

Michigan Deanery Report September 13, 2019

The Michigan Deanery currently has no profound issues to address that needs any emergency assistance from the Diocese. Each priest in their parish feels no major problems to address for their parish.

Our Scheduled 50th Anniversary Celebration of the OCA Autocephaly will be Bright Friday and Bright Saturday April 24-25, 2020, at Holy Transfiguration Church, hosted by Fr. Michael Butler. Fr. Alexander Garklavs will be the guest speaker. His Grace Bishop Paul will preside at the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy on Bright Saturday. Matushka Vicky Kopistiansky will plan a short concert for the event. We will be meeting at the beginning of the year to plan the menu for Friday evening and Saturday. Informational fliers will also be planned out to advertise this event for the parishes in the deanery.

Orthodox Detroit Outreach (ODO) is in its 8th year in the setting at Sts. Peter and Paul Cathedral. Currently 15 Orthodox parishes participate in sending missionaries to help feed the poor and homeless in the Southwest community of Detroit. Recently 9 teens and 6 adults came from Milwaukee, WI, from, Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church for a weekend as missionaries to help ODO. It was a successful endeavor, and they welcome all churches to use this opportunity to come to Detroit and be missionaries.

Sts. Peter and Paul Cathedral paid down their 1 million dollar debt! Congratulations! They are still standing and praising God! The congregation is now coming to a course of action to downsize and make their future manageable and sustainable. Please pray for their next course of action and their continued service for their neighborhood community.

For some parishes, the 13 % stewardship to the diocese has affected their above giving to other charitable needs in the deanery, such as helping with the priest stipend at Sts. Peter and Paul, and ODO donations. Although the parishes are meeting their obligations to the Diocese, their budgets have tightened and donations to other charitable causes have decreased in some cases.

The Michigan Deanery remains dedicated to proclaiming the Good News, in supporting DOOR Radio (Detroit Orthodox Radio) and participating in Pan Orthodox services during Great Lent, and Clergy Brotherhood gatherings supported by the Counsel of Orthodox Christian Churches (COCC).

May God continue to show His Blessings upon our Michigan Deanery!

Archpriest Fr. Dusan Koprivica

DOM PARISH ANNUAL REPORT
As of September 1, 2019

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). Fr. Deacon Justin Jackson.	
Committees/Societies	
none	
Since September 2017	
Highlights of Top Three Activities	
Mid-August annual Orthodox Family Camp a success. Annual Project Mexico mission trip was great.	
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. Lots of catechism all the time. Trying to keep our new seminarian and his family alive at St. Tikhons.	
Major Challenges Faced	
Old building upkeep. Running out of space, not enough money to do anything about it. Need handicap access, not enough money to do anything about it. Sin.	
Upcoming Special Events/Anniversaries - September 2019 to August 2020	
n/a	

	As of September 1, 2017	As of September 1, 2018	As of September 1, 2019
Supporting Membership Count	55	55	57

	September 2016 thru August 2017	September 2017 thru August 2018	September 2018 thru August 2019
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Attendance	80	85	85
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Communicants	55	65	65
Average Saturday Vigil/Vespers Attendance	30	30	30
Number of Catechumens	5	7	7
	September 2016 thru August 2017	September 2017 thru August 2018	September 2018 thru August 2019
Baptisms	7	4	5
Funerals	0	1	0
Marriages	0	2	1
Receptions into Orthodoxy	5	2	17
Church School/Number Enrolled	10	15	25
Adult Education/Number Participating	10	10	10

Parish Name

Holy Trinity Church - Detroit, MI

Date Submitted

09/10/2019

Submitted By

V. Rev. Lev Kopistiansky

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Community Name

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church

Attached Clergy

Title	First Name	Last Name
V. Rev.	Lev	Kopistiansky
Rev. Dn.	James	Rimelspach

Committees / Societies

Holy Trinity Brotherhood
Pokrova Sisterhood

Previous Year & Upcoming Year**Highlights of Top Three Activities Since the Last Report**

Annual St. Anna Icon visit
Annual parish picnic
Annual Sisterhood Banquet

Outreach and Charitable Activities Since the Last Report

Souper Bowl Charity Sunday
Choir Christmas Charity
Detroit feed the hungry @ SS Peter and Paul...

