whether on canonical grounds or in conflict with the OCA Statute, the Committee will inform the submitting body of this.

# RESOLUTIONS PROCEDURES (CONT)

THE 18TH  
ALL AMERICAN  
COUNCIL



HOW TO EXPAND  
THE MISSION

JULY 20-24 2015 • ATLANTA, GA

- The Committee will work with the Holy Synod and the Council Team to determine the best place to present the approved resolution during the appropriate Plenary Session, the Resolutions Committee will present the proposed resolution(s) related to the topic of that session.
- Once before the Council, all resolutions will be open for general debate and possible amendment. Such proposed amendments must be presented to the presiding Chair or vice-chairperson in writing but need not be submitted to the Resolutions Committee in advance; they must be germane.
- General principles of parliamentary law will be followed during all sessions of the Council where these will reasonably aid and expedite the accomplishment of the work of the Council. Any appeal from the ruling of a vice chairperson will be directed to and resolved by the presiding Chair (i.e., the Metropolitan). Approval of the Holy Synod is required before it goes into effect.

# VOTING ON RESOLUTIONS

- Debate limited to 10 speakers. Five in favor and five against. Must be on the merits of the resolution.
- Speakers will alternate
- Speakers may only speak once on resolution or proposed amendment
- Each speaker has up to three minutes
- Additional expert speakers may be invited at the discretion of the chair
- Chairs may allow a 5 minute period of round table discussion
- Once an amendment is disposed then debate will resume on the resolution
- Vote may be public or secret as determined by the Chair.
- The tellers will conduct the vote

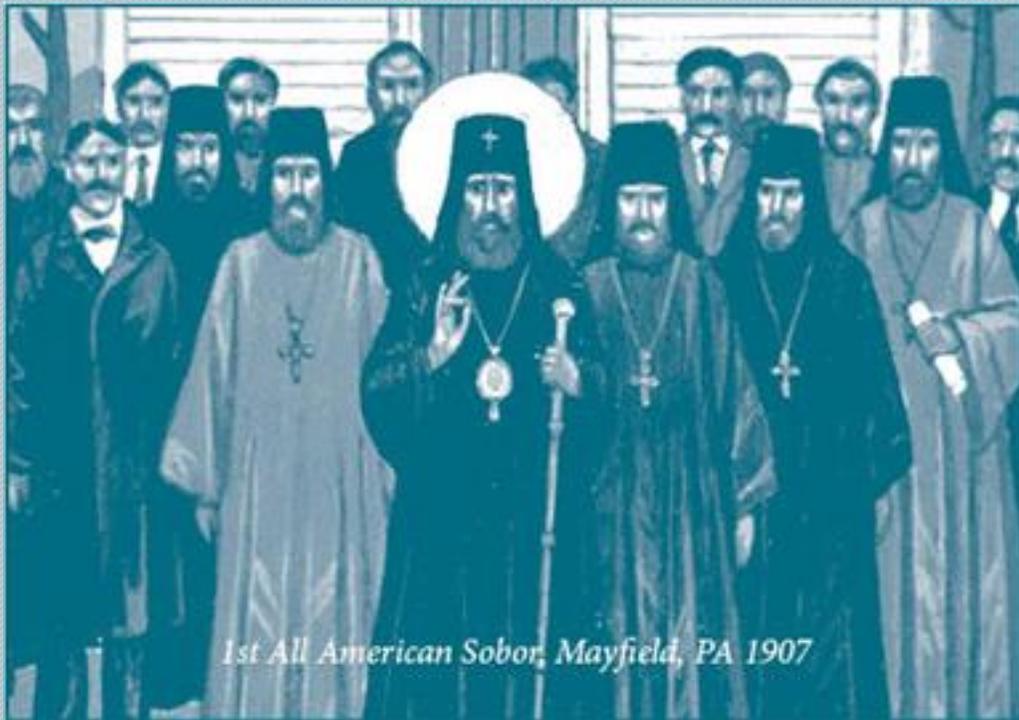
THE 18TH  
ALL AMERICAN  
COUNCIL



HOW TO EXPAND  
THE MISSION

JULY 20-24 2015 • ATLANTA, GA

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



## NOMINATIONS PROCEDURES

FR. DAVID LOWELL

# NOMINATIONS PROCEDURES

THE 18TH  
ALL AMERICAN  
COUNCIL



HOW TO EXPAND  
THE MISSION

JULY 20-24 2015 • ATLANTA, GA

- Following each Plenary Session on Tuesday and Wednesday, nominations can be submitted to the Nomination Committee for possible candidates for Church-wide positions.
- Nominees must be a delegate present at the Council.
- Nominations must be submitted on the official form. Each member of the Nomination Committee will carry and returned to them as soon as possible.
- If the nominee accepts the nomination, he or she will complete and submit a biographical information form to the Nominations Committee by the end of Wednesday's session.

# NOMINATIONS PROCEDURES (CONT)

THE 18TH  
ALL AMERICAN  
COUNCIL



HOW TO EXPAND  
THE MISSION

JULY 20-24 2015 • ATLANTA, GA

- The Nominations Committee will meet Wednesday and review the resumes of the nominees. Based upon this review, the Committee will then prepare a slate of candidates for the Holy Synod's blessing and present the slate to the Council during the 5th Plenary Session to be held on Thursday morning.
- During this plenary session, each delegate will receive a voting form. This form will include the names of all those who were nominated by the end of day on Wednesday.
- Election results will be announced at the 5th Plenary Session on Thursday morning, with the installation of members to the Metropolitan Council and Pension Board at the end of the 6th Plenary Session on Friday.
- Due to the Statute Amendment passed at the Fifteenth All-American Council, Article III, Section 15 is no longer in effect. There will be no election for an Auditing Committee which is now appointed by the Metropolitan Council from a slate of qualified professionals. See the OCA Statute for exact wording of this amendment.

# CHURCH-WIDE OFFICES

THE 18TH  
ALL AMERICAN  
COUNCIL



HOW TO EXPAND  
THE MISSION

JULY 20-24 2015 • ATLANTA, GA

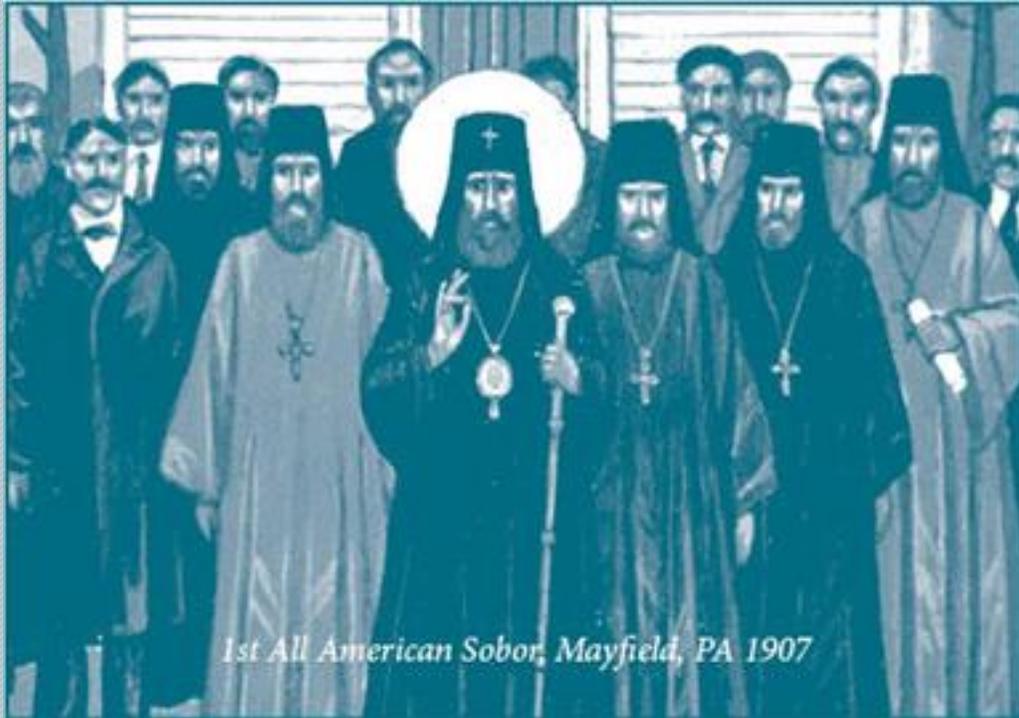
## Metropolitan Council

- 1 clergy position for a six year term
- 1 clergy position for a three year term
- 1 clergy alternate
- 1 layperson position for a six year term
- 1 layperson position for a three year term
- 1 layperson alternate
- The persons with the highest vote total will receive a six-year term, the next highest will receive the three year term and the third highest will be the alternate.

## Pension Board

- 1 clergy positions for a six year term
- 1 clergy to a three year term
- 1 clergy alternate
- 1 layperson position for a six year term
- 1 layperson position for a three year term
- 1 layperson alternate
- The persons with the highest vote total will receive a six-year term, the next highest will receive the three year term and the third will be the alternate.

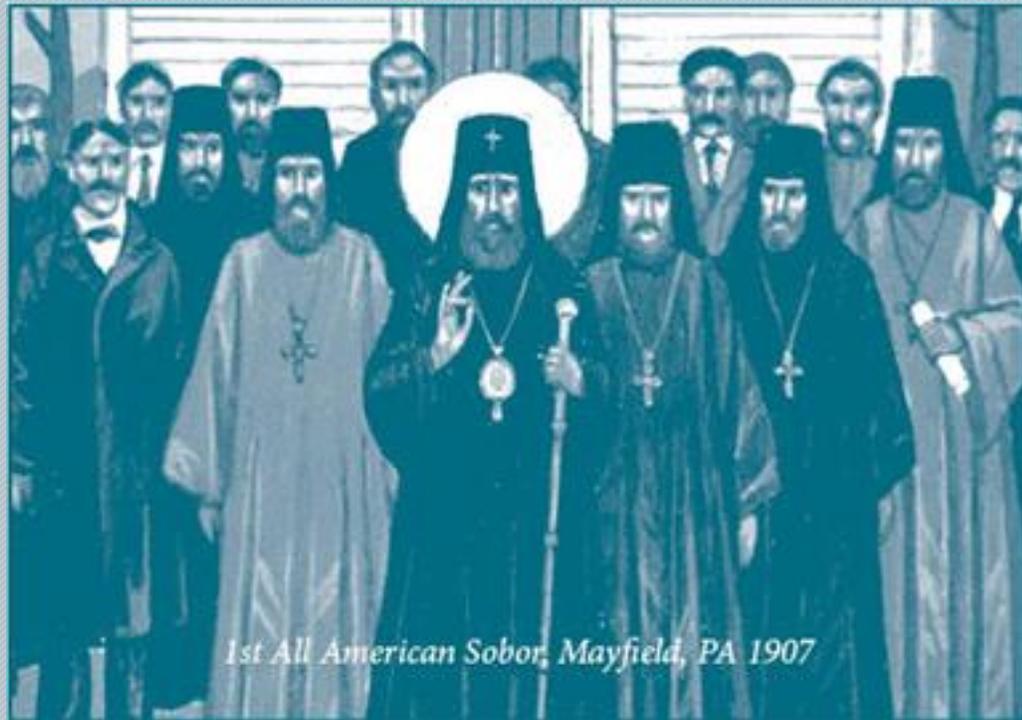
# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



## DIOCESE OF ALASKA PRESENTATION

HIS GRACE BISHOP DAVID  
BISHOP OF SITKA AND  
ALASKA

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



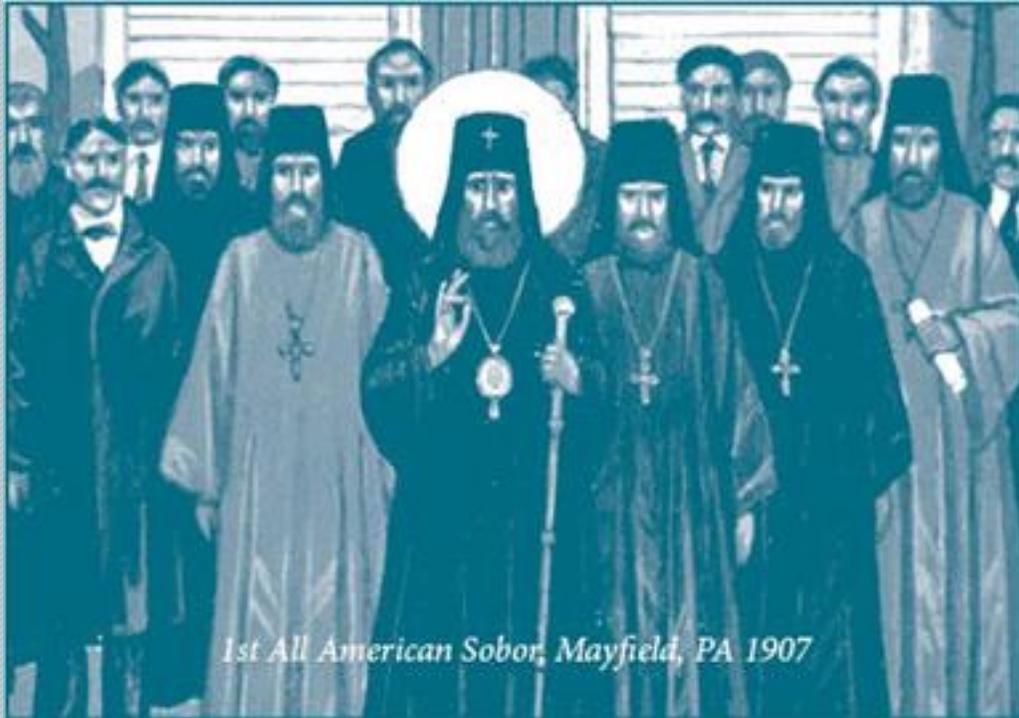
*1st All American Sobor, Mayfield, PA 1907*

## ALBANIAN ARCHDIOCESE PRESENTATION

HIS EMINENCE ARCHBISHOP  
NIKON

ARCHBISHOP OF BOSTON, NEW  
ENGLAND AND THE ALBANIAN  
ARCHDIOCESE

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



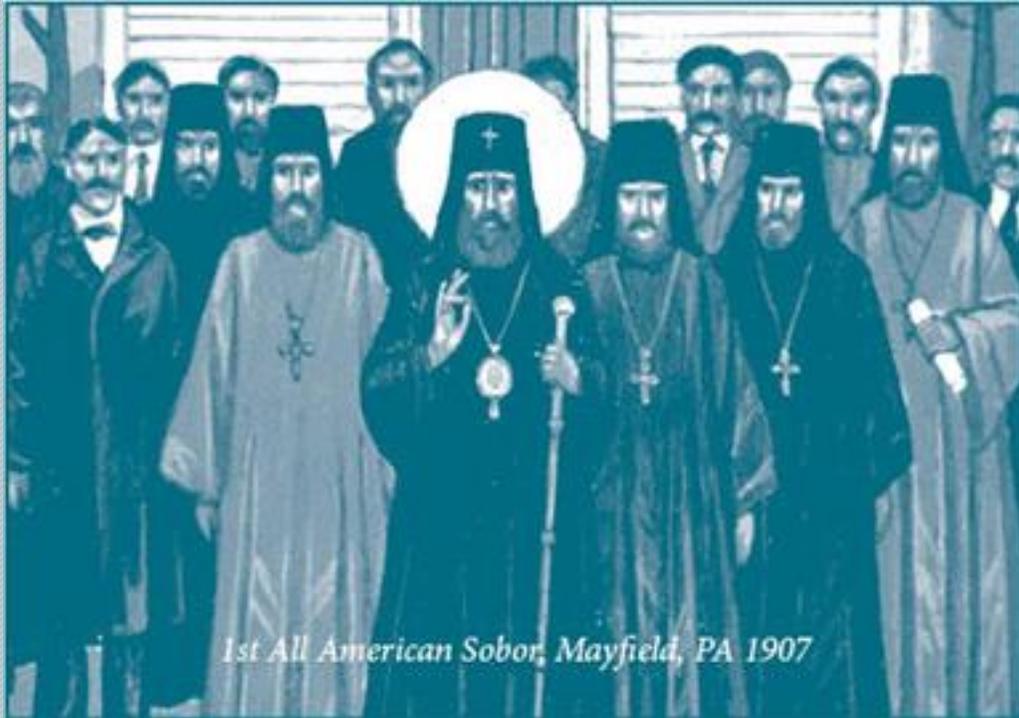
*1st All American Sobor, Mayfield, PA 1907*

## DIOCESE OF NEW ENGLAND PRESENTATION

HIS EMINENCE ARCHBISHOP  
NIKON

ARCHBISHOP OF BOSTON, NEW  
ENGLAND AND THE ALBANIAN  
ARCHDIOCESE

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL

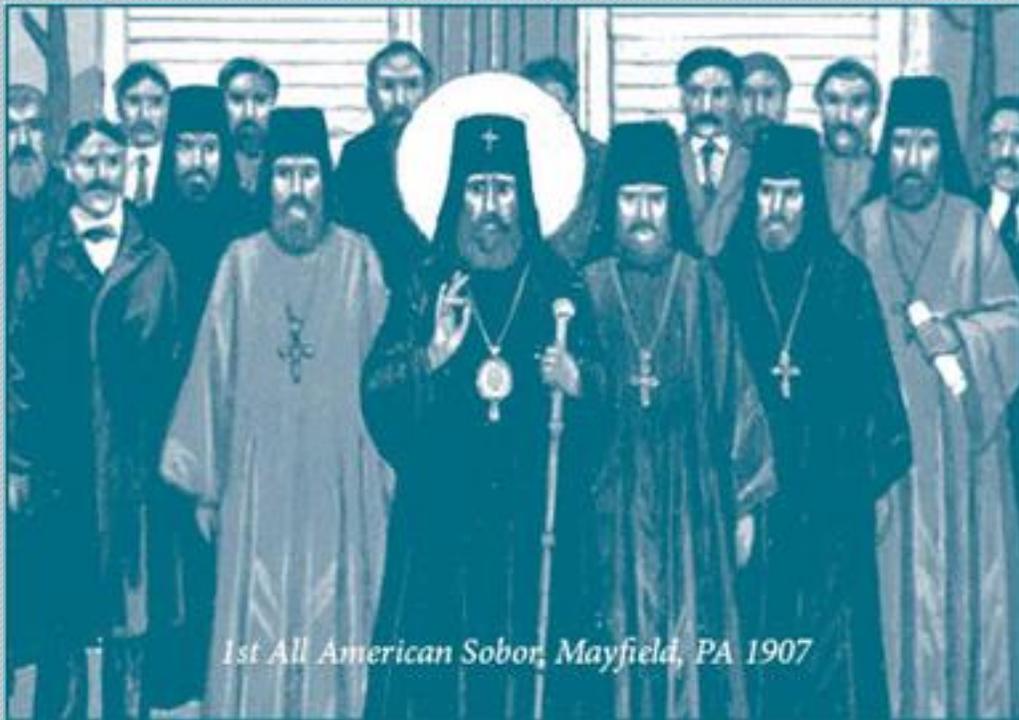


## METROPOLITAN COUNCIL REPORT

### AT-LARGE METROPOLITAN COUNCIL MEMBERS:

FR. CHAD HATFIELD, STAV  
FR. DAVID GARRETSON, NYNJ  
DR. PAUL MEYENDORFF, STAV  
MAUREEN JURY, DOS

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



## PRESENTATION OF THE PROPOSED REVISED STATUTES OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA

**MEMBERS OF THE STATUTE COMMITTEE:**

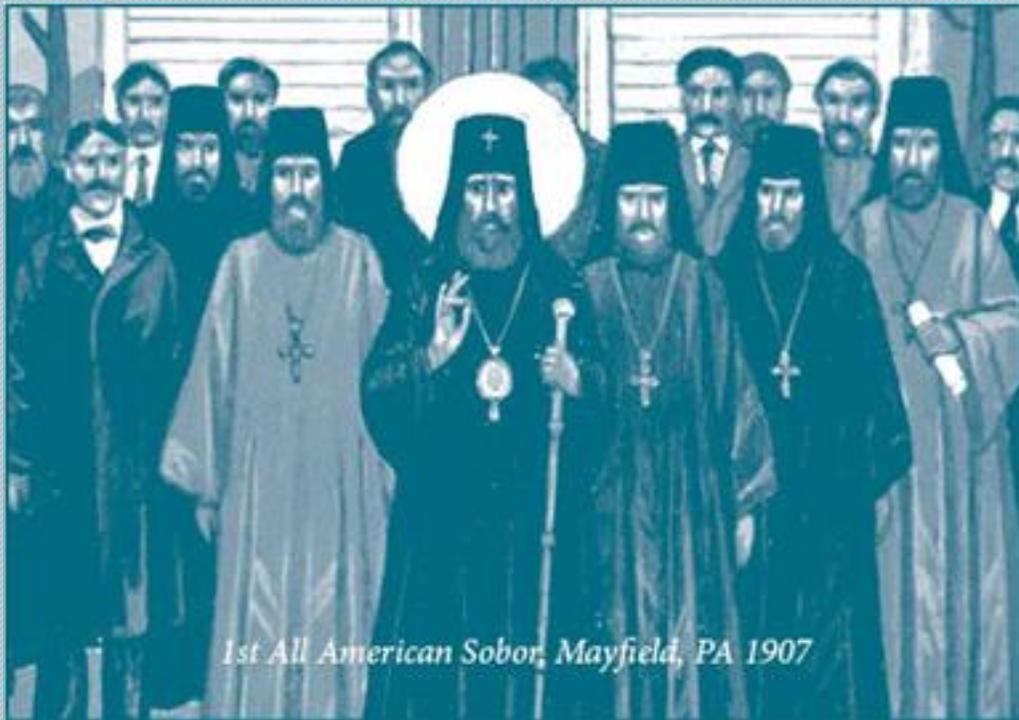
**ARCHBISHOP NATHANIEL**

**BISHOP DANIEL**

**FR. ALEXANDER RENTEL**

**DR. PAUL MEYENDORFF**

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



**VOTE ON THE  
PROPOSED  
REVISED  
STATUTES**

**TELLERS TO POSITION**

# Motion to Approve, Adopt and Ratify

*Whereas*, the existing Statute of the Orthodox Church in America, adopted at the 2nd All American Council of October 19-21, 1971, has been subject to repeated amendment, causing degradation over time of its internal cohesion and consistency, compromising the clarity of both its scope and function; and

*Whereas*, said Statute of the Orthodox Church in America is for these reasons no longer well-suited to address the complexities of modern internal governance which now confront our autocephalous Orthodox Church, and it fails to provide satisfactory internal governance guidelines to either ecclesiastical or secular authorities appropriate to and necessary for the life of a modern Church in our society; and

*Whereas*, in recognition of these deficiencies in the existing Statute, the Holy Synod in October 2013 directed a Statute Revision Task Force to undertake a revision of the Statute, a draft of which revision was thereafter placed in the hands of the Commission on Canons and Statute and published to the Church at large; and

Whereas, said draft of a revised Statute has been endorsed by action of the Holy Synod of the Orthodox Church in America and has been unanimously recommended for adoption by the Commission on Canons and Statute;

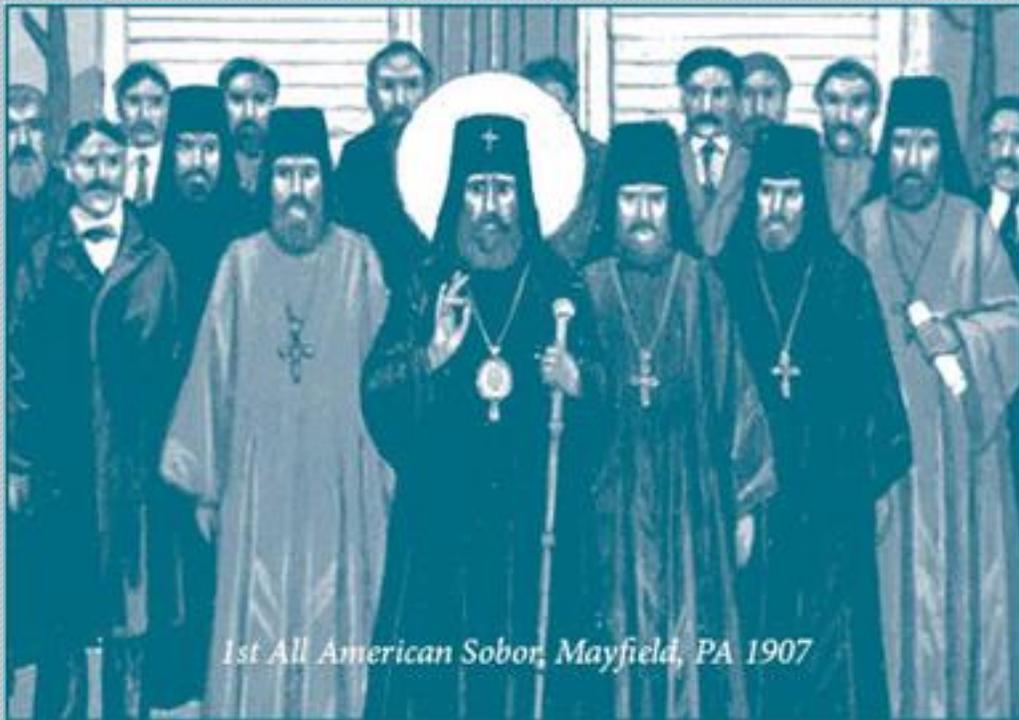
NOW, THEREFORE:

In accordance and in full compliance with the current Statute of the Orthodox Church in America, particularly Article XIII, Sections 1 and 2 thereof,

BE IT RESOLVED,

That this 18th All American Council of the Orthodox Church in America, assembled in the City of Atlanta, Georgia, in its Plenary Session II of [July 21, 2015](#), does hereby approve, adopt, ratify and confirm in its entirety said revised Statute as and for the Statute of the Orthodox Church in America.

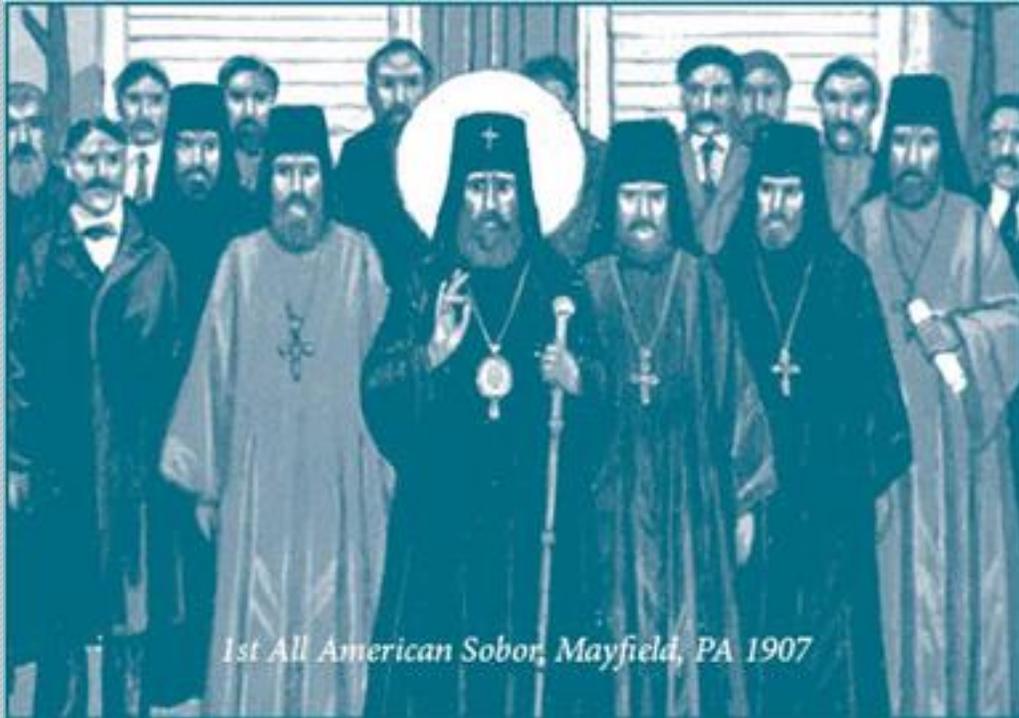
# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



## HOUSEKEEPING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

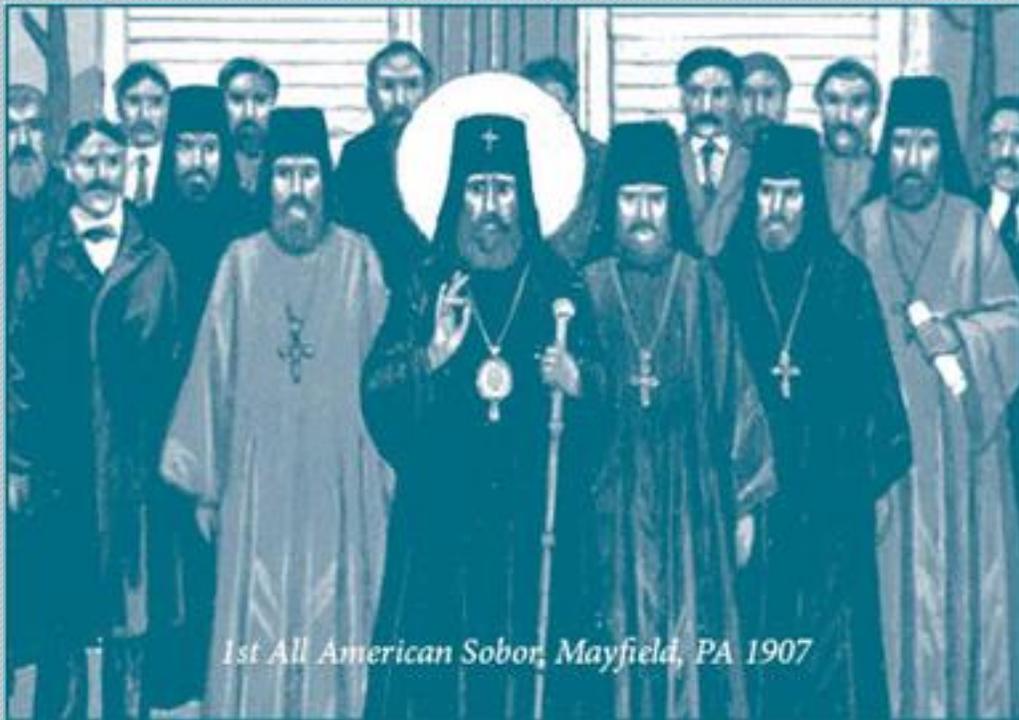
FR. ERIC G. TOSI

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



RESOLUTIONS  
AND  
NOMINATIONS  
TEAM AVAILABLE  
AT PODIUM FOR  
FORMS

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



**“HOW TO  
EXPAND THE  
MISSION”**

**JULY 20-24, 2015**

**ATLANTA, GA**

**SESSION THREE  
AT 1:30 PM**



## Guidelines for Submitting Nominations for Church-wide Offices during the 18<sup>th</sup> All-American Council

### To be read by chair at 2<sup>nd</sup> Plenary session

1. In accordance with the Statute and resolutions of former All-American Councils, delegates of the Eighteenth All-American Council will elect people to positions on the:
2. Metropolitan Council (1 clergy position for a six year term, 1 clergy position for a three year term, 1 clergy alternate, 1 layperson position for a six year term, 1 layperson position for a three year term and 1 layperson alternate). The persons with the highest vote total will receive a six-year term, the next highest will receive the three year term and the third highest will be the alternate.
3. Pension Board (1 clergy positions for a six year term, 1 clergy to a three year term and 1 clergy alternate, 1 layperson position for a six year term, 1 layperson position for a three year term and 1 layperson alternate). The persons with the highest vote total will receive a six-year term, the next highest will receive the three year term and the third will be designated as alternate.
4. Due to the Statute Amendment passed at the Fifteenth All-American Council, Article III, Section 15 is no longer in effect. There will be no election for an Auditing Committee which is now appointed by the Metropolitan Council of qualified professionals. See the OCA Statute for exact wording of this amendment.
5. **Only delegates present at the All-American Council may be nominated for election. Delegates who have reached the statutory limitation of their service in a Church-wide office are not eligible to be nominated or elected. See the Statute for these limitations.**
6. Following each Plenary Session on Tuesday and Wednesday, nominations can be submitted to the Nomination Committee for possible candidates (who are Council delegates) for Church-wide positions. Nominations must be submitted on the official form each member of the Nomination Committee will carry and returned to them as soon as possible. If the nominee accepts the nomination, he or she will complete and submit a biographical information form to the Nominations Committee by the end of Wednesday's sessions.
7. The Nominations Committee will meet Wednesday and review the resumes of the nominees. Based upon this review, the Committee will then prepare a slate of candidates for the Holy Synod's blessing and present the slate to the Council during the 5<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session to be held on Thursday morning.

8. During this plenary session, each delegate will receive a voting form. This form will include the names and resumes of all those who were nominated by the end of day on Wednesday. Election results will be announced at the 5<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session on Thursday morning, with the installation of members to the Metropolitan Council and Pension Board at the end of the 6<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session on Friday.



## **Guidelines for Submitting Resolutions during the 18<sup>th</sup> All-American Council**

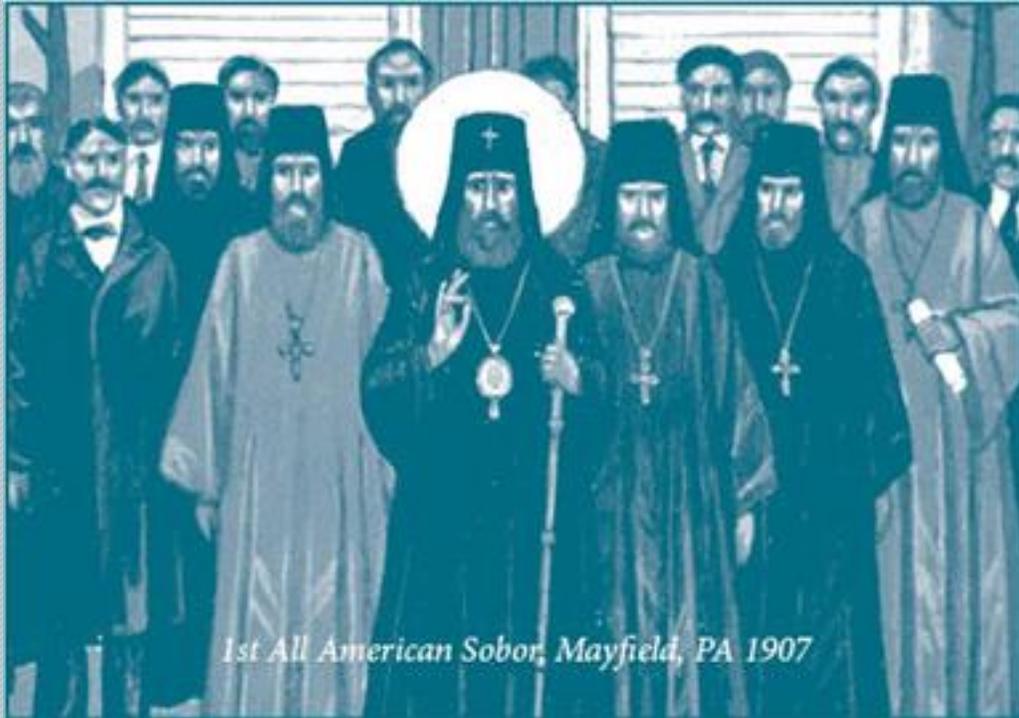
### **To be read by chair at 2<sup>nd</sup> Plenary session**

1. Resolutions from the floor are allowed to be submitted through the approved process as outlined in the Delegate Handbook page 13 and 20-21.
2. Delegates to the Council may submit resolutions at the Council. A resolution must be submitted in writing on the official form, signed by a bishop and must first go to the Resolutions Committee.
3. The Resolutions Committee will review each submission. If necessary it will discuss possible editorial changes with the submitting body.
4. The Resolutions Committee will assess the propriety of the resolution and, if they deem it appropriate, will recommend it to the Holy Synod. The Resolutions Committee may also deem it appropriate to consolidate resolutions and redraft them if necessary. If the Holy Synod deems the resolution appropriate for consideration by the Council, it will be brought to the floor of the Council.
5. If, in the estimation of the Committee, a proposed resolution clearly lies outside the competence of the All-American Council, whether on canonical grounds or in conflict with the OCA Statute, the Committee will inform the submitting body of this. In case of doubt, a proposed resolution will be submitted to the Holy Synod to determine whether it can be brought before the All-American Council.
6. If a proposed resolution is determined to lie outside the competence of the All-American Council, the Committee, in consultation with the Holy Synod and the proposing body, will consider alternative ways of bringing issues underlying the proposed resolution to the attention of the All-American Council.
7. The Committee will work with the Holy Synod and the Council Team to determine the best place to present the approved resolution during the appropriate Plenary Session, the Resolutions Committee will present the proposed resolution(s) related to the topic of that session. The introduction will serve to give background information, to explain the development of the resolution, and formally to place the resolution before the Council.
8. Once before the Council, all resolutions will be open for general debate and possible amendment. Such proposed amendments must be presented to the presiding Chair or vice-chairperson in writing but need not be submitted to the Resolutions Committee in advance;

they must be germane. The requirement for the submission of written proposed amendments to a resolution made from the floor shall not be waived.

9. The debate on resolutions shall be strictly limited to no more than ten speakers, five in favor, and five in opposition, speaking alternately, as recognized by the presiding Chair or vice-chairpersons. Each speaker shall have up to but not more than three minutes to discuss the resolution. If deemed necessary, additional speakers may, in the sole discretion of the presiding Chair or vice-chairpersons, be invited to speak.
10. Debate on any amendments to resolutions shall be subject to the same limitations as for resolutions; when an amendment is the pending order of business, the delegates shall speak to the merits of the amendment only.
11. A delegate may speak on a resolution or proposed amendment thereto only once. Any delegate who has already spoken to any main motion will not thereafter be permitted to speak from the floor as to any amendments to that motion.
12. If, during the consideration of a resolution or an amendment, it appears to the presiding Chair or vice chairpersons that a period of informal discussion would be appropriate, he may propose such. If the Council verbally agrees, then a five-minute period of round table discussions will take place.
13. Once an amendment has been disposed of (i.e., adopted or rejected), debate shall resume where it left off on the proposed resolution, as (possibly) amended.
14. If appropriate, the presiding Chair or vice chairperson may call upon qualified persons to speak to technical points of a resolution or amendment; these interjections shall not be considered as part of the ten-person debate.
15. In compliance with the Statute, the resolutions of each session are examined by the Holy Synod at the end of the session and voted upon. No resolution shall be valid unless approved by a vote of at least a majority of the bishops attending the Council. Their approval, or reason for disapproval, is then reported to the Council at the beginning of the following plenary session.
16. General principles of parliamentary law will be followed during all sessions of the Council where these will reasonably aid and expedite the accomplishment of the work of the Council. Any appeal from the ruling of a vice chairperson will be directed to and resolved by the presiding Chair (i.e., the Metropolitan). As is the case with all other actions taken by the Council, the ultimate approval of the Holy Synod is required.

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL

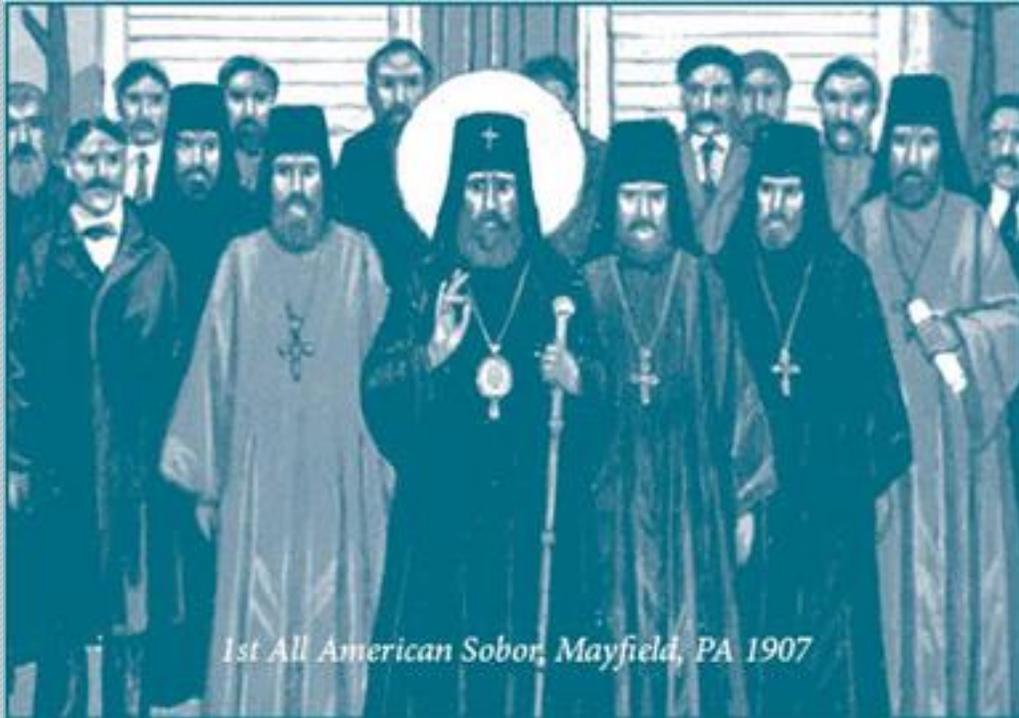


“HOW TO  
EXPAND THE  
MISSION”

JULY 20-24, 2015

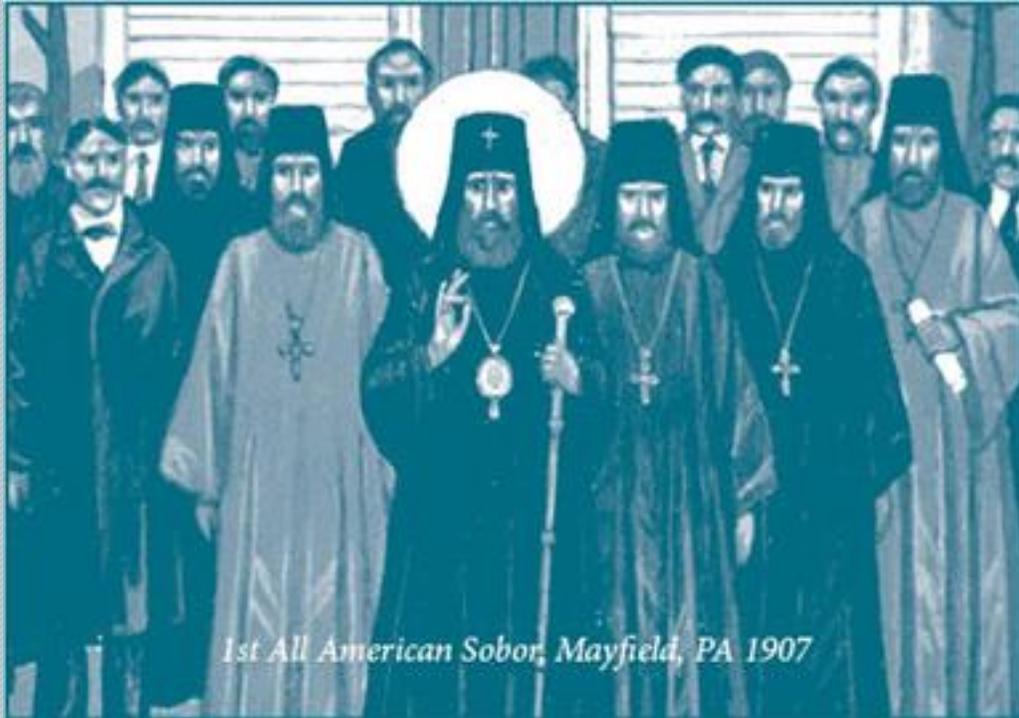
ATLANTA, GA

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



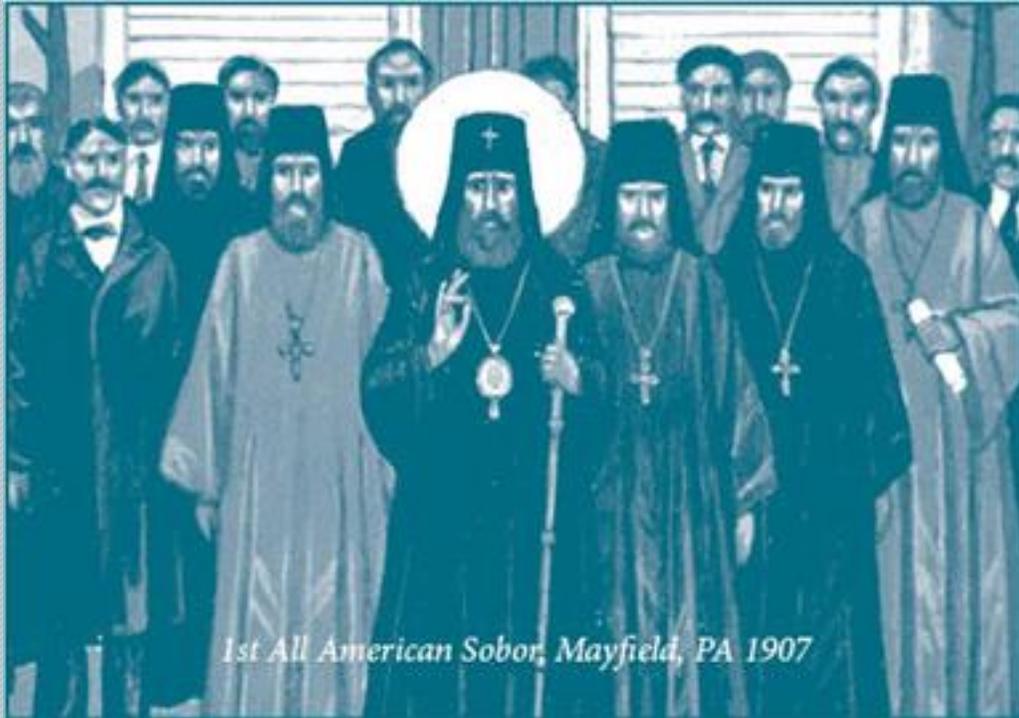
OPENING  
PRAYER

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



## PLENARY SESSION 3

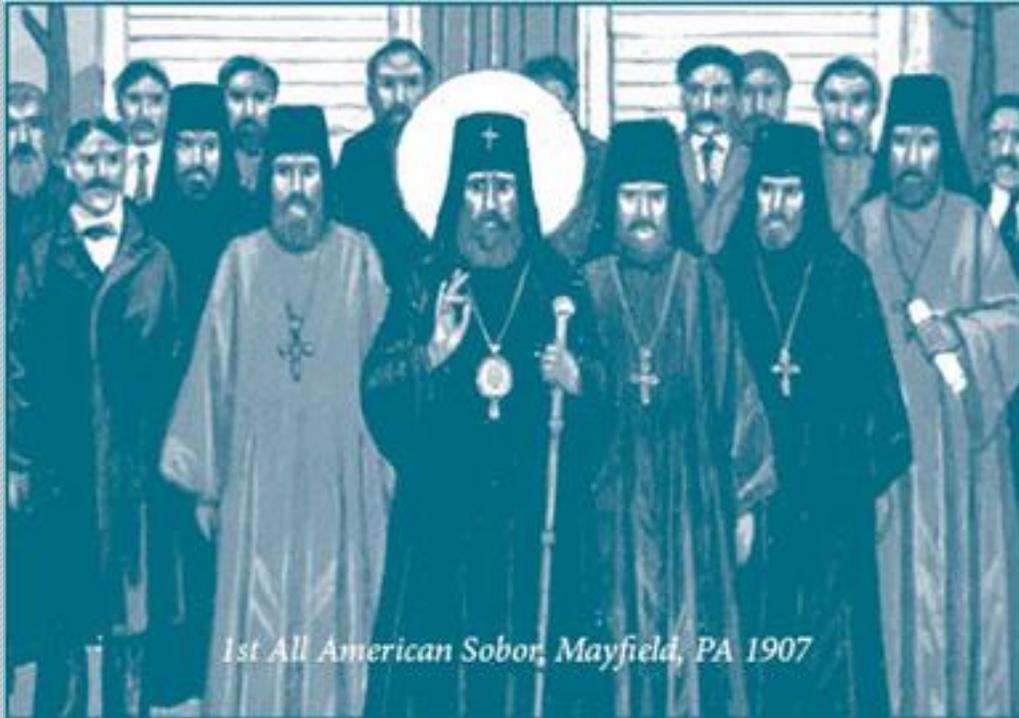
# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



