

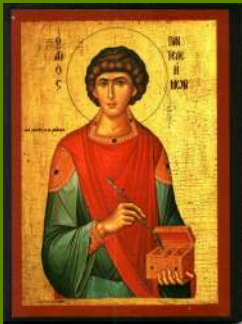
# St. Panteleimon Orthodox Church

OCA - Diocese of the Midwest

Fr. Andrew Bartek, Rector V. Rev. Anthony Spengler, Attached

Protodeacon Robert Northrup Reader James Tilghman

Parish Council President: Nicholas Cavaligos



**Sunday, January 31, 2016**

**Gospel:** St. Matthew 25:14-30

*35th Sunday after Pentecost / New martyrs & Confessors of Russia  
Unmercenary SS. Cyrus & John / Martyr Athanasia*

**Tone 2**

**Epistle:** Colossians 3:12-16

## January Bulletin Sponsor

*Fr. Andrew in Memory of his parents George & Dorothy*

### *Liturgical & Event Schedule*

#### **Sunday, January 31**

9:10 am: Hours

9:30 am: D.L. / Sm. Social

Noon : Greek Dinner w/ Burr Ridge

#### **Monday, February 1**

7:30 pm: Great Vespers w/ Litya for Feast of  
the Meeting of the Lord in the  
Temple

#### **Tuesday, February 2**

9:30 am: D. Liturgy for Feast

Noon : March For Life Luncheon

7:30 pm: Bible Study

#### **Wednesday February 3**

11:00 am: Village of Summit Senior Club's  
Monthly Lunch @ Grand Dukes  
Restaurant

#### **Thursday, February 4**

7:00 pm: Orthodox Synergy Meeting in Niles

#### **Saturday, February 6**

6:00 pm: Great Vespers

#### **Sunday, February 7 (Children's Sunday)**

9:10 am: Hours

9:30 am: D.L. / 40<sup>th</sup> Day Panachida / Social

### **40 Days Eternal Memory**

February 7: Bernice McGurk

February 14: Helen Pender

February 21: Matthew Lyons / Catherine

February 27: Terrorist attack @ Palestine Univ.

16 Marines killed in helicopter crash in  
Hawaii & Joshua Zdinak

### **2016 - SPECIAL COLLECTIONS**

January: St Tikhon's Seminary

This collection will take place during the Litany  
before the *Our Father* or see Steve Grabavoy or  
Mark Hruban

### **UPCOMING EVENTS IN FEBRUARY**

#### **Tuesday February 9:**

6:00 pm: Monthly Chamber Meeting

7:30 pm: Monthly Healing Service

#### **Wednesday February 10:**

11:00-2:00 & 4:00pm-8:00pm Fish Fry

#### **Winter Camp:**

Saturday February 13-Monday February 15

#### **Tuesday, February 16:**

7:30 pm: Bible Study (Church Rectory)

#### **Wednesday, February 17:**

7:00 pm: Orthodox Teen Night

#### **Sunday, February 21:**

11:45 am: Monthly Board Meeting

Noon: Russian Winter Festival- Lee St  
Cathedral

### **FAST FREE WEEK: February 22<sup>nd</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>**

#### **Tuesday, February 23:**

10:00 am Deanery Meeting (Christ the  
Saviour)

7:30 pm: Orthodoxy 101 Class (Church  
Basement)

#### **Saturday, February 27:**

Carson Day Event

3:00 pm: (NOTE SPECIAL TIME) Great  
Vespers

4:00-8:00 pm: Fundraiser Spaghetti Dinner in  
Church Basement

### **DEANERY ORDINATIONS:**

**Tonsure Readers:** John Pearlstein, Ephrem  
Tauck and Matthew Mustain

**Sub-deacons:** Seraphim Woodmansee


**Deacon:** Sub-Deacon Joseph Gresham

**Priest:** Dc. David Gresham and Dc Basil  
Ferguson

7549 West 61st Place, Summit, Illinois 60501

Rectory 708-552-5276 / Cell 570-212-8747

website: <http://www.saintpanteleimon.org/>




Orthodox Christian Coalition  
Healthy Youth

## OCCHY BLURB

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# CHI TOWN S. SIDE TEEN NIGHT



Orthodox Christian Coalition for Healthy Youth South Side Winter Event 2018

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### Orthodox Teens Health & Hookah Risk Prevention

Presentation – Video – Q&A – Youth Survey

On Wednesday night, February 17th, teens from the South Suburbs of Chicago will have a chance to gather for an informative presentation on substance prevention and awareness.