Major Challenges Faced Since the Last Report

Lack of manpower.
 Proportional giving increase to Diocese.
 Water leakage in parish hall.

Upcoming Special Events / Anniversaries Between Now & August 2020

Date	Event / Anniversary
11/30/2019	St. Anna Ikon visit
02/02/2020	Souper Bowl charity luncheon
10/06/2019	Sisterhood Banquet
07/26/2020	Parish Picnic

Community Numbers

Supporting Membership Count

95

Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Attendance

75

Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Communicants

65

Average Saturday Vigil/Vespers Attendance

10

Number of Catechumens

0

Number of Baptisms with Chrismation

3

Number of Chrismations (without Baptism)

2

Number of Marriages

1

Number of Funerals

6

Number of Children's School Participants

17


Number of Adult Education Participants

12

DOM PARISH ANNUAL REPORT

As of September 1, 2019

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

Parish Name and Address	Photo
Saints Peter & Paul Orthodox Cathedral 3810 Gilbert Street Detroit, MI 48210	
Clergy	
V. Rev. Fr. Paul Albert 331 E Jefferson St. Blissfield, MI 49228 419-944-3995	
Committees/Societies	
Church & Community Center Task Forces Neighborhood Outreach Ministries Choir/sacred Music Ministry Greeter Ministry Campus Ministries	
Since September 2018	
Highlights of Top Three Activities	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Developing parish Community Center as regional Missionary Center Along with the many Orthodox parish missionary volunteers who participate in our programs, we have been in active dialogue with several local organizations that serve our neighbors in SW Detroit, and might develop partnerships with us. Our prayer is to more fully utilize our Community Center to better serve our neighbors in need. 2) Orthodox Missions Weekend –August, 2019 Parish hosted /St. Cyril & Methodios Milwaukee, WI missionaries 3) Partnering with Deanery Missionaries to build a Team approach to addressing the physical needs of the missionary Church and Community Center, and implementing vision to address necessary upgrades in order to strengthen and sustain our missionary presence in SW Detroit 	
Outreach and Charitable Activities	
June 29 2019 Patronal Feast: Neighborhood Festival . Liturgy, procession through neighborhood and festive activities throughout the day which brought our parish more visibly back into the neighborhood awareness.	
August 6-9 Vacation Church School for neighborhood children	
Major Challenges Faced	
Paid off in July 2019 an 18 year Bond Debt totaling approx. \$1 Million in principle and interest.	
August 2019 –loss of long term lease (Head Start Program renting our church school wing) due to city wide down-sizing and federal grant cuts. This loss of income offset our bond payment.	

Upcoming Special Events/Anniversaries - September 2019 to August 2020
2020 Festival and Vacation Church School

	As of September 1, 2017	As of September 1, 2018	As of September 1, 2019
Supporting Membership Count	36	32	34
	September 2015 thru August 2017	September 2016 thru August 2018	September 2017 thru August 2019
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Attendance	35	30	37
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Communicants	33	25	28
Average Saturday Vigil/Vespers Attendance	8	6	6
Number of Catechumens	2	2	6
	September 2016 thru August 2017	September 2017 thru August 2018	September 2018 thru August 2019
Baptisms	2	2	3
Funerals	2	1	1
Marriages	1	1	1
Receptions into Orthodoxy	1	1	0
Church School/Number Enrolled	7	2	2
Adult Education/Number Participating	14	12	20

Saints Peter & Paul Orthodox Cathedral
2019 Report/Summary

We continue to face several challenges, both spiritually and temporally. It continues to be a sobering time for our small missionary community. As these challenges have been met with continuing faith and love-for God and neighbor, we are encouraged by the growing spiritual maturity of our team.

