

**REPORT OF THE MICHIGAN DEANERY TO THE 56th DIOCESAN
ASSEMBLY OF THE DIOCESE OF THE MIDWEST
OCTOBER 12, 2017**

The four metro Detroit Michigan Deanery parishes (Holy Transfiguration in Livonia, Holy Trinity in Detroit, Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Detroit and St. Mark in Rochester Hills continue to maintain their pan-Orthodox working and worshipping association through the Council of Orthodox Christian Churches. Under the auspices of the Saint John Chrysostom Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood the faithful of our deanery participate in the Council which endorses the work of:
The Orthodox Christian Women of Michigan (OCWM)
Orthodox Detroit Outreach (ODO)
The local chapter of Zoe for Life
Detroit's Own Orthodox Radio (DOORradio.org)
COCCTELECOM on You Tube
GOOD WORKS bi-monthly publication
the Orthodox Choir of Detroit (directed by Matushka Vickie Kopistiansky of Holy Trinity parish)
Detroit Metropolitan OCF chapters
The Brotherhood of St. Moses the Black,
FOCUS North America Detroit chapter

Our parishes in Albion (Holy Ascension) and Jackson (St. Demetrius) keep similar relationships with the Orthodox faithful in the western part of the state.

Our Michigan Deanery parishes have a singular deanery-wide cooperative effort. Since the beginning of 2016 a parish-deanery-diocesan sponsored mission outreach at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral has been in operation. Inspired by the regular gathering of 60 to 120 people for the ODO lunches each Sunday, it was decided to seek to reach those guests with a greater "Church" presence, i.e. more than food. To do this it was necessary to assign a regular pastor for the Cathedral which had been service by a substitute priest for about eight years. Along with physically gathering, working and engaging the residents from the Cathedral neighborhood, deanery parishes have contributed to date nearly \$30,000.00 toward the cost of funding a regular pastoral presence in the person of Fr. Paul Albert.

Fr. Paul's report on the work of the mission follows.

DOM PARISH ANNUAL REPORT
As of September 1, 2017

Parish Name and Address	Photo
Holy Ascension Orthodox Church PO Box 367 810 Austin Av. Albion, MI 49224	
Clergy	
Fr Joshua Frigerio, rector. Fr. Deacon John Wesner. Fr Angelo Pepps (attached).	
Committees/Societies	
n/a	
Since September 2016	
Highlights of Top Three Activities	
Mid-August annual Orthodox Family Camp a success. Annual Project Mexico mission trip was great. 100th Anniversary come and gone.	
Outreach and Charitable Activities	
Fr. Angelo is trying to get a mission off the ground in Kalamazoo, 45 minutes to our west. OCF activities in neighboring colleges.	
Major Challenges Faced	
Old building upkeep. Sin.	
Upcoming Special Events/Anniversaries - September 2017 to August 2018	
n/a	

	As of September 1, 2015	As of September 1, 2016	As of September 1, 2017
Supporting Membership Count	45	50	55
	September 2014 thru August 2015	September 2015 thru August 2016	September 2016 thru August 2017
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Attendance	60	70	80
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Communicants	45	50	55
Average Saturday Vigil/Vespers Attendance	20	25	30
Number of Catechumens	3	4	5
	September 2014 thru August 2015	September 2015 thru August 2016	September 2016 thru August 2017
Baptisms	4	5	7
Funerals	3	1	0
Marriages	0	2	0
Receptions into Orthodoxy	3	6	5
Church School/Number Enrolled	10	10	10
Adult Education/Number Participating	10	10	10