## ARCHDIOCESE OF CANADA PRESENTATION

HIS EMINENCE ARCHBISHOP  
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ARCHBISHOP OF OTTAWA AND  
CANADA

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL

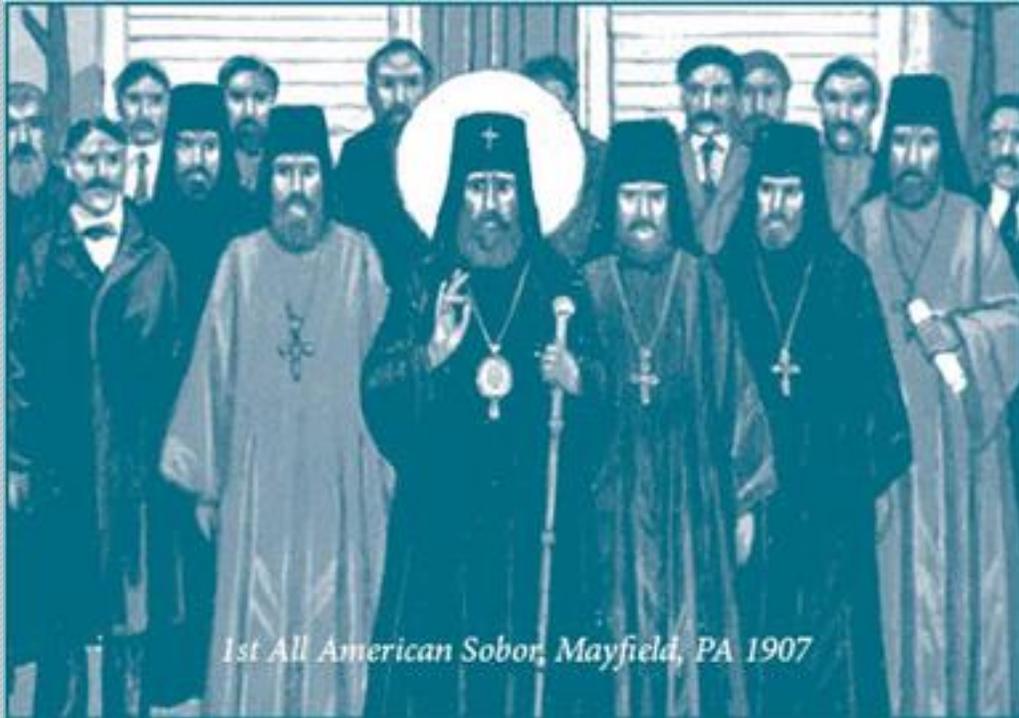


## DIOCESE OF EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA PRESENTATION

HIS EMINENCE ARCHBISHOP  
MARK

ARCHBISHOP OF PHILADELPHIA  
AND EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL

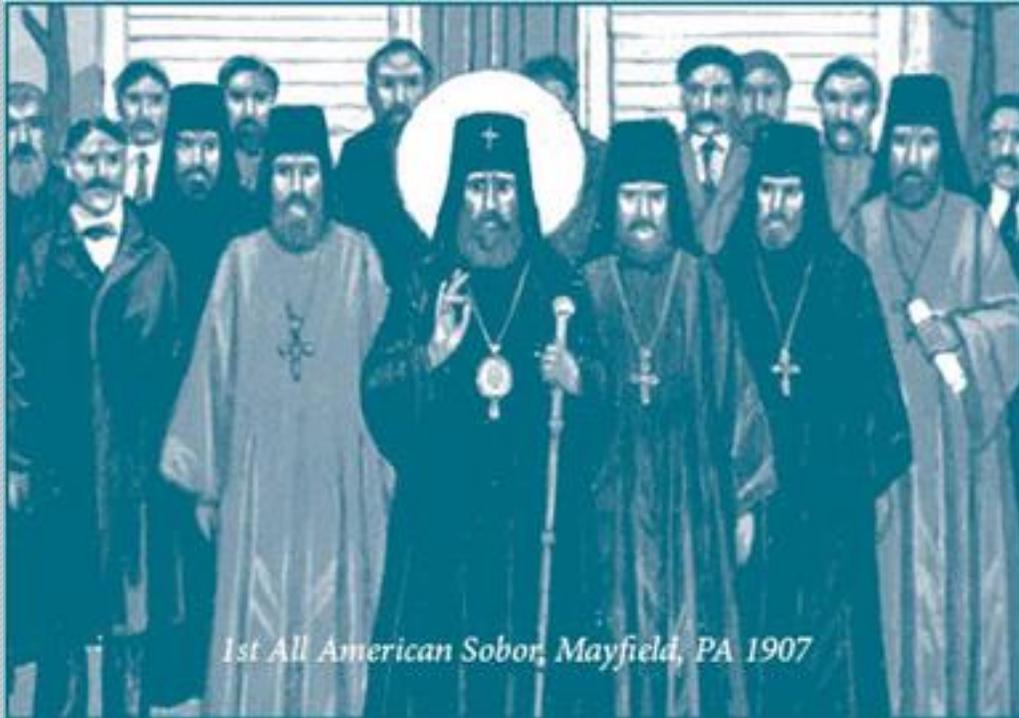


## DIOCESE OF MEXICO PRESENTATION

HIS EMINENCE ARCHBISHOP  
ALEJO

ARCHBISHOP OF MEXICO CITY  
AND MEXICO

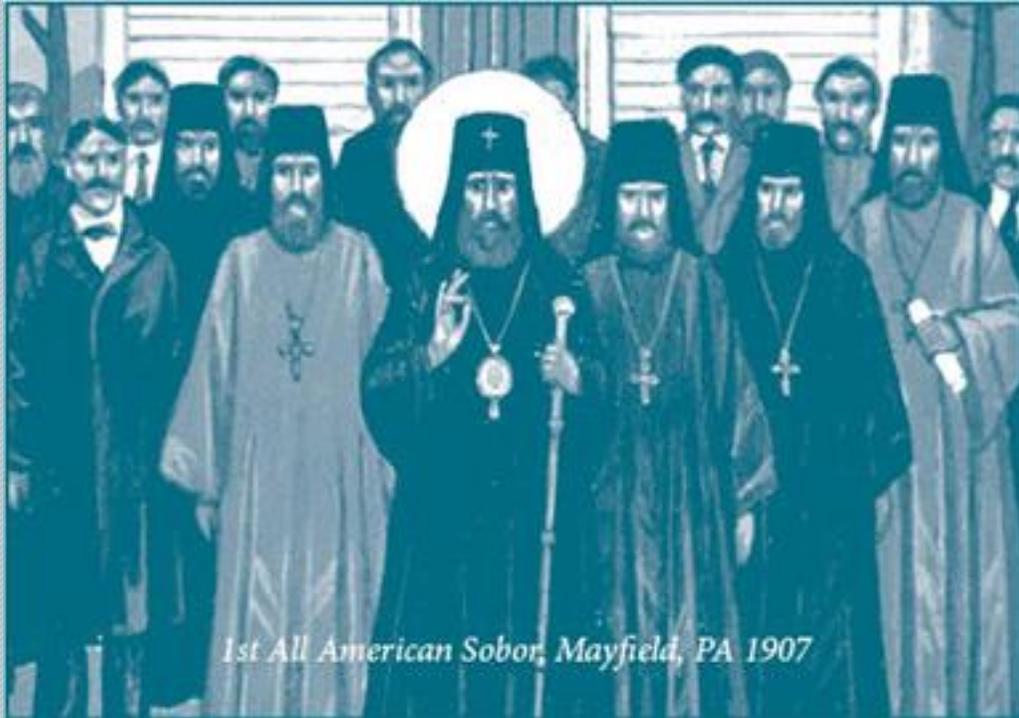
# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



## REPORT OF THE TREASURER OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA

MELANIE RINGA

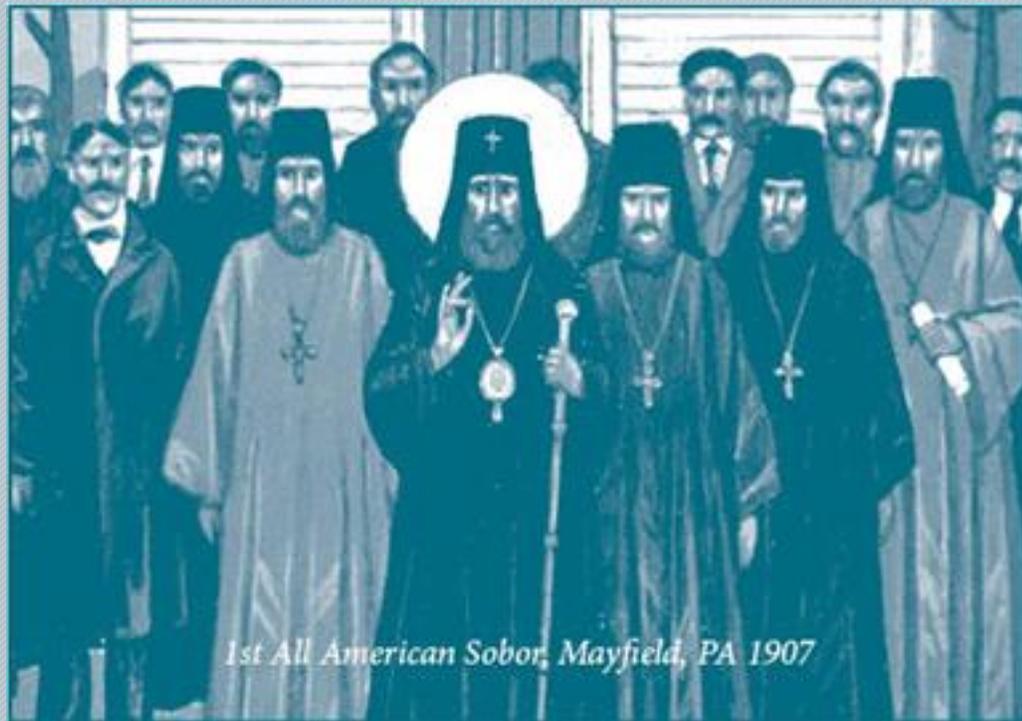
# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



## REPORT OF THE INTERNAL AUDITORS OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA

MICHAEL STRELKA

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



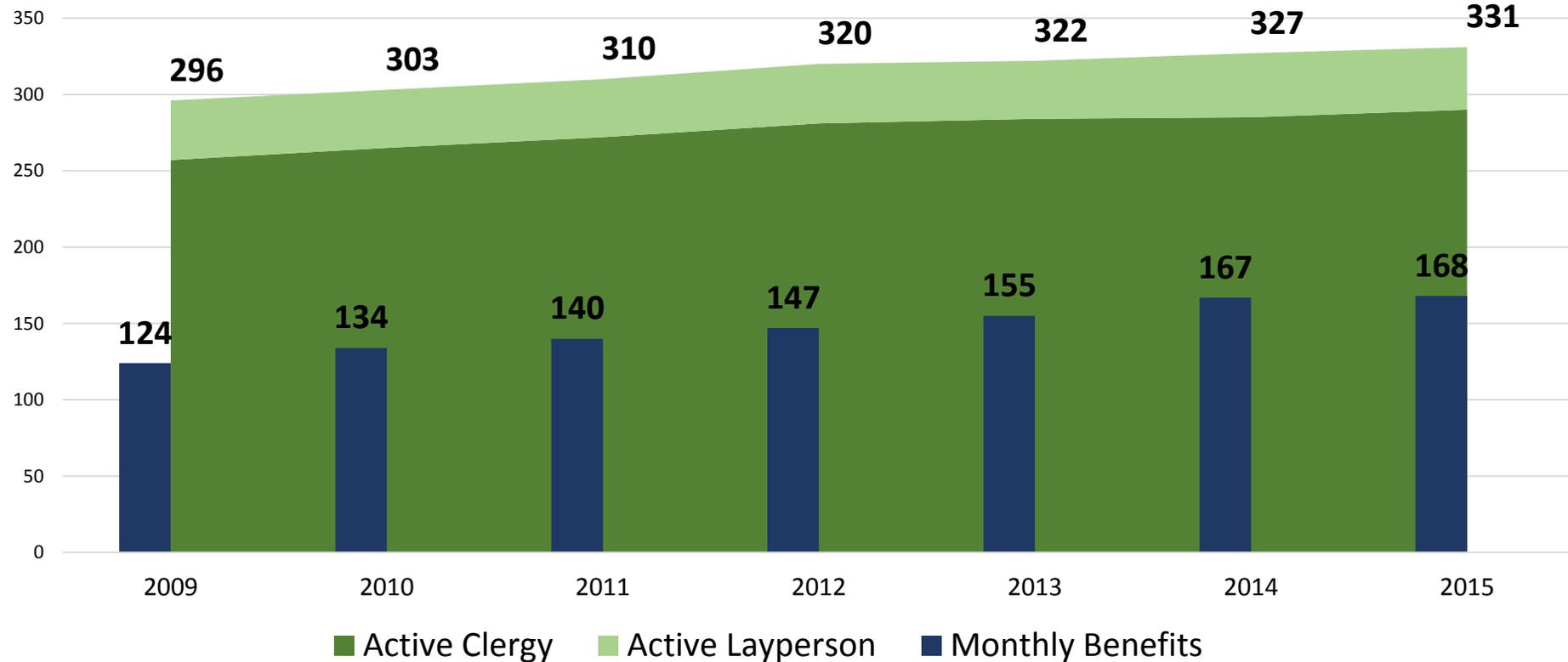
*1st All American Sobor, Mayfield, PA 1907*

## REPORT OF THE PENSION BOARD OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA

FR. GLEB MCFATTER

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL

## OCA Pension Membership

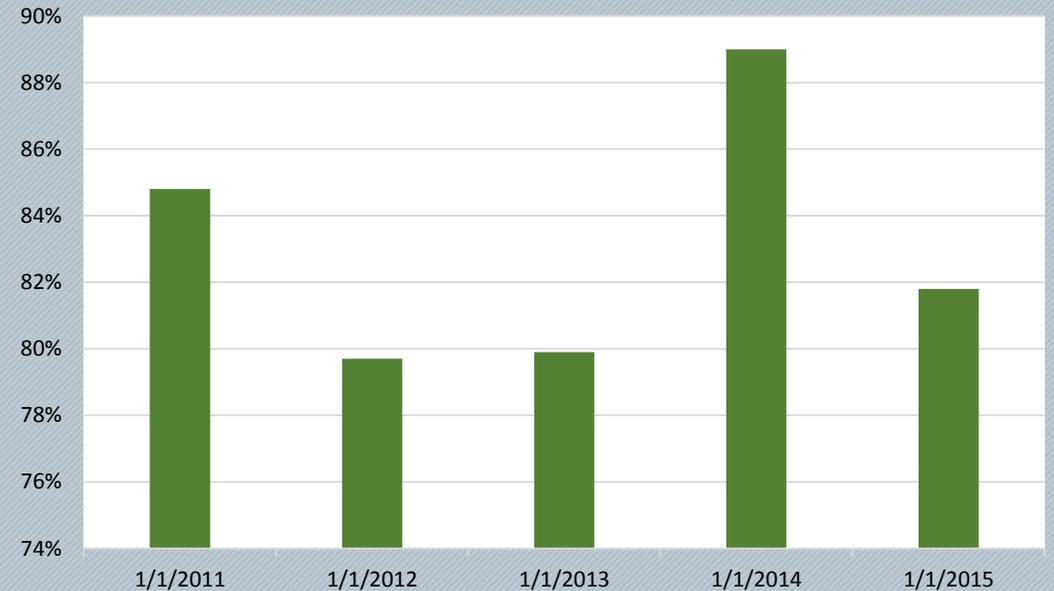


# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL

### Investment Performance

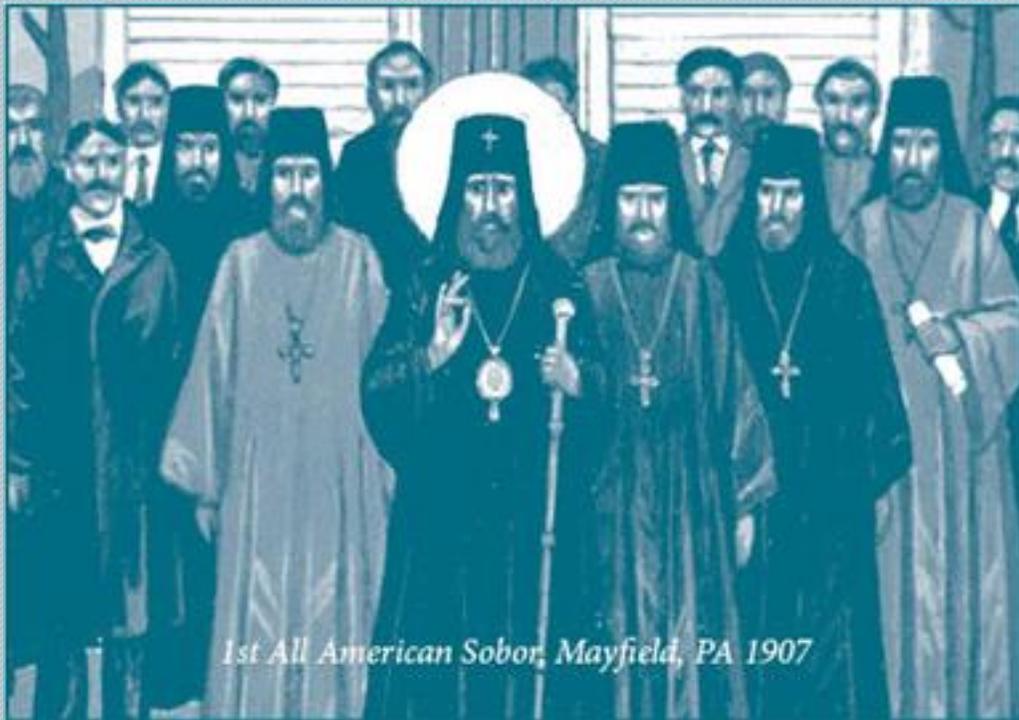


### Funded Status



NOTE: Results for 2011-2015 were shown in each of the respective actuarial valuation reports and are based on assumptions and provisions in that year's valuation report.

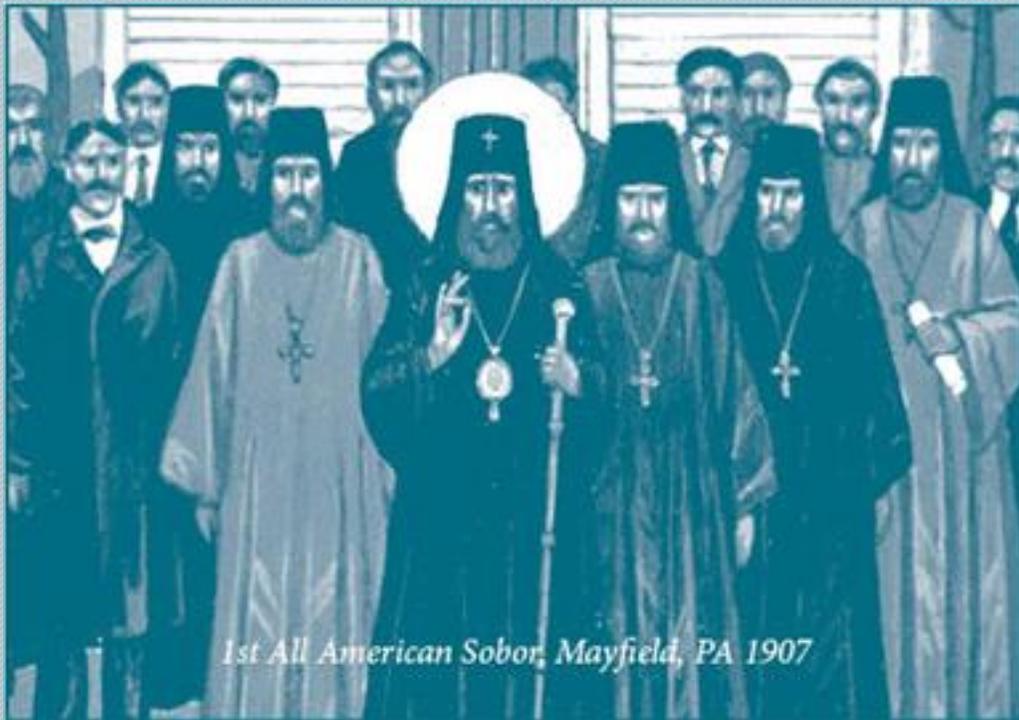
# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



## PROPOSED FINANCE RESOLUTION

FINANCE COMMITTEE OF  
THE METROPOLITAN  
COUNCIL

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



**VOTE ON THE  
PROPOSED  
FINANCE  
RESOLUTION**  
**TELLERS TO POSITION**

*The Holy Synod of Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America affirms the important role of the Synodal Chancery in the work of the OCA. We also encourage the transition to proportional giving as the best means of supporting the work of the Church. We also recognize that, at this point in time, each diocese is at a different place in this process. To this end we unanimously recommend the adoption of the following financial resolution:*

**For the budget years of 2016, 2017, and 2018 the Dioceses (or Archdioceses) of New England, New York-New Jersey, The Midwest, Eastern Pennsylvania, The South, The West, Western Pennsylvania and Washington DC, shall remit its annual financial obligation for the work of the Synodal Chancery according to the following formula:**

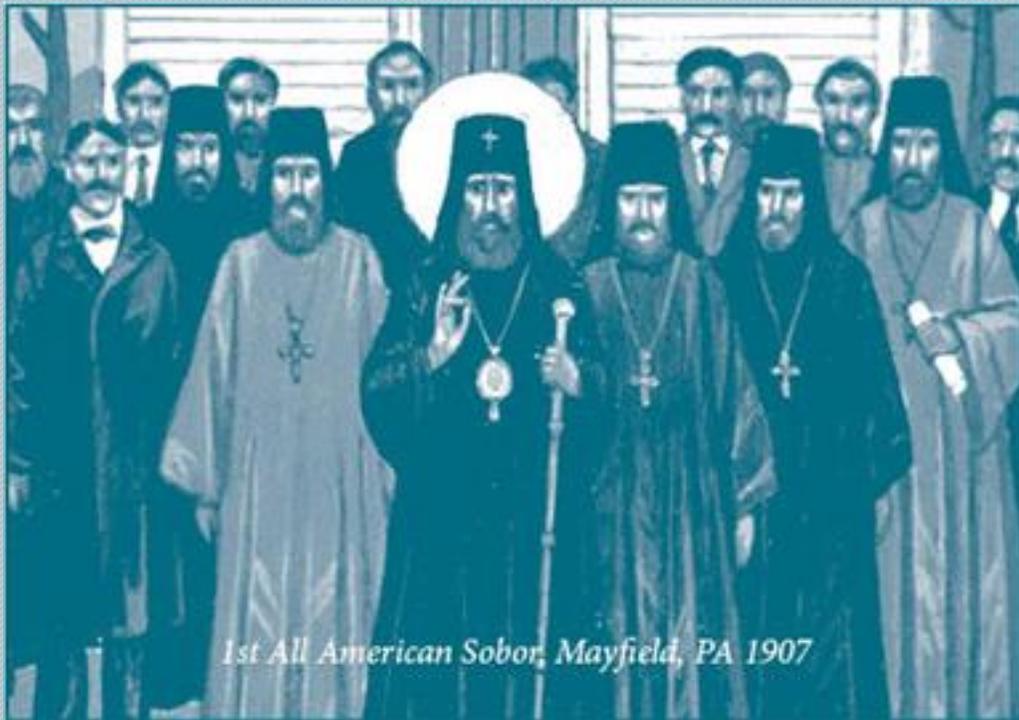
**If the combined diocesan (at current diocesan rate) and OCA (\$90 per capita) assessment total is greater than 46% of the diocesan income, excluding restricted, charity, pass-through and designated funds (“gross adjusted income”), the financial obligation in 2016 will be the lesser of the 2015 actual rate or 50% of the 2016 “gross adjusted income”; in 2017 it will be the 2016 rate less 2%; and in 2018 it will be the 2017 rate less 2%. The “gross adjusted income” is intended to represent that which would previously have been the diocesan assessment plus the OCA assessment.**

**If the combined diocesan (at current diocesan rate) and OCA (\$90 per capita) assessment total is greater than 34% and equal to or less than 46% of the “gross adjusted income”, the financial obligation in 2016 will be the 2015 proportional rate; in 2017 it will be the 2% below the 2016 rate; and in 2018 the proportional rate will be 2% below the 2017 rate, not to fall below 34% in any year.**

**If the combined diocesan (at current diocesan rate) and OCA (\$90 per capita) assessment total is less than or equal to 34% of the “gross adjusted income”, the financial obligation will be 34% of the “gross adjusted income” in 2016, 2017 and 2018. For the budget years 2016, 2017 and 2018, the Archdiocese of Canada and the Diocese of Alaska shall remit their annual diocesan financial obligation at the rate of 10% of their gross adjusted income.**

**The financial arrangements of the non-territorial dioceses (Romanian Episcopate, Albanian Archdiocese, and Bulgarian Diocese) are based upon agreements made when they entered the OCA and are within the competency of the Holy Synod, subject to periodic review. The Holy Synod shall continue to work with these dioceses to incorporate them by mutual agreement into full participation in the proportional method of funding the work of the Synodal Chancery.**

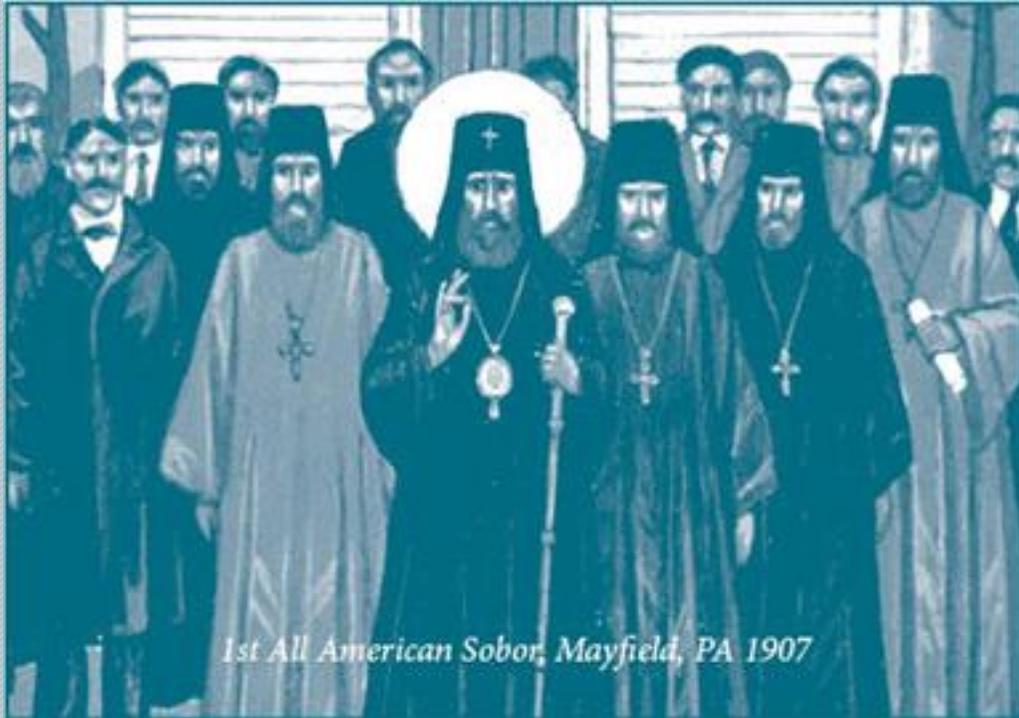
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## HOUSEKEEPING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

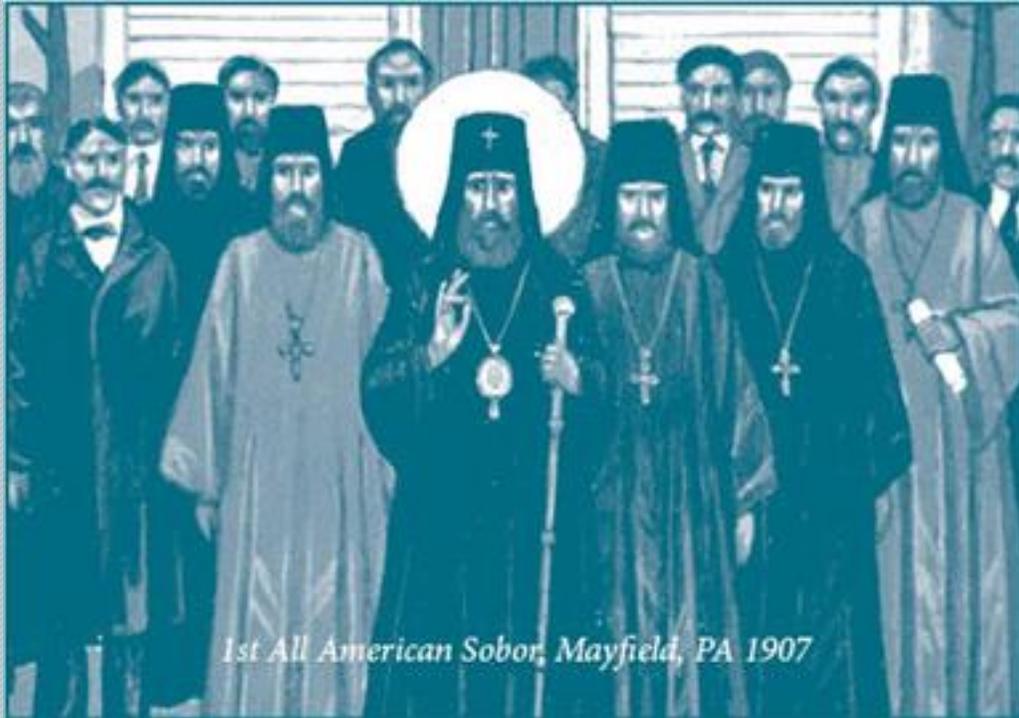
FR. ERIC G. TOSI

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RESOLUTIONS  
AND  
NOMINATIONS  
TEAM AVAILABLE  
AT PODIUM FOR  
FORMS

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



**“HOW TO EXPAND  
THE MISSION”**

**JULY 20-24, 2015**

**ATLANTA, GA**

**SESSION FOUR AT  
9:30 AM  
TOMORROW**

## ***Proposed Revision to the Final Funding Resolution for the 18<sup>th</sup> All-American Council***

***This resolution was revised and adopted by the Holy Synod for presentation at the 18<sup>th</sup> All-American Council. It replaces the current resolution that is published in the Delegate Handbook and will be presented for adoption at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Plenary Session on Tuesday, July 21, 2015 in the afternoon session.***

*The Holy Synod of Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America affirms the important role of the Synodal Chancery in the work of the OCA. We also encourage the transition to proportional giving as the best means of supporting the work of the Church. We also recognize that, at this point in time, **each diocese is at a different place in this process.** To this end we unanimously recommend the adoption of the following financial resolution:*

For the budget years of 2016, 2017, and 2018 the Dioceses (or Archdioceses) of New England, New York-New Jersey, The Midwest, Eastern Pennsylvania, The South, The West, Western Pennsylvania and Washington DC, shall remit its annual financial obligation for the work of the Synodal Chancery according to the following formula:

If the *combined* diocesan (at current diocesan rate) and OCA (\$90 per capita) assessment total is greater than 46% of the diocesan income, excluding restricted, charity, pass-through and designated funds (“gross adjusted income”), the financial obligation in 2016 will be the lesser of the 2015 actual rate or 50% of the 2016 “gross adjusted income”; in 2017 it will be the 2016 rate less 2%; and in 2018 it will be the 2017 rate less 2%. The “gross adjusted income” is intended to represent that which would previously have been the diocesan assessment plus the OCA assessment.

If the *combined* diocesan (at current diocesan rate) and OCA (\$90 per capita) assessment total is greater than 34% and equal to or less than 46% of the “gross adjusted income”, the financial obligation in 2016 will be the 2015 proportional rate; in 2017 it will be the 2% below the 2016 rate; and in 2018 the proportional rate will be 2% below the 2017 rate, not to fall below 34% in any year.

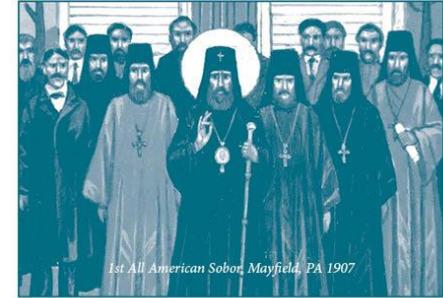
If the *combined* diocesan (at current diocesan rate) and OCA (\$90 per capita) assessment total is less than or equal to 34% of the “gross adjusted income”, the financial obligation will be 34% of the “gross adjusted income” in 2016, 2017 and 2018.

For the budget years 2016, 2017 and 2018, the Archdiocese of Canada and the Diocese of Alaska shall remit their annual diocesan financial obligation at the rate of 10% of their gross adjusted income.

The financial arrangements of the non-territorial dioceses (Romanian Episcopate, Albanian Archdiocese, and Bulgarian Diocese) are based upon agreements made when they entered the OCA and are within the competency of the Holy Synod, subject to periodic review. The Holy Synod shall continue to work with these dioceses to incorporate them by mutual agreement into full participation in the proportional method of funding the work of the Synodal Chancery.



# THE 18TH ALL AMERICAN COUNCIL



## HOW TO EXPAND THE MISSION

JULY 20-24 2015 • ATLANTA, GA

# Proposed Finance Resolution 2016-2018

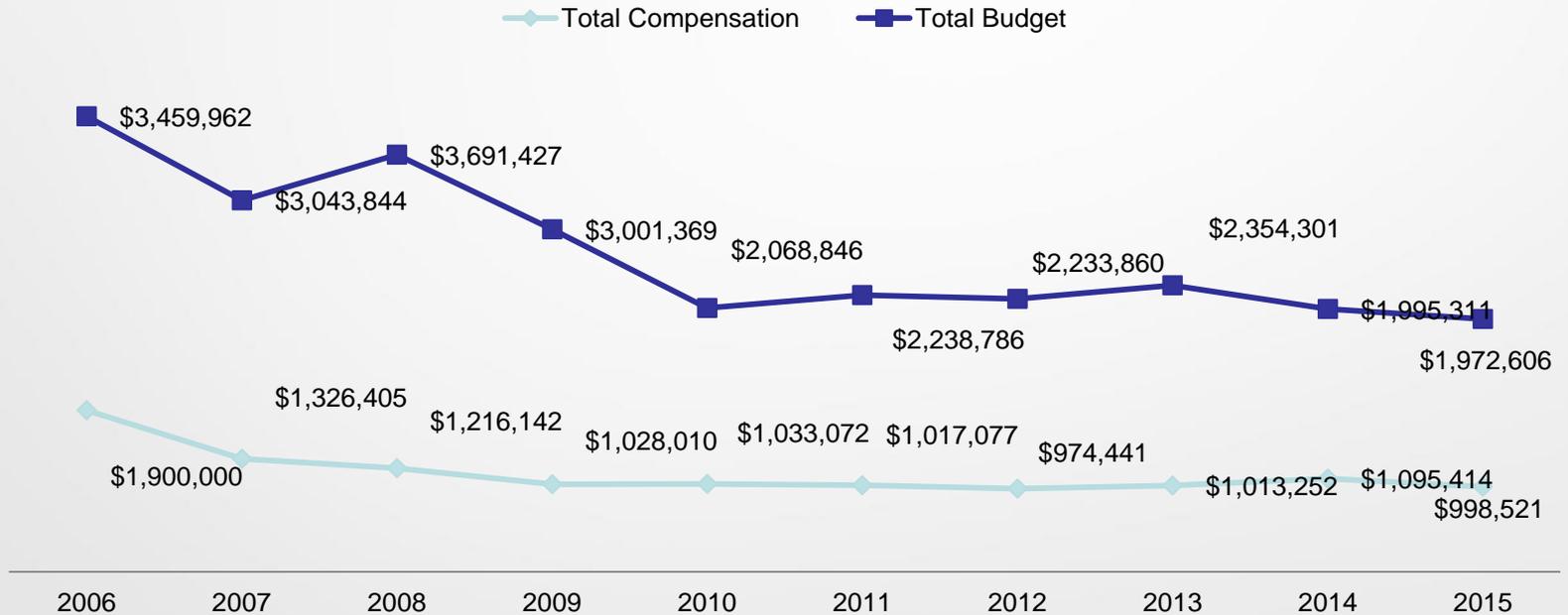
Plenary Session 3

Tuesday, July 21, 2015

1:30PM

# OCA 2016 Budget Historical Highlights

## Compensation and Total Expenses



# 2015 Budget and 2014 Actual by Category

		2015 Budget	2014 Actual	
Salaries/payroll taxes***	38.9%	\$ 754,091	\$ 786,440	42.7%
Benefits	<u>10.2%</u>	<u>\$ 198,409</u>	<u>\$ 178,051</u>	<u>9.7%</u>
<b>Subtotal Salaries &amp; Benefits</b>	<b>49.2%</b>	<b><u>\$ 952,500</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 964,491</u></b>	<b>51.7%</b>
Ministries, including planting grants	10.5%	\$ 203,150	\$ 215,216	11.5%
Property-utills, ins, taxes, maintenance	9.0%	\$ 174,141	\$ 160,987	8.7%
Travel, lodging, conferences*	8.8%	\$ 171,090	\$ 158,131	8.6%
Legal, Audit, Consulting Fees**	9.3%	\$ 179,200	\$ 132,631	7.2%
Stipends, including St Catherines***	6.1%	\$ 118,942	\$ 105,186	5.7%
Other - dues, supplies, misc	4.4%	\$ 85,792	\$ 80,702	4.4%
Telephone, equipment leasing	2.7%	<u>\$ 51,960</u>	<u>\$ 48,751</u>	2.6%
		\$ 1,936,775	\$ 1,866,095	100%

# Compensation by Position

Full Time Equivalency			Total from		SECA/				
2011	2015	Position	2011 Presentation	Salary	FICA	Insurances	Pension	Total	
1.0	1.0	Metropolitan	\$ 107,732	\$ 75,420	\$ 11,539	\$ 10,210	\$ 6,034	\$ 103,203	
1.0	1.0	Chancellor	\$ 136,400	\$ 90,250	\$ 13,808	\$ 27,730	\$ 7,220	\$ 139,008	
1.0	1.0	Secretary	\$ 136,400	\$ 90,250	\$ 13,808	\$ 27,730	\$ 7,220	\$ 139,008	
0.5	0.5	Treasurer	\$ 66,895	\$ 51,134	\$ 3,912	\$ 3,860	\$ 4,091	\$ 62,996	
1.0	0.0	Assistant to Metropoli	\$ 66,452	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
0.5	1.0	Executive Administrat	\$ 37,861	\$ 45,000	\$ 3,443	\$ 725	\$ 3,600	\$ 52,768	
1.0	0.0	Accts Payable Assistan	\$ 66,667	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
0.5	0.0	Protodeacon/Projects	\$ 46,901	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
1.0	1.0	Personal Assistant to P	\$ 43,850	\$ 30,000	\$ 2,295	\$ 10,200	\$ 2,400	\$ 44,895	
1.0	1.0	Housekeeper	\$ 73,842	\$ 46,350	\$ 3,546	\$ 9,300	\$ 3,708	\$ 62,904	
1.0	1.0	Archivist	\$ 93,387	\$ 63,548	\$ 4,861	\$ 27,395	\$ 5,084	\$ 100,888	
1.0	0.0	TOC Editor/Web Edito	\$ 60,484	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
0.5	0.5	External Affairs Direct	\$ 37,885	\$ 30,610	\$ 4,683	\$ 224	\$ 2,803	\$ 38,320	
1.0	1.0	Rector of St Catherine	\$ 42,507	\$ 30,000	\$ 4,590	\$ 13,785	\$ 2,767	\$ 51,142	
0.0	0.1	Accounting Assistant	\$ -	\$ 5,722	\$ 438	\$ 100	\$ 458	\$ 6,718	
0.1	0.0	Misc Clerical Assistanc	\$ 6,018	\$ 2,500	\$ 191	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ 2,791	
0.0	0.6	ORSMA Coordinator	\$ -	\$ 55,000	\$ 4,213	\$ 9,382	\$ 4,400	\$ 72,995	
0.0	0.25	Communications Assis	\$ -	\$ 20,000	\$ 1,532	\$ 400	\$ 1,600	\$ 23,532	
<b>12.1</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 1,023,281</b>	<b>\$ 635,784</b>	<b>\$ 72,859</b>	<b>\$ 141,141</b>	<b>\$ 51,385</b>	<b>\$ 901,169</b>	

**Note 1** These are now "stipend" positions with no benefits:

Protodeacon/Secretary to Metropolitan

\$ 24,000

TOC Editor/Web Editor

\$ 53,825

**\$ 978,994**

## Financing the Church 2016-2018

- Resolution from Seattle
- Proposed resolution – Metropolitan Council Meeting Feb 2015
- Resolution Revision #1 – Holy Synod Meeting March 2015
- Resolution Revision #2 – Holy Synod Retreat June 2015
- Resolution Revision #3 – Finance Committee/Metropolitan Council/Holy Synod July 2015

# Financing the Church 2016-2018

- Seattle Resolution 2012-2015:
  - “Assessment set at \$105 per capital for 2012 and reduced proportionately each year thereafter.”
  - Reduced from \$105 in 2012 to \$95 in 2013, \$92 in 2014 and \$90 in 2015 for a total reduction of \$15 or 14.3%
- Proposed Resolution from Metropolitan Council – Feb 2015
  - Basically called for territorial dioceses to pay assessment at GREATER of their 2015 actual \$ assessment or 33% of annual diocesan budget. Allowed for 4% annual hardship reduction.
  - Provided a floor for the Chancery budget
  - Was rejected immediately by 3 dioceses

# Financing the Church 2016-2018

- Proposed Resolution Revision #1 from Holy Synod Meeting – March 2015
  - Moved the assessment to proportional rates for all.
  - Varying rates for the territorial dioceses, moving all to 34% by 2018
  - Moved the ethnic dioceses to a 10% proportional rate immediately in 2016.
  - Archdiocese of Canada and Diocese of Alaska to remain at their current 10% proportional rate.
  - Provided **NO** floor for the Chancery budget
  - Resulted in projected decreases in the Chancery budget of \$111K in 2016, \$149K in 2017 and \$149K in 2018
  - Well received by various dioceses; with the caveat that the reduction in Chancery budget was too great

# Financing the Church 2016-2018

- Proposed Resolution Revision #2 from Holy Synod Retreat – June 2015
  - Same as Revision #1; however
  - Ethnic Dioceses transition to the 10% proportional rate removed.
  - Increased the projected decreases in the Chancery budget to \$187K in 2016, \$151K in 2017 and \$156K in 2018 for total reduction of \$495K.
  - Reaction in the dioceses was that the decrease in the budget was too extreme and would require elimination of or reduction in areas such as: Departmental Ministries; Planting Grants; Communications Staff; Psych Testing for Ordination Candidates;
  - May require all Holy Synod expenses to be paid by the diocese.
  - A re-thinking of this resolution was requested by His Beatitude.

# Financing the Church 2016-2018

- Proposed Resolution Revision #3 by the Finance Committee, with approval by the Metropolitan Council and final approval from Holy Synod Retreat – July 2015
  - Same as Revision #2; however
  - The pace at which the proportional rate is dropped to 34% is slowed, with ALL territorial dioceses at or below 46% by 2018. (NOTE: 46% is the average rate for 2015).
  - Projected decreases in the Chancery budget are to \$115K in 2016, \$58K in 2017 and \$58K in 2018 for total reduction of \$233K over the 3 years.

What will this mean for your diocese?

# What does this mean for your Diocese?

- **Alaska and Canada** – No Change.
- **Romanian Episcopate, Albanian Archdiocese and Bulgarian Diocese** – No Change (except discussions among the hierarchs)

# What does this mean for your Diocese?

- **Archdiocese of Washington:**
  - 2015 OCA Assessment = 53.5% of your total Diocesan Budget = \$68,490
  - 2016 Rate = 50% = \$63,958 (assuming your total diocesan budget in 2016 remains fairly consistent)
  - 2017 Rate = 48% = \$61,400
  - 2018 Rate = 46% = \$58,841

# What does this mean for your Diocese?

- **Diocese of the South:**
  - 2015 OCA Assessment = 32% of your total Diocesan Budget  
=\$229,724
  - 2016 Rate = 34% = \$247,577
  - 2017 Rate = 34% = \$247,577
  - 2018 Rate = 34% = \$247,577

# What does this mean for your Diocese?

- **Diocese of Eastern PA:**
  - 2015 OCA Assessment = 55% of your total Diocesan Budget  
=\$233,800
  - 2016 Rate = 50% = \$212,325
  - 2017 Rate = 48% = \$203,832
  - 2018 Rate = 46% = \$195,339

# What does this mean for your Diocese?

- **Diocese of New England:**
  - 2015 OCA Assessment = 53% of your total Diocesan Budget  
=\$161,000
  - 2016 Rate = 50% = \$152,550
  - 2017 Rate = 48% = \$ 146,448
  - 2018 Rate = 46% = \$140,346

# What does this mean for your Diocese?

- **Diocese of Western PA:**
  - 2015 OCA Assessment = 41% of your total Diocesan Budget  
=\$176,040
  - 2016 Rate = 41% = \$175,994
  - 2017 Rate = 39% = \$ 167,361
  - 2018 Rate = 37% = \$158,779

# What does this mean for your Diocese?

- **Diocese of New York/New Jersey:**
  - 2015 OCA Assessment = 62% of your total Diocesan Budget  
=\$288,720
  - 2016 Rate = 50% = \$232,000
  - 2017 Rate = 48% = \$222,720
  - 2018 Rate = 46% = \$213,440

# What does this mean for your Diocese?

- **Diocese of the Midwest:**
  - 2015 OCA Assessment = 49% of your total Diocesan Budget  
=\$427,500
  - 2016 Rate = 49% = \$423,605
  - 2017 Rate = 47% = \$406,315
  - 2018 Rate = 45% = \$389,085

# What does this mean for your Diocese?

- **Diocese of the West:**

- 2015 OCA Assessment = 36% of your total Diocesan Budget  
=\$225,180
- 2016 Rate = 36% = \$227,432
- 2017 Rate = 35% = \$221,115
- 2018 Rate = 34% = \$214,797

# What does this mean for the OCA?

- If this Finance Resolution passes, it will still require budget cuts/increased fundraising.
- Projected Budget Cuts:
  - 2016:
    - Reduce External audit fees- \$14K
    - Psych Tests paid by dioceses - \$20K
    - Increase SOCA Revenues - \$60K
    - Reduction from Transfer of Met JONAH to ROCOR - \$24K
  - 2017:
    - Reduce the budget of Departments - \$50K
  - 2018:
    - Fund 50% of the Mission Planting Grants from the Missions Endowment - \$50K

# Finance Committee Recommendation

## The Finance Committee Recommends:

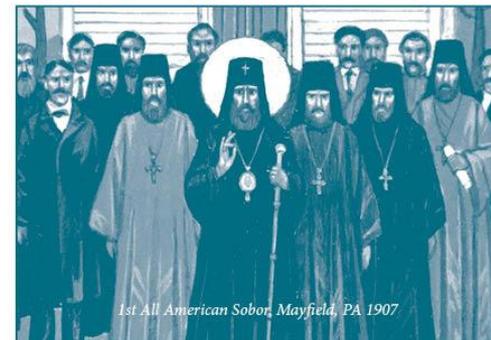
- Adoption of the Finance Resolution as amended and approved by the Holy Synod, July 4, 2015.
- Continue to grow the Stewards of the OCA program with the goal of funding the Chancery and its programs
- Continue the annual Chancellors/Treasurers meetings
- Foster the dialog among Diocesan Treasurers as each diocese works towards proportional giving in their dioceses and parishes

# Conclusion

- Questions?
- Comments?