This is a great opportunity to be informed about current teen health risks and to meet new friends in the area.

*Feel free to bring a friend!*

**WEDNESDAY  
FEBRUARY 17TH**

7p-9p

**ST. MARY  
ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX  
CHURCH**

6330 West 127th St  
Palos Heights, IL 60463

**R.S.V.P.**

Email:  
occhycicero@gmail.com  
- or - ajkoranda@gmail.com

Phone:  
(708) 298-9770

Please give the name of the parish and how many will be participating when responding.

Like us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/OCCHYChicago>

### Metropolitan Tikhon addresses Diocesan Chancellors, Treasurers

His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon, addressed the Chancellors and Treasurers of the Dioceses of the Orthodox Church in America at their fifth annual meeting at the Chancery here on Tuesday, January 19, 2016.

The gathering—specifically held to review the common work of the dioceses and to discuss the implementation of the new finance plan and revised *Statute*—opened with the celebration of the Divine Liturgy in Saint Sergius Chapel, after which His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon welcomed those in attendance.

“As I have said in previous meetings, I believe that this is one of the most important gatherings of the year, since it allows for a parallel interaction to what takes place biannually in our Holy Synod meetings,” Metropolitan Tikhon said in his opening address.

“While the bishops, of course, have the oversight of every aspect of the life of their dioceses, I think it is very helpful for those who assist the bishops in that common administrative work to have the opportunity for sharing and learning, and thereby strengthening the bond of unity between us. This gathering has also been a forum for the accomplishment of very specific tasks as witnessed by the last five years of discussion within this group in order to arrive at a positive resolution to the challenge laid down at the [18th All-American Council](#) in Atlanta.

“I believe that one difference with the Council is that the specific actions that were taken were both monumental in themselves and pave the way for significant development in the Orthodox Church in America, not only over the next triennium, but beyond,” Metropolitan Tikhon continued. “The overwhelming adoption by the delegates of the [Statute Revision](#) and the resolution on [Church Funding](#) were watershed moments and testimony to the excellent and sometimes agonizing preparatory work of His Eminence, Archbishop Nathaniel and the members of the Statute Revision Task Force on the one hand, and our Treasurer, Melanie Ringa, and those who worked with her and the Metropolitan Council Finance Committee—especially those who are gathered here today, the diocesan Chancellors and Treasurers—on the other. I think all of the Chancellors and Treasurers know that tortuous path that has been taken to arrive at the resolution adopted in Atlanta, and you likewise are aware of the complexity of the resolution. But I think we are all aware that this complexity is simply a reflection of the complex and varied situations that are found in our dioceses.”

Metropolitan Tikhon concluded by explaining the “four pillars” of the Church’s work he presented in Atlanta—specifically spiritual life, stewardship, missions and evangelism, and external relations.

Participants from eight dioceses attended the gathering.

In addition to offering updates on their respective dioceses, the Chancellors and Treasurers heard a number of reports.

\*Archpriest John Jillions, Chancellor, spoke on the vision of the OCA, the work of the [ORSMA](#), the recently reactivated [Pastoral Life Department](#), and issues related to the funding and mission of the seminaries. He emphasized the need for parishes and dioceses to consider funding for our seminaries when developing their budgets.