DOM PARISH ANNUAL REPORT

As of September 1, 2017

email completed form to chancery@domoca.org by September 15

Parish Name and Address	Photo
Holy Trinity 20500 Anglin Detroit, MI 48234	
Clergy	
Fr. Lev Kopistiansky (Subdeacon James Rimelspach) Minor Order.	
Committees/Societies	
Holy Trinity Brotherhood Protection of Virgin Mary Sisterhood Holy Trinity Choir. Church School..	
Since September 2016	
Highlights of Top Three Activities	
Hosting of Miraculous Ikon of the Righteous Anna from St. Tikhons Monastery with anointing and Nativity Fast Retreat given by Monk Michael from the monastery. Hosting of one of the Sunday Lenten Vespers for the Council of Orthodox Christian Churches of Detroit. Our annual Parish Picnic held in July.	
Outreach and Charitable Activities	
Hosting Sunday Feeding the Hungry meals at sister parish of Sts. Peter and Paul in conjunction with Orthodox Detroit Outreach. Prison Ministry correspondence outreach with 3 different Michigan prison facilities. Annual IOCC charity contribution made by our church school children in conjunction with Souper Bowl Sunday event. Annual St. Tikhons financial support during Miraculous Ikon visit. Usual appeals from National Church. COCC Food Pantry and Clothes donations.	
Major Challenges Faced	
Lack of manpower.	

Lack of New Parish Council Officers.

Need the ability to establish committees to be more productive.

Upcoming Special Events/Anniversaries - September 2017 to August 2018

None scheduled at this time.

	As of September 1, 2015	As of September 1, 2016	As of September 1, 2017
Supporting Membership Count	58	58	57
	September 2014 thru August 2015	September 2015 thru August 2016	September 2016 thru August 2017
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Attendance	68	65	62
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Communicants	60	52	52
Average Saturday Vigil/Vespers Attendance	10	7	6
Number of Catechumens	1	1	1
	September 2014 thru August 2015	September 2015 thru August 2016	September 2016 thru August 2017
Baptisms	3	5	5
Funerals	5	10	10
Marriages	2	3	3
Receptions into Orthodoxy	1	3	0
Church School/Number Enrolled	21	20	22
Adult Education/Number Participating	8	6	7

DOM PARISH ANNUAL REPORT

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Parish Name and Address	Photo
Saints Peter & Paul Orthodox Cathedral 3810 Gilbert Street Detroit, MI 48210	
Clergy	
V. Rev. Fr. Paul Albert P.O. Box 186 Sylvania, OH 43560 419-944-3995	
Committees/Societies	
Choir/sacred Music Ministry Greeter Ministry Neighborhood Outreach Ministries Ladies Altar Guild Campus Ministries	
Since September 2016	
Highlights of Top Three Activities	
1) Developing parish Community Center as regional Missionary Center 2) Orthodox Missions Weekend –May 27-28, 2017 Parish hosted /Orthodox Detroit Outreach mission work in neighborhood 3) Wayne State Campus outreach-providing opportunities for students to engage in Orthodox Christian activities	
Outreach and Charitable Activities	
(see above)	
Major Challenges Faced	
Too few members/too much facilities We are potentially repurposing our Community Center into a regionally managed Orthodox Christian Missionary Center-with faithful from several local parishes sharing the responsibilities of further developing and sustaining our pan-Orthodox missionary ministries in SW Detroit.	
Upcoming Special Events/Anniversaries - September 2017 to August 2018	
Capital Campaign- helping improve Community Center facilities 2018 Orthodox Mission Weekend Fall programs of Bible Study and Fellowship for our neighbors who gather weekly for our Sunday meal at the Community Center	

	As of September 1, 2015	As of September 1, 2016	As of September 1, 2017
Supporting Membership Count	33	36	34
	September 2014 thru August 2015	September 2015 thru August 2016	September 2016 thru August 2017
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Attendance	25	35	40
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Communicants	22	33	36
Average Saturday Vigil/Vespers Attendance	0	6	8
Number of Catechumens		1	2
	September 2014 thru August 2015	September 2015 thru August 2016	September 2016 thru August 2017
Baptisms	1	1	2
Funerals	4	4	2
Marriages			1
Receptions into Orthodoxy			1
Church School/Number Enrolled	4	7	7
Adult Education/Number Participating		8	14

Saints Peter & Paul Orthodox Cathedral
2017 Report/Summary

In this past year our Lord has provided us many blessed opportunities to grow in our discipleship and missionary ministrations, and further incline our hearts and souls towards His kingdom.