**Thank you!**

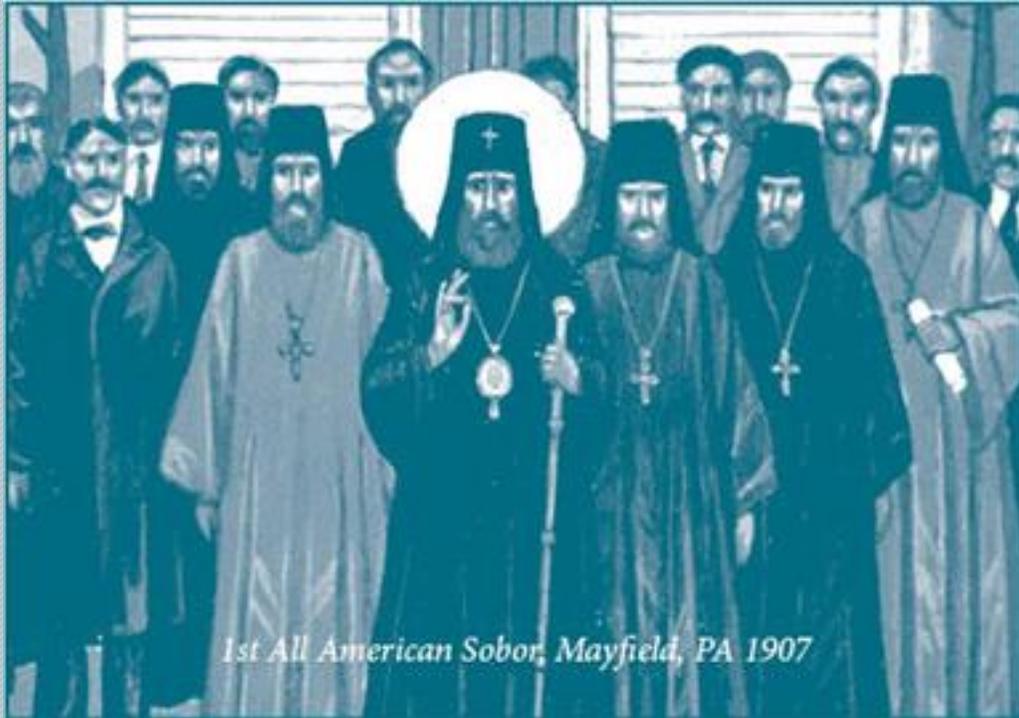
## THE 18TH ALL AMERICAN COUNCIL



**HOW TO EXPAND  
THE MISSION**

JULY 20-24 2015 • ATLANTA, GA

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL

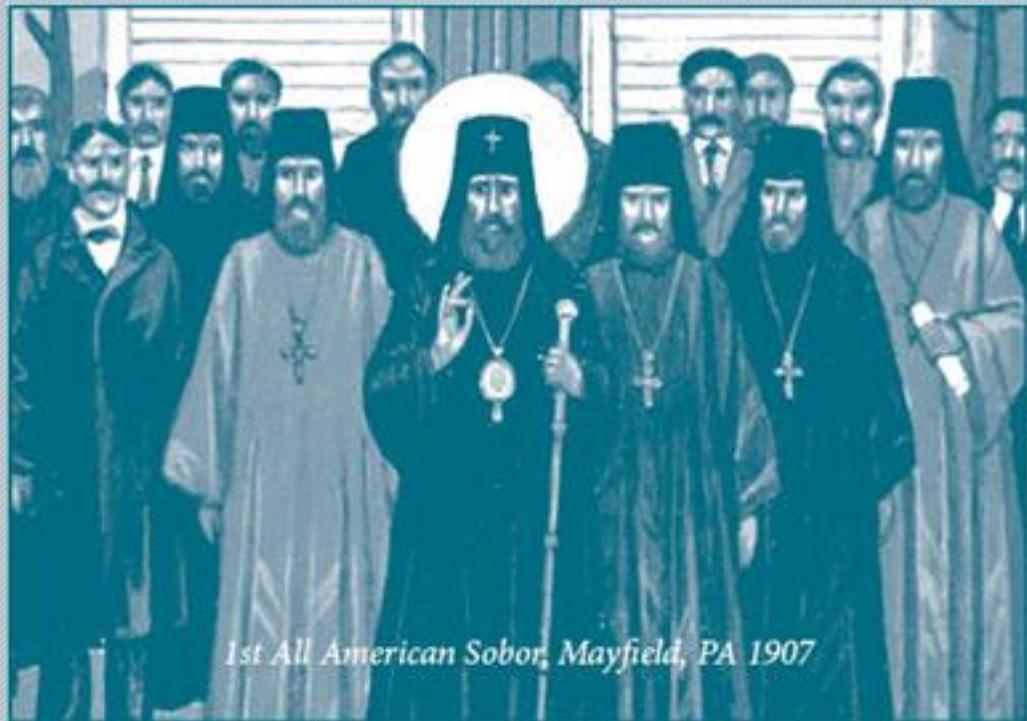


“HOW TO  
EXPAND THE  
MISSION”

JULY 20-24, 2015

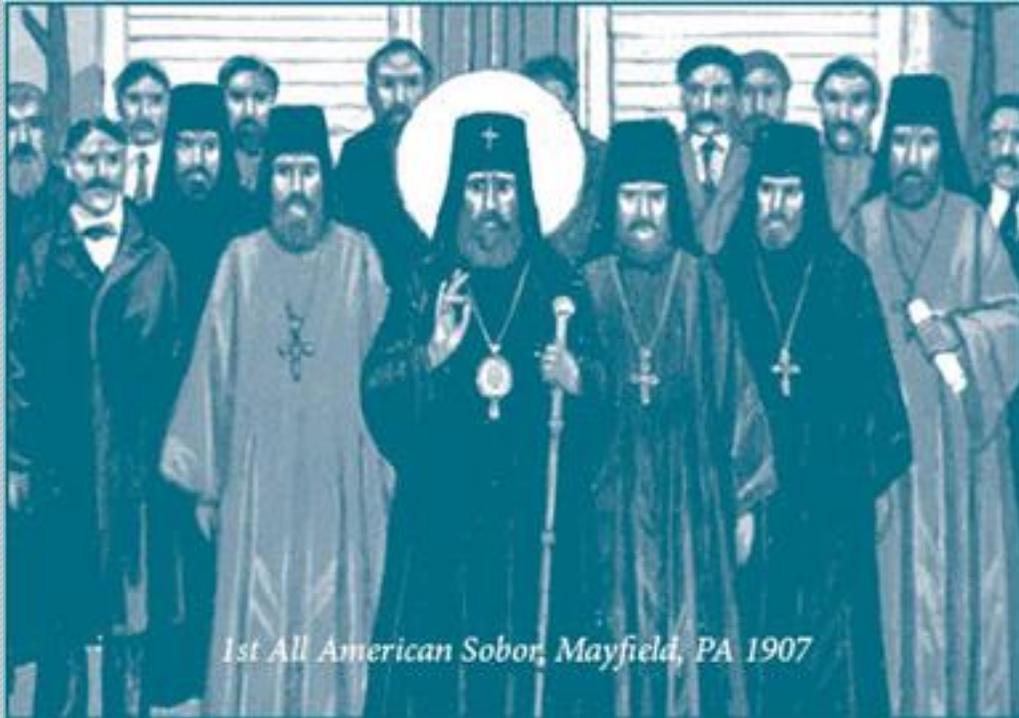
ATLANTA, GA

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



OPENING  
PRAYER

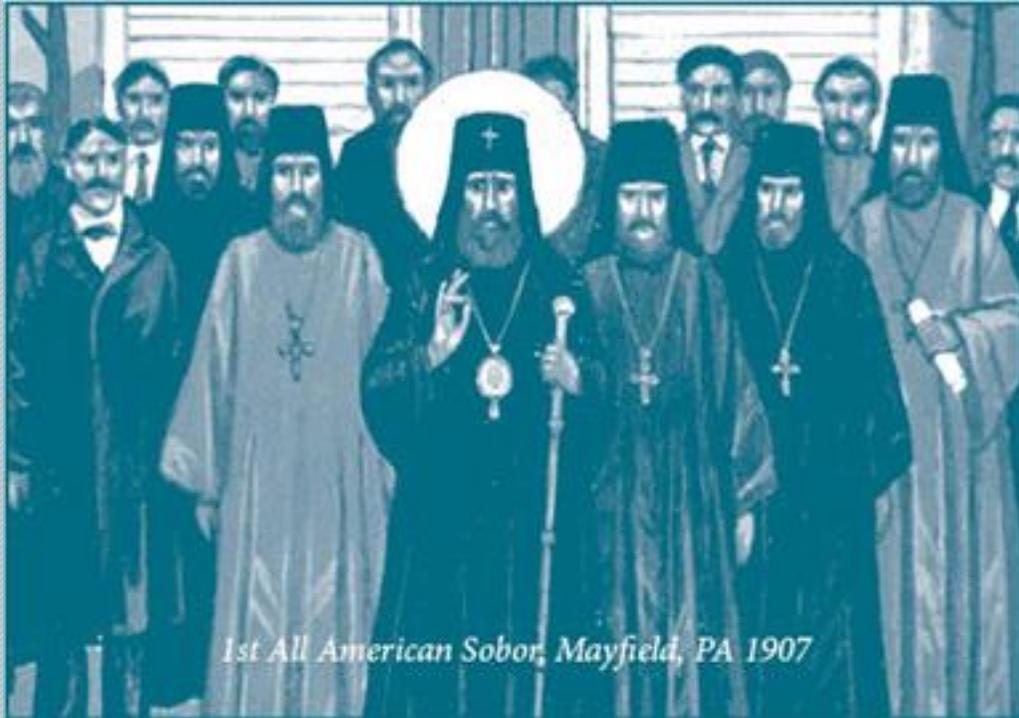
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*1st All American Sobor, Mayfield, PA 1907*

## PLENARY SESSION 4

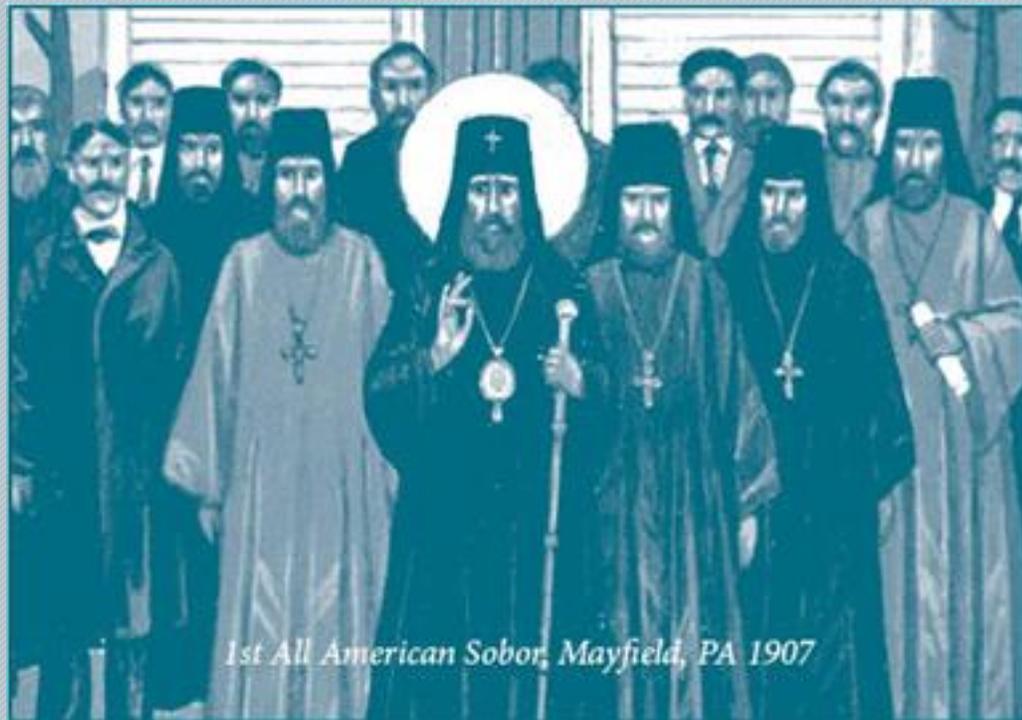
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## DIOCESE OF MIDWEST PRESENTATION

HIS GRACE BISHOP PAUL  
BISHOP OF CHICAGO AND THE  
MIDWEST

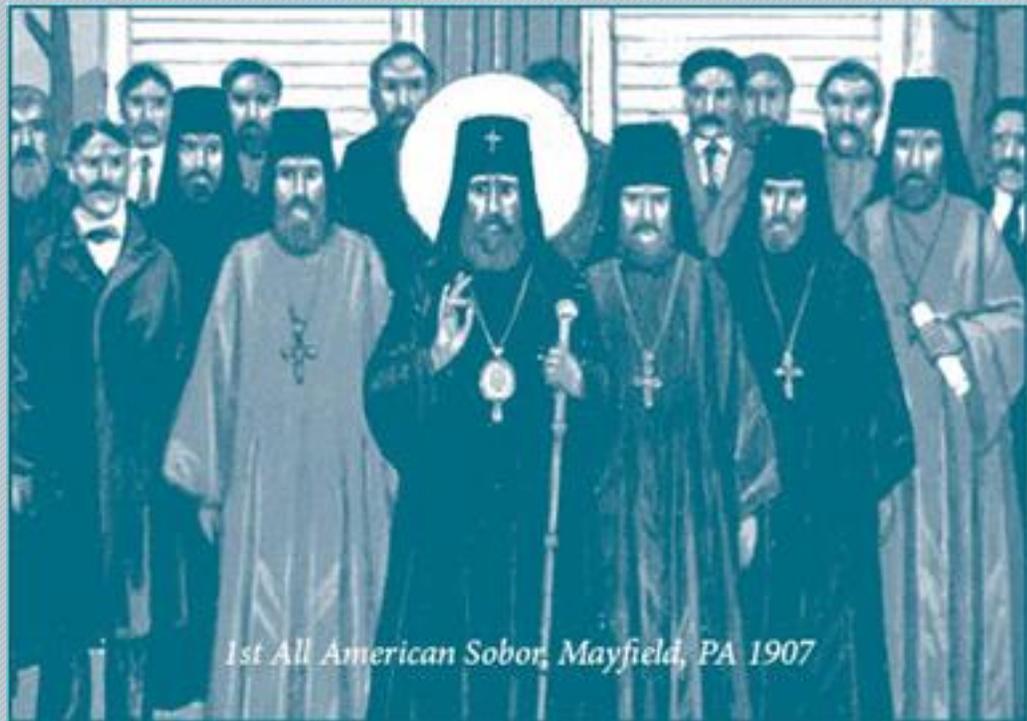
# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



## BULGARIAN DIOCESE PRESENTATION

HIS GRACE BISHOP  
ALEXANDER  
BISHOP OF TOLEDO AND  
BULGARIAN DIOCESE

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL

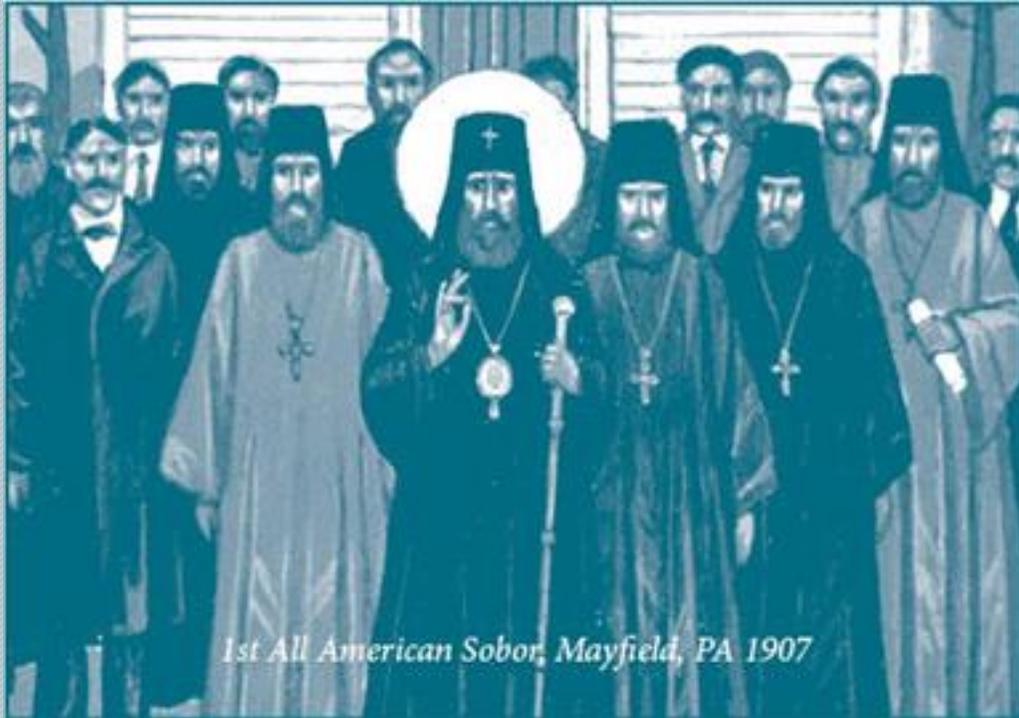


## DIOCESE OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY PRESENTATION

HIS EMINENCE ARCHBISHOP  
MICHAEL

ARCHBISHOP OF NEW YORK AND  
NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY

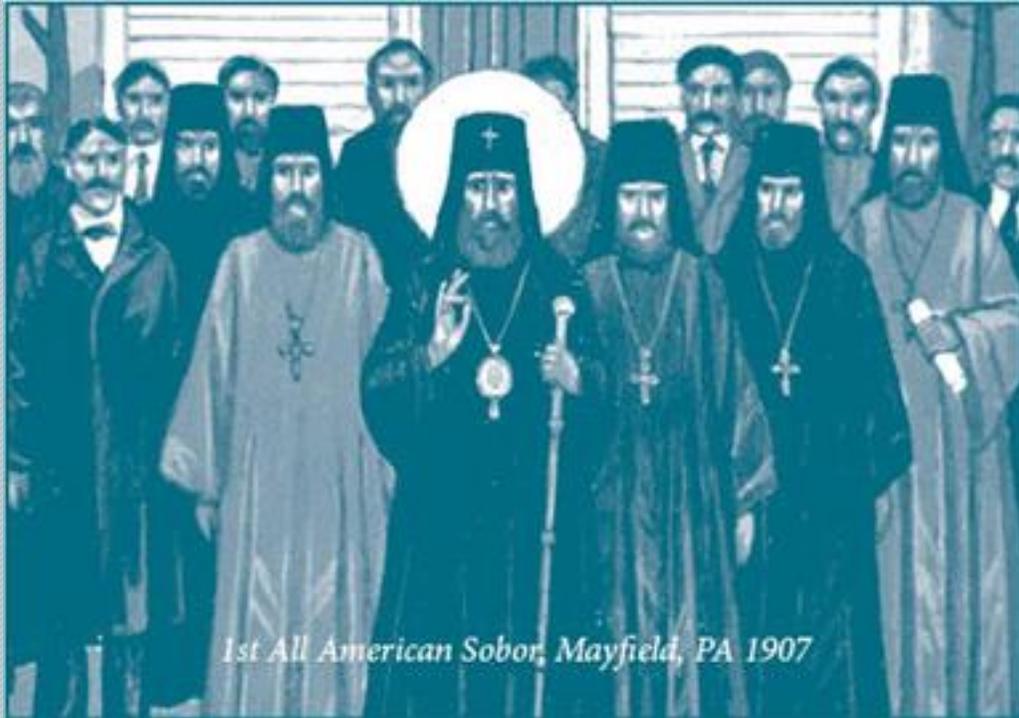
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## FINAL REPORT OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN

FR. JOHN VITKO

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL

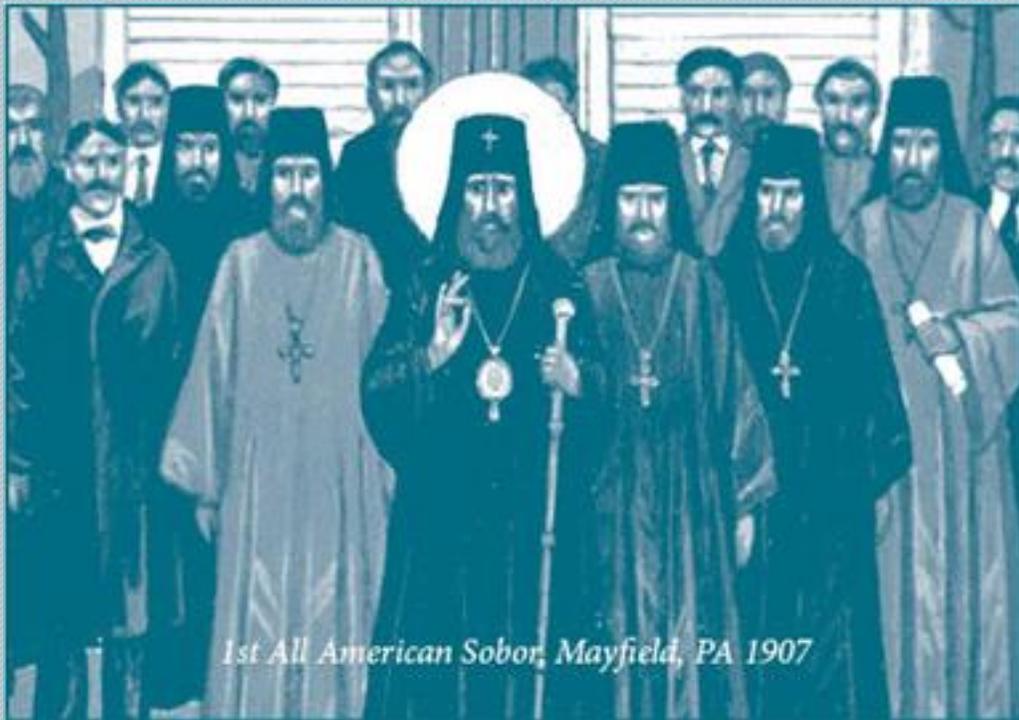


*1st All American Sobor, Mayfield, PA 1907*

## REPORT OF THE OFFICE OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND INTERCHURCH RELATIONS

FR. LEONID KISHKOVSKY

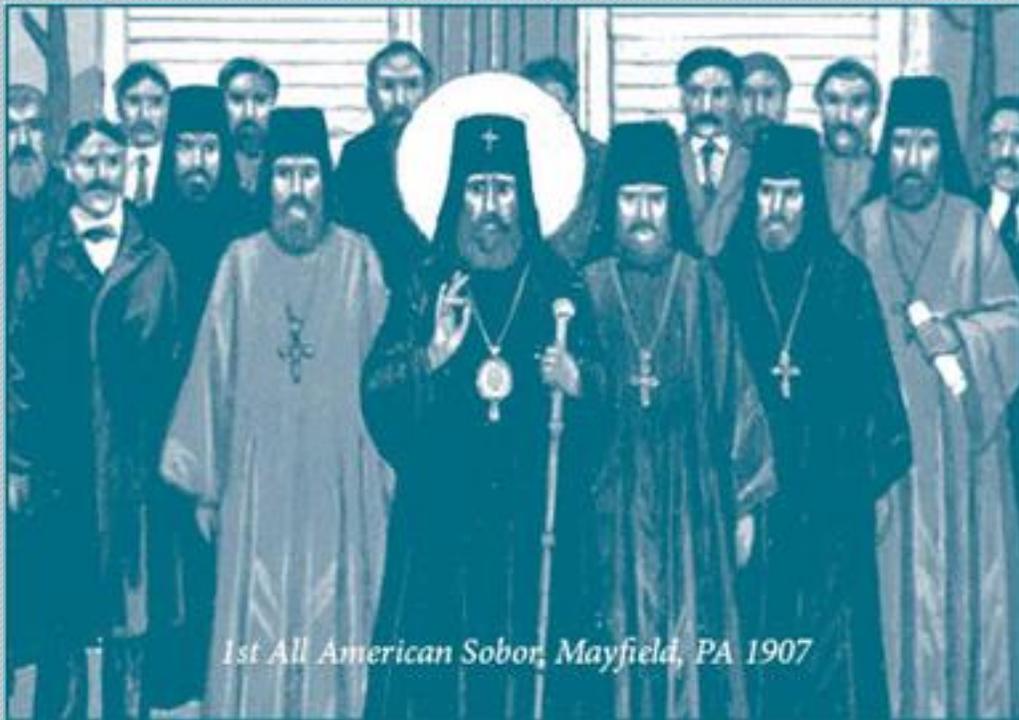
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## REPORT OF THE OFFICE OF MILITARY AND VA CHAPLAINS

FR. THEODORE BOBACK AND  
FR. JOSEPH GALLICK

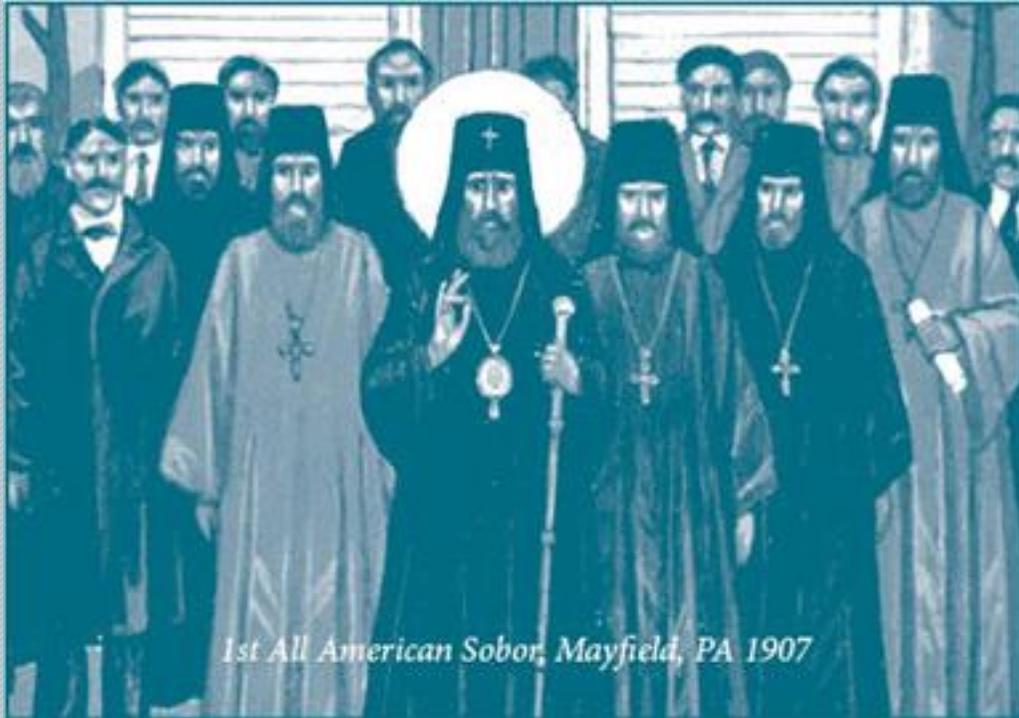
# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



## REPORT OF THE OFFICE OF INSTITUTIONAL CHAPLAINS

FR. STEVEN VOYTOVICH

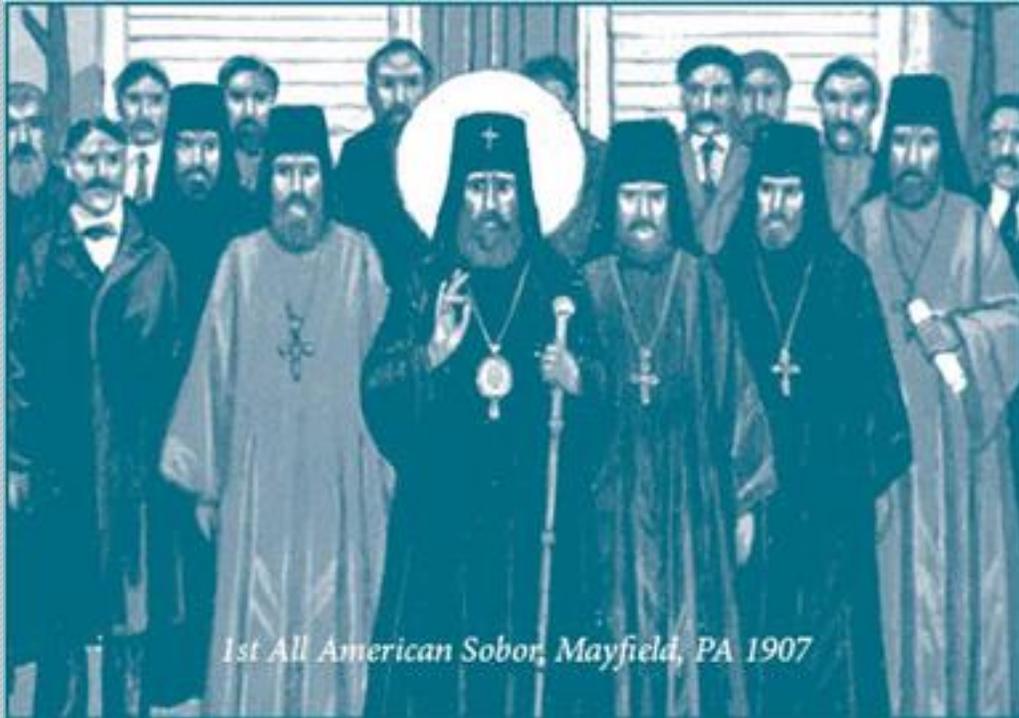
# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



## REPORTS OF THE DEPARTMENTS OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA

DEPARTMENT CHAIRS

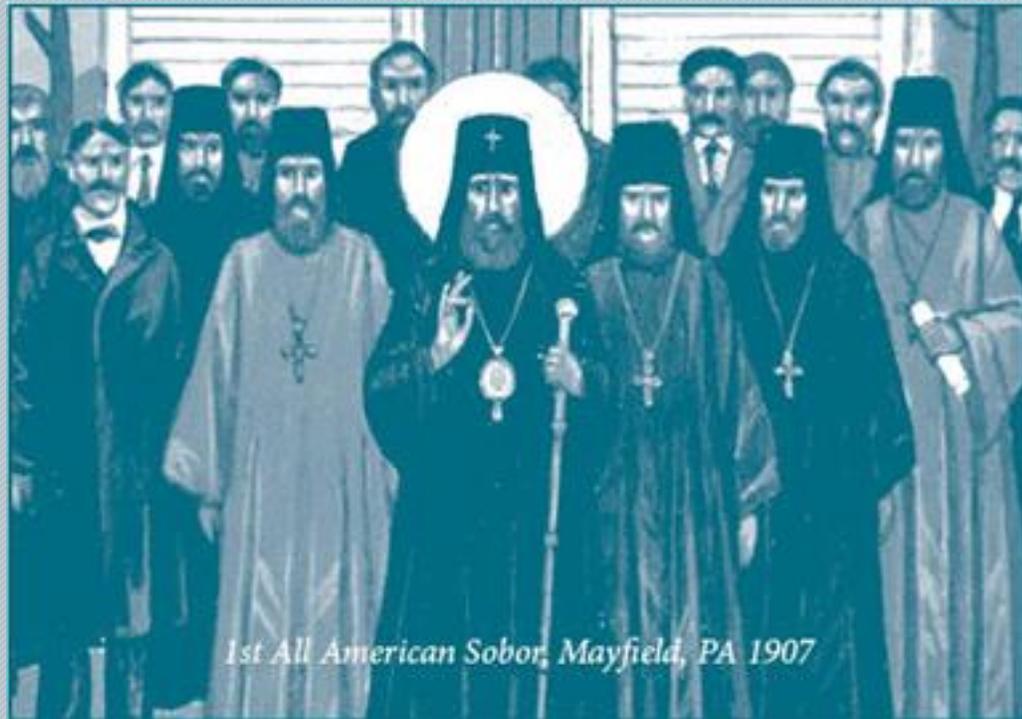
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## DIACONAL VOCATIONS PROGRAM REPORT

ADN KIRILL SOKOLOV

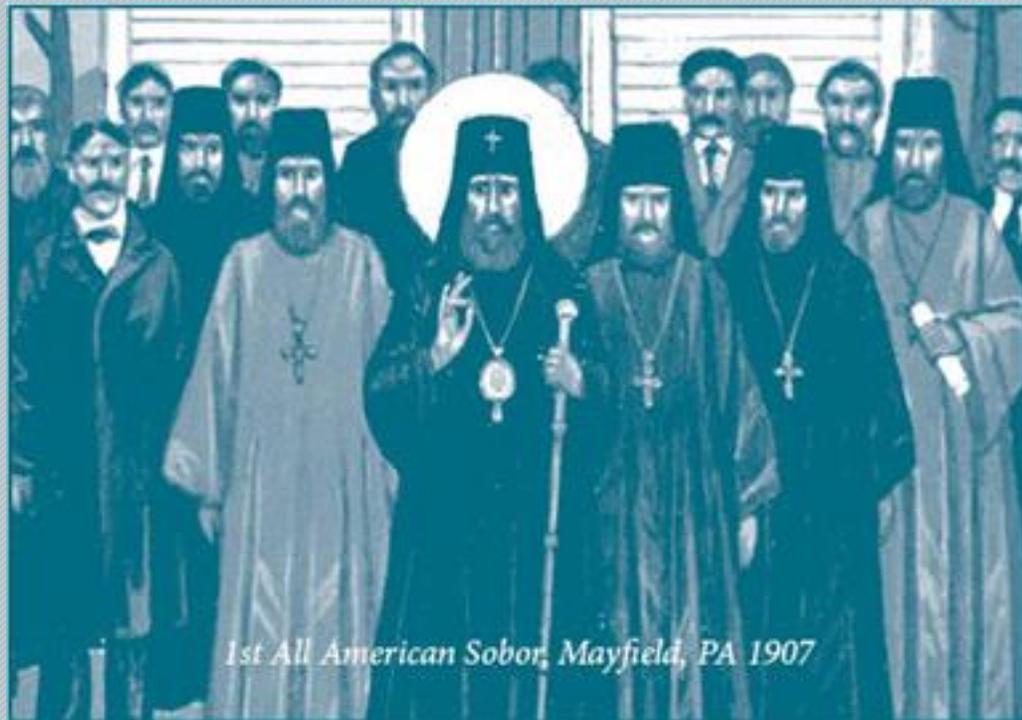
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## DEPARTMENT OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION REPORT

VALERIE ZAHIRSKY

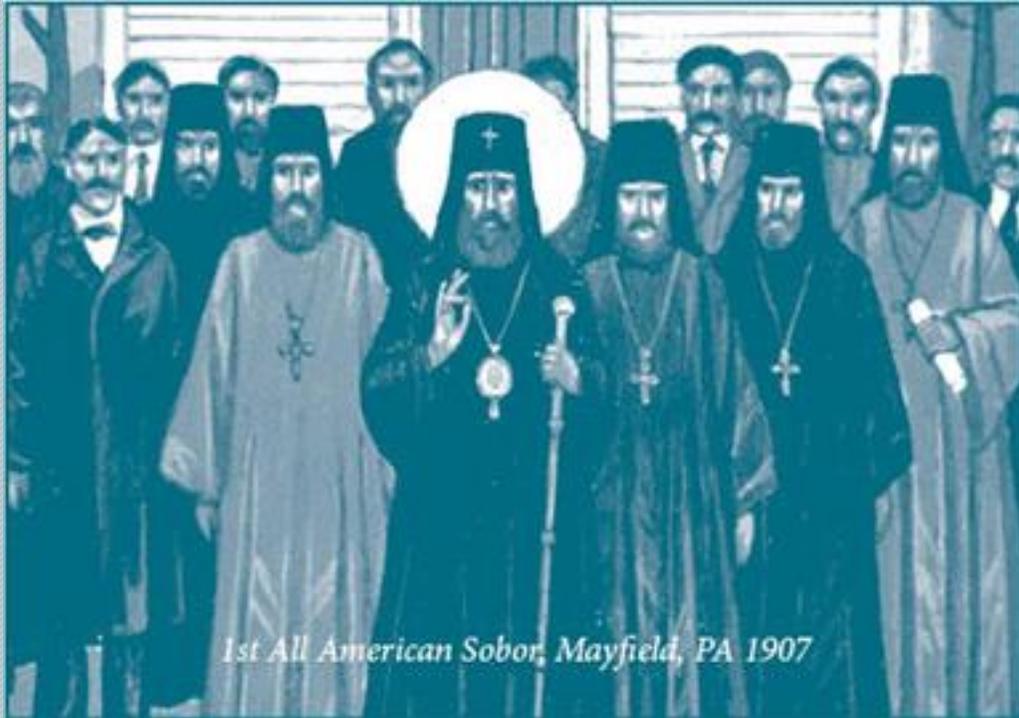
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## DEPARTMENT OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE AND HUMANITARIAN AID REPORT

DONNA KARABIN

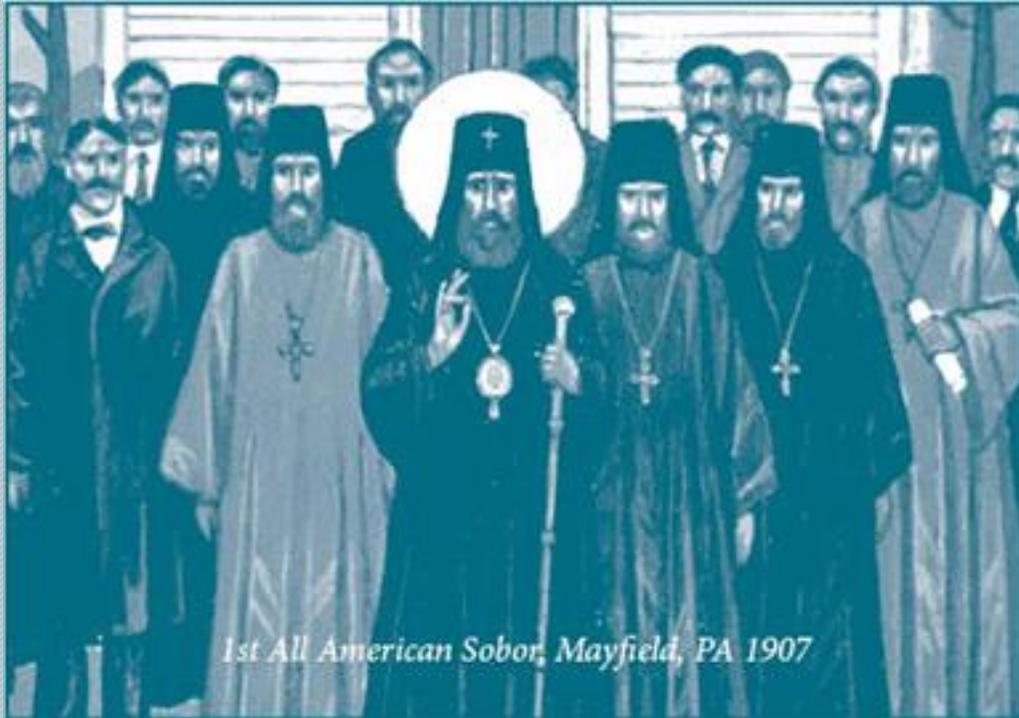
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## DEPARTMENT OF CONTINUING EDUCATION REPORT

FR. IAN PAC-URAR

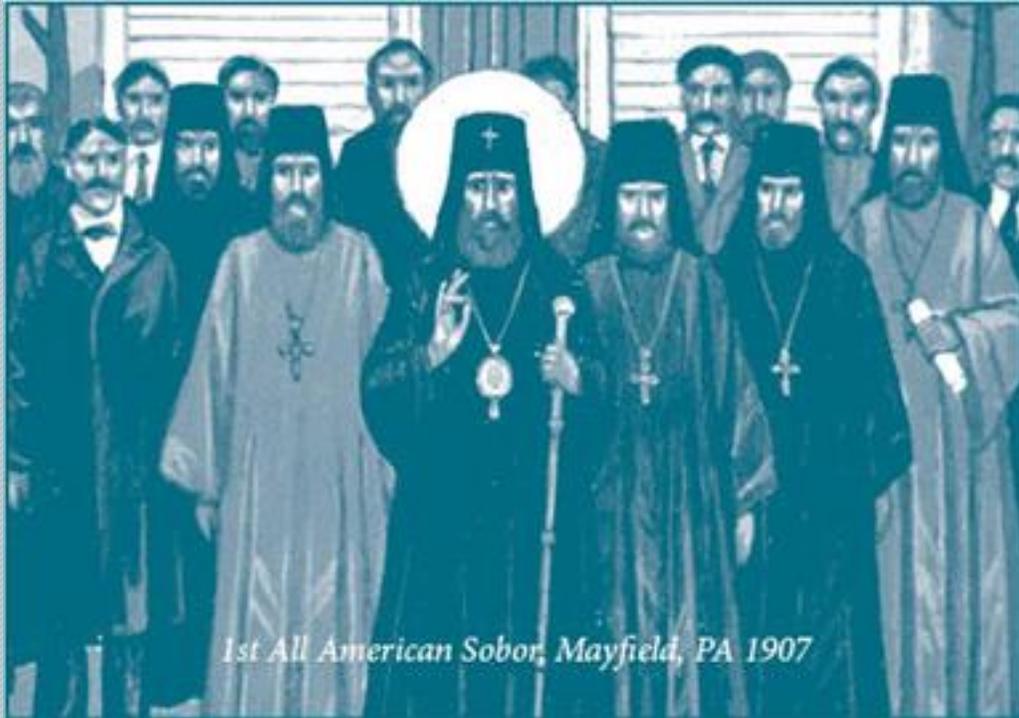
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## DEPARTMENT OF EVANGELIZATION REPORT

FR. JOHN PARKER

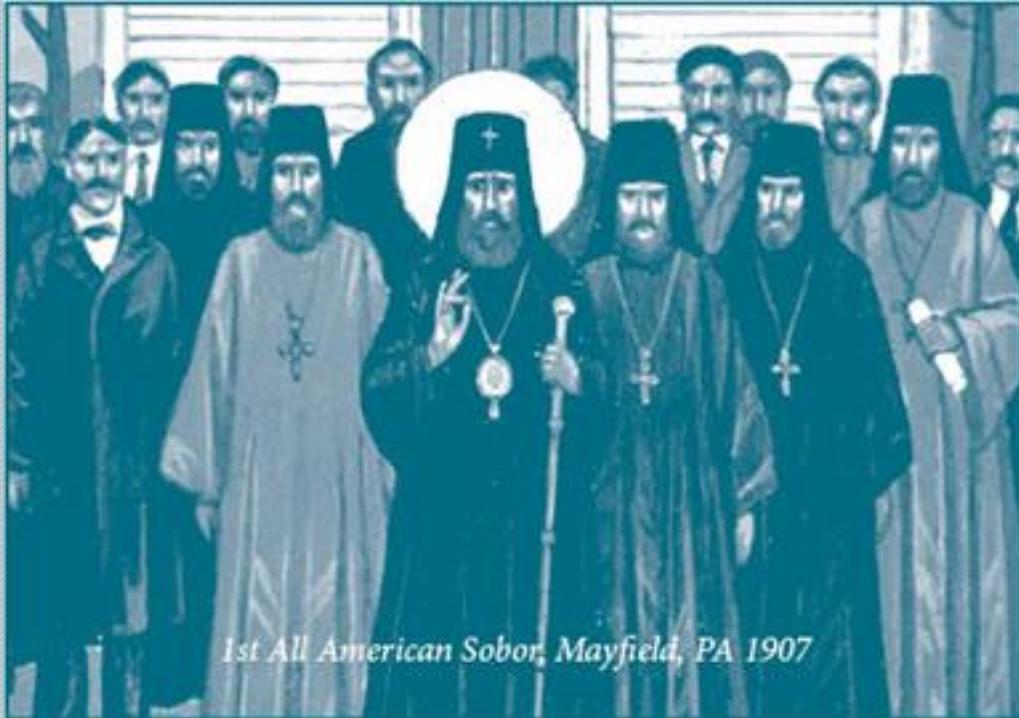
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## DEPARTMENT OF LITURGICAL MUSIC AND TRANSLATIONS REPORT

DR. DAVID DRILLOCK

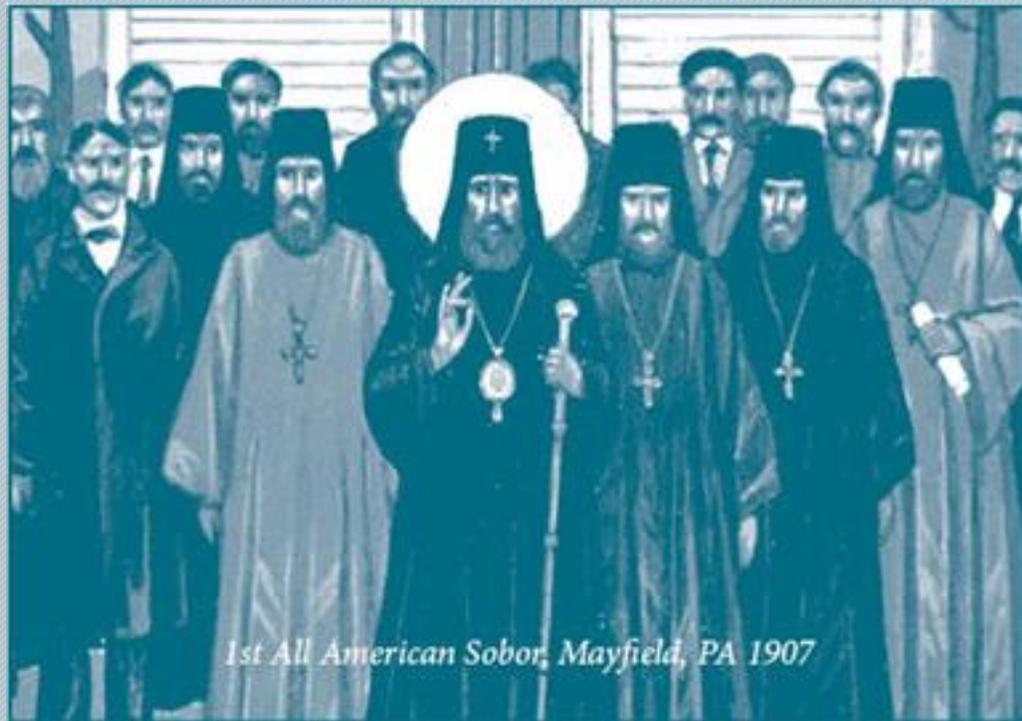
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## DEPARTMENT OF PASTORAL LIFE AND MINISTRY REPORT