*Con’t Page 4*

## ARCHAEOLOGY Historic church discovered in Turkey's Nevşehir 'could change history of Orthodoxy'

NEVŞEHİR – Anadolu Agency

*Another historical church has been discovered underground during excavations in Turkey's Cappadocia region, with experts saying the frescoes inside could change the history of Orthodoxy*  
*Article from Daily News in Turkey*

Yet another historical church has been unearthed in the Cappadocia region of Central Anatolia and experts are excited about its frescoes, which depict scenes hitherto unseen.

The church was uncovered by archeologists during excavation and cleaning work in an underground city discovered as part of the Nevşehir Castle Urban Transformation Project, implemented by the Nevşehir Municipality and Turkey's Housing Development Administration (TOKI).

The rock-carved underground church is located within a castle in the center of Nevşehir that spreads over an area of 360,000 square meters, within a third-degree archaeological site that includes 11 neighborhoods in the city center.

Nevşehir Mayor Hasan Ünver said the frescoes in the church showed the rise of Jesus the Christ into the sky and the killing of the bad souls.

"We know that such frescoes have so far never been seen in any other church," Ünver said, adding that preliminary studies show the church might date back to the 5th century A.D.

"This place is even bigger than the other historical churches in Cappadocia. It was built underground and has original frescoes that have survived to this day," he said.

"We didn't even think of finding such a structure when we first started works. But excavations and cleaning work are continuing and we hope to find new data relating to the history of Cappadocia," the mayor said.

"It is reported that some of the frescoes here are unique. There are exciting depictions like fish falling from the hand of Jesus Christ, him rising up into the sky, and the bad souls being killed. When the church is completely revealed, Cappadocia could become an even bigger pilgrimage center of Orthodoxy," Ünver added.

### Most of the church is underground

Archaeologist Semih İstanbulluoğlu, who heads the works in the underground city and the church, said the thin walls of the church collapsed because of snow and rain but they would be fixed during restorations.

İstanbulluoğlu said the church was filled with earth and the pieces of frescoes had to be collected one by one. "The structure was found a short time ago. The frescoes on the walls will return to their original look after restoration and cleaning work," he added.

Fellow archaeologist Ali Aydın said only the roof of the church could be seen, so information about the height of the structure would only be understood after the cleaning work.

Aydın said the humidity in the church had to be dried up slowly in order to prevent the frescoes from losing their features.

"We have stopped work in order to protect the wall paintings and the church. When the weather gets warmer in the spring, we will wait for humidity to evaporate and then we will start removing the earth," he said.

Aydın added that the side walls of the church were still underground and the frescoes there may still be intact.

"Only a few of the paintings have been revealed. Others will emerge when the earth is removed. There are important paintings in the front part of the church showing the crucifixion of Jesus and his ascension to heaven. There are also frescoes showing the apostles, the saints and other prophets Moses and Elyesa," he said, adding that they had also found the real entrance of the church used in the past but had yet to expose it.



*A Washington, DC suburbanite plowing 31 inches of snow out the driveway with a "helper"!!*





*Just a couple of pictures from Eastern PA from last weeks Blizzard! It's great to live in Chicago when you see pictures like these.*

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### **Diocesan Chancellors Con't**

\*Archpriest Eric G. Tosi, Secretary, spoke on a variety of administrative matters, including 501c(3) status and Group Exemption procedures, annual diocesan reporting to the OCA, and general insurance issues.

\*Treasurer Melanie Ringa spoke about the new finance plan and its implementation in the dioceses.

\*Raymond Boyd spoke about the role that the [Stewards of the OCA](#) plays in supporting the work of the [Departments](#) and [Planting Grants](#), all of which had been funded by the operating budget in prior years. In 2014, the Stewards of the OCA contributed \$31,421.00, while in 2015, donations totaled \$53,911.00.

\*Priest Nathan Preston, Administrator of the Pastoral Life Department, spoke on initiatives from the Holy Synod for the department, which include a revision of the clergy compensation guidelines, clergy handbook, support for clergy wives, clergy health, pastoral response to sexual identity issues, and related matters affecting parish life in today's society.