We continue to gain momentum as our worshipping community strengthens and solidifies around a more clarified vision. We are being called to provide a sacramental presence in the inner city of Detroit, and extend our Eucharistic celebration into the neighborhood, in serving our neighbors at our Community Center. This fall our Christian witness with our neighbors will include a time before our weekly Sunday meal for adult Bible Study and weekly lesson for the children. We are helping heal and restore a sense of Christian community in a very challenged and broken setting. Also this fall we begin a more focused outreach to our Wayne State campus neighbors. Two campus professors are active in our mission parish, and are helping us coordinate some faith-sharing activities with the students.

As a parish we continue to address the challenge of being a small congregation in a large, deteriorating inner-city church campus. We are challenged to address the immediate need for more help in sustaining the existing facilities, all the while responding to the ministerial opportunities this setting provides in service to Christ in our neighbors.

We are very blessed to experience a growing involvement among our Deanery parish faithful (and the greater pan Orthodox community) in the works of mercy we are cultivating in our missionary parish setting. We thank our Bishop Paul, who has visited us twice in this past year, and our deanery clergy who actively promote our missionary opportunities within their parishes. Because of the faith and love that our faithful share with us, the grace of the Holy Spirit continues to sustain us in this work.

We are encouraged to see continuing help from the diocese and deanery-providing a pastoral presence for yet another year, as this has enabled our momentum to carry us forward together. Every week, missionaries from the surrounding churches join us at Divine Liturgy, fellowship, and our weekly Sunday Neighborhood Meal.

Partnering with Orthodox Detroit Outreach and a Detroit chapter of Zoe for Life, our missionary parish has been committed for over six consistent years to serving our neighbors in need. It takes time to build relationships with our neighbors founded on love, trust, and respect. Over these six years together, we have begun to lay a missionary foundation. This slow but productive process is better enabling us to bring the Church to where it is not-the real work of the Orthodox Christian missionary in the world.

We thank you for your prayers that we might continue to patiently “wait upon the Lord” as He guides and directs our next steps in this blessed work together.

Fr. Paul Albert
and all the faithful missionaries at Sts. Peter & Paul in SW Detroit



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Parish Name and Address	Photo
St. Demetrius Orthodox Church	
Clergy	
Archpriest Fr. Dusan Koprivica	
Committees/Societies	
Sisterhood	
Since September 2016	
Highlights of Top Three Activities	
Relay for Life 24 Hour Cancer walk Prison to Paradise Bus Tours (Part of Pure Michigan Tours) 40 Days for Life prayer vigil in front of Planned Parenthood abortion clinic	
Outreach and Charitable Activities	
Sent one missionary OCF to Vashon Island, WA, All Merciful Sao Monastery Raised another \$10,000 for Sts. Peter and Paul Cathedral, restricted fund for priest salary budget, Sent Mission team to ODO, help feed the poor Helped out with St. Mark Christmas Basket event Cooked a Christmas meal, made Christmas basket for Students at Jackson High School who lost their parents	
Major Challenges Faced	
Getting Sunday school teachers Getting more people involved in Saturday vespers	
Upcoming Special Events/Anniversaries - September 2017 to August 2018	
Help out with ODO Help out with St. Mark's Christmas Baskets "Raise the Floor:" Fund raiser to place new floor at Sts, Peter and Paul Basement hall for ODO	

	As of September 1, 2015	As of September 1, 2016	As of September 1, 2017
Supporting Membership Count	49	48	48
	September 2014 thru August 2015	September 2015 thru August 2016	September 2016 thru August 2017
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Attendance	52	58	55
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Communicants	40	50	48
Average Saturday Vigil/Vespers Attendance	6	6	5
Number of Catechumens	1	2	3
	September 2014 thru August 2015	September 2015 thru August 2016	September 2016 thru August 2017
Baptisms	1	3	1
Funerals	5	12	6
Marriages	0	1	1
Receptions into Orthodoxy	1	3	1
Church School/Number Enrolled	18	20	22
Adult Education/Number Participating	12	12	11