FR. NATHAN PRESTON

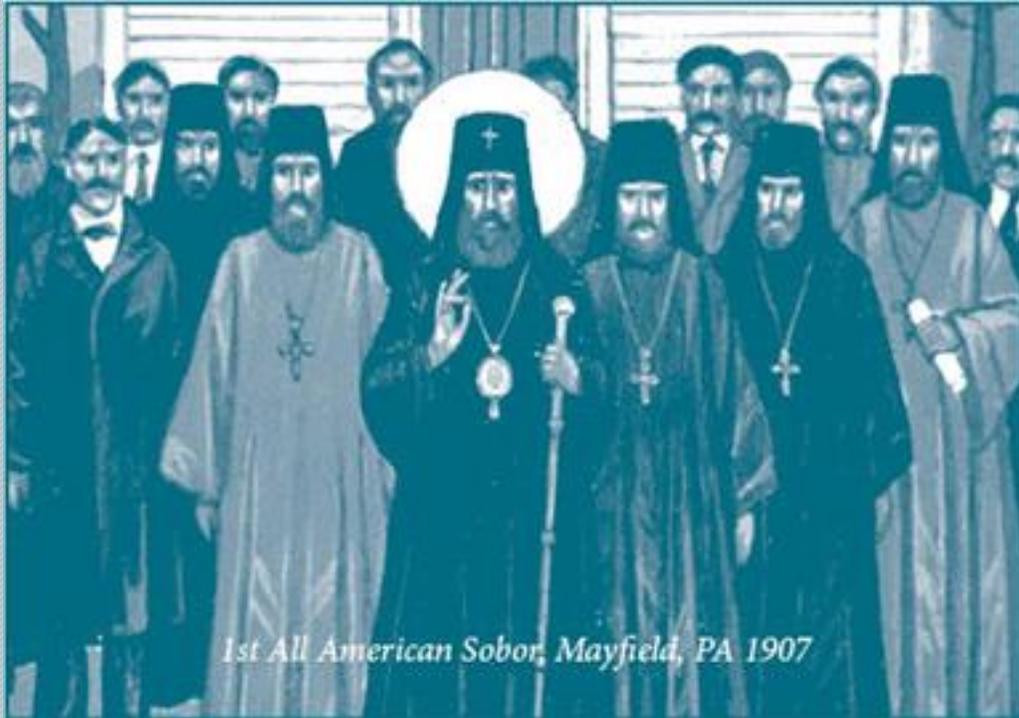
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## DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH, YOUNG ADULT AND CAMPUS MINISTRY REPORT

ANDREW BOYD

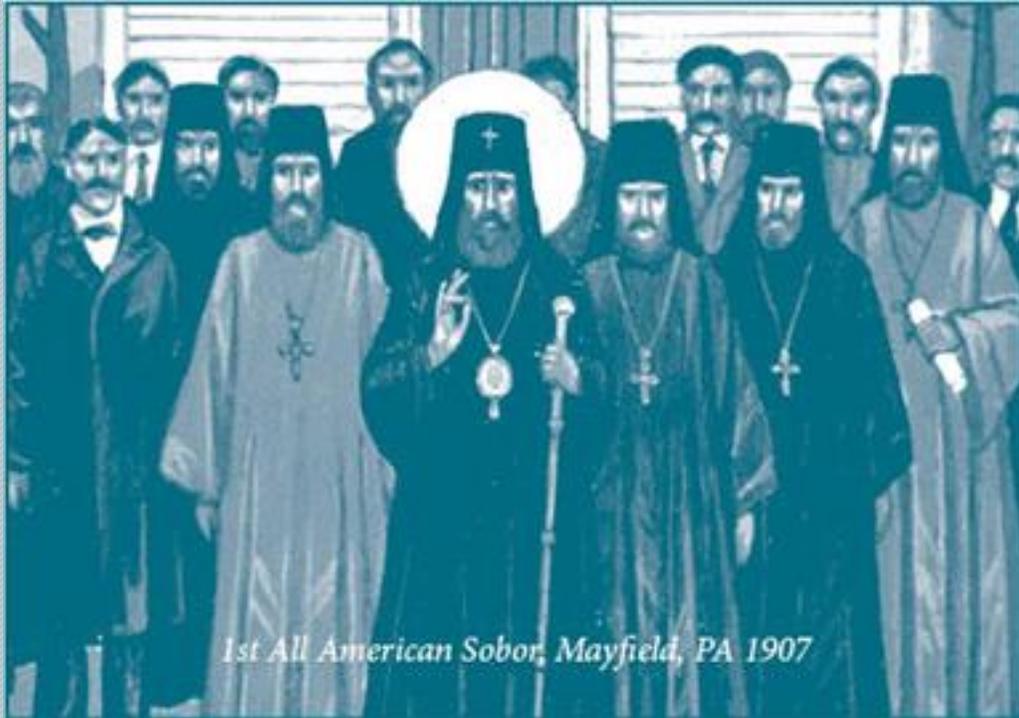
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## FELLOWSHIP OF ORTHODOX CHRISTIANS IN AMERICA REPORT

BECKY TESAR

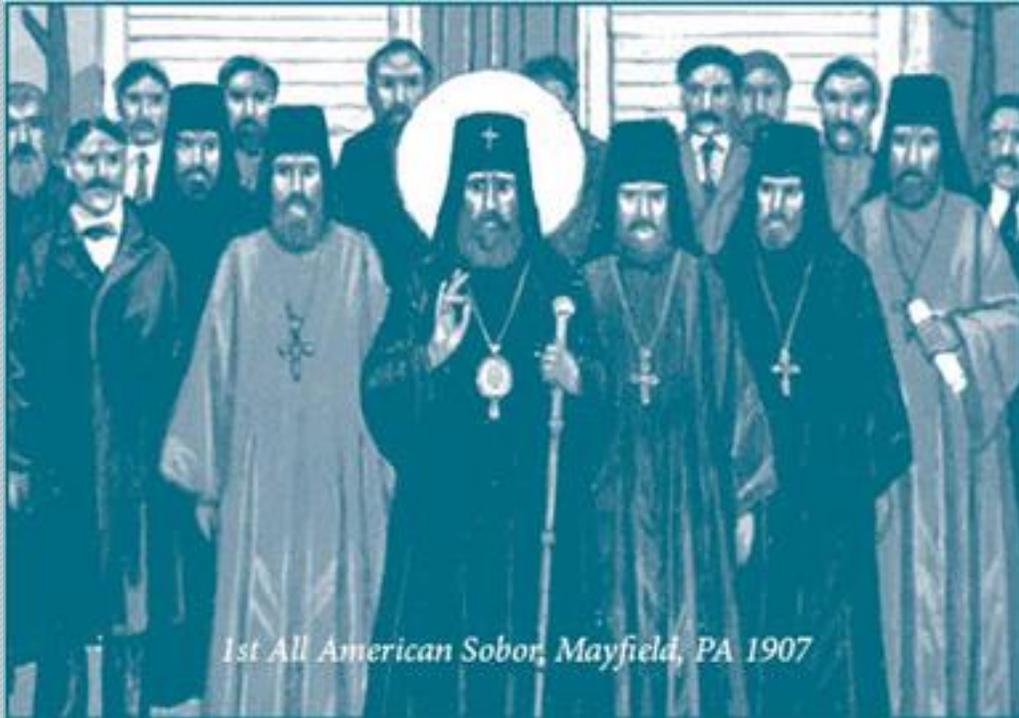
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RESOLUTIONS

COUNCIL CHAIRS

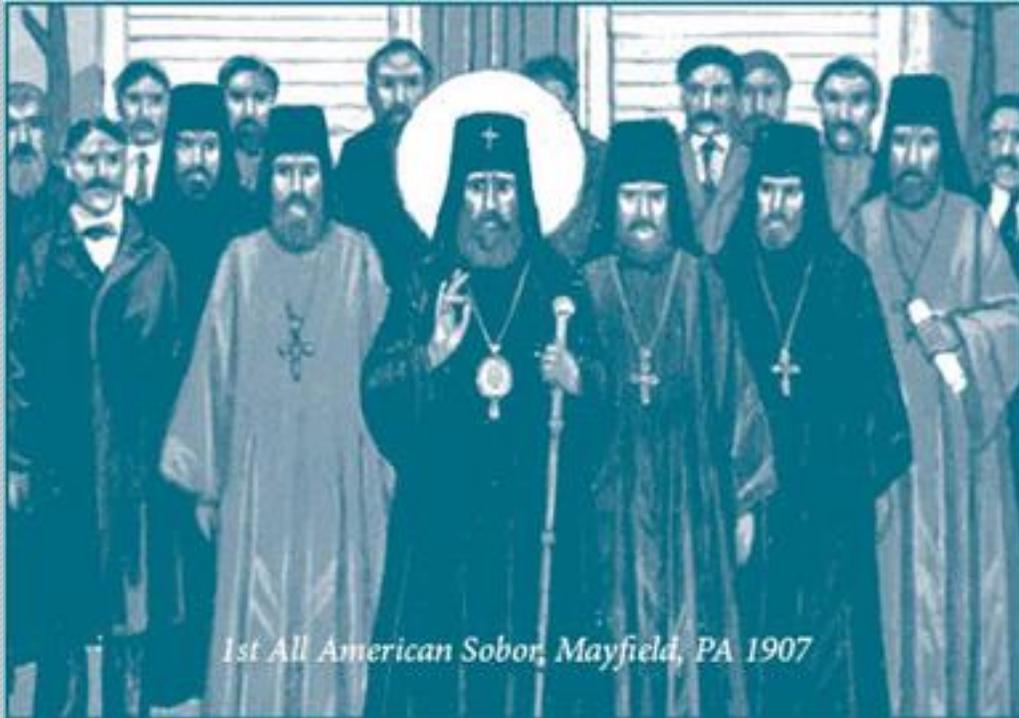
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## HOUSEKEEPING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

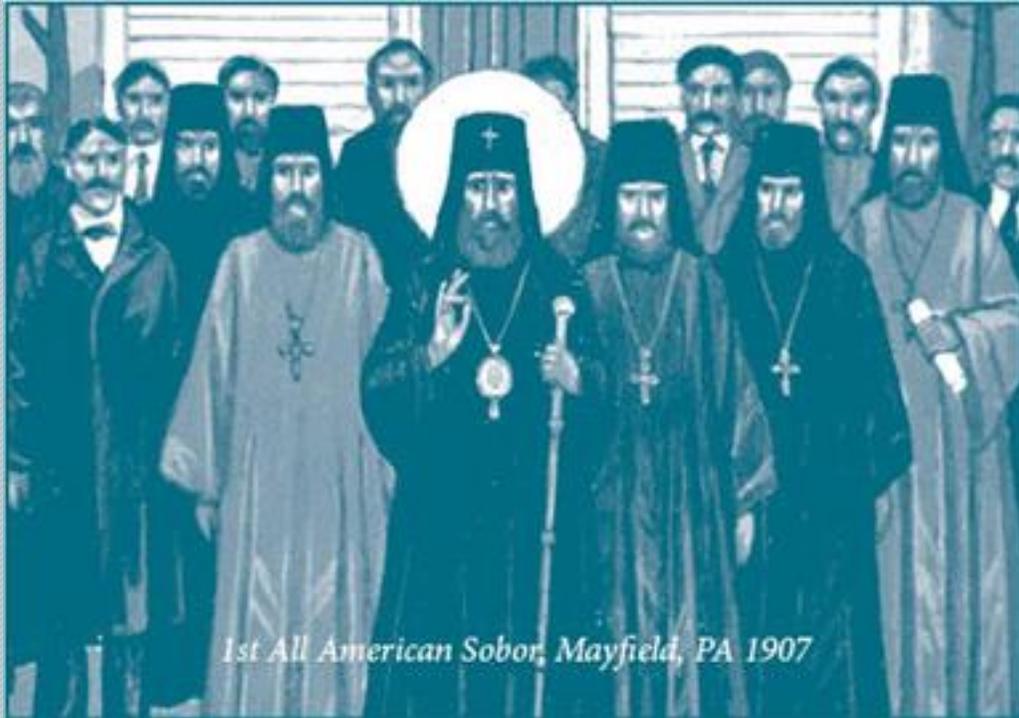
FR. ERIC G. TOSI

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



RESOLUTIONS  
AND  
NOMINATIONS  
TEAM AVAILABLE  
AT PODIUM FOR  
FORMS

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



**“HOW TO EXPAND THE  
MISSION”**

**JULY 20-24, 2015**

**ATLANTA, GA**

**NEXT SESSION IS  
WORKSHOPS AT 1:30 PM**

**FIND YOUR  
WORKSHOPS**



Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it. - *Proverbs 22:6*

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*Department of Christian Education  
Orthodox Church in America*

His Eminence, Archbishop Benjamin – *Episcopal Liaison*  
*Chairperson / OCEC Representative*

**Mat. Valerie Zahirsky**

**Members**

**Veronica Bilas**

**Mat. Myra Kovalak**

**Daria Petrykowski**

**Maria Proch**

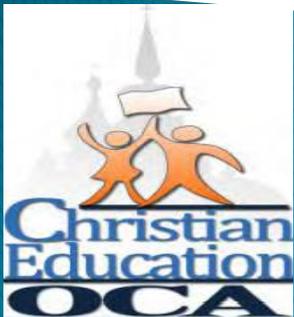
**Jewelann Stefanar**

**Mat. Alexandra Safchuk**

**Mat. Christine Zebrun**

**Project Manager - Jewelann Stefanar**

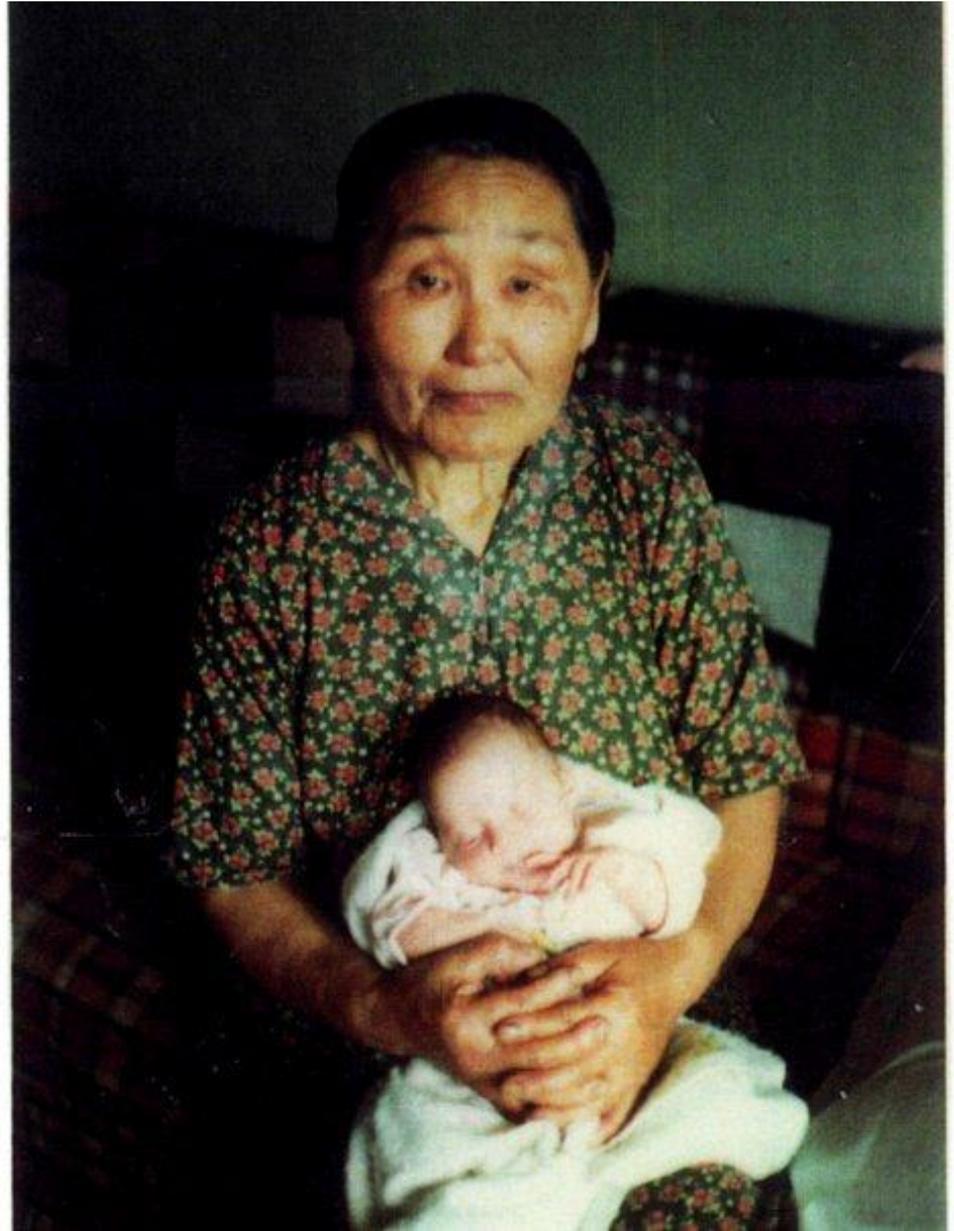
**Web Developer – John Pusey**



# MISSION STATEMENT

The mission and focus of the Department of Christian Education is the support of church school teachers, clergy, families and others engaged in faith formation for every age level. Serving with the blessing and guidance of The Holy Synod of Bishops of The Orthodox Church in America, this department provides a variety of services including:

- Web-based study units consisting of age-appropriate lesson plans and activities.
  - Workshops for church school teachers and staff.
  - Training in the use of the available curriculum and resources.
  - Articles offering timely educational information published in the official newspaper of the Orthodox Church in America, The Orthodox Church.
  - Review and recommendation of educational resources.
  - Production of resources for parish use.
  - Downloadable weekly parish bulletin inserts.
- 



## Post-Easter Sundays

### *St Thomas Sunday: Antipascha*



Every day during the week of Easter, called **Bright Week** by the Church, the paschal services are celebrated in all their splendor. The Easter baptismal procession is repeated daily. The royal gates of the sanctuary remain open. The joy of the Resurrection and the gift of the Kingdom of eternal life continue to abound. Then, at the end of the week, on Saturday evening, the second Sunday after Easter is celebrated in remembrance of the appearance of Christ to the Apostle Thomas "after eight days" (Jn 20.26).

It is important to note that the number eight has symbolical significance in both Jewish and Christian spiritual tradition. It signifies more than completion and fullness; it signifies the Kingdom of God and the life of the world to come since seven is the number of earthly time. The **sabbath, the seventh day**, is the blessed day of rest in this world, the final day of the week. The "first day of the week," the day "after Sabbath"; stressed in all of the gospels as the day of Christ's Resurrection (Mk 16.1, Mt 28.1, Lk 24.1, Jn 20.1, 19), is therefore also the eighth day," the day beyond the confines of this world, the day which stands for the life of the world to come, the day of the eternal rest of the Kingdom of God (see Heb 4).

The Sunday after Easter, called the Second Sunday, is thus the eighth day of the paschal celebration, the last day of **Bright Week**. It is therefore called the **Antipascha**, and it was only on this day in the early church that the newly-baptized Christians removed their robes and entered once again into the life of this world.

In the Church services the stress is on the Apostle Thomas' vision of Christ and the significance of the day comes to us in the words of the gospel:

*Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side: do not be faithless, but believing." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe" (Jn 20.27-29).*

We have not seen Christ with our physical eyes nor touched his risen body with our physical hands, yet in the Holy Spirit we have seen and touched and tasted the Word of Life (1 Jn 1.1-4), and so we believe.

At each of the daily services until Ascension Day we sing the **Easter Troparion**. At each of the Sunday services beginning with Antipascha, we sing the Easter canon and hymns, and repeat the celebration of the "first day of the week" on which Christ rose from the dead. At all of the liturgies the epistle readings are taken from the **Book of Acts** telling us of the first Christians who lived in communion with the Risen Lord. All of the gospel readings are taken from the **Gospel of St John**, considered by many to be a gospel written particularly for those who are newly-baptized into the new life of the Kingdom of God through death and new birth in Christ, in the name of the Holy Trinity. The reason for this opinion is that all of the "**signs**"—as the miracles in St John's Gospel are called—deal with sacramental themes involving water: wine and bread. Thus, each of the Sundays after Thomas Sunday with the exception of the third, is dedicated to the memory of one of these "signs."

### *The Myrrhbearing Women*

The third Sunday after Pascha is dedicated to the **myrrhbearing women** who cared for the body of the Saviour at his death and who were the first witnesses of his Resurrection. The three troparia of Holy Friday are sung once again and from the theme of the day: The noble Joseph, when he had taken down Thy most pure body from the Tree, wrapped it in fine linen and anointed it with spices, and placed it in a new tomb. When Thou didst descend to death, O Life Immortal, Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead. The angel came to the myrrhbearing women at the tomb and said: Myrrh is fitting for the dead, but Christ



# SAINTS IN TIMES OF TROUBLE

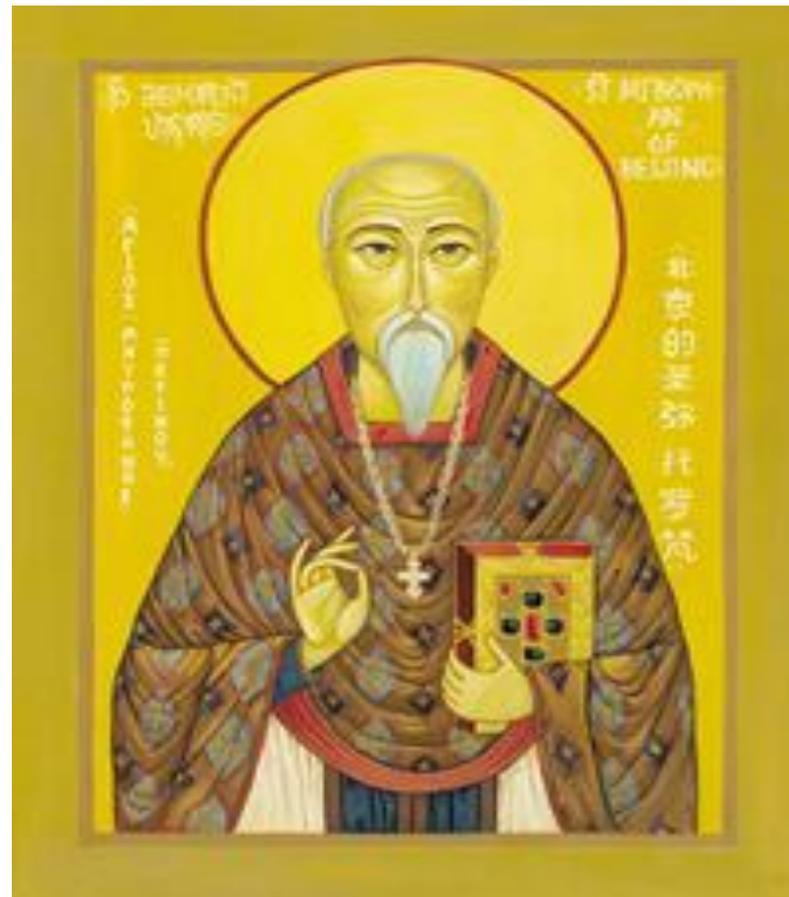
An Activity Book for Orthodox Children and Parents  
Department of Christian Education • Orthodox Church in America

[dce.oca.org/assets/files/resources/saints-in-times-of-trouble.pdf](https://dce.oca.org/assets/files/resources/saints-in-times-of-trouble.pdf)

# St. Mitrophan

## First Chinese Priest

### Martyr of the Boxer Rebellion



## Troparion *(Tone 6)*

Thy holy martyrs, O Lord, did not see earthly glory as a treasure to be held,  
But facing the torments of men and the wisdom of demons,  
Humbled themselves for Thy sake, even unto death.  
Wherefore, O Righteous Father, as through them  
Thou brought the priceless pearl to an unbaptized land,  
Grant us Thy Spirit and great mercy for our souls.

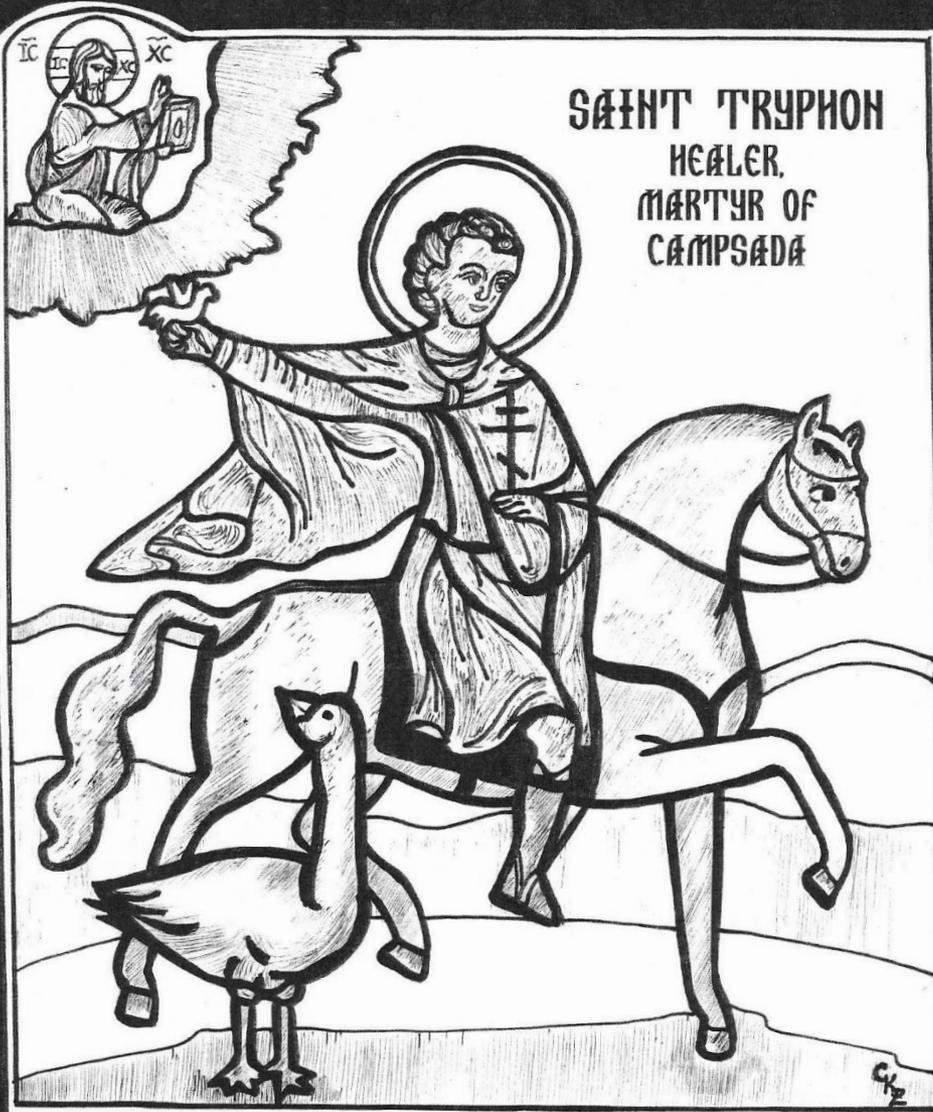
## Kontakion *(Tone 4)*

The divine Mitrophan, the martyred shepherd,  
with his great and faithful flock,  
Have hallowed China with their blood,  
Wherefore we praise them with sacred hymns,  
For they were faithful to Christ even unto death.



# St. Alexander Nevsky's Travels





SAINT TRYPHON  
HEALER,  
MARTYR OF  
CAMPSADA

# WORD SUDUKO

St. Seraphim of Sarov – Venerable Wonder-worker

***The objective of the game is to fill all the blank squares with the correct words.***

There are three very simple constraints to follow in a 6 by 6 square Sudoku game:

- Every ROW of 6 words must include all 6 words in any order.
- Every COLUMN of 6 words must include all 6 words in any order.
- Every 3 by 2 SUBSECTION of the 6 by 6 square must include all 6 words.

	Kursk			Seraphim	
Sarov	Seraphim			Kursk	
	Prokhor		Canonization		
				Novice	Kursk
		Prokhor			Novice

# The Theotokos

## Introduction (*Ages 4-6*)



Christianity is unique in giving the world a true understanding of God as having humbled Himself, in the Person of Jesus Christ, so that He could share and redeem our life. No other faith teaches, in the same way that Christianity does, that God would "demean" Himself by becoming Man. No other faith gives humankind the joyful news that by undergoing and overcoming an excruciating death, Jesus Christ destroyed death's power over us forever.

But our loving God is so careful of our freedom that He did not come to us in a flashy and overwhelming miracle. He sought human cooperation, and that came in the person of a young woman who lived in worldly circumstances of poverty and powerlessness. The young woman faced the brutal possibility that she would be stoned to death for fornication. Her willingness to face that hard reality, to cooperate with God's will, came from her faith.



# Bulletin Inserts

Weekly Topics Include Scripture Commentaries,  
Lives of Saints, Movie Reviews & Much More

**This weekly bulletin insert complements the curriculum published by the Department of Christian Education of the Orthodox Church in America. This and many other Christian Education resources are available at <http://dce.oca.org>**



On this day we read words written by Saint Paul that express the same certainty Solomonia offered to her sons: "For all things are yours, whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or the present or the future—all belong to you, and you belong to Christ, and Christ belongs to God" (I Cor. 3: 21b-23).

### **Troparion — Tone 7**

Let us praise the seven Maccabees,  
with their mother Salome and their teacher Eleazar;  
they were splendid in lawful contest  
as guardians of the teachings of the Law.  
Now as Christ's holy martyrs  
they ceaselessly intercede for the world.

### **Kontakion — Tone 2**

Seven pillars of the Wisdom of God  
and seven lampstands of the divine Light,  
all-wise Maccabees, greatest of the martyrs  
before the time of the martyrs,  
with them ask the God of all  
to save those who honor you.

# A Movie Review: Beyond the Hills



**On July 26 the Church remembers Saint Paraskeva, a second-century nun. She traveled from city to city, preaching the faith, until she was denounced to the Roman authorities. After agonizing tortures, she was martyred.**

The Church of the Three Hierarchs in Jassy, a city in northeastern Romania, is the resting place of the relics of another young nun, Paraskeva of Serbia. This fourteenth-century saint is especially revered by the Romanian Orthodox Church.

The tradition of female monasticism in Romania is enduring and spiritually powerful. Romanian film director Cristian Mungiu's movie "Beyond the Hills" doesn't reflect this. In fact, some sections of the movie treat Christian faith and ritual as primitive and superstitious, but Orthodox viewers will at least be impressed by the authentic way in which the daily life of Romanian nuns, living in harmonious community under the authority of an abbess and a priest, is depicted.

## Saint Alexis Toth

Confessor and Defender of Orthodoxy in America

2 St. Alexis studied hard to prepare for priestly ministry.

3 He was ordained to the Greek Catholic priesthood in 1878.

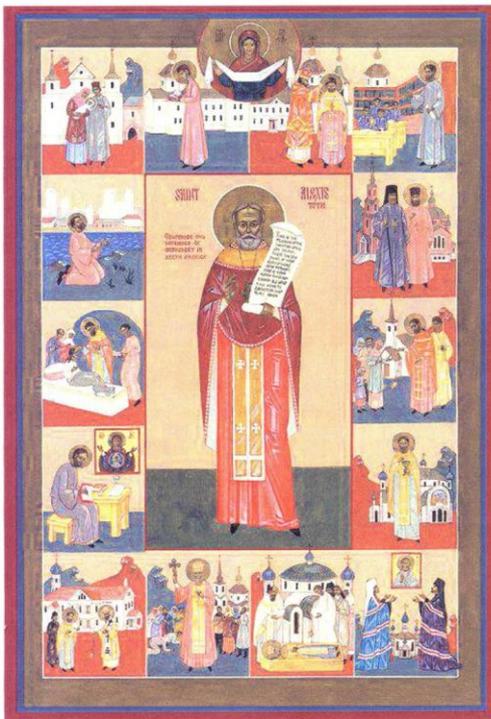
1 St. Alexis was born in the Austro-Hungarian Empire in 1854. His father was a Greek Catholic, or "Uniate," priest, while his uncle was a bishop.

5 In 1889, he arrived in the US to serve as pastor of St. Mary's Greek Catholic Church, Minneapolis, MN.

7 St. Alexis zealously fulfilled his priestly ministry, including comforting the sick and infirm.

9 St. Alexis wrote and published many educational resources for the enlightenment of his flock.

11 St. Alexis offered much assistance to St. Tikhon, Bishop of North America, and helped establish St. Tikhon's Monastery and Orphanage.



4 In addition to his priestly ministry, St. Alexis taught Church history and canon law at the Greek Catholic seminary in Presov.

6 In 1891, he and the faithful of St. Mary's were received into the Orthodox Church by Bishop Vladimir of the Aleutians.

8 Although he was materially poor, St. Alexis always helped the needy.

10 In 1893, St. Alexis was reassigned to Wilkes-Barre, PA, where he led many Greek Catholics back to Orthodox Christianity.

14 In 1994, St. Alexis was glorified as a saint of the Church during the annual Memorial Day Pilgrimage to St. Tikhon's Monastery.

12 Through St. Alexis' tireless missionary travels and preaching, many were converted to the Orthodox Christian Faith.

13 St. Alexis reposed in 1909. Seven years later, his body was transferred to St. Tikhon's Monastery, where it is enshrined to this day.

# Saint Alexis Toth

## Saint Alexis Toth

### Confessor and Defender of Orthodoxy in America

Our holy Father Alexis Toth was born in the Austro-Hungarian Empire in 1854 [1]. His father and brother were priests of the Greek Catholic Church, while his uncle was a bishop. [Citizens of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, who traditionally had been of the Orthodox Christian Faith, were compelled to enter into communion with the Roman Catholic Church after the Union of Uzhorod in 1646. Known thereafter as "Greek Catholics," or "Uniates" – a term that, while originally derogatory in nature, enjoyed wide popular acceptance – they were permitted to retain certain practices, customs and liturgical practices common to and rooted in Orthodox Christianity.]

Alexis was always close to the Church, and began studies for the priesthood. An excellent student; he was fluent in Latin, German, Magyar and Russian, and acquired a reading knowledge of Greek [2]. In 1878, he married the former Rosalie Mihalich, whose father also was a priest. Later the same year, he was ordained to the priesthood [3] and assigned associate pastor of a Greek Catholic parish. Tragedy soon followed as both his wife and their only child died. Father Alexis was filled with grief, but continued to serve God with love and prayerful dedication. The next year brought new responsibilities as Father Alexis began teaching Church History and Canon Law at the seminary in Presov [4]. He also served as secretary to the Bishop of Presov and Administrator of the Diocese.



Greater changes were to come. In October 1889, Father Alexis was sent to Minneapolis, Minnesota, where he had been assigned pastor of Saint Mary's Greek Catholic parish [5]. Soon after his arrival, he called on the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, John Ireland, who refused to recognize him as a Catholic priest or allow him to serve in his diocese. [Archbishop Ireland, perhaps not well versed in Greek Rite Catholicism, questioned how Father Alexis could have been a Catholic priest since he had been married.] After further difficulties, Father Alexis appealed to the Russian Orthodox Church, the North American head of which lived in San Francisco. On March 25, 1891, he and 361 parishioners of Saint Mary's Church were received into the Orthodox Church of their ancestors by Bishop Vladimir of the Aleutian Islands and Alaska [6].

Father Alexis was very devoted to his flock, healing and comforting the sick [7] and, despite his personal poverty and that of his flock, giving generously to those in need [8]. Using his broad education and experience, he wrote and published many educational resources explaining the differences between the true faith of Orthodox Christianity and other faiths and offering practical advice on living an Orthodox Christian life [9].

The year 1893 brought another major change in Father Alexis' life as he was transferred to the parish in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, which would be his home for the rest of his life [10]. He was soon called upon to help Saint Tikhon – at that time the Ruling Bishop and later Archbishop of the North American Church – in establishing Saint Tikhon of Zadonsk Monastery and Orphanage in South Canaan, Pennsylvania [11]. Father Alexis traveled far and wide to proclaim Orthodox Christianity while encouraging Greek Catholics to return to their ancestral faith [12]. Though humble about his own abilities, he was a true missionary. He has been credited with inspiring tens of thousands of former Greek Catholics to embrace the Orthodox Faith.

Saint Alexis died on May 7, 1909. Seven years after his death, his body was transferred from Wilkes-Barre to a prominent burial site behind the altar of Saint Tikhon Monastery Church [13]. At that time, it was discovered that his remains were incorrupt.

On May 29-30, 1994, the Rite of Glorification of Saint Alexis was celebrated during the annual Memorial Day Pilgrimage to Saint Tikhon Monastery [14].

O Holy Father Alexis, pray unto God for us! ■

# Calling All Ancestors of Christ to the Feast of His Nativity

**By Fr Dan Kovalak**

**A poem, in the style of "Twas the Night Before Christmas," discussing both our liturgical and personal, spiritual preparation for the feast of the Nativity of Christ.**

**Twas the second Sunday before Christmas, and all  
through the temple  
Holy Ancestors of Jesus begin to assemble.**

**Their witness and love since the time of creation  
now bids them "rejoice" in this cosmic celebration.**

**Justified by faith, both the great and the least,  
now form a synaxis to partake of the feast**



# *Pentecost Activities*



## **To the Teacher:**

Here are three activities for the season of Pascha to Pentecost. One of them, *Word Scramble*, is for younger students. *Match That Number* is for intermediate students, and *Thinking about Pentecost* is for preteens or younger teens. An answer sheet with notes is included. The notes will give you directions for using the activities, and should answer any questions you have.

We have suggested several crafts to go along with the activities. Some of these might be done by several age groups working together—the older students helping the younger ones.

The Revised Standard Version of the Bible is the only one we have used in preparing the activities. Make sure to have Bibles on hand.

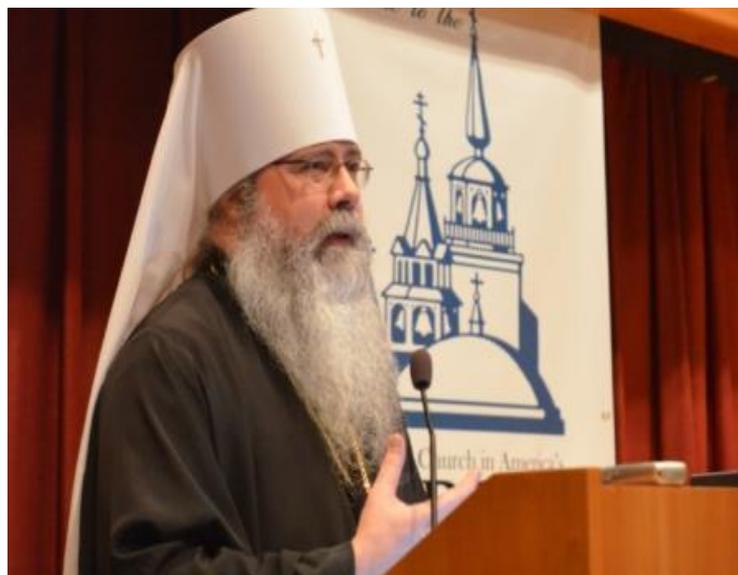
We hope you and your students will enjoy these activities. If you have printable activities you would like to share with other teachers, please send them to us at [christianeducation@oca.org](mailto:christianeducation@oca.org).

Thank you.

# 2013 Parish Ministries Conference



July 11-13 - Marymount College



**His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon,  
offered a special workshop on  
teaching Scripture on the parish  
level**

# ORTHODOX INSTITUTE 2015

November 5 – 8 • Antiochian Village • Ligonier, PA

[www.facebook.com/OrthodoxInstitute2015](http://www.facebook.com/OrthodoxInstitute2015) • [www.antiochian.org/OI2015](http://www.antiochian.org/OI2015)

BUILDING ON THE FOUNDATION OF FAITH

## ADULT EDUCATION

KEYNOTE  
Kevin Allen,  
"Adult Education is  
Crucial to the Parish"

### SPEAKERS

Dr. Anton Vrame, Fr. Josiah Trenham, Fr. Stephen Freeman,  
Gerry Clonaris, Fr. Andrew Stephen Damick, Fr. John Oliver

### REGISTER NOW!

Step 1: Register for the event at [www.antiochian.org/OI2015](http://www.antiochian.org/OI2015)

Step 2: Register for meals & lodging at Antiochian Village at  
[www.antiochianvillage.org/conferences-meetings/events](http://www.antiochianvillage.org/conferences-meetings/events)

Therefore, leaving the  
discussion of the elementary  
principles of Christ, let us go on  
to perfection, not laying again  
the foundation...

– Hebrews 6:1



Department of  
**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**  
ANTIOCHIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA







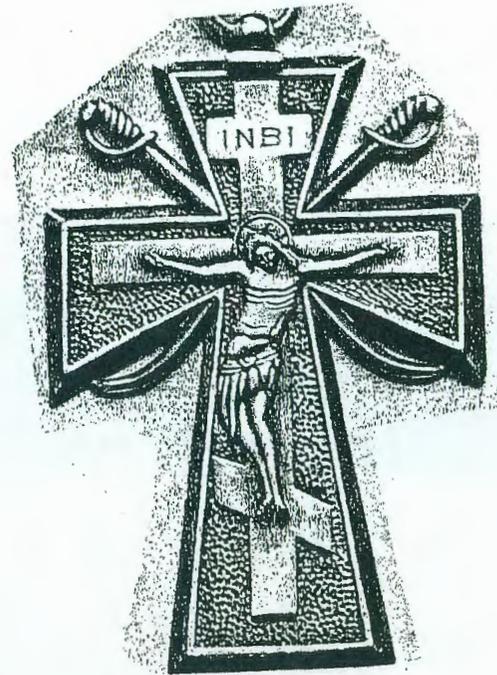
ORTHODOX



SURPRISES



Office of Military and VA Chaplaincies  
Orthodox Church in America



Briefing for  
**18TH ALL AMERICAN COUNCIL**  
**ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA**  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA

22 JULY 2015



## OFFICE OF THE MILITARY AND VA CHAPLAINCY



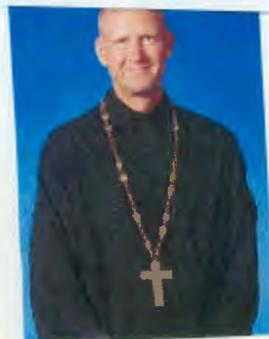
**ENDORSER - Metropolitan Tikhon**



**Dean/Director - Very Reverend Theodore Boback, Jr.**  
**Assistant Dean/Assistant Director - Very Reverend Joseph J. Gallick**



## MILITARY CHAPLAINS



**There are 20 Active Duty and 8 Reserve Component/National Guard.**

**54% of the Total are Orthodox Church in America Priests**



## **- VETERANS AFFIARS MEDICAL CENTER CHAPLAINS**

**There are 10 Veterans Affairs Medical Center Chaplains.**

**90% of the Total are Orthodox Church in America.**

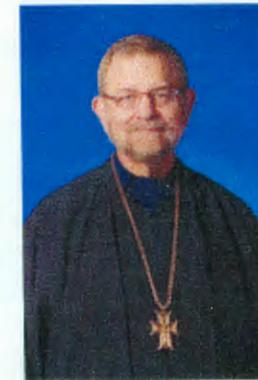
**2 are serving as Chief and 2 Full Time**



**Fr. Joseph Martin**



**Fr. Segei C. Bouteneff**



**Fr. Philip Reese**

**3 Part Time and 2 Intermittent.**





## OPERATION

**The Office of the Military and VA Chaplaincies operates per OCA STATUE: Deaneries are specified districts in the boundaries of a diocese which are established by the Diocesan Council (Cf Article VIII) with the exception of the Dean of Orthodox Military Chaplains, who is appointed by and directly responsible to, the Metropolitan (Cf Article II Section 7p)**

**DEAN/DIRECTOR – is the chief administrator for the Metropolitan in all matters concerning the OCA Chaplains in the Armed Forces and in the Veterans Administration. He is the representative of the Metropolitan to the National Conference of Ministry to the Armed Forces (NCMAF); the Endorsers Conference for Veterans Affairs Chaplaincy (ECVAC).**

**The ASSISTANT DEAN/ASSITANT DIRECTOR – works together with the Dean to recruit and screen candidates; prepare ecclesiastical endorsements for the Metropolitan, maintain a contact and correspondence with the chaplains, the Director of the Armed Forces Chaplain Board, Military Chief of Chaplains and the VA National Staff Chaplain and chaplain staff. Contact and correspondence with the OCA Chancery Office, Provide guidance to chaplains serving throughout the world on spiritual matters, ensure that Orthodox Personnel regardless of where they are stationed can freely exercise their religious beliefs. Attend conferences of NCMAF and ECVAC.**





## VISION

The Orthodox Military Chaplain is an Orthodox Priest in uniform serving in the Armed Forces of the United States of America. The Veterans Affairs Medical Center Chaplain serves in the Department of Veterans Affairs in a medical center. They are active members of the respective chaplaincy and share a common core of professional responsibilities for worship services, personal counseling, administrative duties, pastoral visitations, cultural activities, humanitarian projects, moral leadership, and appropriate collateral duty assignments.

They in addition to fulfilling the disciplines, dogmas, doctrines of faith and other canonical directives required of all Orthodox Priests, comply with the administrative requirements of their Ecclesiastical Endorsing Agency.

They exercise their priestly mission in three ways: to those of the Orthodox Faith, to those of other faiths, and to those who have no religious affiliation.





## MISSION

The mission of the OCA's military chaplain is the propagation of the Orthodox Faith; to serve, worship, and love our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; and to bring spiritual nourishment and enlightenment to thousands of Orthodox military personnel and their families serving their country throughout the world.

The mission of the Veterans Affairs (VA) Chaplains is to counsel and to bring spiritual nourishment through the Holy Sacraments to hundreds of Orthodox veterans in VA Medical Centers throughout the United States of America.





## ENDORISING AGENCIES

### **Coalition on Ministry in Specialized Settings (COMISS)**

- meet annually in January

### **National Conference of Ministry to the Armed Forces (NCMAF)**

- meet annually in January
- Endorsers meet with the Chiefs of Chaplains and Armed Forces Board
- Endorsers have a business meeting

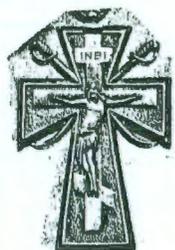




ENDORISING AGENCIES (CONTINUED)

Endorser Conference for Veterans Affairs Chaplaincy (ECVAC)





## SPECIALIZED TRAINING AND CLASSES

Most, if not all, Orthodox Military Chaplains have training in the following areas:

Suicide Prevention

Moral Leadership Development

Personal Values/Values Clarification

Stress and Time Management

Marriage Enrichment





## OTHER TRAINING

### Ethics

Alcohol and Drug Counseling

Fund Management

Administration

Leadership Development

Disaster Preparedness Response Teams

Task Analysis and Development

Facility and Security Management

Hospital Ministry

Volunteerism

### Family Life

Marriage and Family Life Training and Counseling

Resource Management (Personnel and Financial

Inter-personal Relationship Development

Organizational Effectiveness and Development

Training and Curriculum Development

Total Quality Management

Clinical Pastoral Education

Confinement Ministry





## VA CHAPLAIN TRAINING

Substance Abuse

Hospice

Disaster Preparedness

Clinical Pastoral Education

Ground Rounds

Other





## FUTURE PROJECTS

Maintain communication with Diocesan Bishops for future candidates  
Recruitment at Seminaries for chaplain candidate program  
Liturgical Items for Chaplains  
Religious items for distribution to chaplains for servicemembers  
Chaplain Retreat – conference  
Visitation to military installations  
Military Chaplaincy Cross  
Project Development  
Strategic Plan





## THANKS

To the Hierarchs for their prayers and support of the Chaplaincy and providing priests to serve in our Armed Forces and VAMC.

To you for your prayers and especially to the Churches which provide an outreach to the chaplaincy through various programs during the year

To the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America for its support from the beginning of the Orthodox Military Chaplains through today.





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OFFICE OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA MILITARY AND VA CHAPLAINCIES

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OFFICE OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA MILITARY AND VA CHAPLAINCIES

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OFFICE OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA MILITARY AND VA CHAPLAINCIES

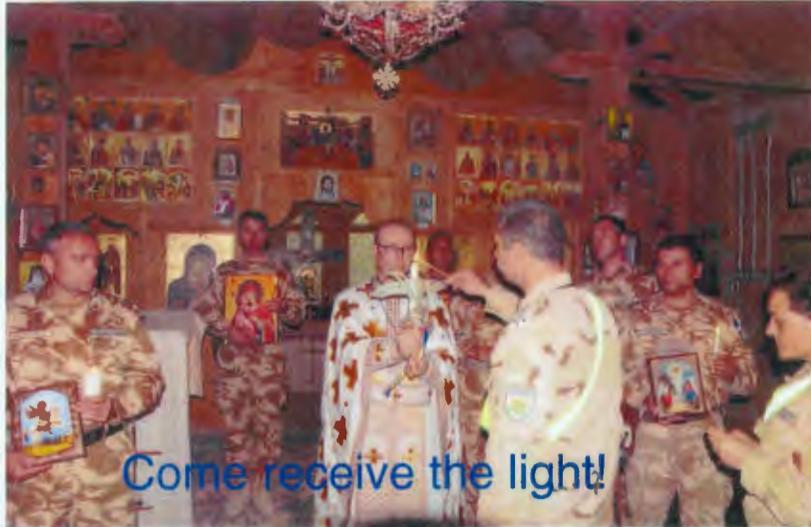
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# Orthodox Easter Kandahar, April 2014



CTF Mountain Warrior(Ft. Carson Element) CH (CPT) George Oanca - 4<sup>th</sup> STB/4<sup>th</sup> IBCT/4<sup>th</sup> ID - deployed to Afghanistan to celebrate Holy Week and Easter with the Orthodox Soldiers



Come receive the light!