\*John Della Monica, President of the Orthodox Church Capital Improvement Fund [OCCIF], reported on OCCIF's work as a 501c(3) organization created to provide financial assistance to Orthodox parishes, missions, and other institutions in the US for the purchase and construction and/or refinancing of real estate and associated improvements. He indicated OCCIF's willingness to accept invitations to meet with diocesan councils and/or assemblies to discuss how this program can benefit their parishes.

\*Judge E.R. Lanier, General Counsel of the OCA, spoke on various legal matters and stressed the importance of bringing diocesan and parish by-laws into conformity with the new OCA Statute. He also provided an update with regard to steps the OCA is taking in policy development pursuant to the US Supreme Court decision regarding same-sex marriage and the OCA's

participation in amicus briefs filed in the US Supreme Court in cases touching on moral issues of concern to the OCA, and the future possibility of private insurance coverage for lawsuits growing out of public doctrinal, moral and religious expressions of faith.

\*Matushka Mary Buletza Breton, Treasurer of the Diocese of New York and New Jersey and [OCA Pension Board](#) member, spoke with regard to the OCA Pension Plan, noting that participation is mandatory for all clergy and encouraged for all lay employees of parishes of the parishes, dioceses and institutions of the Church. She emphasized the excellent benefits the plan provides.

\*Diocesan representatives shared their experience in transitioning to the formula developed by the Finance Resolution adopted at the 18th All-American Council. A dramatic and positive shift towards proportional giving has been witnessed in most dioceses, with the Dioceses of the South and West assessing their parishes on a proportional basis. Other dioceses have made significant strides in this regard and are developing plans to move to a proportional system within the next one to three years.

"The interaction and exchange of ideas, policies and procedures among the treasurers was overwhelming," said Ms. Ringa. "These accomplished, dedicated servants have developed a camaraderie that benefits their own dioceses and the entire Church."

Also participating in the meeting were His Eminence, Archbishop Benjamin of San Francisco and the West [DOW]; Mary Caetta, DOW Treasurer; Archpriest Matthew Tate, representing Archpriest Ian McKinnon, DOW Chancellor; Archpriest John Dresko, OCA Finance Committee Chair; Archpriest Marcus Burch and Milos Konjevich, Chancellor and Treasurer respectively of the Diocese of the South; Archpriest Joseph Lickwar, Chancellor of the Diocese of New York and New Jersey [NY/NJ]; Archpriest David Cowan, NY/NJ Assistant Chancellor; Archpriest John Kreta and John Skrobot, Chancellor and Treasurer respectively of the Diocese of New England; Priests Raymond Martin Browne and Ignatius Gauvain, Chancellor and Treasurer respectively of the Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania; Archpriest Gregory Safchuk, representing Priest John Vitko, Chancellor of the Diocese of Washington [DOW], and Lisa Mikhalevsky, DOW Treasurer; and Archpriest Don Freude, Chancellor of the Bulgarian Diocese.

## Prayer List : UPDATED 1-17-16

**Prizsts:** Anthony Spenglar, John Kuchta, James Gleason (*Fr. 's spiritual father*), \***Ted Bobosh**, \***Moses Berry**, \***John Magramm**, \***John Matusiak**, John Duranko, Lev Holowoty, \***Anastassy Fehr**, \***Leonid Kishkovsky**

**Deacons:** NONE

**Matushka:** Kristy Lollar & her unborn child, \***Carol Janacek**, Pani Patricia Duranko

**Parishioners:** Karen Muzyka, Mark Hruban, Ronald Stachowiak, Rebecca Eggers, Jason Kirnbauer, Sonja Harris, Andrei Davik