DOM PARISH ANNUAL REPORT

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Parish Name and Address	Photo
<p>Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church 36075 7 Mile Rd Livonia, MI 48152</p>	
<p>Clergy</p> <p>V Rev. Archpriest Michael E. Butler Rev. Protodeacon Jacob Frimenko</p>	
<p>Committees/Societies</p> <p>Parish is organized on a ministry model with Pastoral & Parish Council oversight. In-house ministries include Parish Council, finance committee, youth group, church school, women's group, building & grounds, charitable outreach, choir, greeters, altar servers. Members are also actively involved with the Council of Orthodox Christian Churches of Detroit, Orthodox Christian Women of Detroit, the pan-Orthodox choir, Orthodox Detroit Outreach, the Fellowship of St Moses the Black, ZOE for Life.</p>	
<p>Since September 2016</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Highlights of Top Three Activities</p> <p>Reception of a flood of inquirers, converts, and Orthodox moving to the area and joining the parish. Completion of the new parking lot. Hosting the annual clergy convocation in May.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Outreach and Charitable Activities</p> <p>Regular financial support for, and lay participation in, the urban mission at SS Peter & Paul, Detroit. Financial support for a missionary priest in Africa through IOCC, an orphan boy at St Innocent Orphanage in Mexico, missionary work in Guatemala, and the Ugandan Children's Fund. Provided tuition, books and monthly stipend for a seminarian family at St Tikhon's. Annual Christmas family project through Livonia Goodfellows organization.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Major Challenges Faced</p> <p>Assimilating new members, of which there have been many in the past year. Establishing new ministry opportunities.</p>	

Upcoming Special Events/Anniversaries - September 2017 to August 2018
23 Nov 2017, 20 th anniversary of ordination for Protodeacon Jacob Frimenko. 6 Aug 2018, 30 th anniversary of the parish.

	As of September 1, 2015	As of September 1, 2016	As of September 1, 2017
Supporting Membership Count	153	162	184
	September 2014 thru August 2015	September 2015 thru August 2016	September 2016 thru August 2017
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Attendance	135	130	145
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Communicants	110	115	125
Average Saturday Vigil/Vespers Attendance	23	29	28
Number of Catechumens	3	5	22
	September 2014 thru August 2015	September 2015 thru August 2016	September 2016 thru August 2017
Baptisms	5	6	7
Funerals	5	3	7
Marriages	2	2	1
Receptions into Orthodoxy	3	4	1
Church School/Number Enrolled	35	34	54
Adult Education/Number Participating	30	35	45

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Parish Name and Address	Photo
<p>St. Mark Orthodox church 400 West Hamlin Road Rochester Hills, MI 48307</p> <p>Photo: “O Lord, crown them with Glory and Honor” Recent parish wedding.</p>	
Clergy	
Very Reverend Andrew Yavornitzky	
Committees/Societies	
Parish Council, Men’s fellowship, Prayer Shawl Ministry, Church School	
Since September 2016	
Highlights of Top Three Activities	
<p>Another record breaking distribution for the Christmas food baskets, Weekly food distributions now reach 8 to 10 families, including 25 children Monthly meals for 60 -120 guests at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral with Orthodox Detroit Outreach</p>	
Outreach and Charitable Activities	
<p>Prayer Shawl Ministry, Love Thy Neighbor weekly food distribution and school tutoring, Regular Orthodox Detroit Outreach meal services at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral, Christmas Food basket and gift deliveries, the Mission to Southwest Detroit at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral, pillowcase dresses for African school girls</p>	
Major Challenges Faced	
Being faithful and being real in Christ.	

Upcoming Special Events/Anniversaries - September 2017 to August 2018

None

	As of September 1, 2015	As of September 1, 2016	As of September 1, 2017
Supporting Membership Count	121	122	120
	September 2014 thru August 2015	September 2015 thru August 2016	September 2016 thru August 2017
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Attendance	120	125	125
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Communicants	80%-85% of attendees	80%-85% of attendees	80%-85% of attendees
Average Saturday Vigil/Vespers Attendance	10-15	15-22	20
Number of Catechumens	4	3	3
	September 2014 thru August 2015	September 2015 thru August 2016	September 2016 thru August 2017
Baptisms	1	5	2
Funerals	1	0	2
Marriages	1	1	2
Receptions into Orthodoxy	0	3	0
Church School/Number Enrolled	41	35	41
Adult Education/Number Participating			