Midnight service outside in front of the chapel





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OFFICE OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA MILITARY AND VA CHAPLAINCIES

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OFFICE OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA MILITARY AND VA CHAPLAINCIES

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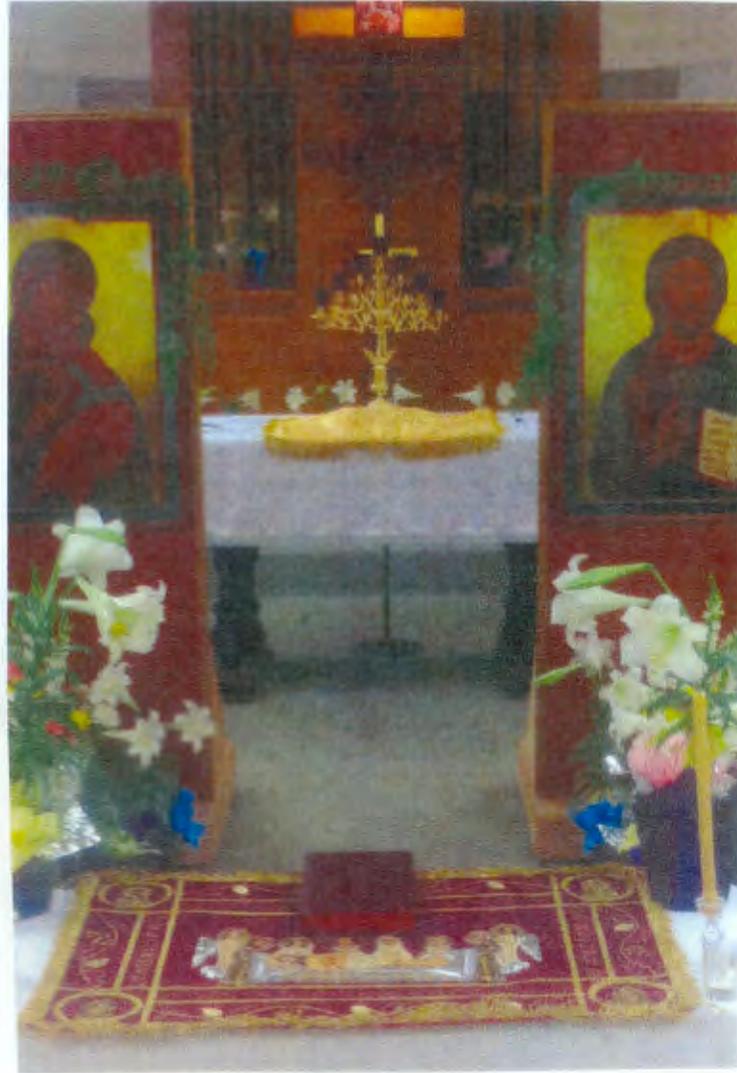


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OFFICE OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA MILITARY AND VA CHAPLAINCIES





# Chief of Chaplains and the Romanian officers in the Chapel



OFFICE OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA MILITARY AND VA CHAPLAINCIES



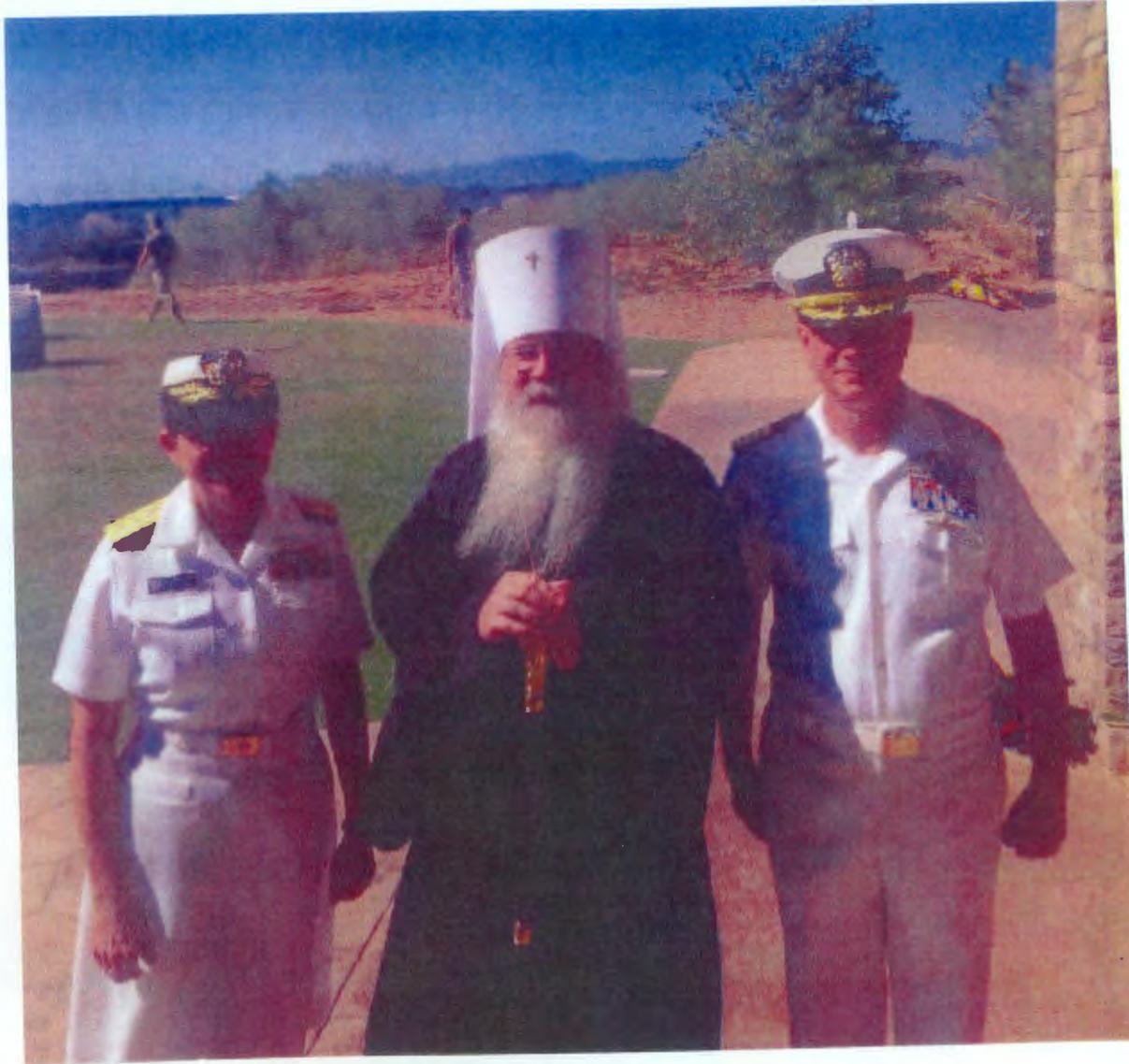


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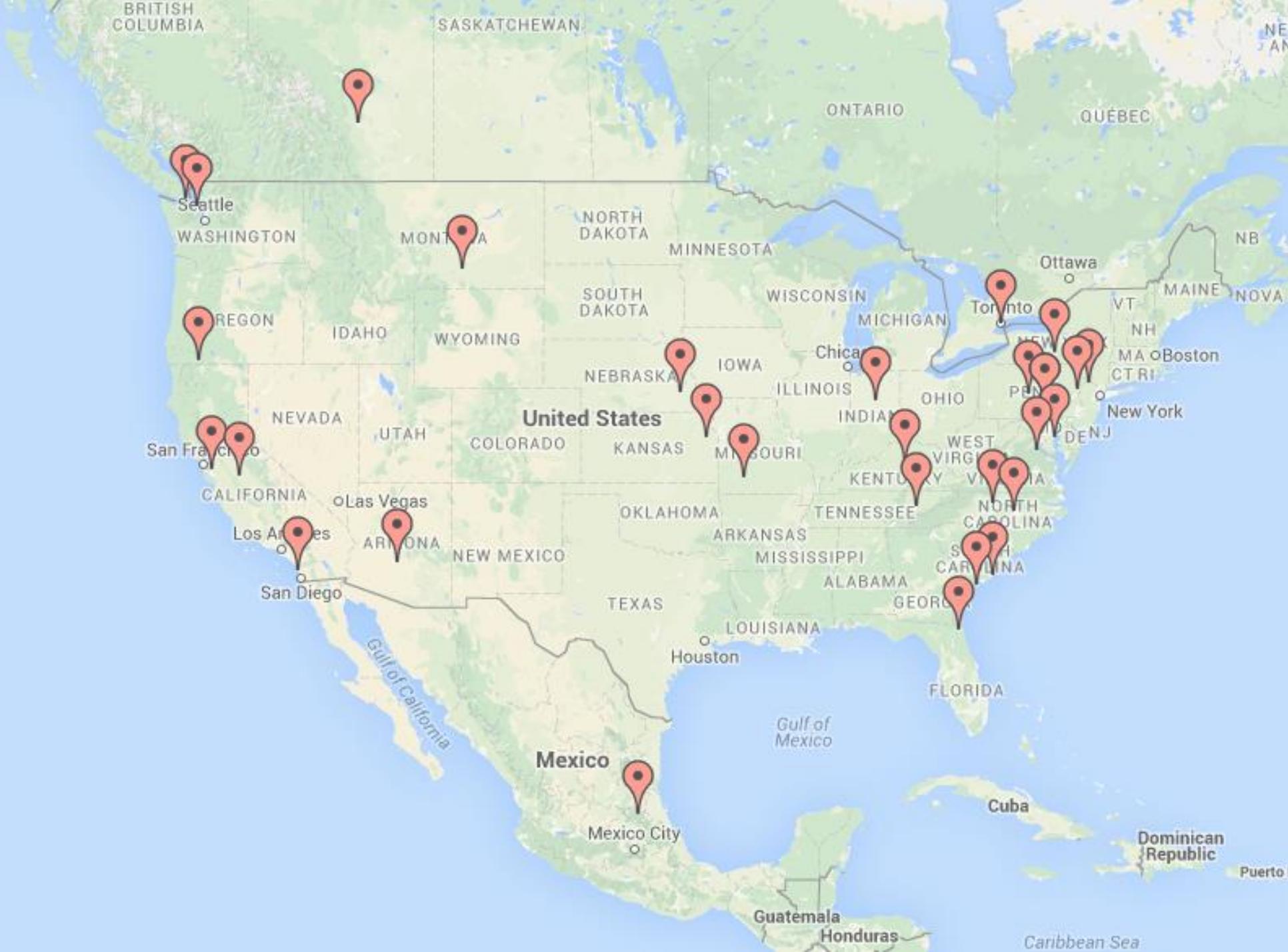
# DEPARTMENT OF EVANGELIZATION

*“Go home to your friends,  
and tell them how much  
the Lord has done for you”*

*-Mark 5:19*



[www.goodnews.oca.org](http://www.goodnews.oca.org)



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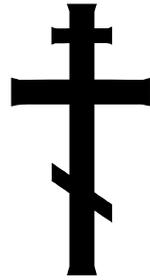
Dominican Republic

Puerto Rico

Guatemala

Honduras

Caribbean Sea



**ASK  
ME**

**ABOUT  
ORTHODOX  
CHRISTIANITY**

[www.OCA.org](http://www.OCA.org)



What is one way that God is working in your very own life?

And what is one way that he is working in the life of your parish or mission?

Your homework: tell one person about this today.



## Moralistic Therapeutic Deism

- A god exists who created and ordered the world and watches over human life on earth.
- God wants people to be good, nice, and fair to each other, as taught in the Bible and by most world religions.
- The central goal of life is to be happy and to feel good about oneself.
- God does not need to be particularly involved in one's life except when God is needed to resolve a problem.
- Good people go to heaven when they die.



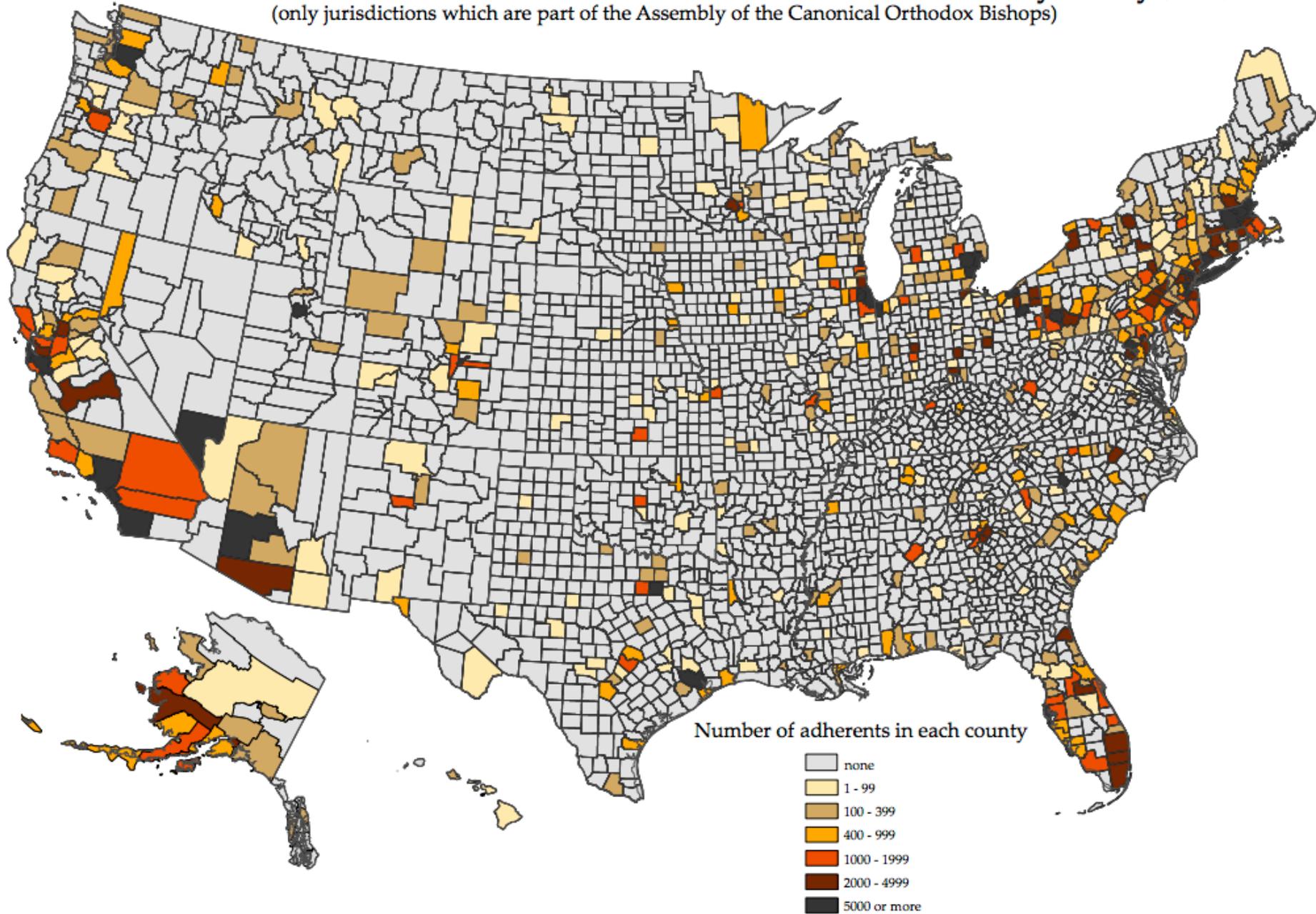
ORIENTATION

DIS-ORIENTATION

RE-ORIENTATION

# Orthodox Christian Churches in the United States: Number of Adherents by County (2010)

(only jurisdictions which are part of the Assembly of the Canonical Orthodox Bishops)



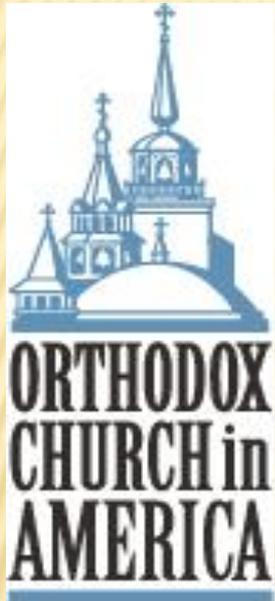
# DEPARTMENT OF EVANGELIZATION

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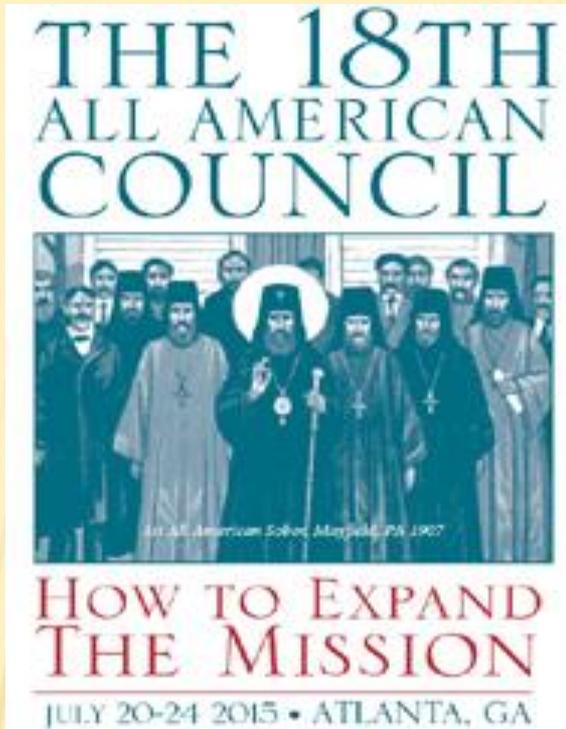
*-Mark 5:19*



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# DEPARTMENT OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE & HUMANITARIAN AID



OCA DEPARTMENT OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE & HUMANITARIAN AID

# EXPANDING THE MISSION THROUGH PARISH & MATTHEW 25 MINISTRIES



**CSHA Members:**

**DONNA KARABIN  
POPADIJA KITTY VITKO  
PRIEST TIMOTHY YATES**

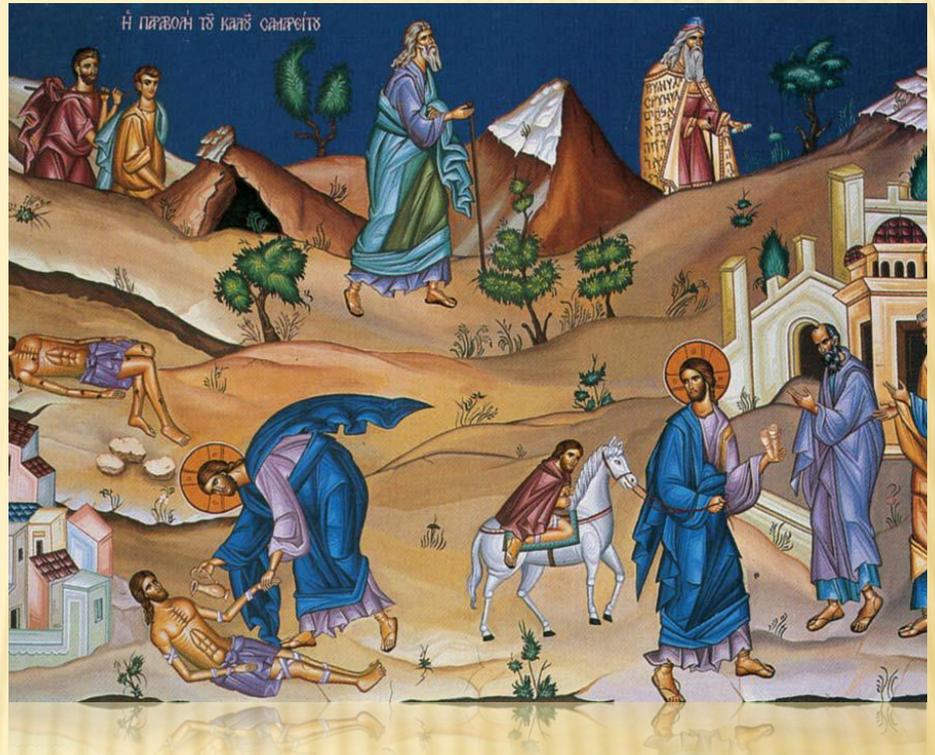
**ARLENE KALLAUR  
DIANA PASCA  
NANCY VAN DYKEN  
ARCHPRIEST THOMAS MOORE**

**HIS EMINENCE, ARCHBISHOP MELCHISEDEK ~ HOLY SYNOD LIAISON**

# DIOCESAN MINISTRY NETWORK

OCA Dioceses are invited to appoint clergy or lay liaisons to share news on local ministry programs with CSHA and to inform their dioceses of department news. At this time:

- ❖ Bulgarian Mat. Krystal (Xenia) Royer
- ❖ NY/NJ Diana Pasca
- ❖ South Priest Timothy Yates
- ❖ Wash., DC James (Skip) Mersereau
- ❖ West Archpriest David Lowell



## THE TWO GREAT COMMANDMENTS

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,  
with all your soul, with all your strength, and  
with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.

Luke 10:27

# **CHRISTIAN SERVICE & HUMANITARIAN AID**

- ❖ **CSHA promotes the involvement of clergy and laity in caring for the needs of others according to the Gospel teachings and Tradition of the Church,**
- ❖ **Develops resources for ministry programs by and for people of all ages,**
- ❖ **Collaborates with other OCA Church Ministries, members of the Orthodox jurisdictions in North America and Orthodox agencies, and**
- ❖ **Promotes programs and support for U.S. and worldwide humanitarian organizations.**

# PARISH MINISTRY RESOURCES

OCA website

“Work of the Church”

[oca.org/parish-ministry](http://oca.org/parish-ministry)



The PMR contains articles describing ways clergy and laity are successfully serving others.

“How to” ideas for initiatives by parishes, deaneries and dioceses.

“Enormous treasure-trove of parish-tested ministry”

-- Archbishop John Jillions, OCA Chancellor

**There are nearly 300 PMR articles categorized under eight ministry themes:**

- ❖ **Theology of Lay Ministries**
- ❖ **Stewardship Education**
- ❖ **Parish Development**
- ❖ **Community Service**
- ❖ **Witness and Mission**
- ❖ **Family Life**
- ❖ **Youth and College Ministries**
- ❖ **Seniors**

# PARISH MINISTRY RESOURCES

- ❖ Are there programs in your home parishes that could be highlighted in the PMR?
- ❖ What topics would you like to see covered in the PMR?
- ❖ Contact us at [csha@oca.org](mailto:csha@oca.org)

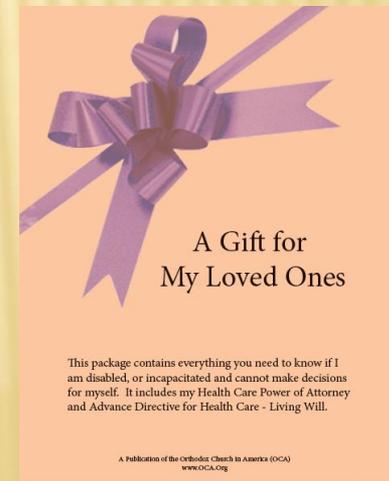
# ORTHODOX LIVING WILL

The Orthodox Living Will Task Force has produced documents to assist in making faith-informed decisions on end-of-life and after-death care issues:

- ❖ Healthcare Power of Attorney
- ❖ Advance Directive for Health Care Decisions
- ❖ Advance Directive for Funeral Care

Task Force:

- ❖ Archpriest Thomas Moore
- ❖ Priest Paul Fetsko
- ❖ Deacon Mark Barna
- ❖ Mr. Nicholas Ressetar



# PARISH MINISTRIES CONFERENCE

“Equipping the Saints for Worship, Learning and Service”

July 10-13, 2013 ~ Marymount University, Arlington, VA

Keynote Speaker:

Protopresbyter Thomas Hopko of Blessed Memory



# SUPPORTING ORTHODOX AGENCIES AND ECUMENICAL PARTNERS



## IOCC

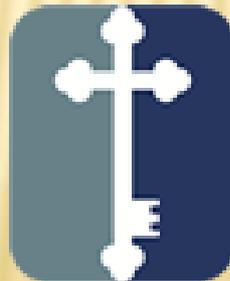
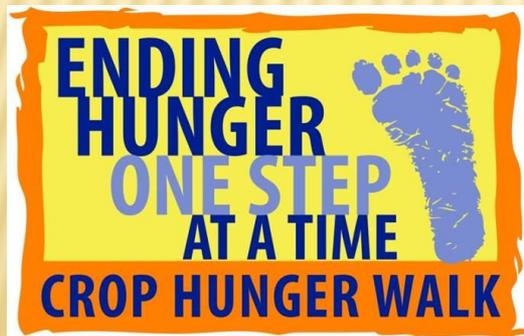
*Helping others help themselves*

INTERNATIONAL ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHARITIES



## FOCUS

NORTH + AMERICA



ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN PRISON MINISTRY  
AN AGENCY OF THE ASSEMBLY OF BISHOPS

# COMPASSION IN ACTION: PARISH MINISTRY TRAINING

A personal Orthodox presence of empathy, compassion and listening provided by lay men and women to someone who is suffering mentally, emotionally, physically and/or spiritually.



# CSHA AAC WORKSHOPS ~ ROOM 204



*“Send Me, Lord!”*

## Expanding the Mission through Matthew 25 Ministries

- ❖ Feeding the Hungry ~ Loaves & Fishes
- ❖ Bearing One Another’s Burdens in Parish Life ~ Caring for the Elderly
- ❖ Addictions Beyond Alcoholism with Dr. Albert Rossi
- ❖ Active Listening Skills Exercise

Wednesday, July 22, 2015

Thursday, July 23, 2015

1:30-4:30pm

# *When did we see you, Lord?*

Matthew 25:35-36

For I was hungry ...

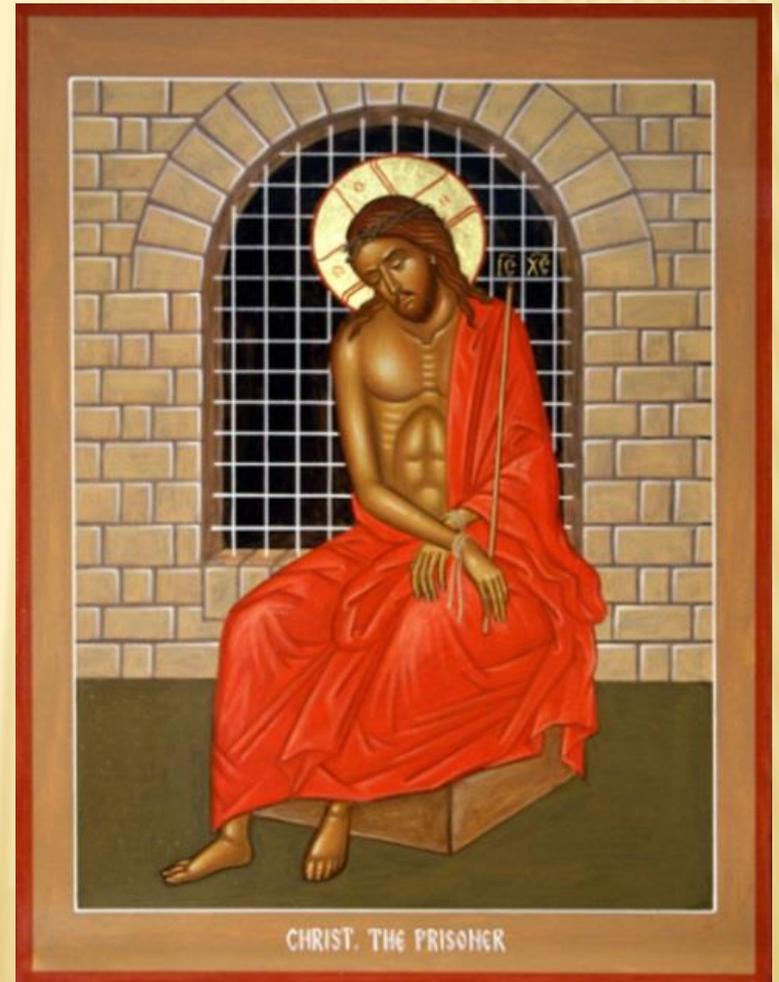
I was thirsty ...

I was a stranger ...

I was naked ...

I was sick ...

I was in prison ...



**St. Marie of Paris (Mother Maria Skobstova), an Orthodox nun who helped many destitute and needy people in Paris during WWII with her hospitality and “open door”, stated,**

**“At the last judgment I shall not be asked if I was successful in my ascetic exercises or how many prostrations I made in the course of my prayers.**

**I shall be asked one thing – did I feed the hungry, clothe the naked, visit the sick and the prisoners: that is all I shall be asked.”**



# When did we see you, Lord?

You gave me food ...

You gave me drink ...

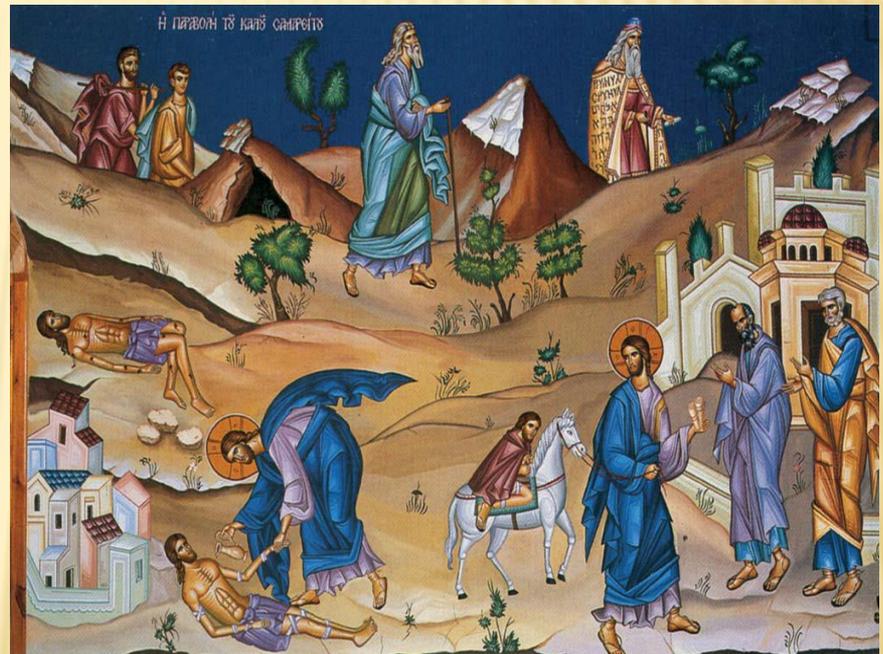
You welcomed me ...

You clothed me ...

You visited me ...

You came to me ...

You did it to one of  
the least of these,  
you did it to me.



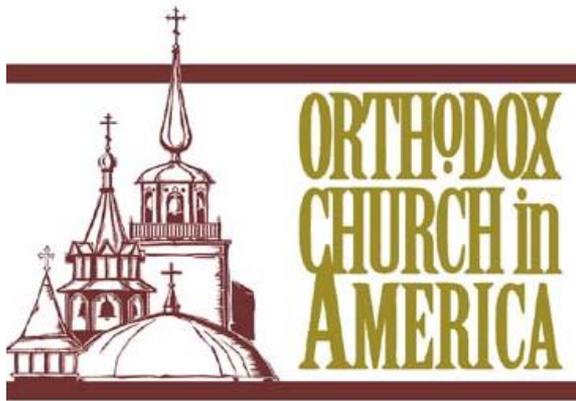
**Come, you blessed of my Father,  
inherit the Kingdom prepared for you  
from the foundation of the world.**

# PRAYER FOR THE INCREASE OF LOVE --- AND EXPANDING THE MISSION

Set our hearts on fire with love of Thee, O Christ our God, that in its flame we may love Thee with all our heart, with all our mind, with all our soul, and with all our strength,

~~ and so love our neighbors as ourselves, so that thus keeping Thy commandments, we may glorify Thee, the Giver of all good gifts. Amen.





# **FINAL REPORT** **on the Strategic Plan**

**July, 2015**

# The 16<sup>th</sup> AAC focused on a Strategic Plan for the OCA

*10 parallel workshops addressed goals on:*

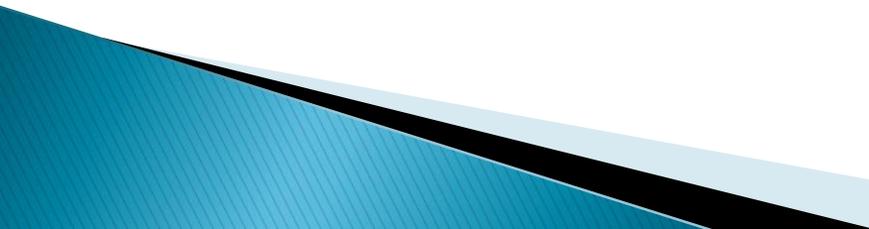
- Diocesan and parish revitalization
- More fully involving our youth and young adults
- Providing for continuing education of clergy and laity
- Improving leadership & management skills
- Better equipping our Church for evangelization
- ....

**Most of these goals are well underway and have transitioned into the normal life of the Church**

# Continuing Education is being pursued across the Church

- ▶ The Holy Synod has
  - mandated 20 hrs/yr of continuing education for clergy
  - created the Department of Continuing Education
- ▶ St. Vladimir's has established a hybrid distance and residential learning Doctor of Ministry degree in Pastoral Theology
- ▶ St. Tikhon's has instituted a highly successful annual Continuing Education Program
- ▶ Several dioceses are providing their own continuing education programs

# The Church is actively pursuing diocesan and parish revitalization

- 3 dioceses (EPA, WPA, Bulgarian) have implemented the Parish Health Inventory Model (PHIM)
  - Number of dioceses have initiated other activities: a grants program; diocesan benefactor funds; more frequent gatherings with clergy, matushki and laity
  - The OCA is “reinitiating” the Dept. of Pastoral Life: a ‘healthy’ priest is key to a parish revitalization
  - All but one of the diocesan bishop vacancies have been filled
- 

# Youth and Young Adults has initiated a strong social media ministry

- Developed a highly successful Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/yyaoca](http://www.facebook.com/yyaoca))
  - A daily liturgical presence thru prayers, pictures, short video
  - Nearly 2000 likes and a reach of about 5,000
- The age demographics are skewed a little older than our original intent
- Brought on two college-age interns to aid with new content and media (twitter, instagram, tumblr)

# Evangelization

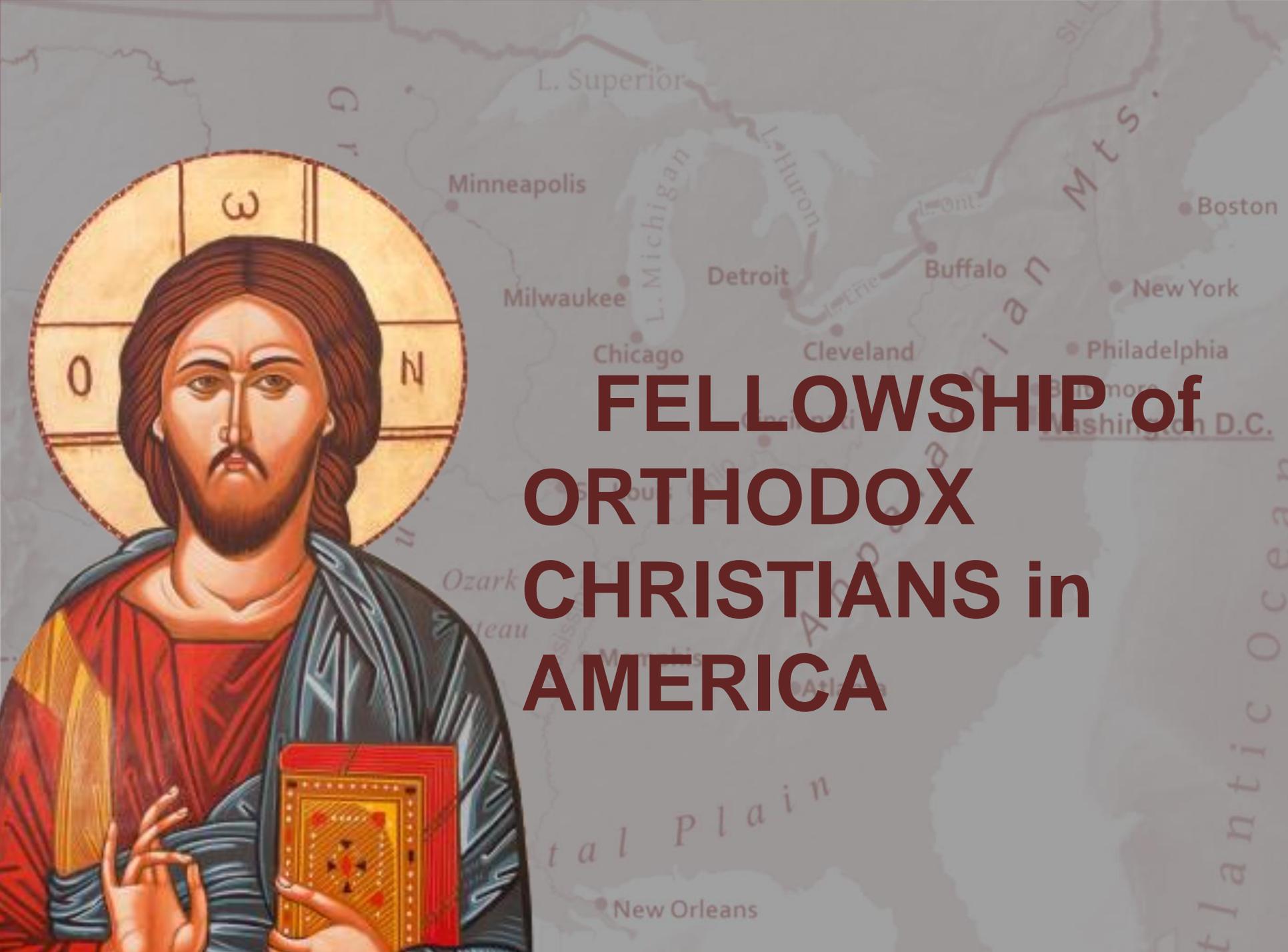
- ▶ The OCA has initiated a Mission School
    - 1<sup>st</sup> session Apr. 20-24, 2014
  - ▶ The Dept of Evangelization has launched a new webpage with lots of information and tools
  - ▶ The Strategic Plan developed a selected and annotated bibliography of 45 existing ‘evangelization’ resources
- 

# For all this we give a profound thanks to:

- The original Strategic Planning Team
  - The critics whose comments helped make a better plan
  - The participants of the 16<sup>th</sup> AAC that refined that work and defined the actual goals
  - To all involved in implementing these goals
  - And *especially* to God, in whose name, this was undertaken
- 



# FELLOWSHIP of ORTHODOX CHRISTIANS in AMERICA



# **Presentation to the 18<sup>th</sup> All American Council of the Orthodox Church in America**

Wednesday, July 22, 2015

*To Witness Our Faith by Charitable Works Through Fellowship*



# Executive Board

**Spiritual Advisor—V. Rev. Theodore Boback, *Baltimore, Maryland***

**President—Becky Tesar, *Cleveland, Ohio***

**Vice President—Marge Kovach, *Bayonne, New Jersey***

**Secretary—Allison Steffaro, *South River, New Jersey***

**Treasurer—Michael Bowan, *Chicago, Illinois***

**Immediate Past President—Dr. John Schultz, *Weirton, West Virginia***

*To Witness Our Faith by Charitable Works Through Fellowship*



# Mission

*To witness the Orthodox Christian faith by charitable works through fellowship.*

We strive to accomplish this by:

- studying the tenets of our Faith
- supporting and encouraging Orthodox Youth ministries
- supporting and encouraging missionary growth of our church
- encouraging and promoting unity among all Orthodox jurisdictions
- Establishing practical means for Orthodox Christians to endure lasting friendships on local and national levels through networking
- providing educational, cultural, social and athletic activities for the people of our Orthodox Faith

*To Witness Our Faith by Charitable Works Through Fellowship*



# Structure

We are made of up a network of senior and junior chapters across the country which, through a variety of religious, educational, cultural, social, and athletic activities, provides an ideal way to meet others within the faith, beyond the boundaries of the local parish.

6 Districts: Central Pennsylvania, Colonial, Michigan, New Jersey, Ohio, Pittsburgh

59 Senior (Adult) Chapters Nationwide and GROWING!

24 Junior (Youth 10-18) Chapters Nationwide

*To Witness Our Faith by Charitable Works Through Fellowship*



# Structure

FOCA PRESENCE IN THE DIOCESE OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA  
Listed below are Active Chapters and Member Districts

## **Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania**

Central Pennsylvania

Colonial District

Former Anthracite District

## **Diocese of the Midwest**

Ohio District

Michigan District

Former Midwest District

Chicago Metro exploring forming **NEW** District

## **Diocese of New York and New Jersey**

New Jersey District

Colonial District

Central PA District

Former Upper New York State District

## **Archdiocese of Washington D.C.**

Colonial District

## **Diocese of the West**

Former District of the West

## **Archdiocese of Western Pennsylvania**

Pittsburgh District

## **Diocese of New England**

Former Atlantic District.

## **Other Orthodox Jurisdictions**

Russian Patriarchal Parishes

American Carpatho-Russian Diocese

*To Witness Our Faith by Charitable Works Through Fellowship*



# History

Established in 1927, The Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America, an official organization of the Orthodox Church in America has a mission to proclaim, share, and reveal our Orthodox Christian Faith through service, fellowship, and example.

1927 - Federated Russian Orthodox Clubs are founded by Fr. Vladimir Prislopsky, as a means to assist in the work of the Church, provide an ideal way to meet others within the faith, beyond the boundaries of the local parish

1943 - Published Prayer books for Orthodox servicemen (over 30,000 copies distributed) and Established a national scholarship fund

1944 Printed Liturgy books both in Russian and in English (500 copies)

1944 - *War Bond Campaign* raised enough money to purchase two airplanes which carried the banner of the FROC

*To Witness Our Faith by Charitable Works Through Fellowship*



# History

1947 - Created the first Sunday School program in addition to sponsoring Sunday School conferences and providing an array of classroom materials

1948 - Established a Mission Hotline to match used liturgical items donated by established parishes with a needy small or mission parish

1963 - Organized National Choir Conferences for over 20 years under Fr. Igor Soroka

1994 - The convention body of the FROC petitioned Holy Synod of Bishops to be officially recognized by the Orthodox Church in America

1998 - The organization was renamed the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America (FOCA)

*To Witness Our Faith by Charitable Works Through Fellowship*



# Communications

Newly appointed Director of Communications, Angelika Delimaris,  
[FOCACommunications@gmail.com](mailto:FOCACommunications@gmail.com)

The ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN JOURNAL (OCJ) is the organization's official magazine published four times each year, overseen by Editor, Nick Ressetar,  
[tsarnick3@aol.com](mailto:tsarnick3@aol.com)

- Features articles on the FOCA's programs, activities, projects and goals, features on individual membership and contemporary topics on the Orthodox faith.
- Each member/family receives a complimentary subscription.

[www.OrthodoxFellowship.org](http://www.OrthodoxFellowship.org) @FellowshipOCA



*To Witness Our Faith by Charitable Works Through Fellowship*



# Outreach & Service

**United Fund/St. Andrew Appeal**, provides financial support for Orthodox Seminaries, missions, youth ministry, and national scholarships

Additional yearly financial appeal supporting: Alaska special needs, International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) and Ohio District St. Vladimir's Camp & Retreat Center

**Gifts of Love** is a yearly dedicated appeal supporting a specific fund or organization. Recent and notable recipients include:

- Zoe! For Life
- Providing Orthodox servicemen's kits for military chaplains
- St. Vladimir's Camp & Retreat Center
- Expanding the Library at Winnipeg's Blessed Arseny Institute
- Purchasing a van for St. Herman's Seminary, Alaska (\$25,000)

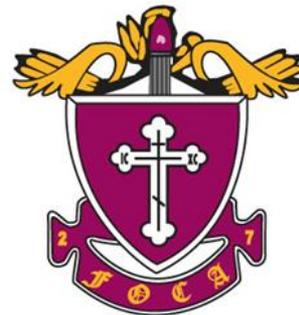
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# The Giving Continues...

- St. Tikhon's Seminary Married Student Housing
  - \$300,000 pledge (targeted completion 07/2015)
- Scholarships for higher education
- "Seminarian Family St. Nicholas Appeal" fulfilling *wish* lists since 2000
- "Adopt a Seminarian" program providing monthly financial assistance to struggling married students since 2002
- Mission Hotline working in conjunction with Elijah's Mantle at St. Tikhon's Seminary
- Orthodox Missions

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# Fellowship

The FOCA hosts a number of annual events which provide fellowship, friendly competition, and an opportunity to share in Liturgical services with hundreds of fellow Orthodox.

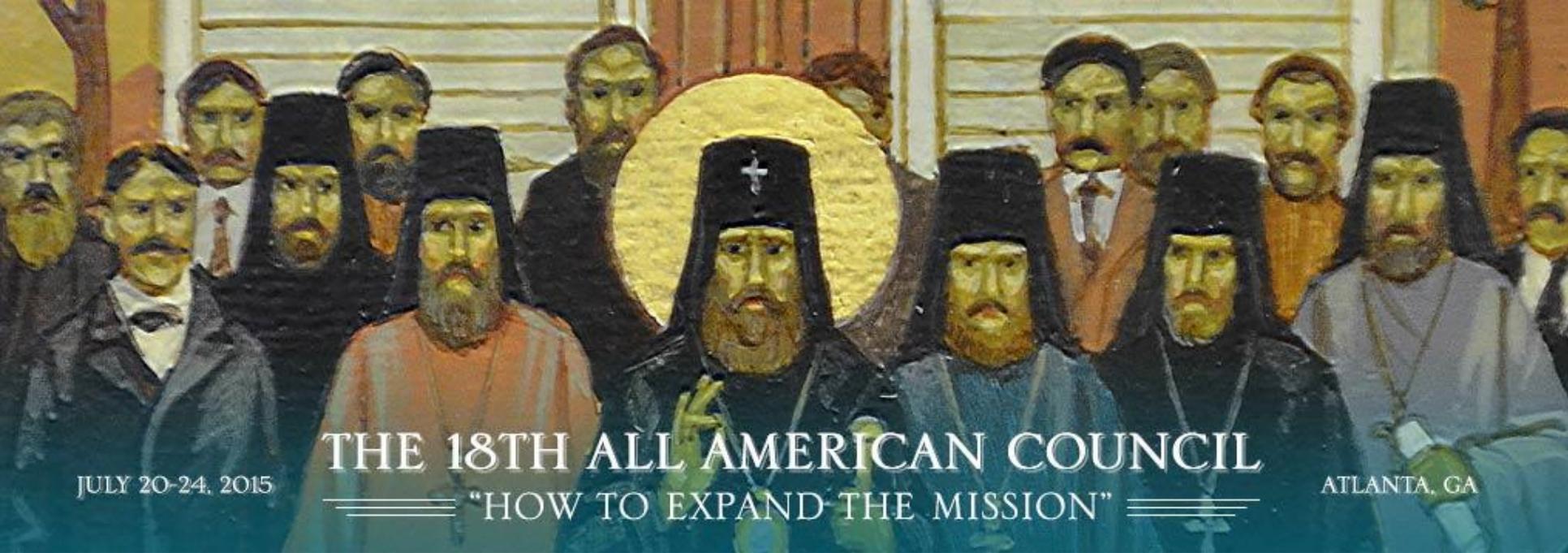
“Celebration of Faith” is our annual creative arts contest which encourages youth to witness their faith through works of literature, musical composition, photography and visual arts. The contest is open to any youth communicant in a parish or mission of a canonical Orthodox Church in North America.