**Parishioner's Friends / Family:** Donna Parhas (*Nick's Cousin*), Ron (*Mark's Friend*), Mary Ann Magerko, John Magerko, Stephen Holly (*Fr. 's cousin*), George Cavaligos (*Nick's brother*), Christos Parhas (*Nick's cousin*), Constantine Cavaligos (*Nick's dad*), John Hartel (*Joann's Step-dad*), Sandra (*Karen's sister*), Erika Northrup, Walter Litzie (*Fr. 's cousin*), Danielle Krush, Mark Svava, Linda Davik, Mary Northrup, Sandra Leonchik, Dianne Northrup, Raymond Northrup, Joey Krush, Carol Bregin (*Friend of Lynn*), Ann Lazo (*Friend of Lynn*), George Lazo (*Friend of Lynn*), Bruce (*Fr. Kurt's brother*), Christine & her unborn baby, Chrissy Marron, Kelly Flynn, Baby Faith, Daniel Tiani (*friend of Becky Eggers*), Vivian (*friend of Becky Eggers*), Tim Kendra (*Rich Wolfe's father*), Joan (*Hruban friend*), Julianna (*Hruban Family*), June (*Hruban Friend*), Jacob (*Spengler Family*), Emilian (*Spengler Family*), Joyce (*Spengler Family*)

**Other Requests:** Lucille (*Duke*), Dianne (*Bill Rudolph*), Elizabeth Lilos, Jemsey Pradun, Mae Joanna Bass, Hermenegil (*Neighbor*), Lidiya (*Neighbor*), Cathleen Rebollar, Patricia Schuster, \***John Sedor**, \* **Maria Sokolova & her 3 new born babies (Lydia, Yekaterina, Helena)**

**Military:** Amber, Caleb, Nicholas, David, Timothy, Robert, Kristen, Matthew, Brian, Daniel, Joseph, Joseph (*Fr. 's cousin*)

**Captives:** Metropolitan Paul (*Orthodox Archdiocese of Aleppo*), Archbishop John (*Syriac Archdiocese of Aleppo*)

For the UN & IOCC humanitarian aid workers in & around Syria / Those suffering persecution in Iraq, Syria, Israel, Egypt, Ukraine and throughout the world / Those held captive throughout the world.

Additions or removals from the list? Please notify Fr. Andrew. (\***Bishop Request**) ON: Fr. John Zdinak & Mat. Cindy Zdinak, Daria Petrykowski, Andrei Davik

### Assembly of Bishops issues common statement on sanctity of life

To mark the 43rd anniversary of the Roe v. Wade decision that legalized abortion in the United States of America, the [Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the USA](#) [AOB] and the US Conference of Catholic Bishops [USCCB] issued a common statement, titled "Seeking Life, Mercy, and Healing."

A Common Statement by Orthodox and Catholic Bishops on the 43rd Anniversary of Roe v. Wade

On January 22, Catholic and Orthodox Christians will once again stand in solidarity on the occasion of the 43rd anniversary of Roe v. Wade. As our communities firmly believe in the sanctity of life, the faithful—along with many people of other traditions and good will—lament the legal circumstances that facilitate abortion and the cultural phenomena that present abortion as the only choice for expectant mothers experiencing difficult conditions. We recognize that the choice to abort an unborn child ultimately reflects the broken condition of humanity.

We remind the world of our common teaching that life begins at the earliest moments of conception and that life, at all stages of its development, is sacred. We denounce the termination of a life as a response to unwanted pregnancies or as a method of overcoming social and economic challenges. We embrace the mothers and the couples who, in spite of difficulties, choose to bring their pregnancy to term. At the same time, however, we invite those who may have undergone or facilitated an abortion to turn to Christ with contrite hearts, seeking to overcome their grief through His forgiveness, mercy and healing.

His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios of America  
Chairman

Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the USA

Timothy Michael Cardinal Dolan, Archbishop of NY  
Chairman, Committee on Pro Life Activities

US Conference of Catholic Bishops

# J A N U A R Y

HAPPY BIRTHDAY		HAPPY NAME DAY
5- Karina Posada 17- Natalie Northrup 24- Becky Eggers	8- Susie Joynt 21-Alex Posada	2- The Retired Right Rev. Seraphim of Sendai 19- The Retired Right Rev. Mark of Boston 24- The Right Rev. Daniel (Bishop of Dsanta Rosa)

*If there are those names to be added or removed, please contact Fr. Andrew. He would like to list all members of your family Orthodox and non-Orthodox.*

