


# DOM PARISH ANNUAL REPORT

As of September 1, 2016

email completed form to [chancery@domoca.org](mailto:chancery@domoca.org) by September 1

Parish Name and Address	Photo
<p>Presentation of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Monastery P.O. Box 644 Marshfield, MO 65706</p>	
<b>Clergy</b>	
<p>Hiermonk Alexii (Altschul), of Holy Archangel Michael and All Angels Skete, Weatherby, Missouri, is our Spiritual Father and Confessor.</p> <p>We are privileged to have the Very Reverend Peter Bodnar serving Divine Liturgy on Feast Days and the second Sunday of the month, as well as 9<sup>th</sup> Hour, Vespers and Compline the fourth Thursday.</p> <p>Other Sundays, we normally attend Unexpected Joy Orthodox Church (Pastor, the Very Reverend Moses Berry) in Ash Grove, Missouri, and occasionally Annunciation of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Christian Church (Pastor, the Reverend Joel Wilson) in Rolla, Missouri.</p> <p>Monastics: Mother Sergia, Abbess, and Mother Victoria</p>	
<b>Committees/Societies</b>	
None	
<b>Since September 2015</b>	
Highlights of Top Three Activities	
<p>The Monastery's Annual Founders Day, September 18-19, had the largest attendance to date with six priests and approximately sixty laity from four different states.</p> <p>We attended the Brotherhood of St. Moses the Black Conference held in Kansas City, KS, October 10<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p>Mother Sergia attended the Synaxis of Monastic Superiors held at the Monastery of St. John of Shanghai and San Francisco, Manton, CA, October 26-28.</p>	
Outreach and Charitable Activities	
<p>One of the main reasons for our move to Missouri almost ten years ago was to help the growth of Orthodoxy in this region of the county.</p>	

The fact that we are traditionally dressed in our habits serves as a virtual magnet to people who frequently come up to talk to us when we are out. When they learn that we are not Catholic but Orthodox, they often reply, “Orthodox, what is that?” which provides the perfect opening for us to tell them about the Orthodox Church, direct them to a local Orthodox parish and invite them to visit the monastery.

In terms of charitable activities, the monastery annually provides donations of clothing, funds and household items to charitable organizations and individuals in need.

#### Major Challenges Faced

We strive for ever deepening spiritual growth so that we may be prepared to serve God as He calls upon us day by day, and that we may be ready to bear whatever crosses He has prepared for us in the future.

This year, we have had more visitors than ever before. A challenge we share with many monasteries is that of balancing the time needed to prepare for and host visitors, with the daily schedule of services, the requirements of the monastery itself and, in our case, the production and shipment of liturgical candles.

Each year we assess the needs of the monastery property and buildings so that they can be addressed in a timely manner. It is sometimes difficult to find skilled workmen available at a reasonable cost, but, with God’s help, we have been able to do so.

#### Upcoming Special Events/Anniversaries - September 2016 to August 2017

Celebration of our Annual Founders Day, September 16-17, with His Grace Bishop PAUL presiding.

Attendance by Mother Sergia of the Synaxis of Monastic Superiors to be held at the Orthodox Monastery of the Transfiguration, Ellwood City, PA, October 25-27.

Attendance of the “Introduction to Monasticism and its Importance in Spiritual Life” Retreat to be presented by Hieromonk Alexii at Annunciation of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Christian Church, Rolla, MO, October 28-29.

Attendance of the Annual Retreat at Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, Overland Park, KS, November 19<sup>th</sup>.

Celebration of our Annual Feast Day (Presentation of the Virgin Mary at the Temple), November 21<sup>st</sup>.

	<b>As of September 1, 2014</b>	<b>As of September 1, 2015</b>	<b>As of September 1, 2016</b>
<b>Supporting Membership Count</b>	2	2	2
	<b>September 2013 thru August 2014</b>	<b>September 2014 thru August 2015</b>	<b>September 2015 thru August 2016</b>
<b>Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Attendance</b>	2 (Attended at a local parish)	2 (Once a month at the monastery, other Sundays at a local parish)	2 (Once a month at the monastery, other Sundays at a local parish)
<b>Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Communicants</b>	2	2	2
<b>Average Saturday Vigil/Vespers Attendance</b>	2	2	2
<b>Number of Catechumens</b>	0	0	0
	<b>September 2013 thru August 2014</b>	<b>September 2014 thru August 2015</b>	<b>September 2015 thru August 2016</b>
<b>Baptisms</b>	0	0	0
<b>Funerals</b>	0	0	0
<b>Marriages</b>	0	0	0
<b>Receptions into Orthodoxy</b>	0	0	0
<b>Church School/Number Enrolled</b>	0	0	0
<b>Adult Education/Number Participating</b>	0	0	0