*2015 Theme: Following in the Footsteps of the North American Saints*

*Topic: “How I am continuing their mission today?”*

*To Witness Our Faith by Charitable Works Through Fellowship*





Conventions are held on both the National and District levels for the primarily to address business matters but also provide a social component. National Conventions are typically sponsored by an individual chapter or district.

In 2015 both the AAC and The FOCA's 89th Annual Convention will occur concurrently! Starting Saturday, July 18 through Monday, July 20<sup>th</sup>.

*To Witness Our Faith by Charitable Works Through Fellowship*





# **FOCA NATIONAL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT**

**MAY 15-17, 2015**

**Hosted in Ohio**

National Basketball Tournament - Yearly tournament geared toward assembling the youth of the organization in Christian fellowship and friendly competition, inclusive of Orthodox youth from other jurisdictions

*To Witness Our Faith by Charitable Works Through Fellowship*





# FOCA NATIONAL BOWLING TOURNAMENT

MAY 1-2, 2015  
Columbus, OH

National Bowling and Golf Tournaments - Yearly tournaments promoting Christian fellowship and friendly competition amongst the Senior membership. Open to youth participants.

This year's Golf Tournament is set for August 21-22 in Cannonsburg, PA.

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SAINT VLADIMIR'S CAMP  
FARMDALE, OHIO



Summer Camp - St. Vladimir's Camp and Retreat Center, which is owned and operated by The Ohio District, host three weeks of summer camping programs. Includes 2 week-long camping sessions for youth ages 7-11 & 12-16, sponsored by the Ohio District, 1 week-long camping session for youth ages 10-17 sponsored by the National FOCA Youth Department

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# Future of the FOCA

Membership in the F.O.C.A. provides the network, leadership and resources by which we can join together in service to others on a larger scale.

- Grow our network of members and resources
- Continue to support our Orthodox charities, institutions and seminaries
- Work in conjunction with the Orthodox Church in America toward our common goals spreading the good news of Orthodoxy across our country

*To Witness Our Faith by Charitable Works Through Fellowship*



# Membership Inquiries

To create or to revitalize a chapter & general FOCA information :

## **The Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America**

c/o Sandy Kapelan, Admin Secretary

892 Scott Street

Wilkes-Barre PA 18705

[Orthodoxfellowship@yahoo.com](mailto:Orthodoxfellowship@yahoo.com)

**-OR-**

Email: [jpswv@comcast.net](mailto:jpswv@comcast.net)

*Dr. John Schultz, Membership*

*To Witness Our Faith by Charitable Works Through Fellowship*

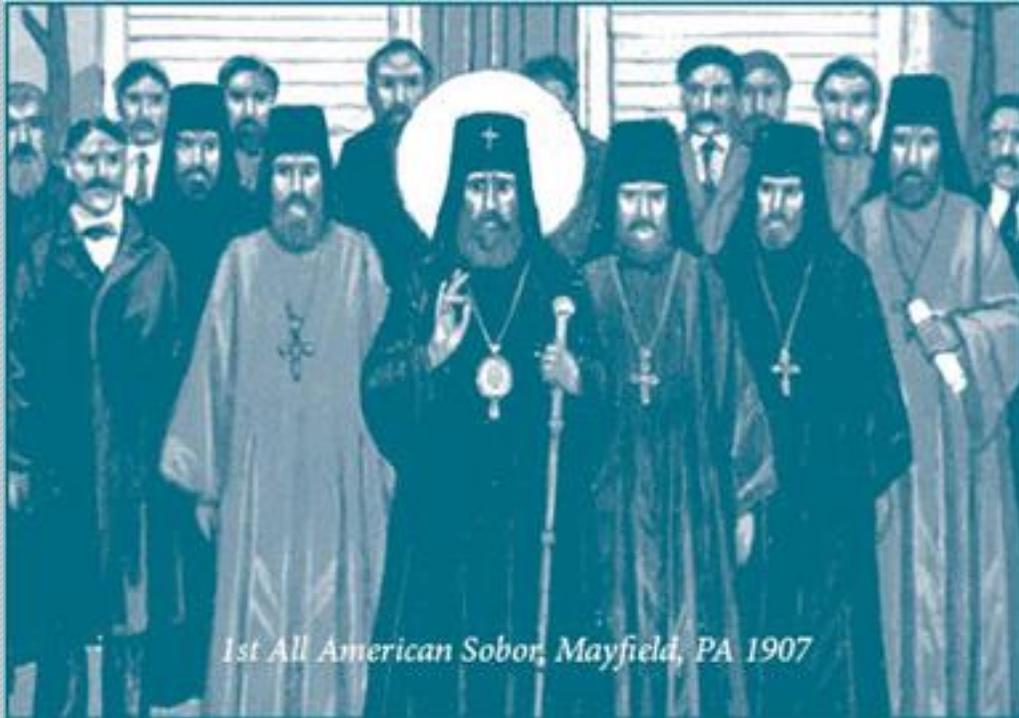


*Pray, study,  
toil,  
be temperate*

*To Witness Our Faith by Charitable Works Through Fellowship*



# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL

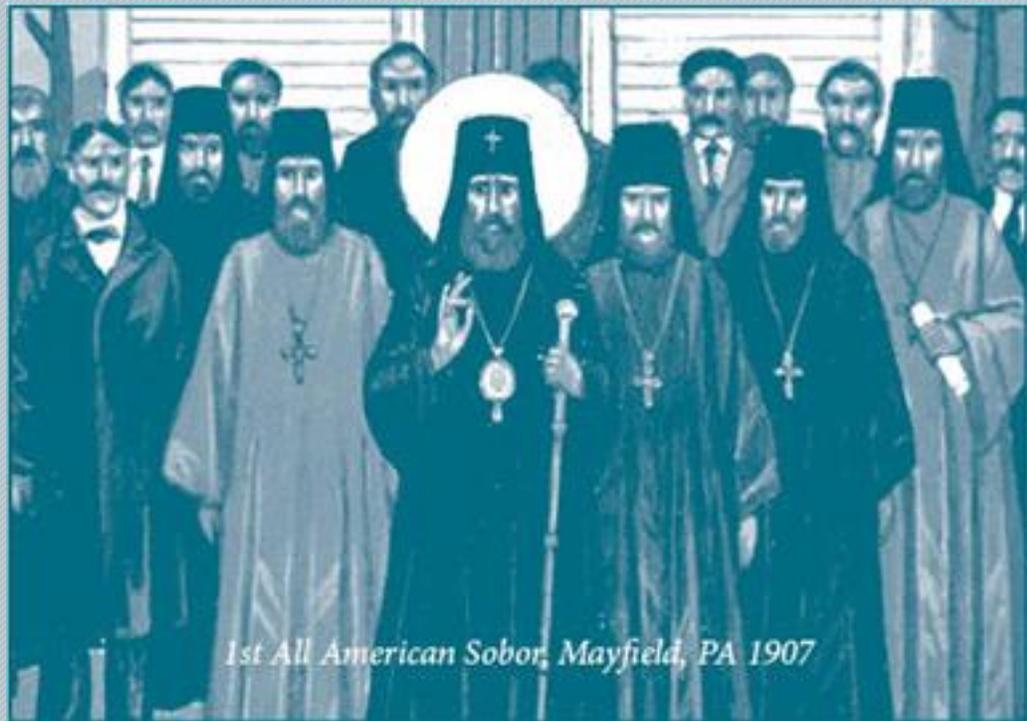


“HOW TO  
EXPAND THE  
MISSION”

JULY 20-24, 2015

ATLANTA, GA

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



OPENING  
PRAYER

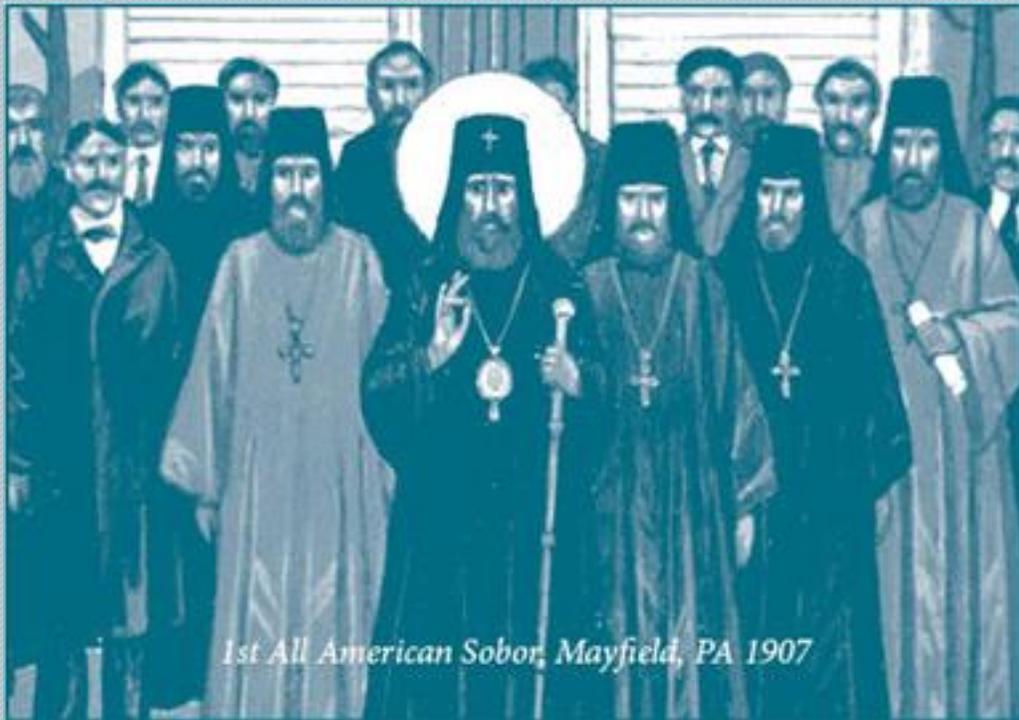
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*1st All American Sobor, Mayfield, PA 1907*

## PLENARY SESSION 5

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



*1st All American Sobor, Mayfield, PA 1907*

ELECTION TO  
CHURCH-  
WIDE  
OFFICES

# CHURCH-WIDE OFFICES

THE 18TH  
ALL AMERICAN  
COUNCIL



HOW TO EXPAND  
THE MISSION

JULY 20-24 2015 • ATLANTA, GA

## Metropolitan Council and Pension Board

- Vote for THREE Names in each position
- Highest Votes get Six-Year term
- Next Highest Vote get Three-Year Term
- Third Highest gets Alternate

# CHURCH-WIDE OFFICES VOTING PROCEDURES

THE 18TH  
ALL AMERICAN  
COUNCIL



HOW TO EXPAND  
THE MISSION

JULY 20-24 2015 • ATLANTA, GA

## Vote for three names for each position

- Each voting delegate gets one ballot
- Clearly mark your 3 choices for each position on the ballot
- Fold the ballot in half once
- Hand in ballot to tellers
- Illegible or incorrectly marked ballots are disqualified

# CANDIDATES FOR METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

THE 18TH  
ALL AMERICAN  
COUNCIL



HOW TO EXPAND  
THE MISSION

JULY 20-24 2015 • ATLANTA, GA

## Clergy

- Fr. Theodore Boback,
- Fr. Thomas Moore
- Fr. Elijah Mueller
- Fr. James Parnell
- Fr. Antonio Perdomo

## Lay

- Mr. Larry Skvir
- Mr. Michael Strelka
- Mat. Katherine Vitko

# CANDIDATES FOR PENSION BOARD

THE 18TH  
ALL AMERICAN  
COUNCIL



HOW TO EXPAND  
THE MISSION

JULY 20-24 2015 • ATLANTA, GA

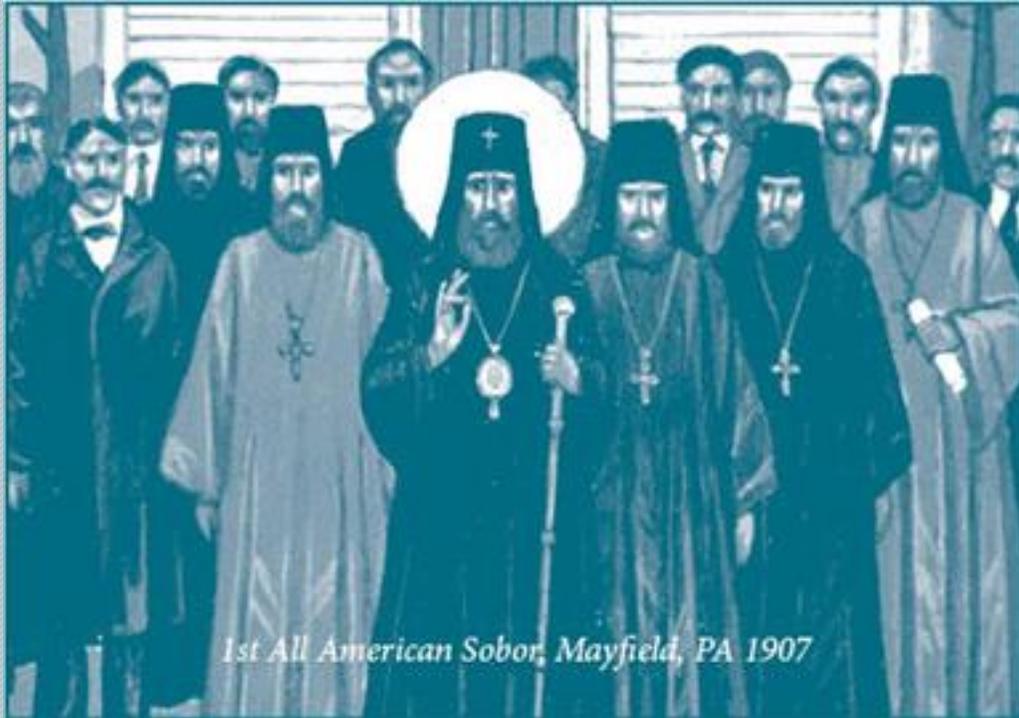
## Clergy

- Fr. Gleb McFatter
- Fr. John Zdinak

## Lay

- Mat. Mary Buletza Breton
- Mr. Barry Gluntz
- Rdr. James Gordon
- Mr. Michael Mezmar

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL

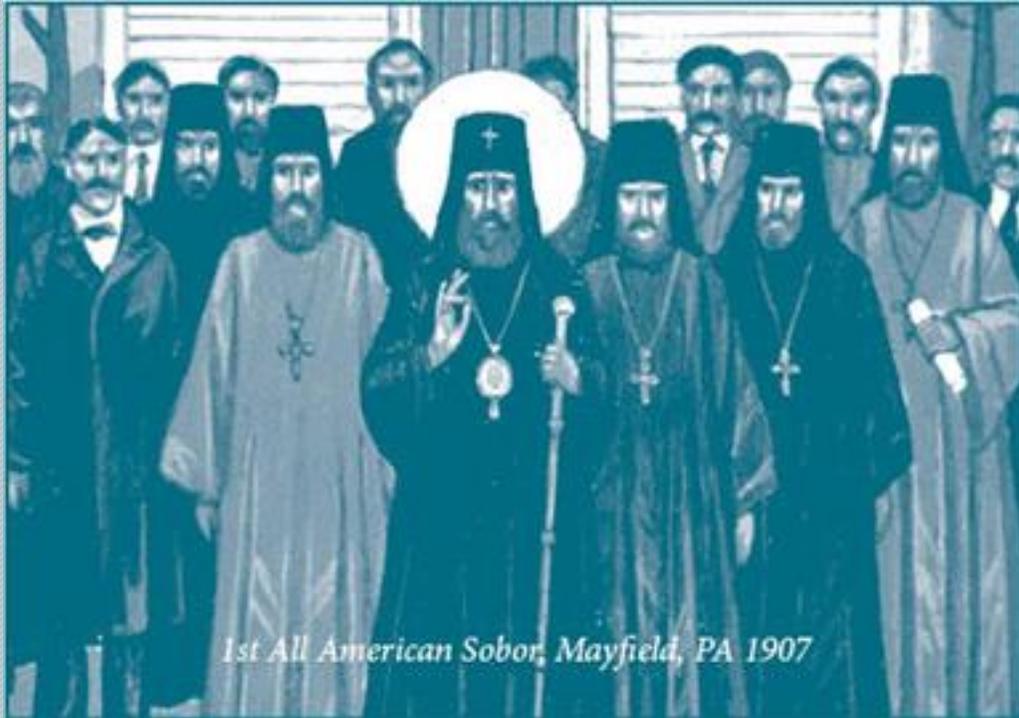


## ROMANIAN EPISCOPATE PRESENTATION

HIS EMINENCE ARCHBISHOP  
NATHANIEL

ARCHBISHOP OF DETROIT AND  
THE ROMANIAN EPISCOPATE

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



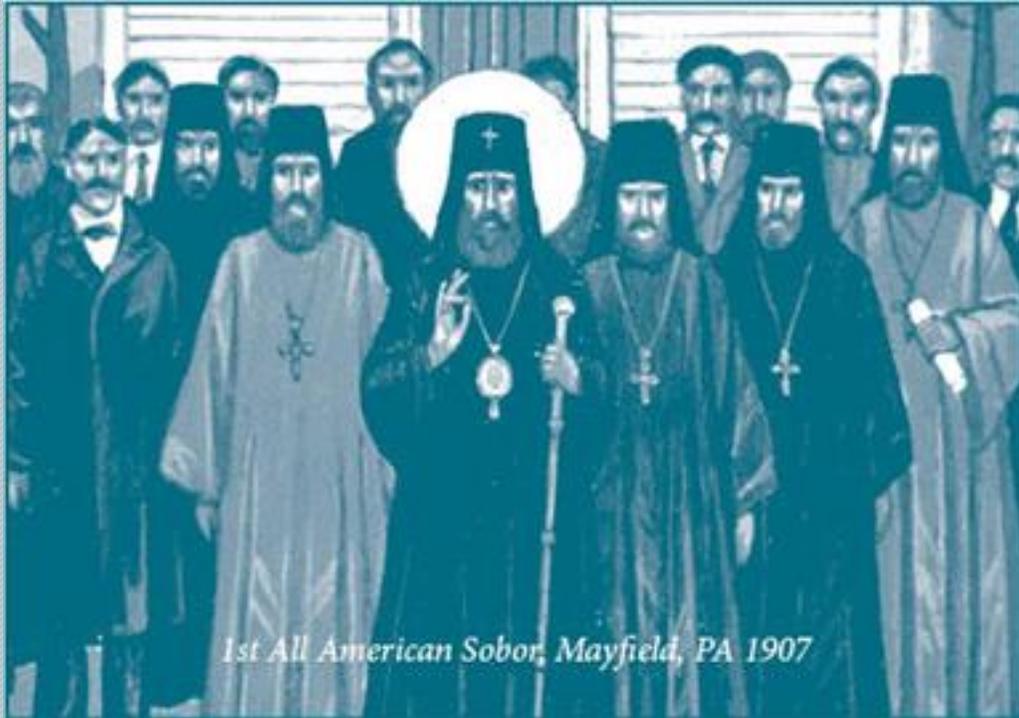
*1st All American Sobor, Mayfield, PA 1907*

## DIOCESE OF THE SOUTH PRESENTATION

HIS BEATITUDE METROPOLITAN  
TIKHON AND ARCHIMANDRITE  
GERASIM

*LOCUM TENENS* AND  
ADMINISTRATOR OF THE DIOCESE  
OF THE SOUTH

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL

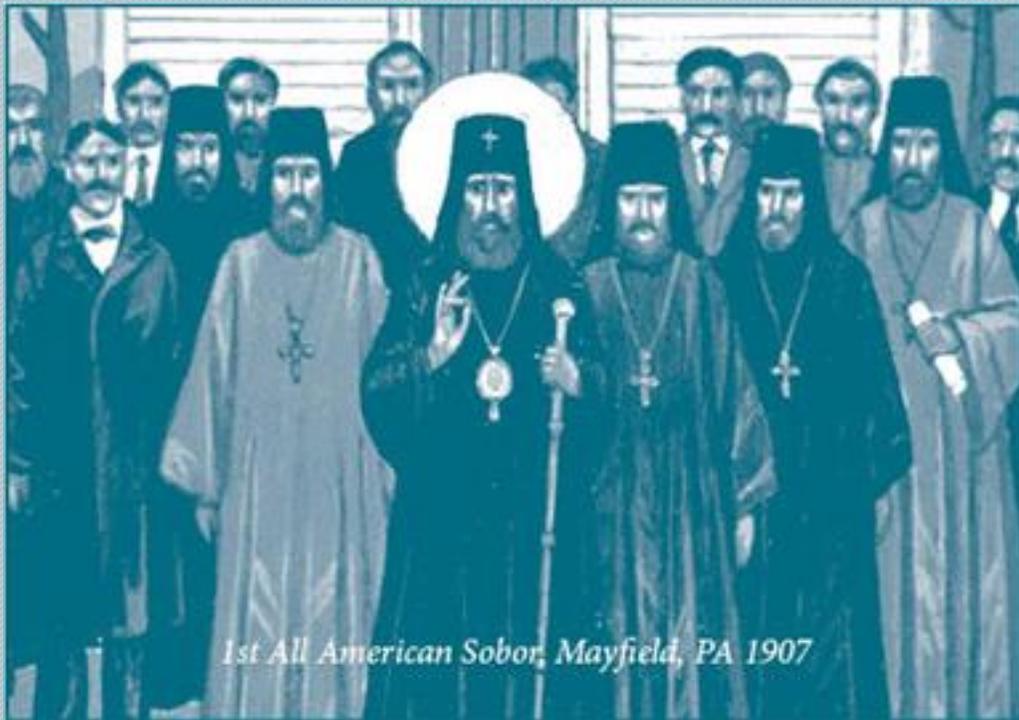


## ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON PRESENTATION

HIS BEATITUDE METROPOLITAN  
TIKHON

ARCHBISHOP OF WASHINGTON  
AND METROPOLITAN OF ALL-  
AMERICA AND CANADA

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL

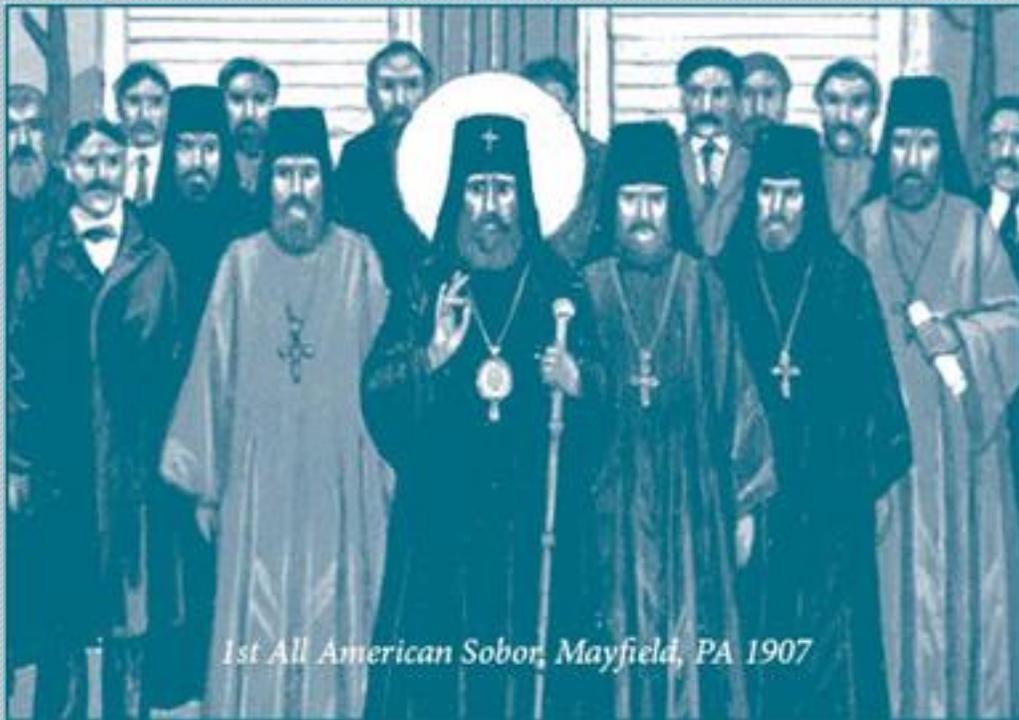


*1st All American Sobor, Mayfield, PA 1907*

## PRESENTATION OF INTERNATIONAL ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHARITIES

LOU ZAGAMI

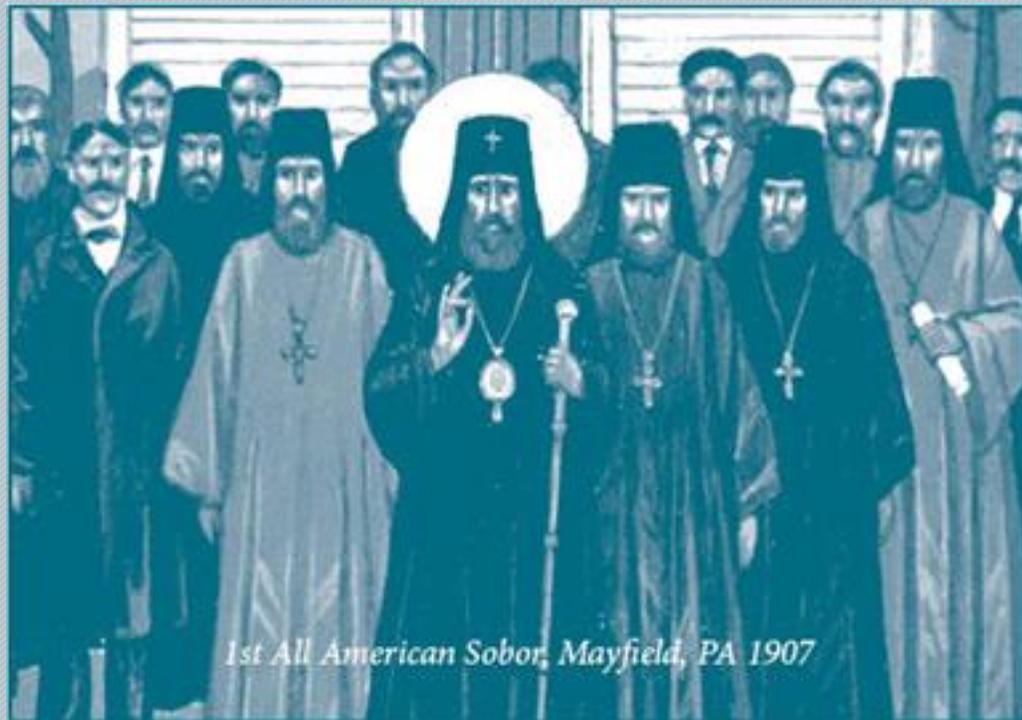
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## REPORT ON THE MISSION SCHOOL

FR. DAVID RUCKER  
AND  
FR. ERIC G. TOSI

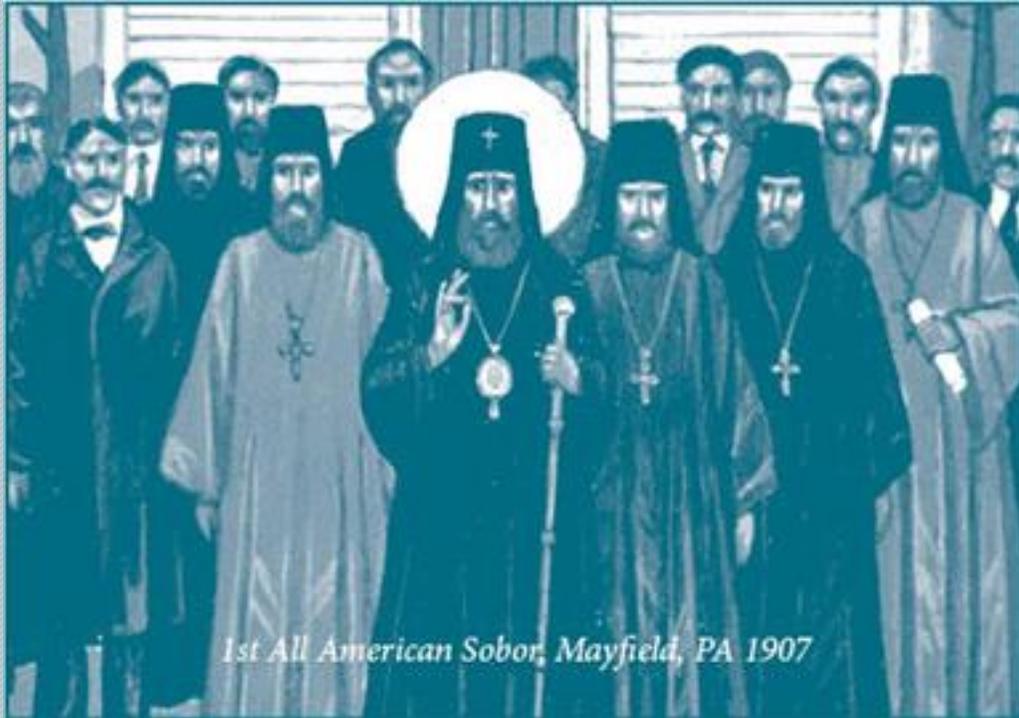
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## REPORT ON ASSEMBLY OF CANONICAL ORTHODOX BISHOPS OF THE UNITED STATES

PDN PETER DANILCHICK

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



ORTHODOXY IN  
AMERICA: A  
SURVEY OF THE  
CURRENT STATE  
OF THE CHURCH

ALEXEI KRINDATCH

# RESULTS OF THE ELECTION

THE 18TH  
ALL AMERICAN  
COUNCIL



HOW TO EXPAND  
THE MISSION

JULY 20-24 2015 • ATLANTA, GA

## Metropolitan Council

### Clergy

- Fr. Perdomo: Six-year term
- Fr. Moore: Three-year term
- Fr. Mueller: Alternate

### Lay

- *Matushka Vitko: Six-year term*
- *Mr. Skvir: Three-year term*
- *Mr. Strelka: Alternate*

## Pension Board

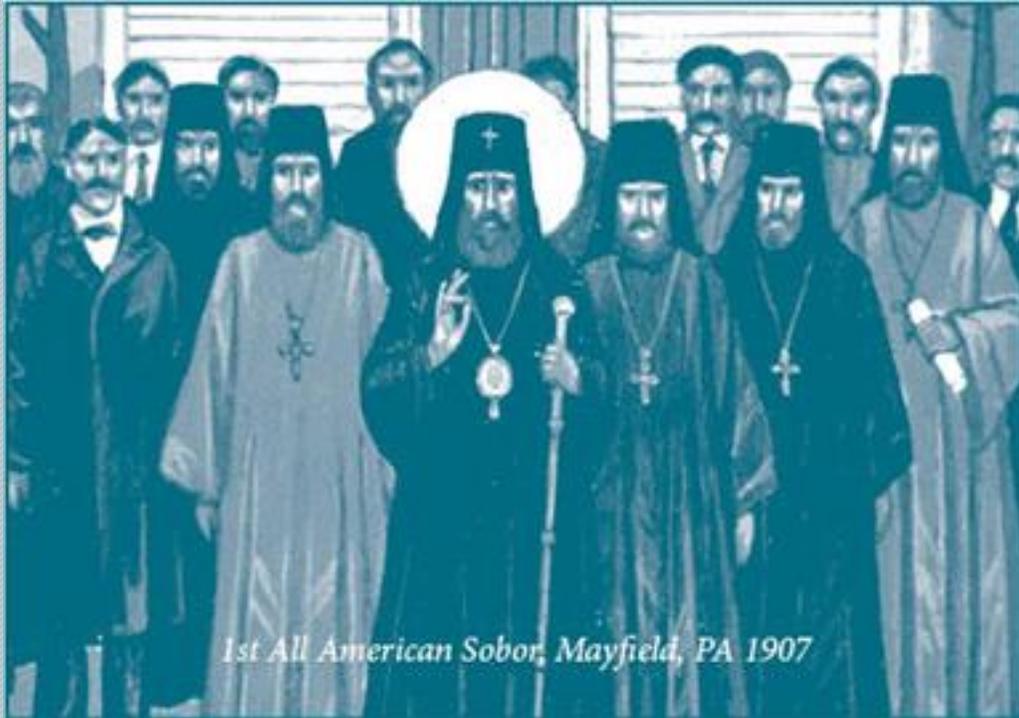
### Clergy

- Fr. McFatter: Six-year term
- Fr. Zdinak: Three-year term

### Lay

- Matushka Buletza Breton: Six-year term
- Mr. Gluntz: Three-year term
- Mr. Mezmar: Alternate

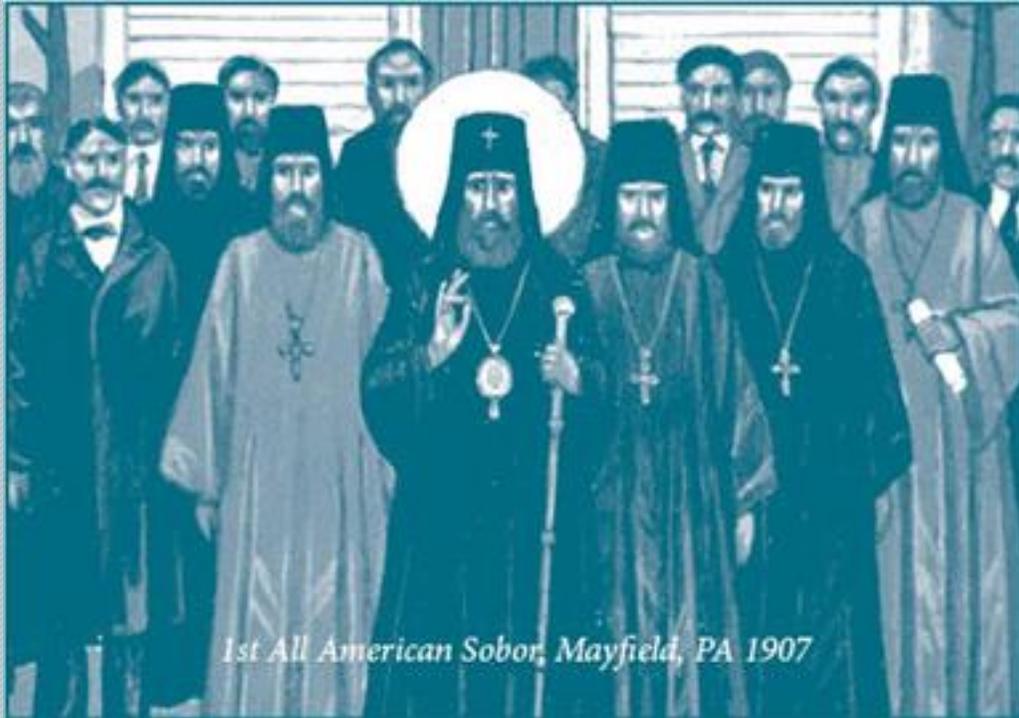
# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



RESOLUTIONS

COUNCIL CHAIRS

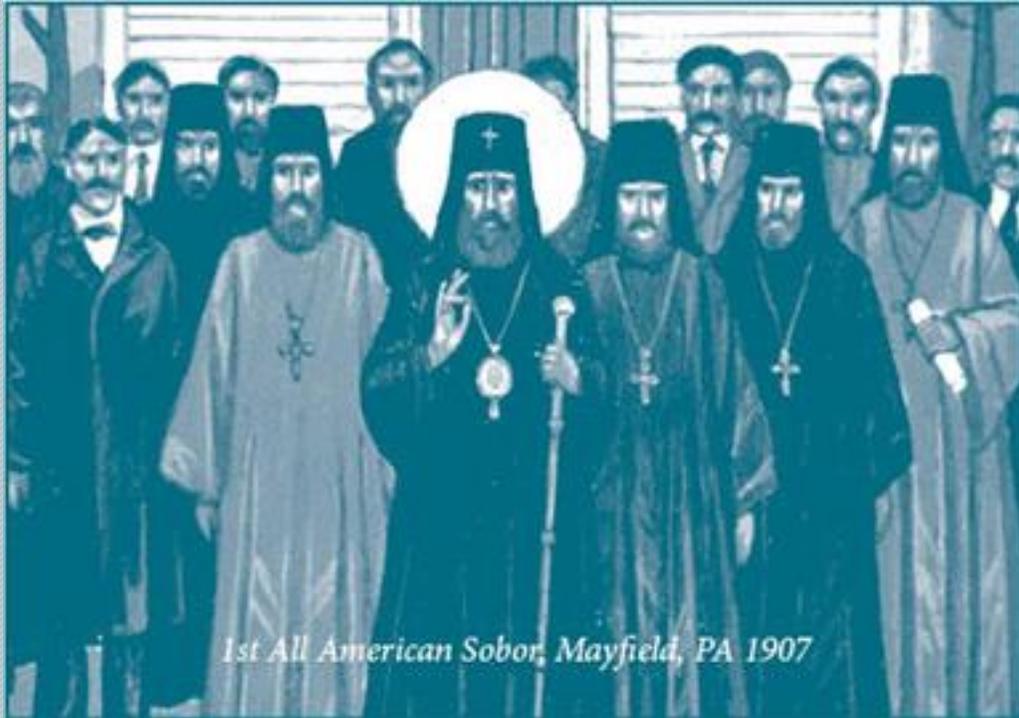
# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



## HOUSEKEEPING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

FR. ERIC G. TOSI

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



**“HOW TO EXPAND THE  
MISSION”**

**JULY 20-24, 2015**

**ATLANTA, GA**

**NEXT SESSION IS  
WORKSHOPS AT 1:30 PM**

**FIND YOUR  
WORKSHOPS**



Alexei Krindatch ([akrindatch@aol.com](mailto:akrindatch@aol.com))  
OCA Parishes in the 21st Century America:  
Are We Ready for the Mission?

**Source of Data Used in this Presentation:  
2015 National Study “Exploring Orthodox  
Generosity. Giving in US Orthodox Parishes”**

**(the largest pan-Orthodox survey ever conducted in US)**

- **Total number of respondents: 3,409 (421 clergy and 2,988 laity)**
- **OCA: 835 respondents (136 clergy and 699 laity)**
- **Antiochian Archdiocese: 513 respondents (62 clergy and 451 laity)**
- **GOA: 1,242 respondents (108 clergy and 1,134 laity)**
- **All other jurisdictions: 819 respondents (115 clergy and 704 laity)**

## **What we will do today is:**

- **Look at some characteristics of the OCA parishes that are important for parish vitality and successful “Mission”**
- **Compare OCA parishes with Antiochian and GOA parishes**
- **Compare opinions of OCA clergy and OCA laity about their parish communities**
- **Examine which causes and aspects of church life can make church members more involved and engaged**

# **First, let's have a quick look at three basic characteristics of the PARISH VITALITY:**

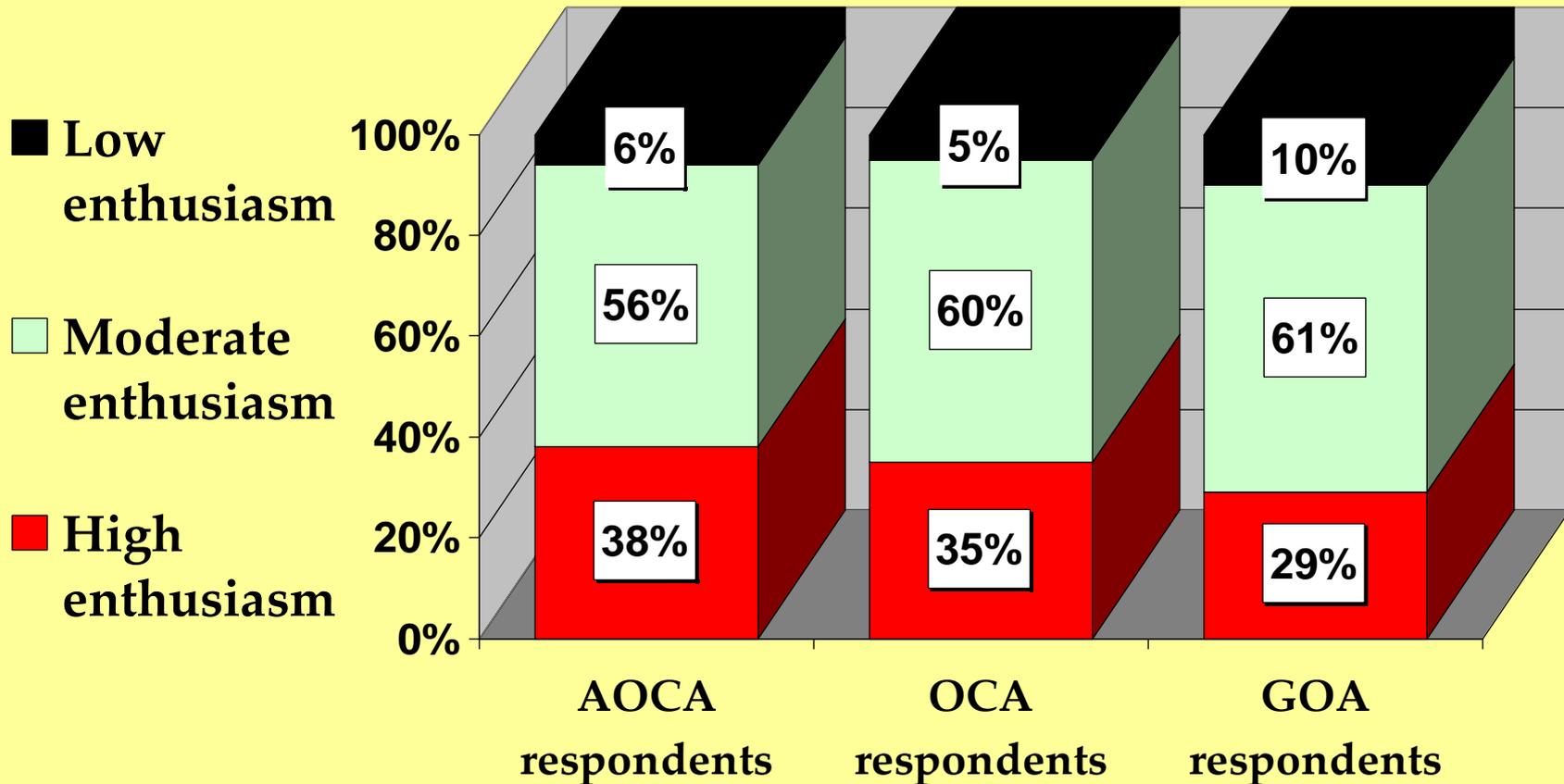
- **Overall satisfaction of parishioners and clergy with their parishes**
- **Financial “health” of the parishes**
- **Growth or decline in the membership of the parishes**

**Survey data show that in all three above measures OCA parishes are doing better than the GOA churches, but – at the same time – they lag behind Antiochian parishes**

# Compared to GOA, OCA clergy and laity are more enthusiastic about their parishes.

“In general, how much enthusiasm do you feel about the life and programs of your parish ”

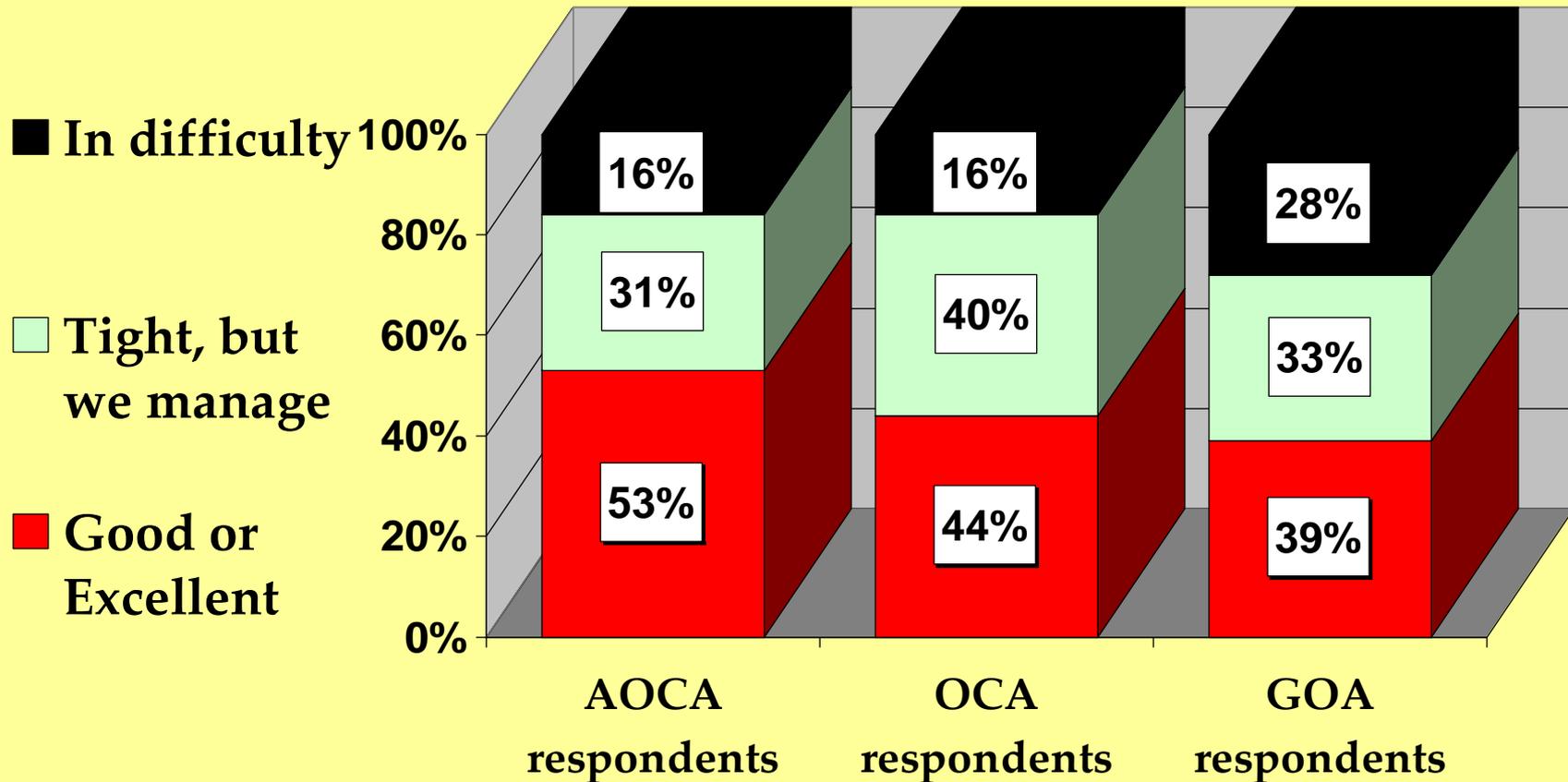
% of respondents (clergy and laity together) saying:



# Compared to GOA churches, OCA parishes report better financial situation, but not as good as AOCA churches.

“Overall, how would you describe your parish’s financial health?”