## In blessed repose: J A N U A R Y

1-Anna Wojciechowski (00) 2- Fr. Richard Everman (07) 4- George Bartek (83) 12- Adam Kuzmich (98) 13- Joseph Bloschynsky (00) 14- Joseph Dubovik (99) 14- Dorothy Michaluk (08) 16- Theodore Grabavoy (89) 22- Anna Grabavoy (77) 24- Helen Dubovik (11)	26- Jacqueline Marie Hansen (08) 29- John Mahalko (90) 29- Olga V Foraker (05)  1938: Anisia Sloboda Theodore Kozliak Peter Begal	1939: Michael Blarzko Ivan Yakel
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*Remember those who have gone before us in prayer. If there is a name missing from the above list, please speak to Fr. Andrew to have them added.*

### UPDATED JANUARY 2016

**Bulletin Sponsor:** Would you be interested in being a bulletin sponsor in memory of, or in honor of, a loved one or friend? Sponsors will be remembered during Divine Services for that month. Donation: \$40 for the month.

**Memorial Candle(s):** *(Give names to Fr. Andrew)*

Option 1: The Tray of Candles under the Cross is now the area of remembrance for the deceased. If you would like the tray of candles placed in memory of a deceased loved one, the suggested donation is \$30. The Sponsors will be remembered during the Divine Services for that Sunday.

Option 2: One of the small Tray's under the Theotokos in the back of the Church. Donation \$25

Option 3: If this tray is full, one or more candles may be gotten at the candle desk & be placed in the sand box.

**Candles for the Health of a Loved One** *(Speak to Fr. Andrew to make arrangements)*

Option 1: One of The small tray's of 40 candles in front of the icon of woman saints in the back of the Church - donation \$25.

Option 2: The altar candles in the Sanctuary & Eternal Light candle - donation \$20.

Option 3: If Candles are filled more candles may be gotten at the candle desk & placed in the sand box.

**Monthly Panachida Service:** The third Sunday of each month there will be a Panachida. If you would like your loved one(s) to be remembered, please give a list of names to Fr. Andrew before that Sunday for those to be remembered in the month. If there is a remembrance (newly departed or 40<sup>th</sup> day remembrance) of your family or friends we will remember them on the closest Sunday otherwise they will be remembered on the third Sunday. If it is an remembrance not related to our parish family we will just sing Memory Eternal on the 40 Day remembrance.

**Hospitalization/Shut-ins:** If anyone goes into hospital, or is a shut-in, please let Fr. Andrew know as soon as possible so he can attend to them and their family members.

**Celebration? Achievement?:** Your spiritual family would like to share in your achievement, celebration, and accomplishment. Send in a picture or email to Fr. Andrew, by Wednesday @ 5:00 pm so he can place it in the bulletin!

## Atlas of America's Orthodox Christian monasteries a "first"

The first-ever *Atlas of American Orthodox Christian Monasteries* will make its debut in February 2016.

Edited by Alexei Krindatch, Research Coordinator for the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the USA, the 150-page volume is available on-line for \$19.95 from [Greek Archdiocese Holy Cross Bookstore](#).

Drawing on his extensive research, as well as fascinating stories and "insider" anecdotes, Mr. Krindatch offers readers a scholarly introduction into traditions of Eastern Christian monasticism and a history of Orthodox monasteries in America. It also features a comprehensive directory of nearly 80 monasteries across America and an enticing travel guide for those seeking to visit them and to "sample" monastic life. Also featured are the "personal stories" of 23 monasteries that provide a glimpse into the surprising spiritual appeal of monastic life in 21st century America. The text is accompanied by four sets of color maps and over 100 photographs depicting the monasteries' everyday life.

"This is a fascinating and comprehensive guide to a small but important sector of American religious life," said Nancy T. Ammerman, Ph. D., Professor of Sociology of Religion at Boston University. "Whether you want to know about the history and theology of Orthodox monasticism or you just want to know what to expect if you visit, the stories, maps, and directories here are invaluable."

