

2006



# ORTHODOX CHURCH in AMERICA SEMINARY APPEAL

SUPPORT THE EDUCATION OF TOMORROW'S LEADERS... TODAY!



# WHAT DO OUR

Dearly beloved in the Lord:



ORTHODOX  
CHURCH in  
AMERICA

“How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of Whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the Gospel of peace, who bring glad tidings of good things?”

These words of St. Paul found in Romans 10:14-15 express clearly one of the great challenges that faces our Orthodox Church in America. As we seek to bring the True Faith of Christ to the peoples of this continent, we need more individuals to respond to the call to come to seminary, to be theologically educated and spiritually formed, and to be ordained to the Priesthood or the Diaconate or to serve as lay leaders of our parishes.

Each year at this time I call upon you to pray for more vocations to labor in the Vineyard of Christ, and to encourage those that you may know to say “yes” to the seed that the Lord has planted in their hearts to serve Him and His Church. Likewise, I request of your Christian charity a gift of financial support to assist our three theological schools - St. Vladimir’s Seminary in Crestwood, NY; St. Tikhon’s Seminary in South Canaan, PA; and St. Herman Seminary in Kodiak, AK.

I am pleased to report record enrollment in all three of these venerable institutions, thanks be to God! These increased numbers, however, necessitate greater funds to maintain the outstanding caliber of their faculties and the excellence of their programs. For this reason, we appeal to your generosity to provide what is needed to continue the sacred work of training those who will bring others to Christ in Holy Orthodoxy!

Your contribution to the 2006 OCA Seminary Appeal is an investment in the future of our Faith in this land. It is an assurance that there will be clergy to guide our parishes not only in this 21st century but until the Lord comes again. It is a commitment to help our seminaries strengthen and expand their mission to better equip those who have the desire to preach the Gospel, to lead people to the Savior, and to build up the Body of Christ. Please give as generously as you can from the blessings that God has given - for His glory and for the increase of His Holy Church!

Bestowing my archpastoral blessing and assuring you of my prayers, I remain

With love in Christ,

+ *Herman*

+HERMAN  
Archbishop of Washington and New York  
Metropolitan of All America and Canada

“I was able to save some money before I came to seminary but the responsibility of paying tuition has depleted this savings. Additional assistance in paying tuition would enable me to focus on my studies more, and less on financial burdens.”

JASON FRANCHAK  
ST. TIKHON’S SEMINARY,  
CLASS OF 2008



“Seminary  
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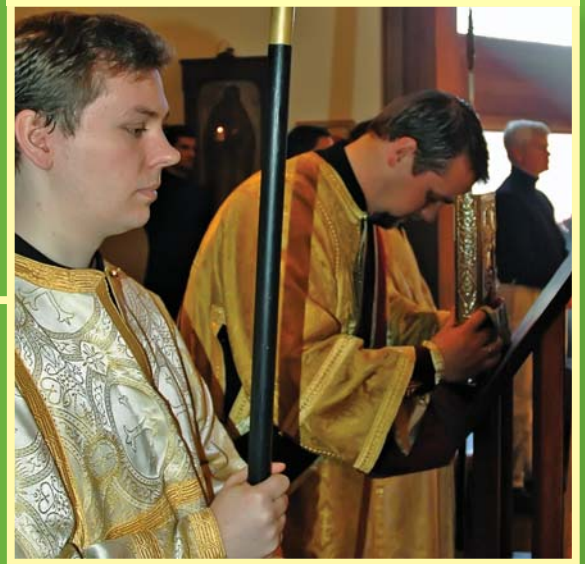


# R SEMINARIANS HAVE TO SAY?



ians live frugally. Our best efforts us still find our- ing on the "edge" days late on t. It is hard to words what it when we receive a e covers or puts a our rent for the month. We are for such generos- ope and pray more parishes and individuals are moved to their abundance so more students and their families may moments. This confirms our vocation and of God's care who wish to work in His Vineyard."

**STEPHEN VERNAK**  
**ST. TIKHON'S SEMINARY, CLASS OF 2007**



"The most important aspect of seminary life has been chapel worship. Classes are important, of course, yet the context for all that I do at seminary is set in the chapel. It is here that I continue to learn how to pray and to serve."

**BRICE CANTRELL**  
**ST. VLADIMIR'S SEMINARY,**  
**CLASS OF 2007**



"The two things that have been very important while at seminary are the guidance and direction liturgically and spiritually. Liturgically – a lot of hands on experience in serving in the chapel as well as a willingness to answer questions as they come up. Spiritually – there has been a willingness to take time with me as I dealt with various things that came up while struggling through seminary."

**FR. CHRISTOPHER FOLEY**  
**ST. VLADIMIR'S SEMINARY,**  
**CLASS OF 2006**

"The church services, being able to learn more about our faith through the wonderful instructors and staff. Mostly to teach what we have learned here and to share it with others. God willing, I'm hoping to help people in any way that I can, either through teaching church school, missions...basically to teach others about our Orthodox faith."

**ANASTASIA NICOLAI**  
**ST. HERMAN SEMINARY,**  
**CLASS OF 2009**



That the annual Seminary Appeal provides financial assistance to offset the rising cost of educating those who have accepted the call to proclaim the Gospel across North America — and beyond?

**DID**

That, with nearly 350 parishes, missions, and institutions planted by the Orthodox Church in America during the past three decades, the need for more theologically trained clergy and lay persons continues to grow?

That our seminaries offer numerous programs and degrees designed to provide the Church with well-trained bishops, priests, deacons, monastics, theologians, chaplains, substance abuse counselors, hospital chaplains, choir directors and composers, educators, Church school coordinators and teachers, and lay leaders?

**YOU**

That seminarians do not receive “full scholarships” and are responsible for funding their tuition, housing costs, and other expenses? This can be especially difficult in the case of married students.

That support of the Seminary Appeal is an investment in your parish’s future and the future of the Church on this continent?

**KNOW?**

That our seminaries, unlike other institutions, do not possess large enough endowments, but rely instead on the generosity of the faithful and friends for financial support?

# THANK YOU!

**YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF THE 2005 SEMINARY APPEAL RAISED \$75,424.97 TO HELP THE ONGOING COMMITMENT OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA TO NURTURE THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION IN NORTH AMERICA!**

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE 2006 OCA SEMINARY APPEAL, VISIT [WWW.OCA.ORG](http://WWW.OCA.ORG)  
VISIT OUR SEMINARIES’ WEB SITES TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THEIR WORK, VISION, MISSION, AND GROWING NEEDS!

**ST. VLADIMIR’S SEMINARY**  
CRESTWOOD, NEW YORK

[WWW.SVOTS.EDU](http://WWW.SVOTS.EDU)



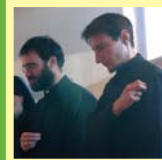
**ST. TIKHON’S SEMINARY**  
SOUTH CANAAN, PENNSYLVANIA

[WWW.STOTS.EDU](http://WWW.STOTS.EDU)



**ST. HERMAN’S SEMINARY**  
KODIAK, ALASKA

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