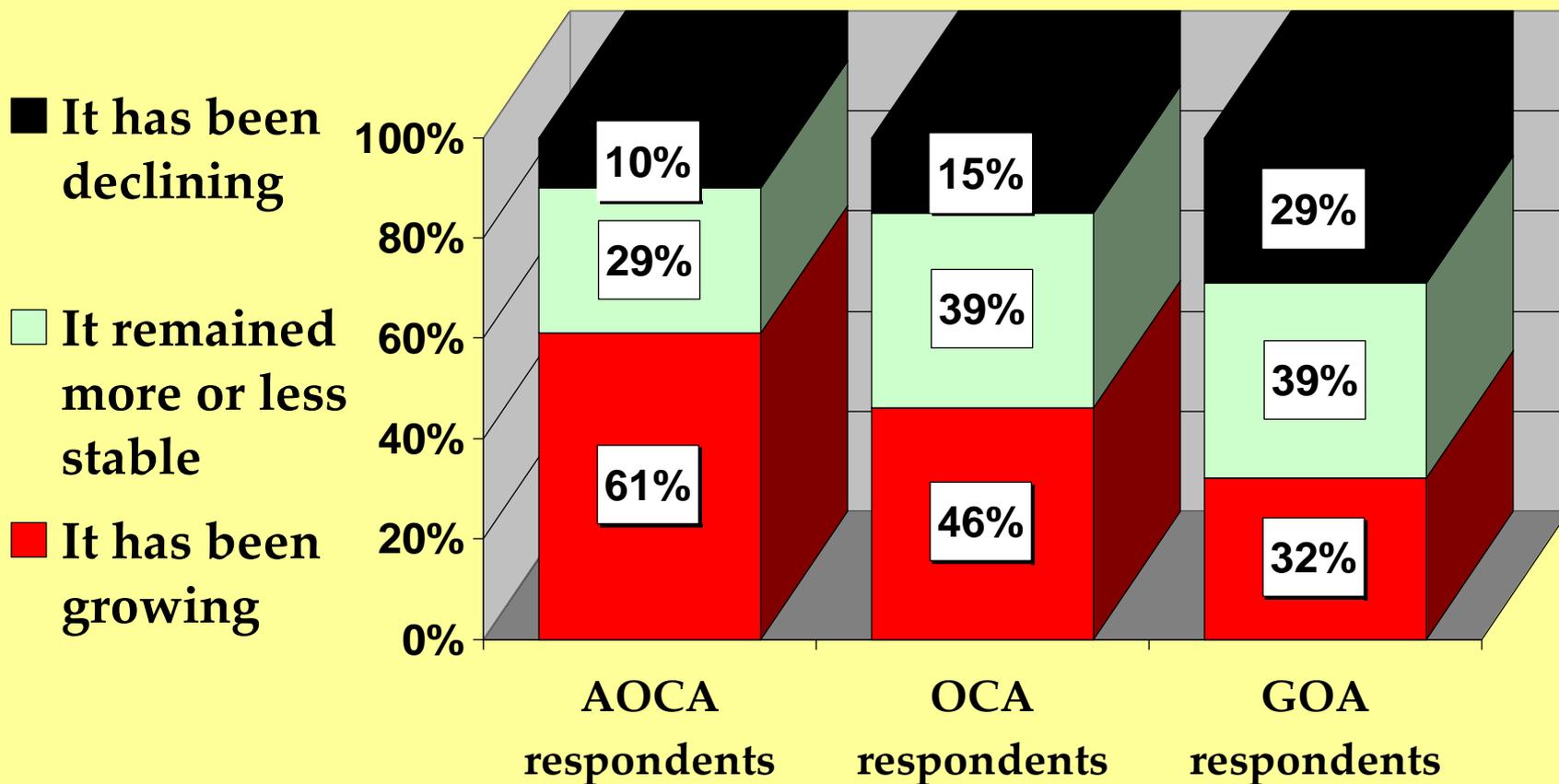
% of respondents (clergy and laity together) saying:



**Compared to GOA churches, more OCA parishes report growth in members, but not as many as AOCA churches.**

**“How would you describe the change in the membership of your parish during the past 3 years?”**

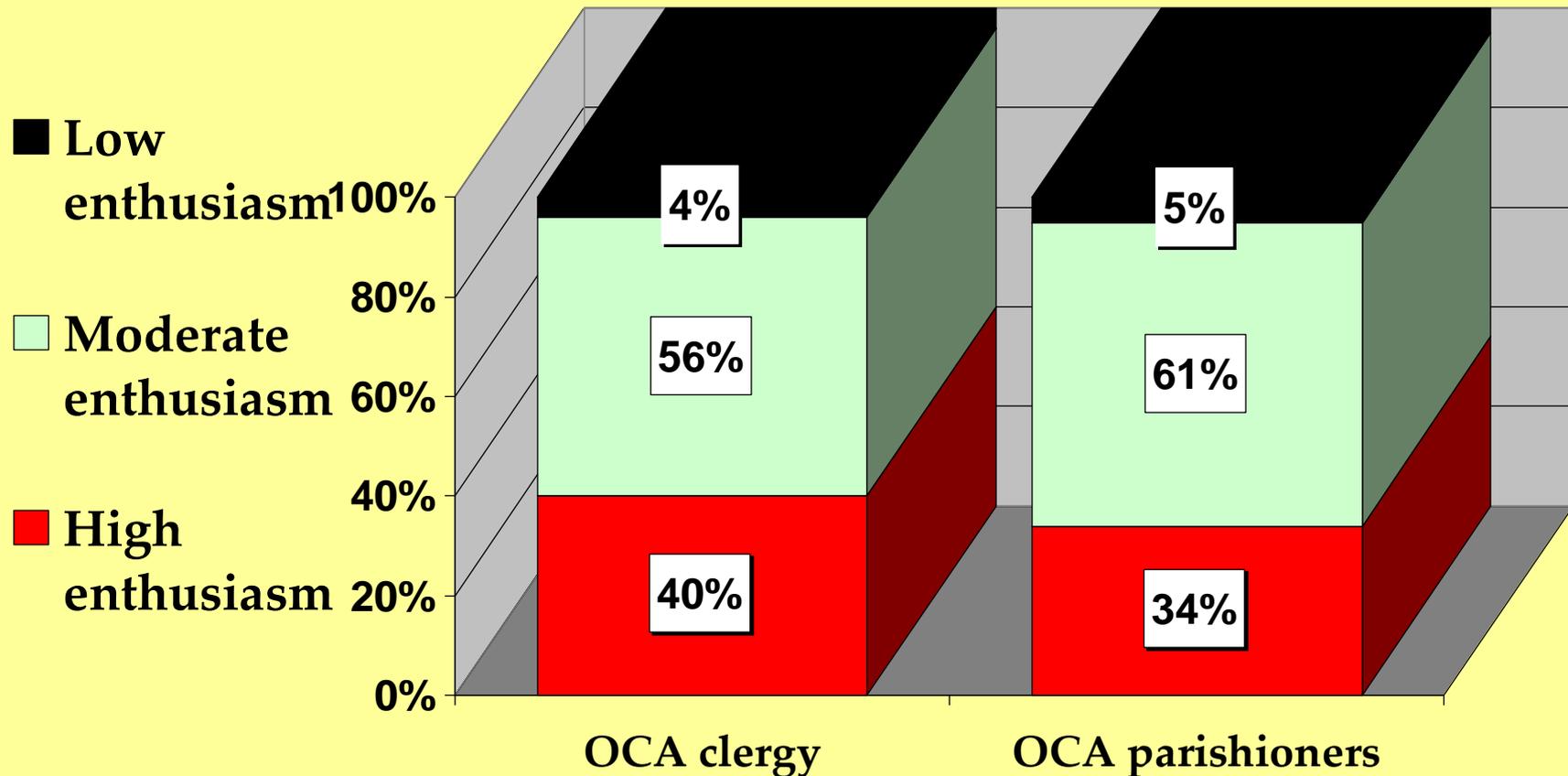
**% of respondents (clergy and laity together) saying:**



# OCA clergy are MORE “enthusiastic” about their parishes than OCA parishioners.

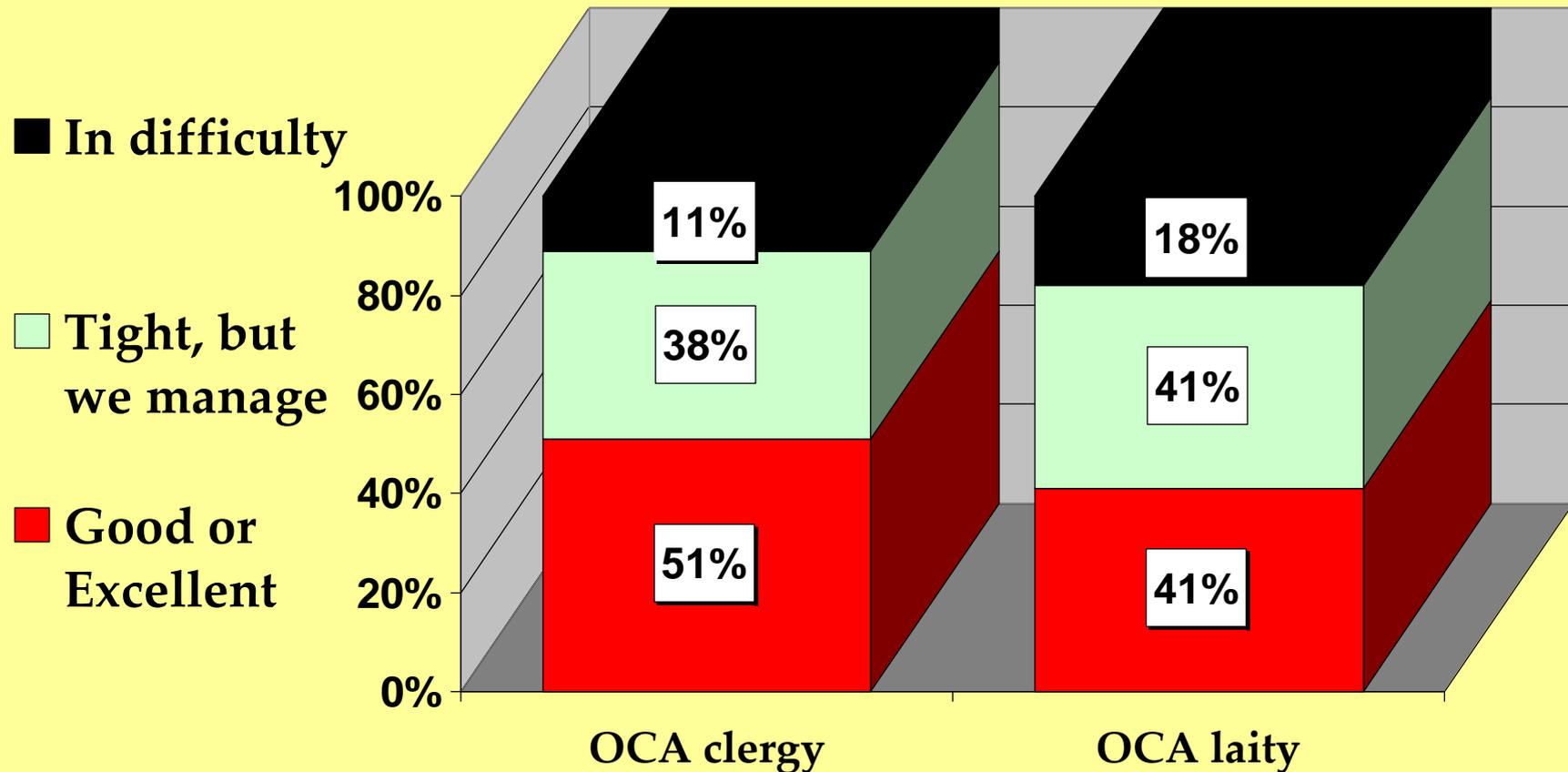
“In general, how much enthusiasm do you feel about the life and programs of your parish ”

% of respondents (clergy and laity together) saying:



**Also, more OCA clergy than OCA laity think that their parishes have “Good or Excellent” financial health.**  
“Overall, how would you describe your parish’s financial health?”

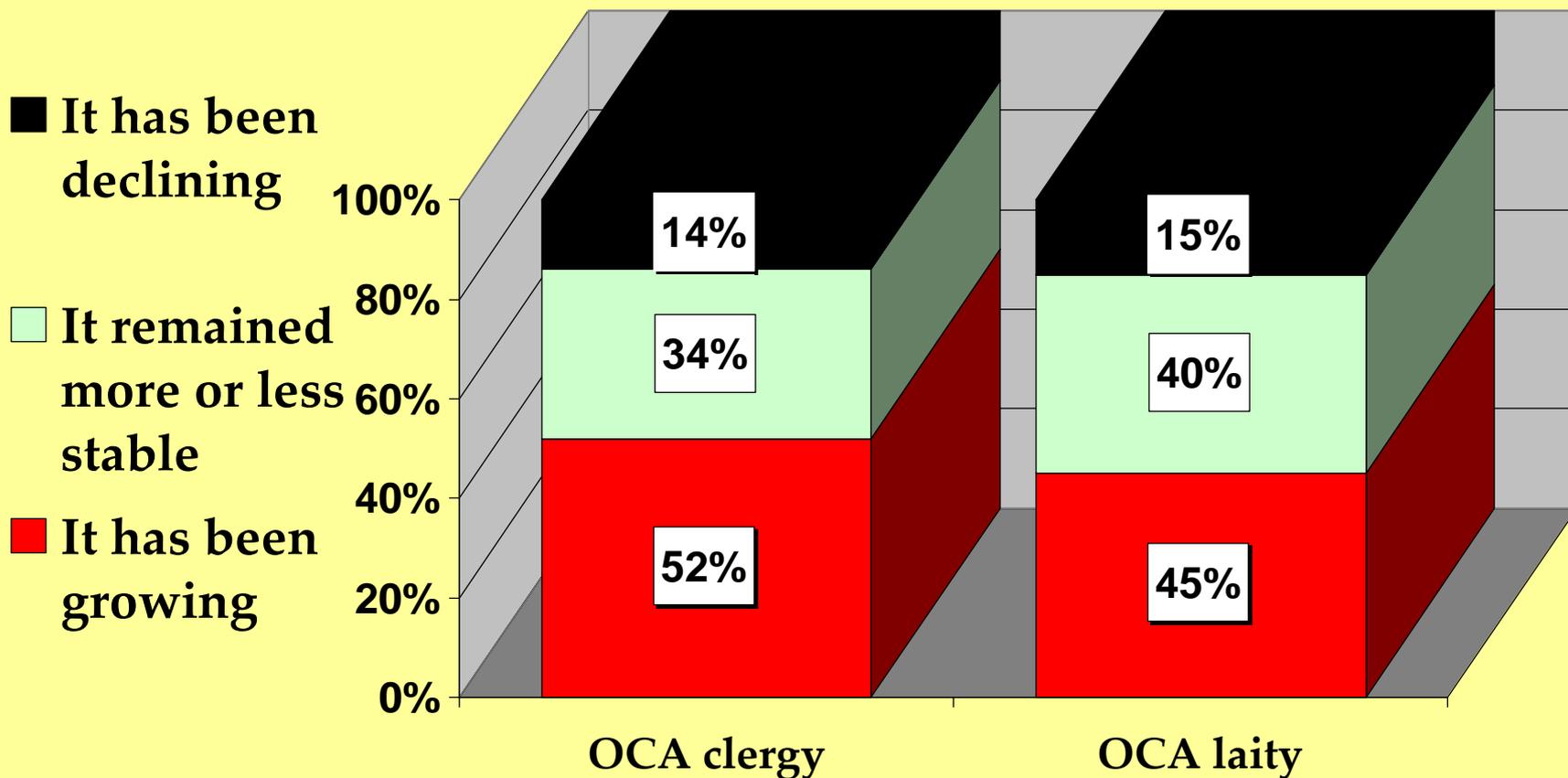
% of respondents (clergy and laity together) saying:



# And also, more OCA clergy than OCA laity believe that their parishes are growing in members

“How would you describe the change in the membership of your parish during the past 3 years?”

% of respondents (clergy and laity together) saying:



# **DEMOGRAPHY OF MEMBERSHIP is**

**important (and Church has no control over it):  
How OCA membership compares to GOA and  
Antiochian Archdiocese?**

- **OCA parishes have more young adults**
- **OCA parishes have more converts to Orthodoxy**
- **OCA parishes have fewer members with the higher (\$ 100,000 +) households' incomes**
- **OCA parishes have fewer "blue collar" workers**
- **OCA parishes have fewer immigrants to US**

**Of all regularly participating adults in your parish,  
estimate the percentage in following categories**  
**Average % of various categories of members:**

<b>Category of parishioners</b>	<b>OCA</b>	<b>Antioch. Arch.</b>	<b>GOA</b>
<b>Persons with college degree</b>	59%	61%	55%
<b>“Blue collar” workers</b>	<b>30%</b>	35%	31%
<b>Young adults age 18-35</b>	<b>30%</b>	27%	22%
<b>Senior citizens age 60+</b>	36%	30%	41%
<b>Households with annual income of more than \$ 100,000</b>	<b>15%</b>	21%	24%

**Of all regularly participating adults in your parish,  
estimate the percentage in following categories**  
**Average % of various categories of members:**

<b>Category of parishioners</b>	<b>OCA</b>	<b>Antioch. Arch.</b>	<b>GOA</b>
<b>Converts to Orthodoxy</b>	<b>48%</b>	47%	28%
<b>Households with children under 18 living at home</b>	36%	40%	34%
<b>“Immigrants:” persons born outside of US</b>	<b>20%</b>	26%	22%
<b>Persons who live in intermarried households: one of the spouses is non- Orthodox</b>	23%	18%	36%

# **What are major strengths and what are major weaknesses of OCA parishes?**

- **We offered our respondents 9 statements describing Orthodox parishes in a POSITIVE MANNER**
- **We asked our respondents whether they agree or disagree with each statement as describing CORRECTLY their home parishes**
- **The chart on the next page shows % of respondents who “strongly agree” with each statement**
- **It gives a good idea about the areas where OCA churches are doing “good” or “not so good”**

# **STRENGTHS "To what extent you agree or disagree with following statements about your parish?"**

**% of OCA clergy and laity saying "strongly agree"**

**Opportunities to serve in leadership positions are equally available to all members**

**48%**

**Parishioners are encouraged to invite friends and neighbors to visit our church regardless of whether they are Orthodox**

**48%**

**Our parish is caring and supportive of members who have financial and personal needs**

**45%**

**Decisions about life of our parish are made with open discussion by parish leadership and ordinary members**

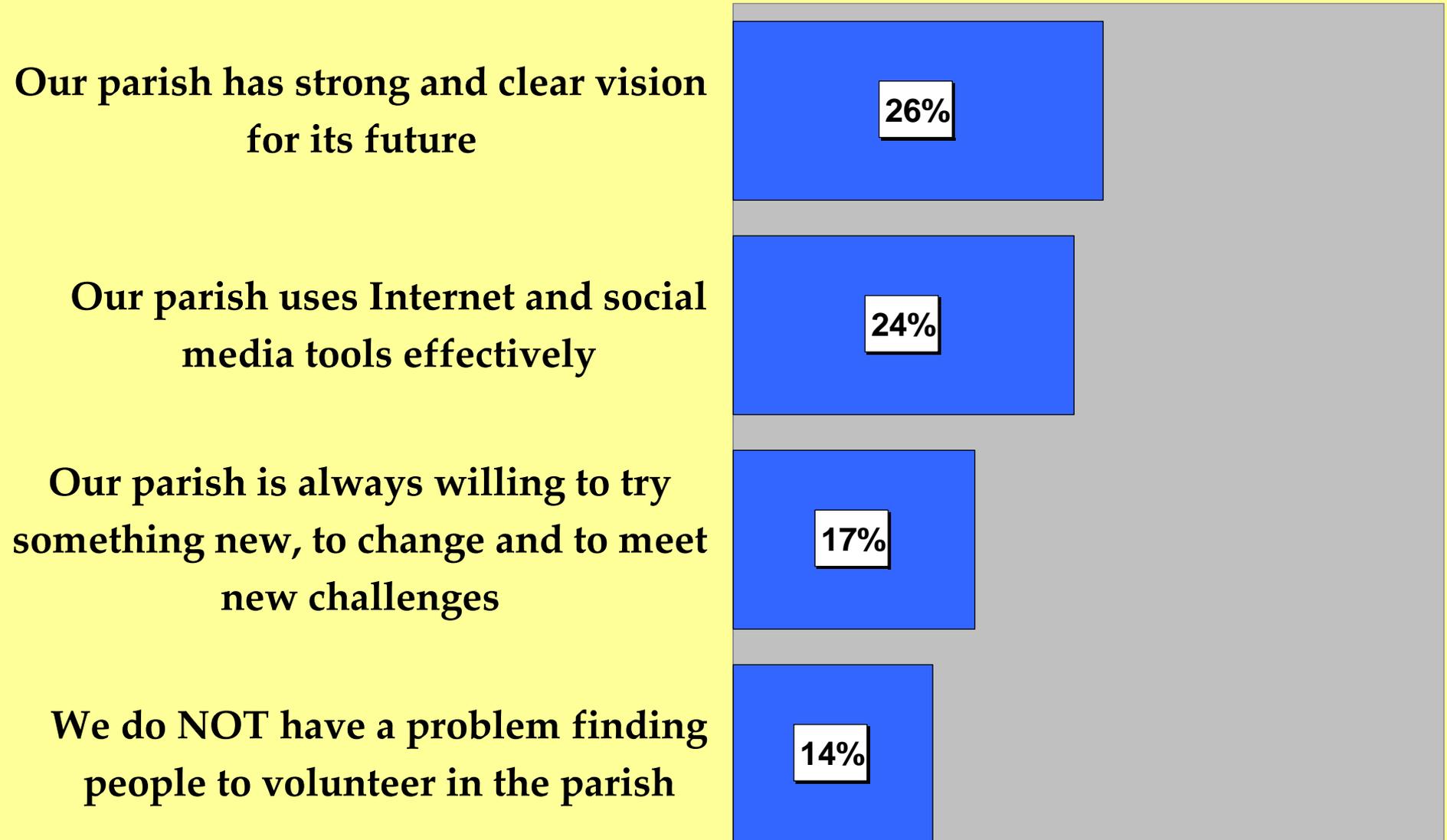
**38%**

**In our parish people are encouraged to give generously not only to parish, but also to causes outside of Orthodox Church**

**37%**

# WEAKNESSES "To what extent you agree or disagree with following statements about your parish?"

% of OCA clergy and laity saying "strongly agree"



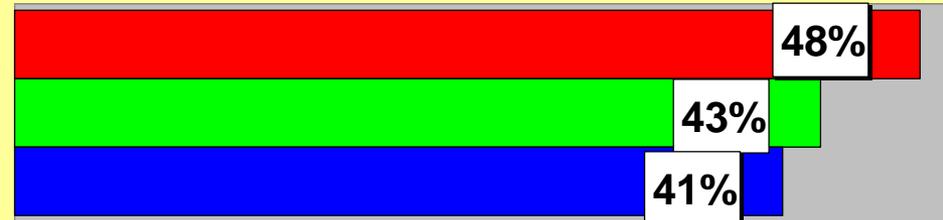
**In all nine measures of the “quality” of a  
parish life used in previous charts,  
Antiochian and OCA parishes excel GOA  
churches**

# “To what extent you agree or disagree with following statements about your parish?”

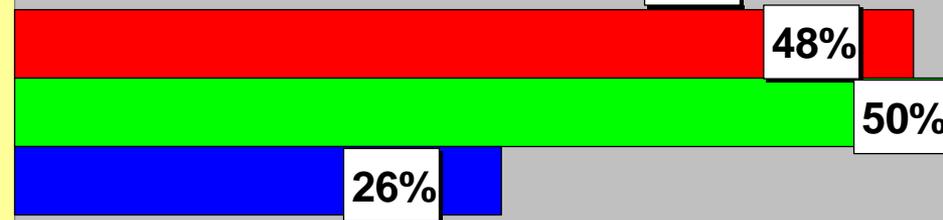
## % saying “strongly agree”

■ OCA respondents  
 ■ Antiochian respondents  
 ■ GOA respondents

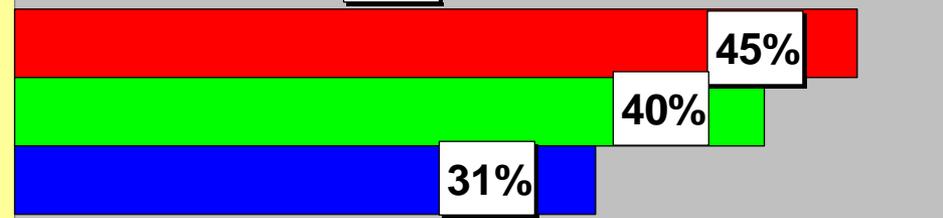
Opportunities to serve in leadership positions are equally available to all members



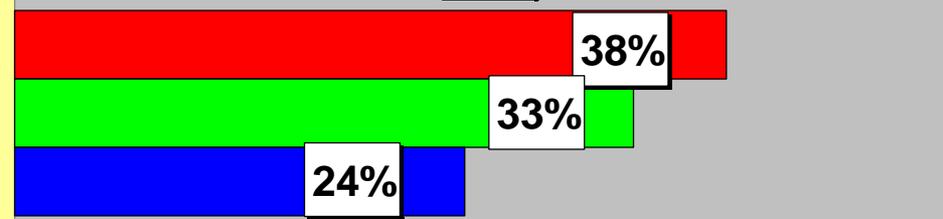
Parishioners are encouraged to invite friends and neighbors to visit our church regardless of whether they are Orthodox



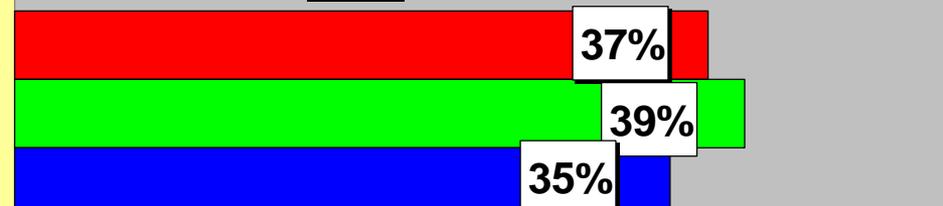
Our parish is caring and supportive of members who have financial and personal needs



Decisions about life of our parish are made with open discussion by parish leadership and ordinary members



In our parish people are encouraged to give generously not only to parish, but also to causes outside of Orthodox Church

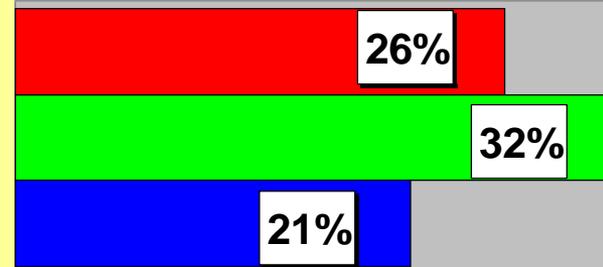


# **“To what extent you agree or disagree with following statements about your parish?”**

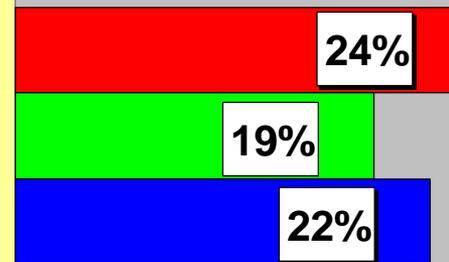
**% saying “strongly agree”**

**■ OCA respondents ■ Antiochian respondents ■ GOA respondents**

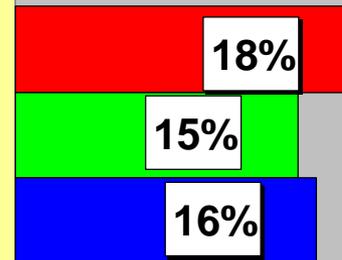
**Our parish has a strong and clear vision for its future**



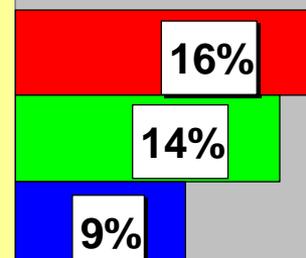
**Our parish uses Internet and social media tools effectively**



**Our parish is always willing to try something new, to change and to meet new challenges**



**We do NOT have a problem finding people to volunteer in the parish**

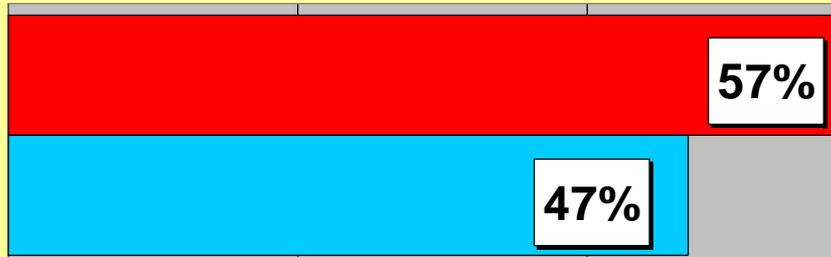


# **BUT AGAIN: OCA Clergy Have More “Optimistic” Opinions About their Parishes than the “People in the Pews”**

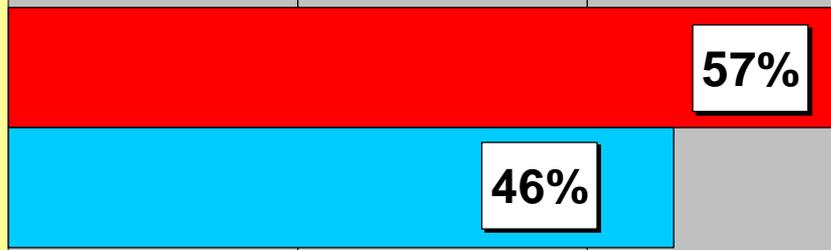
**% of respondents who “strongly agree” with following statements about their parishes**

**■ OCA clergy      ■ OCA laity**

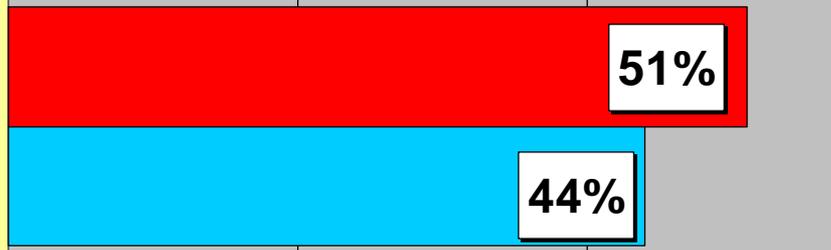
**Opportunities to serve in leadership positions in our parish are equally available to all members**



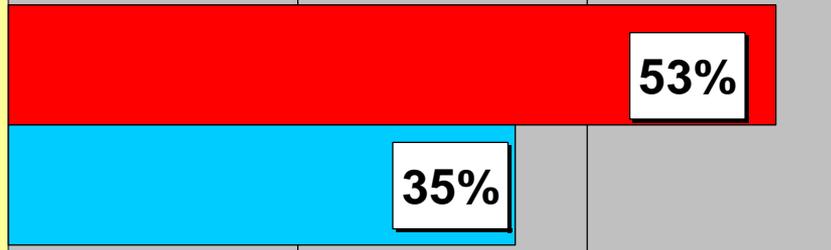
**Our parishioners are encouraged to invite friends and neighbors to visit our church regardless of whether they are Orthodox**



**Our parish is caring and supportive of members who have financial or personal needs**



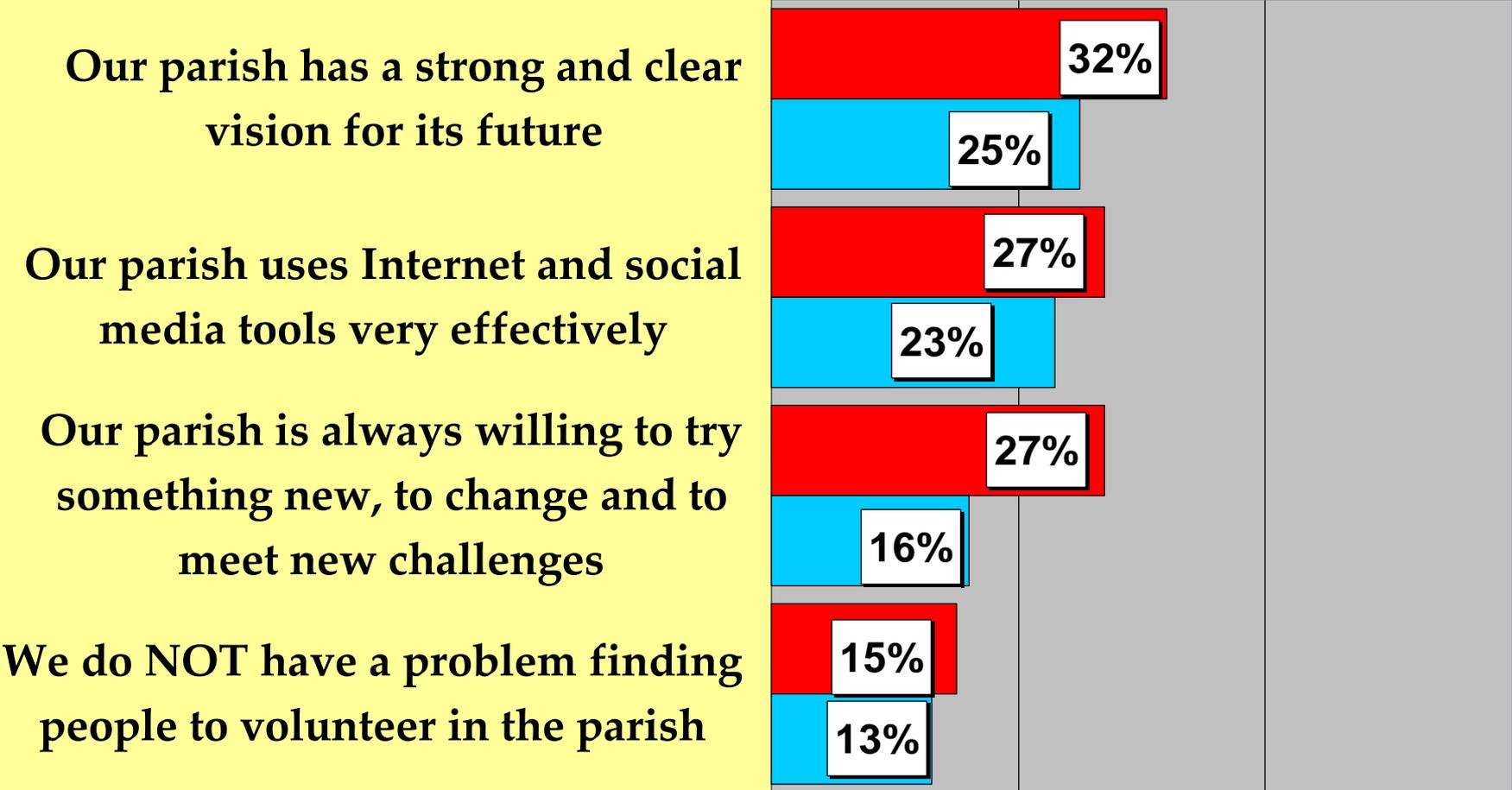
**In our parish people are encouraged to give generously not only to parish, but also to causes outside of Orthodox Church**



# **BUT AGAIN: OCA Clergy Have More “Optimistic” Opinions About their Parishes than the “People in the Pews”**

**% of respondents who “strongly agree” with following statements about their parishes**

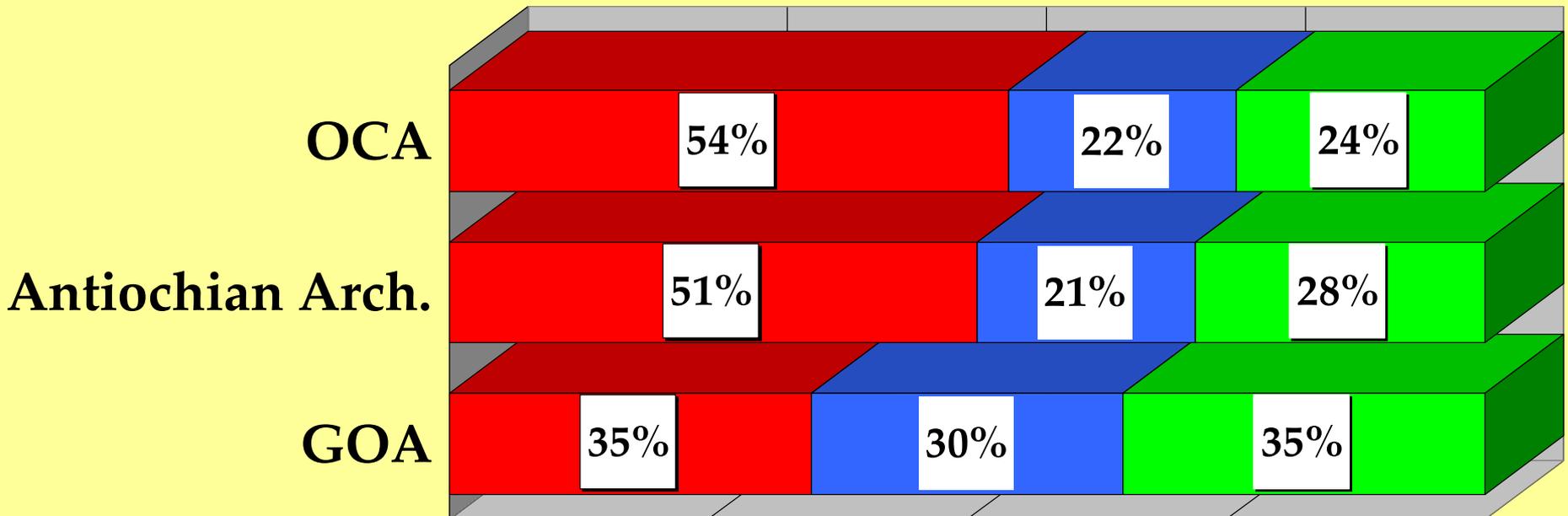
**■ OCA clergy      ■ OCA laity**



# Compared to Antiochian Archdiocese and GOA, OCA members appear to be more “generous” to their parishes

## How would you describe the strength of financial commitment demonstrated by your parishioners?

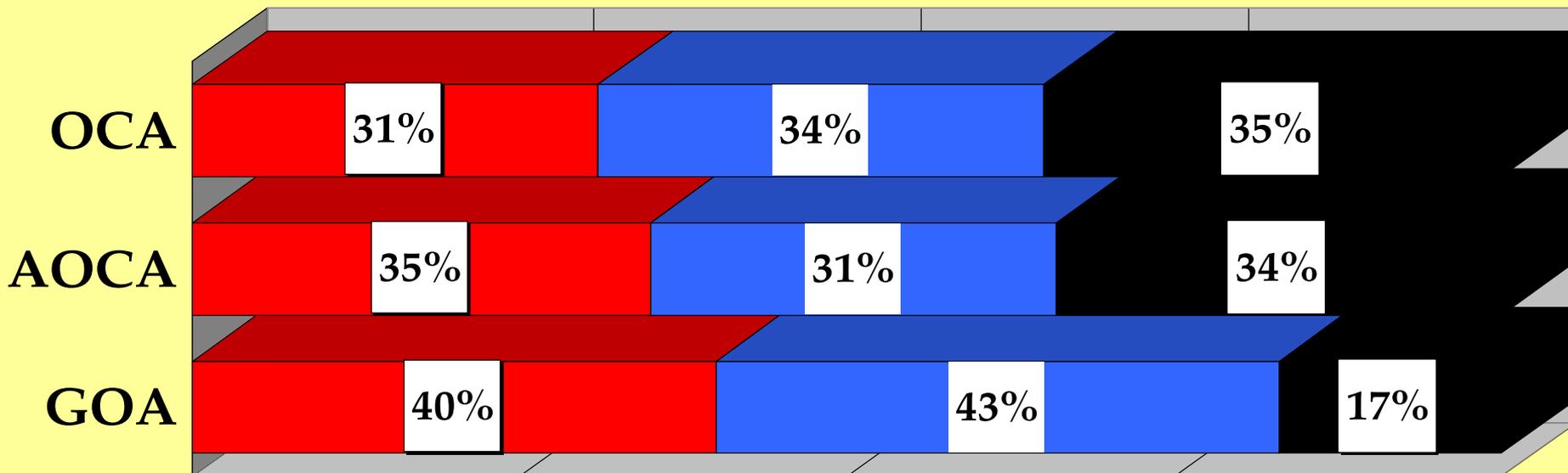
- Most parishioners contribute generously whatever they can
- Some parishioners have strong financial commitment to parish, while others don't care at all
- There is a small group of people who contribute generously, while most give very little



# At the same time, OCA parishes are LESS successful in promoting and implementing stewardship approach in church life

Has your parish actively promoted “Stewardship Approach” to church life which teaches about equal importance of giving time talent and money to the church?:

- Yes, and therefore I am likely to give more
- Yes, but it has no effect on my giving
- No, parish has not promoted such an approach



**KEY QUESTION: What causes would make our church members more enthusiastic, engaged and willing to “pay for”**

- Survey asked: “Are there any desirable changes or circumstances under which you would consider donating more money to your parish?”
- Respondents were given 18 various causes or circumstances that could possibly “inspire” them and make more generous
- With regard to each, respondents can say: a) Yes, would give more; b) May be would give more; c) Would not give more; c) I am satisfied with this area: no need for improvement here

**THE TOP FOUR causes where more than one-third of parishioners said that they would “give more for” are:**

- If money would be used for joint programs or ministries with other Orthodox parishes in our area
- If my parish would pay more attention to religious outreach, mission and evangelism
- If my parish would pay more attention to social outreach into local community or set aside fund for the poor
- If money would be used to support national Orthodox institutions and ministries: e.g. missionary work, Orthodox mass media, humanitarian work.

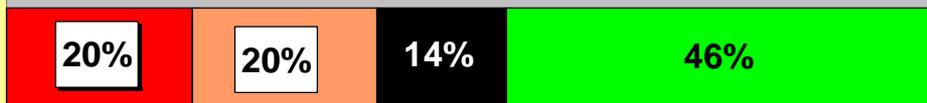
# Are there any desirable changes or circumstances under which you would consider donating more money to your parish?

- Yes, would give more
- May be
- No, would not give more
- I am satisfied with this area: no need for improvement

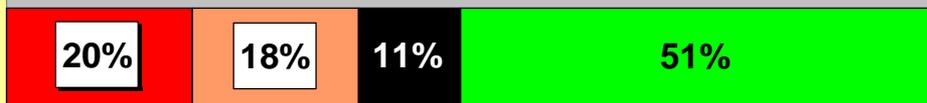
If money would be used for joint programs with other Orthodox parishes in our area



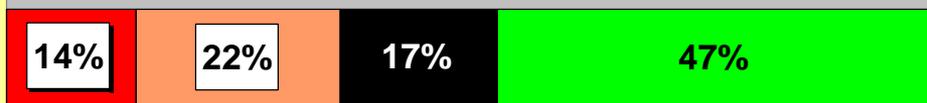
If parish would pay more attention to mission and evangelism



If parish would pay more attention to social outreach in our local community



If money would be used to support national Orthodox institutions and ministries



If my parish would be better at engaging youth and young adults



If money would be used to add professional personnel so that we can have more programs



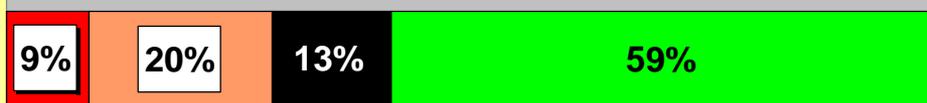
If I felt my parish life was more spiritually nourishing



If there were greater sense of parish community

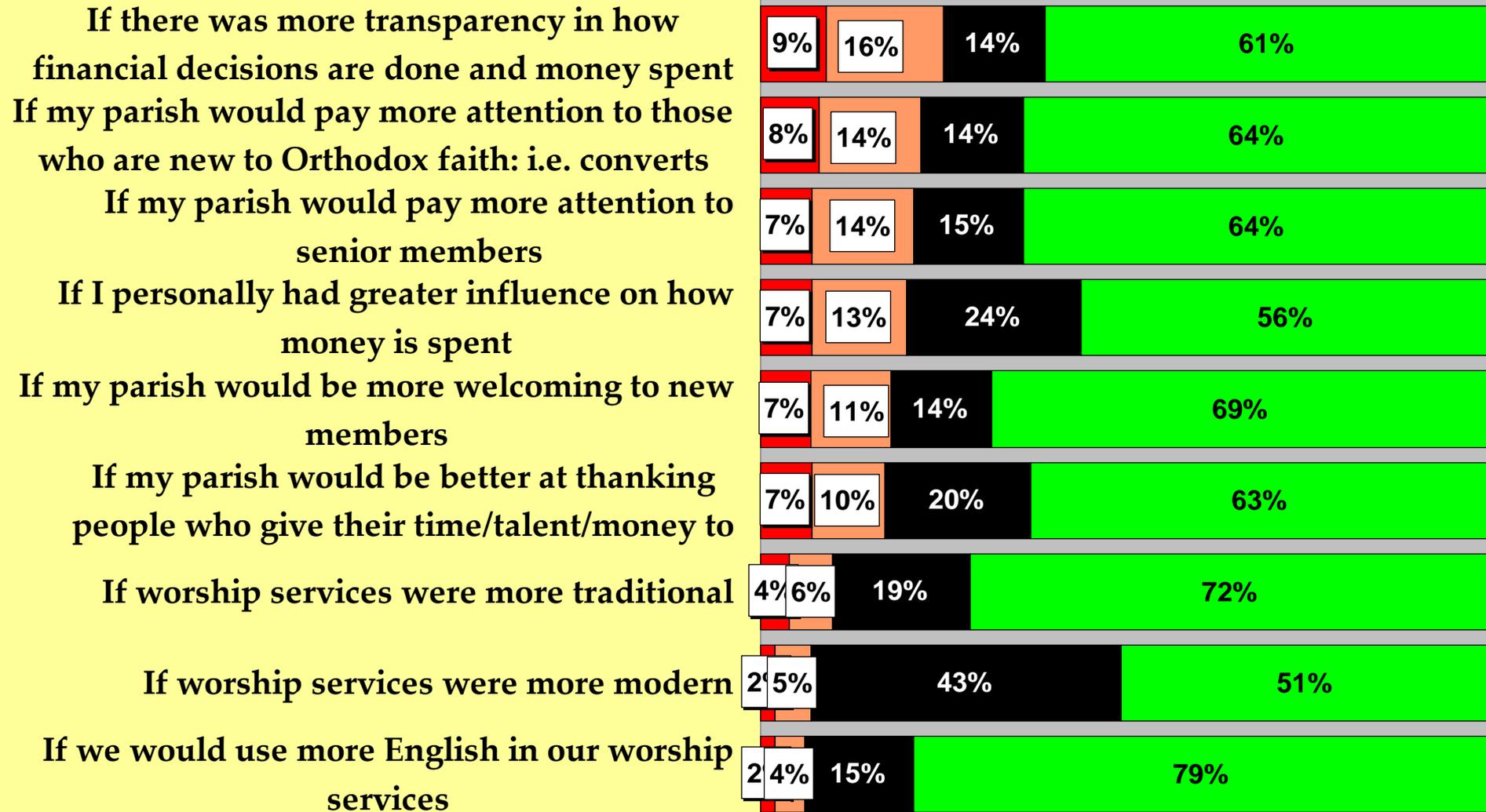


If I understood better how my giving relates to my Faith



# Are there any desirable changes or circumstances under which you would consider donating more money to your parish?

- Yes, would give more
- May be
- No, would not give more
- I am satisfied with this area: no need for improvement



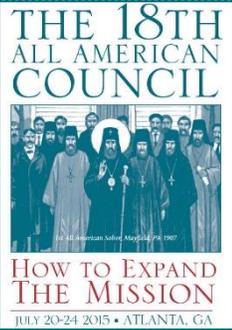
**BOTTOM LINE. Survey data indicate two causes in the Church that make “people in the pews” enthusiastic and willing to pay for:**

- **Greater Orthodox unity and cooperation (i.e. more joint programs/ministries with other Orthodox parishes in the area + better national Orthodox institutions and ministries)**
- **Greater emphasis on “Mission” (i.e. more attention to religious outreach / evangelism + better social outreach / service to local community)**

**If you are back home and have questions, please, write me at [akrindatch@aol.com](mailto:akrindatch@aol.com)**

**Now is time for “difficult” questions:  
please ask!**

# Report on Assembly of Bishops (ACOB)



- ▶ What is the Assembly About?
- ▶ Who is Doing What?
- ▶ Is There Progress towards Unity?
- ▶ What are the Major Issues?
- ▶ What's Next?
- ▶ What is the Role of the OCA?