### Fr. Chad Hatfield to speak at Mission Team Chicago's March 10 benefit dinner

Archpriest Dr. Chad Hatfield, Chancellor/CEO of and Professor of Missiology at Saint Vladimir's Seminary, Yonkers, NY, will be the guest speaker at the annual benefit dinner for Mission Team Chicago at Saint John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church, 2350 East Dempster Street, Des Plaines, IL on Thursday, March 10, 2016. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

The annual gathering is held to raise funds to benefit the work of the Orthodox Christian Mission Center worldwide.

Donation is \$35.00 per person. Tickets may be ordered on-line [here](#), via e-mail at [MTCBenefit@yahoo.com](mailto:MTCBenefit@yahoo.com), or by calling 317-709-0168. They may also be ordered by sending a request and check to Mission Team Chicago, 388 Adams Avenue, Glencoe, IL 60022. The deadline for ordering tickets is March 3.

## The Consensus of the Fathers

by Fr. Lawrence Farley

How can you be sure what the Bible teaches? I get this question a lot from enquirers and catechumens. Most of them come from Protestantism, where their experience has taught them that the Bible is not self-interpreting and that appeals therefore to *sola scriptura* are in vain. Indeed this was not a recent lesson; from the early days of the Reformation it became apparent that Scripture needed a lens through which it could be read—hence the famous fight between Luther and Zwingli and between the Anabaptists and everyone else. The Pope then said, of course, that he was the lens, a conviction echoed later in the Roman Catholic assertion that an official Magisterium is needed if chaos was to be avoided. Classic Protestantism, while rejecting the Pope and the traditions he embodied, were quick to produce their own lenses through which to read the Bible—lenses such as the Augsburg Confession, the Westminster Confession, and the Dordrecht Confession. While not precisely a "confession" like those others, even the Church of England produced its Thirty-Nine Articles to set the boundaries for what was and was not an acceptable way of reading the Scriptures regarding certain topics.

How then can we Orthodox be sure what the Bible teaches? What is our lens? We have no "confession" or document authoritatively pronouncing on controversial issues as early Protestantism had. And the Seven Ecumenical Councils did not claim to offer a complete compendium of teaching on such things as sacraments, Scripture's authority, saints, the fate of the soul after death, or other details of Orthodox doctrine and praxis. Rather the Councils dealt exclusively with the controversial matters that concerned them, especially questions of Christology. For help answering such questions as, "How are we to interpret certain Old Testament passages and what is the proper use of typology? What happens to us immediately after we die? Does God predestine individuals to eternal damnation?" we cannot turn to the Seven Councils. Something more is needed.

That "something more" is the consensus of the Fathers. Here however we have to be careful and see the Fathers as they really were. In an age of chaos and uncertainty like ours, when everything around us seems to be coming unglued, the temptation to fundamentalism can be particularly strong. By "fundamentalism" I mean an approach to Scripture or history that ignores nuance, complexity, and historical context.

*Continued Page 9*





# CHICAGO DEANERY WINTER YOUTH CAMP 2016

for all youth ages 11 through 18

**11 AM Saturday, February 13 – 2 PM Monday, February 15, 2016**

**Edwards YMCA Camp, East Troy, Wisconsin**

Once again, it's time for our annual winter youth get together – a weekend of sledding, skating, tubing, cross-country skiing, hiking, team building, snow sculpture, art projects, worship, camp fire, Vespers and Sunday Liturgy, and more... all for just \$104.00, which covers lodging, all meals, and all camp fees and activities!

## REGISTER NOW!

A completed registration form must accompany all registrations!

Questions? Call Fr. Tom Mueller at 414-671-5819.

### Registration Form – Deadline is February 6

Please return to **Father Tom Mueller, 2515 South 30 Street, Milwaukee, WI 53215-2829** or by e-mail to **crankypriest@gmail.com**. No registrations will be accepted without ALL info below. Please attach check for \$104.00 per camper, payable to the "Chicago Deanery."

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Parish \_\_\_\_\_