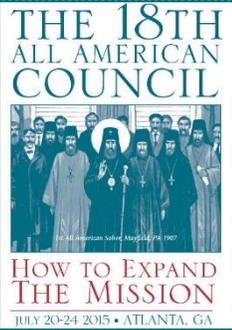
Presented by

Protodeacon Peter Danilchick

- Member, ACOB Secretariat
- Facilitator, Committee Coordination
- Facilitator, Financial Affairs
- Liaison, Canonical Regional Planning
- Liaison, Theological Education
- Member, Research Oversight Committee

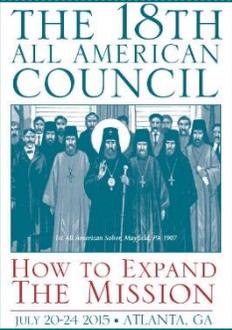
Disclaimer: Protodeacon Peter is presenting as an individual member of the OCA familiar with the workings of the Assembly. His comments do not necessarily represent the positions of the Assembly.

# What is the Assembly About?



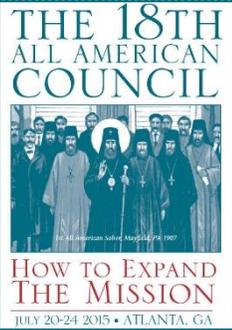
- Heads of overseas Churches agreed in Chambesy to establish Assemblies of Bishops in a dozen regions
- Major desire: to encourage unity and solve canonical anomaly of multiple overlapping jurisdictions in the Diaspora
- Our Assembly was originally North and Central America; now divided into USA, Canada and Central America
- USA Bishops have met in General Assembly each year since 2010
- Majority of work done by fourteen Committees
- *Information about Assembly on [www.assemblyofbishops.org](http://www.assemblyofbishops.org)*

# Who is Doing What?



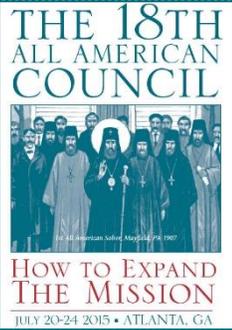
- Committees composed of Bishops with clergy and lay consultants
- Foundational work by Legal and Financial Affairs Committees
- Cooperative efforts by Youth, Monastic Communities, Canonical Affairs, Agencies and Endorsed Organizations, Theological Education, Military Chaplaincy, Ecumenical Relations, Clergy Matters, Church and Society, and Liturgy
- Canonical organization work performed by Canonical Regional Planning and Pastoral Practice Committees
- Many committees working well; others struggling; some need a "push"

# Is There Progress towards Unity?



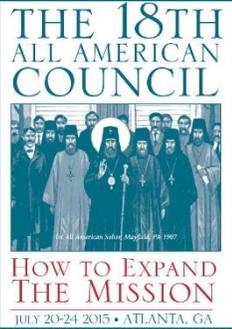
- Committee for Canonical Regional Planning charged with formulating the plan for canonical and administrative unity
  - Proposed "Ecclesiastical Provinces and Ethnic Vicariates" = "one Bishop in One City" plus care of particular ethnic groups
  - A separate outside proposal recommended specific steps for collaboration over ten years while maintaining existing jurisdictions
- Committee for Pastoral Practice working to identify jurisdictional differences and propose resolution
- Other Committees striving to increase mutual efforts among jurisdictions, e.g. Youth, Agencies, Monastic Communities, Canonical Affairs

# What are the Major Issues?



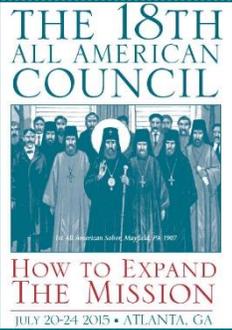
- Canonical restructuring is at a crossroads
  - No consensus with Bulgarian/ Russian (MP)/ ROCOR Churches
  - Could imply a "veto" on others working together on restructuring
- Bulgarian Church desires to maintain its jurisdiction in USA
  - Minister to over 500,000 Bulgarians
- MP/ ROCOR want agreement on pastoral practices before even beginning to plan a possible canonical reorganization
  - Calendar issue could be a major stumbling block
- Lack of official positions from other jurisdictions (with exception of OCA)
  - Absence of Antiochians from June 2015 meeting in Constantinople

# What's Next?



- September 2015 USA Assembly of Bishops in Chicago
- September 2015 Great Council Pre-Conciliar Commission
- January 2016 Synaxis of the Patriarchs
- Pentecost 2016 Great and Holy Council in Constantinople

# What is the Role of the OCA?



- The OCA has consistently contributed to the work of the Assembly
  - Participated in all committee work and Assembly meetings
  - Presented a positive position on canonical restructuring in March 2015
- OCA recommended to start with the creation of a canonically and administratively united local Church led by a functioning local Synod which can deal with issues of pastoral praxis and care of ethnic groups
- What can individual OCA bishops, clergy and laity do?
  - Actively seek out opportunities to be with and work with other Churches
  - Coordination of bishops' calendars; active participation in local clergy associations; teachers/ youth/ choir workshops; cooperation in IOCC/ OCMC/ OPM and other Agency activities and work
  - Speak your mind and express your heart to the Bishops (not just OCA)



# First Annual Mission School An Overview

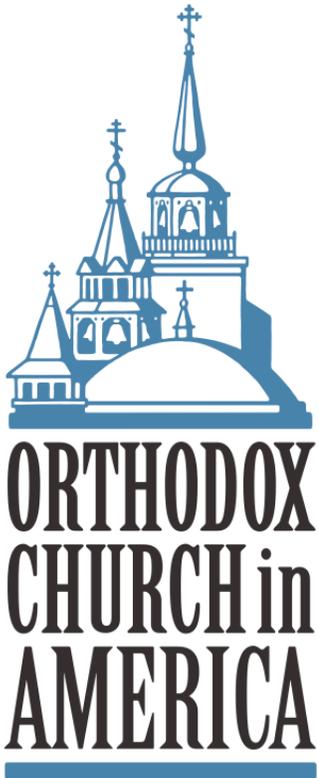
“Just as asceticism is not the concern of monastics alone, so apostleship is not just the work of specialists but a vocation for the entire Church. Archbishop Anastasios of Albania reminds us that: ‘each one of us personally, bears his or her share of responsibility, as a living cell of this organic 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.’”

*His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon address to the attendees of the First Annual Mission School*



# How did the Mission School come about?

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The Mission School was an initiative made possible by a \$1 Million bequest specifically designated to be used in missions and evangelism

A 15 person Task Force was formed by His Beatitude with various mission and evangelism experts within the OCA

Each person brought a series of proposals on how to use these funds within established guidelines (such as for the good of the whole Church, can be for individual project and must have demonstrable criteria of evaluating effectiveness and success)

# Options on the Table

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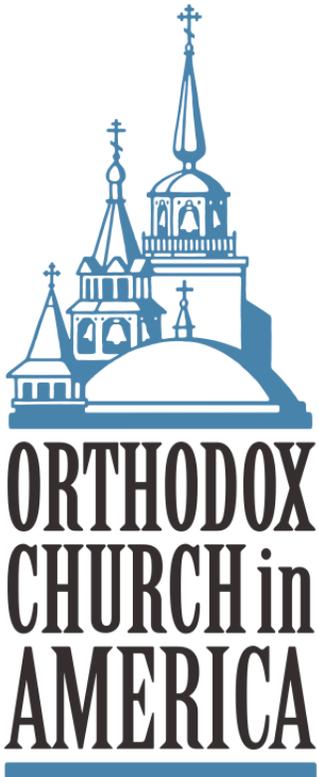
All options were on the table. There were over 27 different options presented.

Specifically instructed to think “outside of the box”

Option included such things as :

- Funding a teaching position at the Seminaries
- Increasing Planting Grants/Revitalization Grants
- Mobile Evangelism/Chapel Trucks
- Establishing a fund for parish projects
- Developing an “Alpha” type program

These were whittled down to three proposals which were presented to the Holy Synod who chose the Mission School proposal



# The Holy Synod decided that....

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That the principle would not be spent at this point, only the interest earned (about \$40 K)

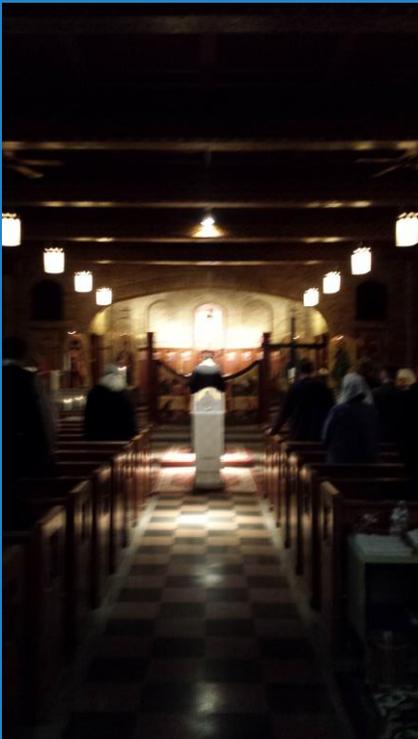
That it would eventually rotate to different locations around the OCA

That each diocese would send one clergy and one lay person to the inaugural school

That there would be follow-up and measures of effectiveness

**TOTALLY FUNDED:** The grant paid for all expenses including travel, lodging and materials

The First School  
was held at St.  
Andrew's House in  
Detroit on April 20  
to April 24, 2015



The School lasted for 1 week

Almost every Diocese were represented

Over 10 instructors from around the OCA

Archbishop Nathaniel and Archbishop Michael attended the School

There was a combination of instruction, round table discussion, daily prayer and fellowship

All courses were of a “practical” nature not just theory

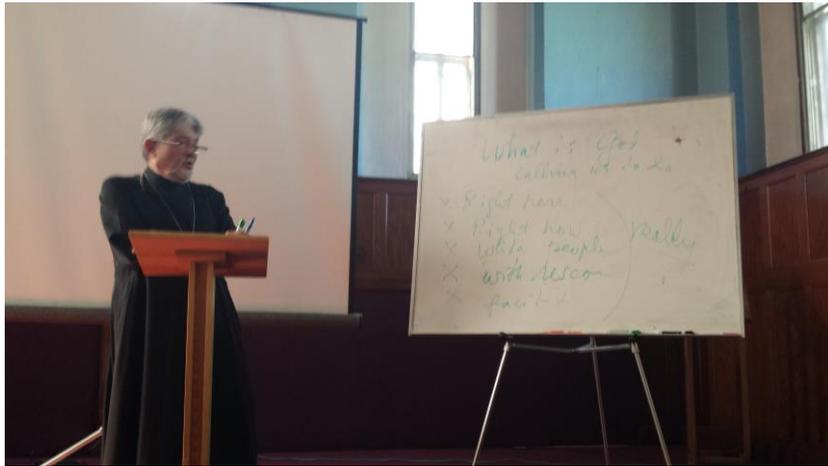
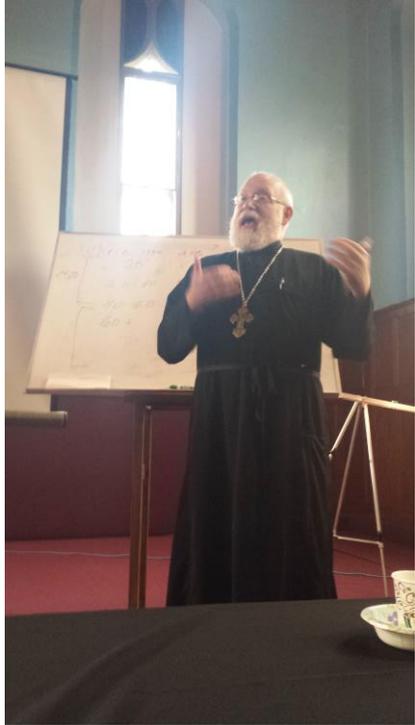
Readings and materials were provided

Each attendee was awarded a certificate of completion at the end of the week

# There were 12 areas of instruction

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1. Missiology and Evangelism Theory
2. Creating and Understanding a Mission's Vision
3. Community Building
4. Mission Management
5. Finance/stewardship
6. Catechism
7. Education Programs
8. Liturgical/music
9. Ethnic approaches/challenges
10. Revitalizing a Parish
11. Mission Community in Sacramental and Developmental Practice
12. Mission in the Secular World



# Some Reactions

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“One encounters many good ideas in life that when actualized fall short of the vision. This newly completed inaugural session of the Missions School of the Orthodox Church in America, on the other hand, has proven itself to be a meaningful and exciting exchange of lessons and examples to further the Apostolic ministry of expanding the mission. I am encouraged about its potential and the impact it will have on our Church in the years to come.”

*Fr. John Pierce*

# Some Other Reactions

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We covered everything from foundational questions like: "What is Orthodox evangelism"? and "What is the purpose/mission of the local parish?" to specific issues like stewardship, 'space' issues (what happens when we can't all fit in here?)"', youth/young adult ministry, etc.

Fr. Joel Weir

What I discovered during my week long study is that a lot of what we discussed were the basics and how we might implement them in our concrete circumstances. Indeed, it is precisely the basics that often get lost in the details of life. The basics are the same for all of us but how they are translated into our local areas require some creativity. Many suggestions and successful examples from parish priests around the country were offered and encouraged discussion.

*Fr. Michael Demko*



# Future Plans

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The Second Mission School will begin to be planned in the Fall

We will look to invite a new group of students. The make up will be discussed

It will be in a new location

There is a planed follow-up each year with the students who have attended

Courses will continually be evaluated as to which are the most effective



“You will have a very full week of learning, growing and sharing. However, I would only emphasize one thing: while you will be given much practical guidance and concrete tools to help you in your missionary work, I think you should remember that you are really attempting to enter into the mindset of the Church, the *phronema* of the Apostles. And this requires a real transformation in your hearts. It is about attitude more than method.”

*His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon address to the attendees of the First Annual Mission School*

## Questions to ponder:

- ▶ If I asked my mission council members to write in a sentence or two the purpose of our mission parish, would they all agree?
- ▶ Do all of our programs, services, activities and budget support our theology of mission?
- ▶ How do we share our theology of mission with new members, helping them to own it?
- ▶ What are we doing well to “make disciples”? What is working?
- ▶ What would we need to change if we want to intentionally facilitate leading our members to spiritual maturity? What would that look like in our mission?

# Questions or Comments?

We welcome any of the attendees to the microphone to share their own comments

THE 18TH  
ALL AMERICAN  
COUNCIL



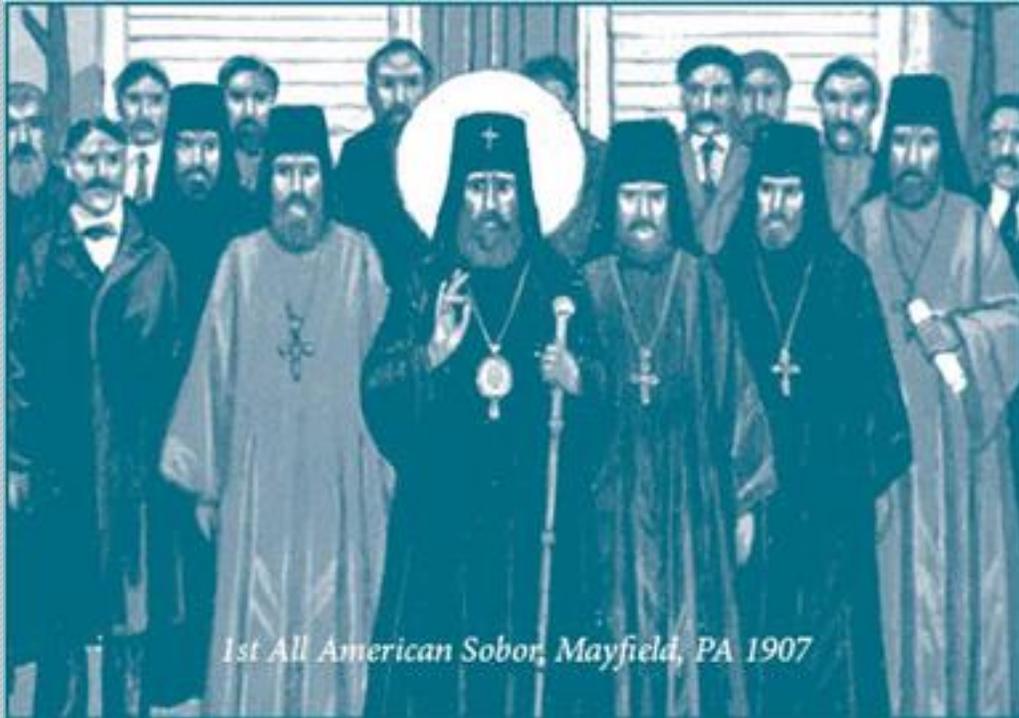
HOW TO EXPAND  
THE MISSION  
JULY 20-24 2015 • ATLANTA, GA

## **Guidelines for Voting for Church-wide Offices during the 18<sup>th</sup> All-American Council**

### **To be read by chair at 5<sup>nd</sup> Plenary session**

1. In accordance with the Statute and resolutions of former All-American Councils, delegates of the Eighteenth All-American Council will elect people to positions on the:
2. Metropolitan Council (1 clergy position for a six year term, 1 clergy position for a three year term, 1 clergy alternate, 1 layperson position for a six year term, 1 layperson position for a three year term and 1 layperson alternate). The persons with the highest vote total will receive a six-year term, the next highest will receive the three year term and the third highest will be the alternate.
3. Pension Board (1 clergy positions for a six year term, 1 clergy to a three year term and 1 clergy alternate, 1 layperson position for a six year term, 1 layperson position for a three year term and 1 layperson alternate). The persons with the highest vote total will receive a six-year term, the next highest will receive the three year term and the third will be designated as alternate.
4. Each voting delegate gets one official ballot
5. Clearly mark your 3 choices for each position on the ballot
6. Fold the ballot in half once
7. Hand in ballot to tellers
8. Illegible or incorrectly marked ballots are disqualified
9. Questions?

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL

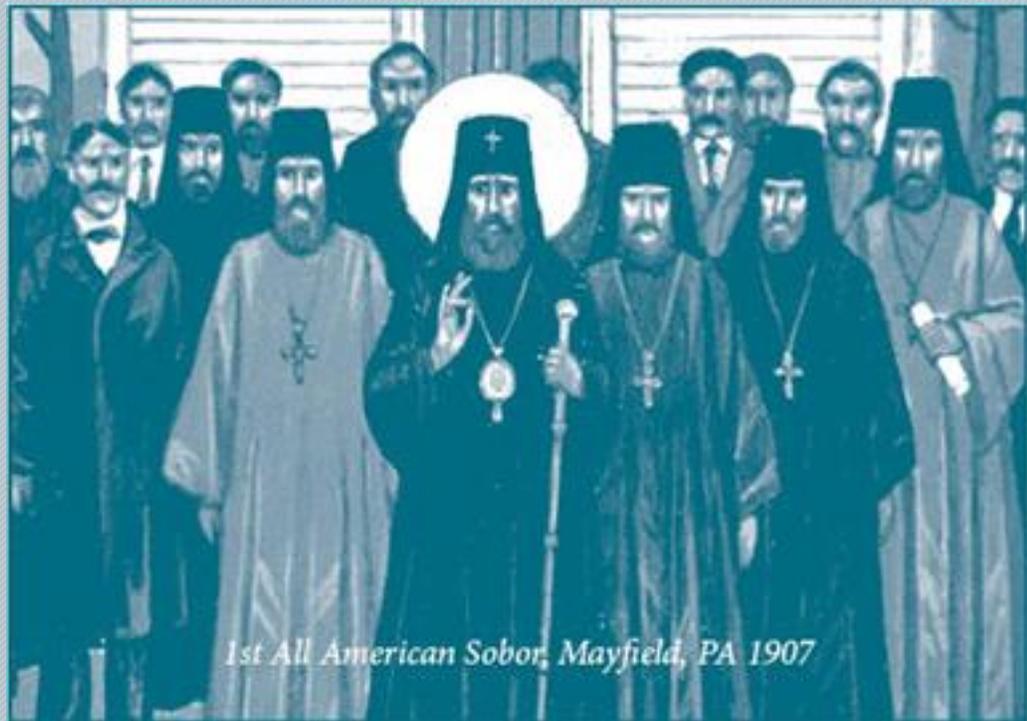


“HOW TO  
EXPAND THE  
MISSION”

JULY 20-24, 2015

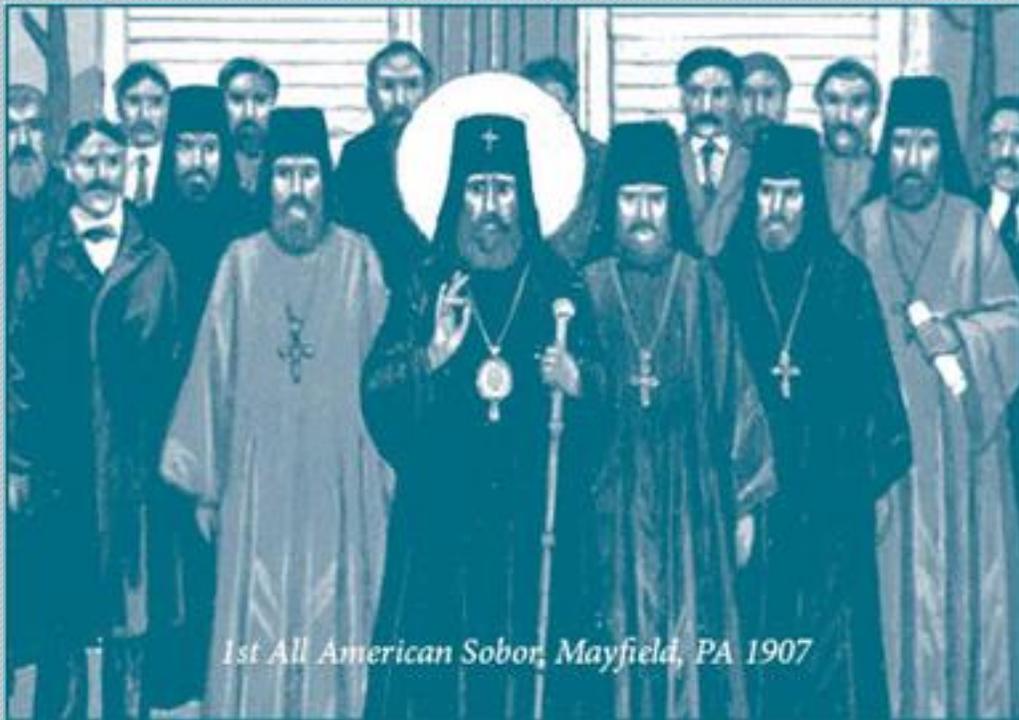
ATLANTA, GA

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



OPENING  
PRAYER

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



*1st All American Sobor, Mayfield, PA 1907*

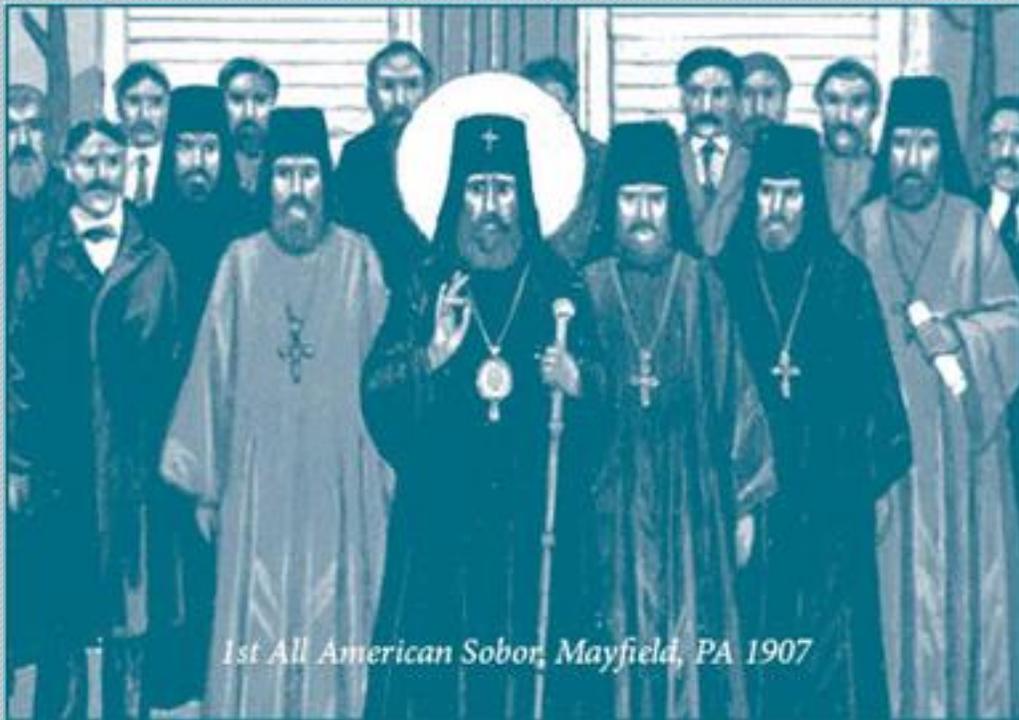
## PLENARY SESSION 6

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



INSTALLATION  
TO CHURCH-  
WIDE OFFICES

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL

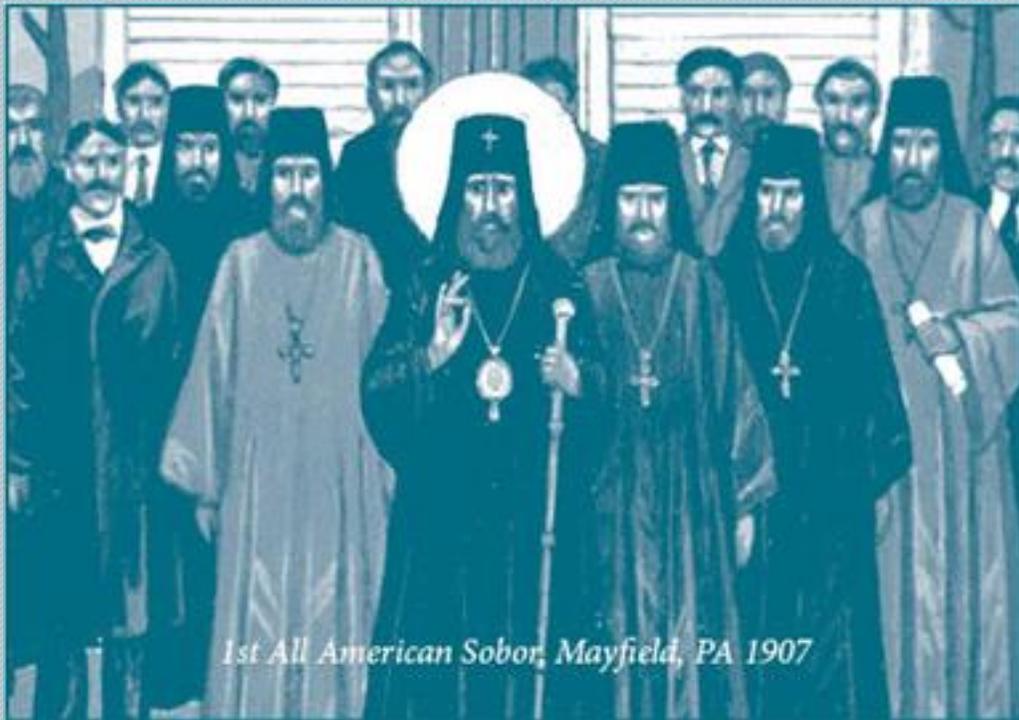


## DIOCESE OF THE WEST PRESENTATION

HIS EMINENCE ARCHBISHOP  
BENJAMIN

ARCHBISHOP OF SAN  
FRANCISCO AND THE WEST

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



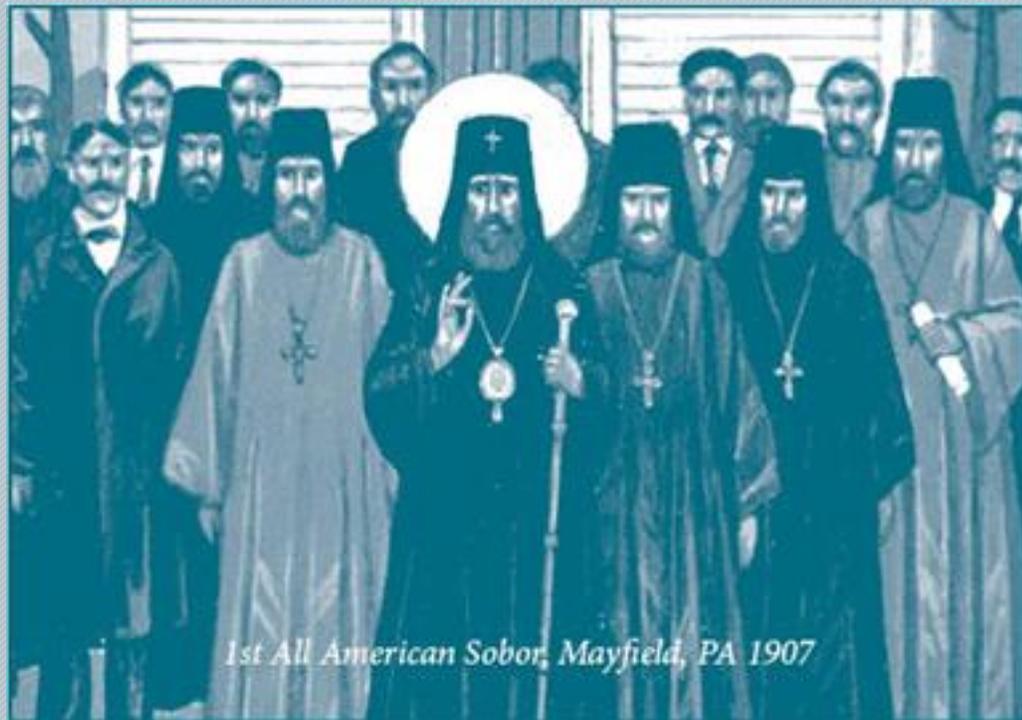
*1st All American Sobor, Mayfield, PA 1907*

## ARCHDIOCESE OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA PRESENTATION

HIS EMINENCE ARCHBISHOP  
MELCHISEDEK

ARCHBISHOP OF PITTSBURGH  
AND WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA

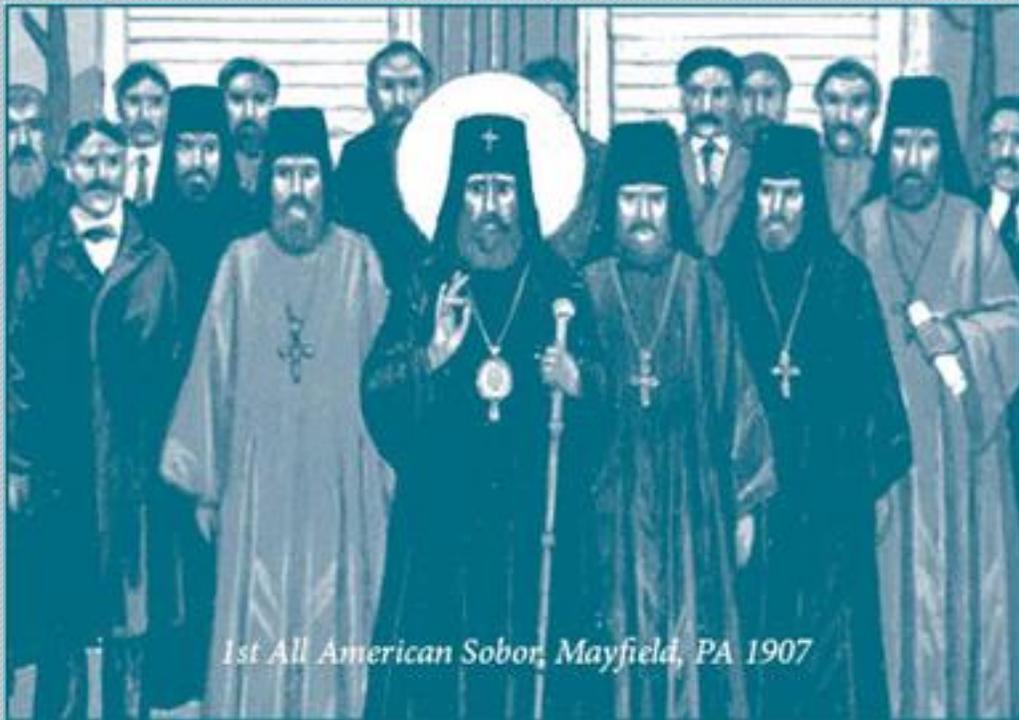
# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



## MONASTIC LIFE REPORT

METROPOLITAN TIKHON  
FR. SERGIUS BOWYER

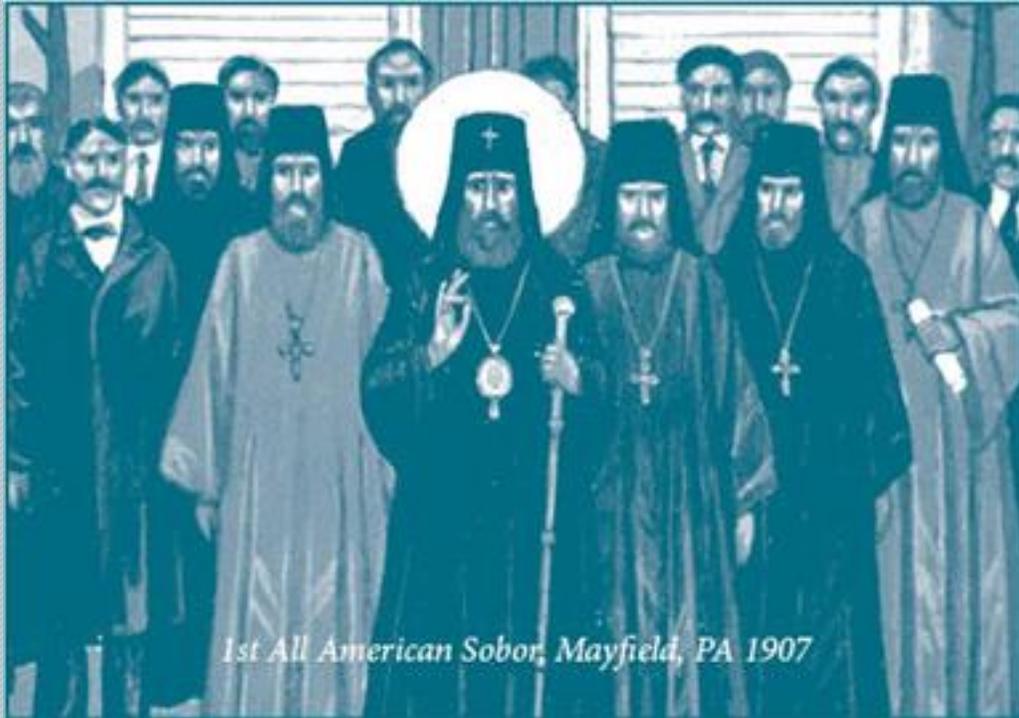
# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



**SEMINARY REPORT:  
ST. HERMAN'S SEMINARY  
ST. TIKHON'S SEMINARY  
ST. VLADIMIR'S SEMINARY**

**FR. JOHN BEHR  
FR. JOHN DUNLOP  
FR. CHAD HATFIELD  
FR. STEVEN VOYTOVICH**

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL

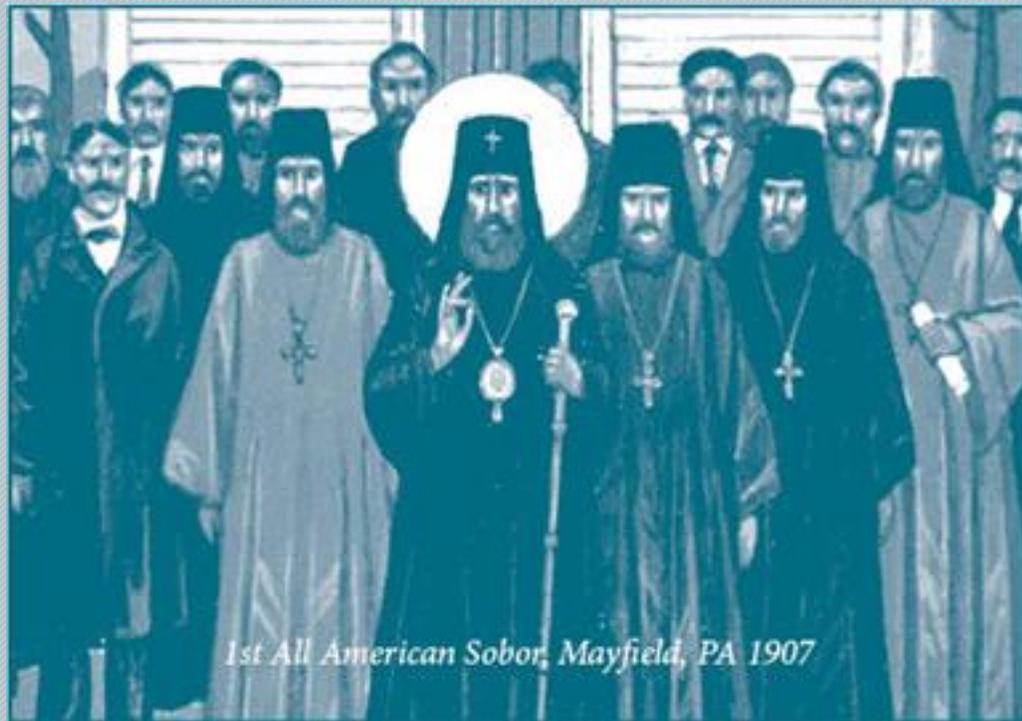


*1st All American Sobor, Mayfield, PA 1907*

PRESENTATION BY  
THE YOUTH OF  
THE ORTHODOX  
CHURCH IN  
AMERICA

FR. BENJAMIN TUCCI

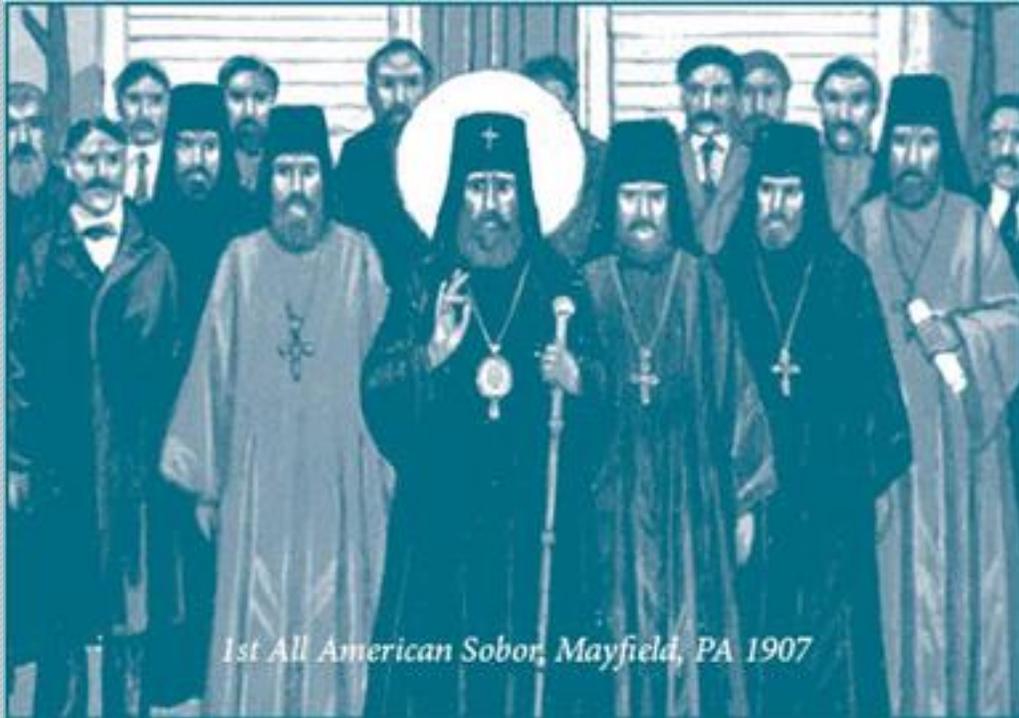
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## OPEN DISCUSSION AND INITIATIVES

HIS BEATITUDE  
METROPOLITAN TIKHON  
AND THE HOLY SYNOD

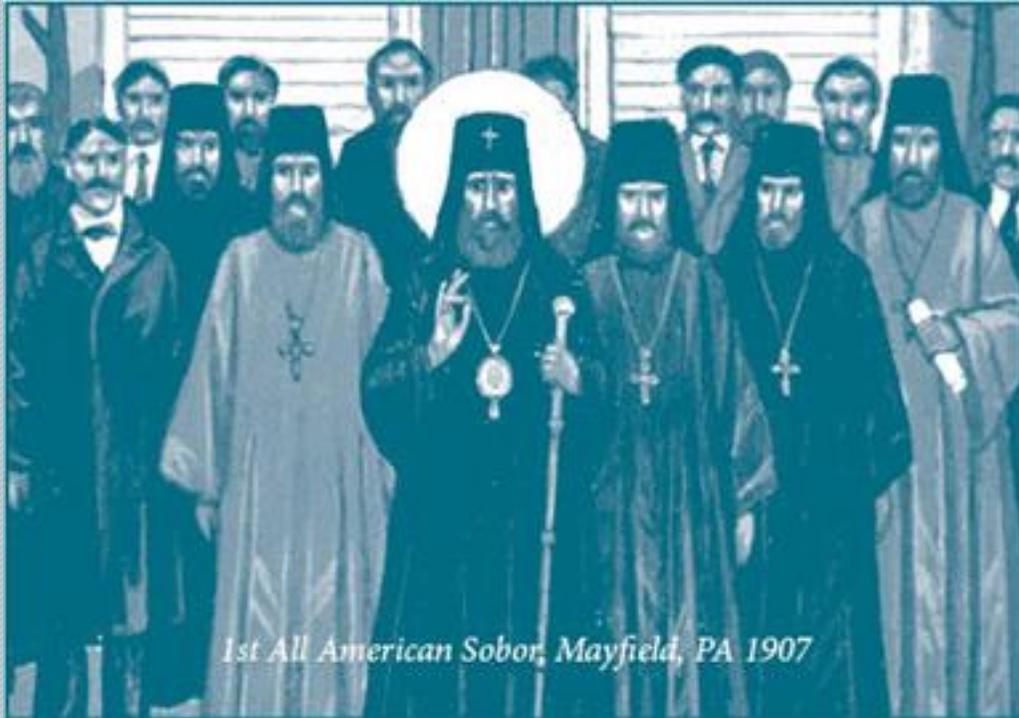
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FINAL  
RESOLUTIONS

COUNCIL CHAIRS

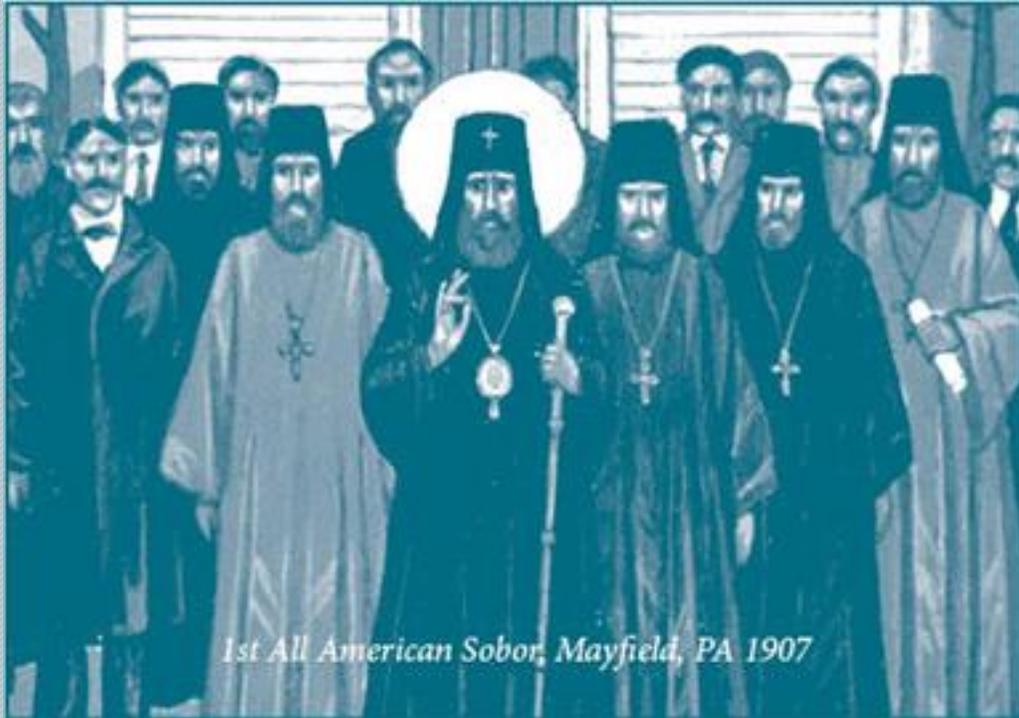
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## HOUSEKEEPING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

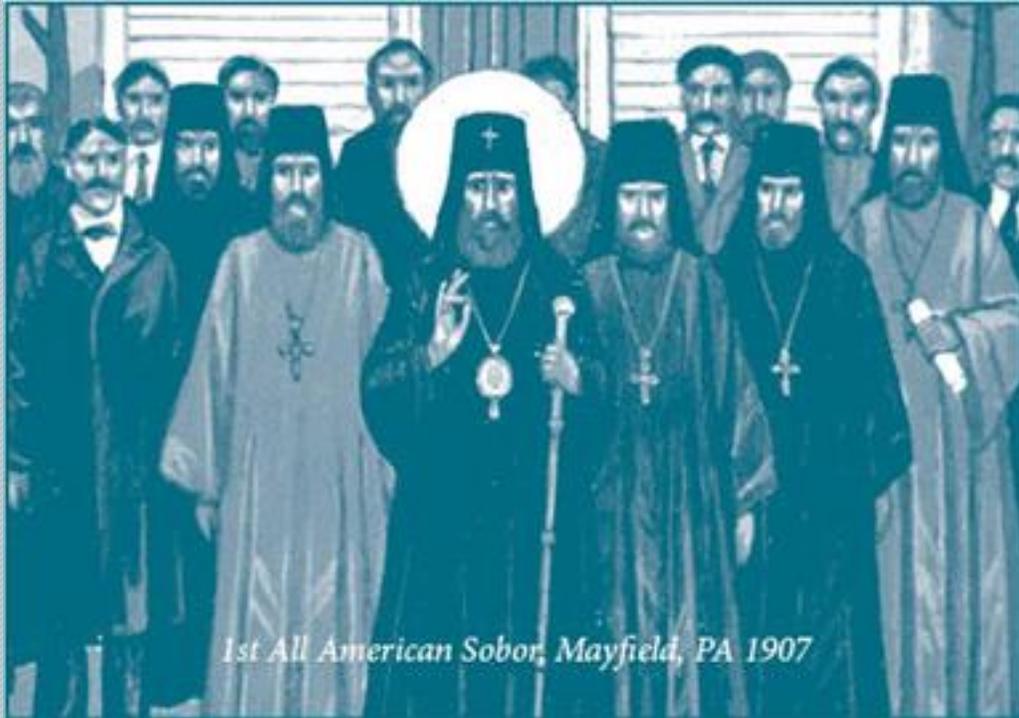
FR. ERIC G. TOSI

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



CLOSING  
MOLEBEN

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL



**“HOW TO  
EXPAND THE  
MISSION”**

**JULY 20-24, 2015**

**ATLANTA, GA**

**SAFE JOURNEY HOME**