We continue to provide a sacramental presence in the inner city of Detroit, and extend our Eucharistic celebration into the neighborhood. Along with our Weekly Sunday Meal/Ministries, our activities which serve our neighbors at our Community Center have expanded to include a weekly Wednesday Neighborhood Meal/Akathist and Adult Bible Study which gathers about 20 of our members, missionaries and neighbors every week. We are learning the importance of building consistency and regularity into our ministerial activities, as this becomes more the “heartbeat” of the neighborhood. This is again enabling us to add a Saturday neighborhood meal/ministry, beginning this September 2019, once each month.

Missionaries bring the Church to where it is not in its fullness. This year of 2019 we hosted one of our first missionary teams from further out in the diocese. About 15 teens and advisors traveled from Milwaukee, WI (Sts. Cyril & Methodios parish) to work, serve, and worship with us in our missionary activities in the inner city of SW Detroit. The group had a great time serving, even touring the downtown Detroit area.

As a parish, in July 2019 we finally paid off our 18 year burden of bond debt (\$1 M of principle and interest) this July, 2019. With all our given challenges, we consider this nothing short of miraculous, and thank God. We are continuing to discern a path forward with over extended aging campus facilities.

We are grateful for the 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, and our Dean Father Dusan Koprivica, who actively promote our missionary opportunities within their parishes.

In the coming year we are continuing to build momentum with our outreach activities of Festival and Vacation Church School in the neighborhood, along with our presently very active partnership ministries with Orthodox Detroit Outreach.

We ask for your prayers and thank you for your active help and support of these efforts. Our hope is that this unique setting, in time, may be seen more and more as a missionary extension of all of our parishes in the Diocese of the Midwest. We invite you to contact Fr. Paul Albert to discuss how you might organize a parish Mission Team to come and serve.

Sincerely in Christ,

V. Rev. Fr. Paul Albert
Pastor

Parish Name

St. Demetrius Church - Jackson, MI

Date Submitted

09/01/2019

Submitted By

V. Rev. Dusan Koprivica

Do you have a hard copy to upload?

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Community Name

St. Demetrius Orthodox Church

Attached Clergy

Title	First Name	Last Name
V. Rev.	Dusan	Koprivica

Committees / Societies

Sisterhood, Mission Committee

Previous Year & Upcoming Year**Highlights of Top Three Activities Since the Last Report**

Raising funds for mortgage payments for new classroom building

Prison to Paradise Bus Tours

Pilgrimage to Fr. Serafim's Monastery in Mull Island, Scotland

Outreach and Charitable Activities Since the Last Report

Relay for Life 24 cancer walk. Right to Life 40 day vigil (2 hours a week in front of abortion clinic)

Provided 25 families in Jackson, MI with Christmas food baskets. Sent ODO team to feed the poor in Detroit

Donated \$10,000 to Sts. Peter and Paul for priest stipend. Provided \$5000 emergency fund for a priest

Major Challenges Faced Since the Last Report

Updating web page. Attendance at Saturday vespers. Finding new people who will volunteer at Church Board positions, namely president and treasurer. Finding new volunteers to help out in activities.

Upcoming Special Events / Anniversaries Between Now & August 2020

Date	Event / Anniversary
12/19/2019	Fr. Dusan celebrating 30 years as a priest

Community Numbers

Supporting Membership Count

48

Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Attendance

55

Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Communicants

50

Average Saturday Vigil/Vespers Attendance

6

Number of Catechumens

2

Number of Baptisms with Chrismation

6

Number of Chrismations (without Baptism)

1

Number of Marriages

1

Number of Funerals

5

Number of Children's School Participants

29


Number of Adult Education Participants

12

DOM PARISH ANNUAL REPORT

As of September 1, 2019

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

Parish Name and Address	Photo
<p>Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church 36075 W 7 Mile Rd Livonia, MI 48152</p>	
<p>Clergy</p>	
<p>V Rev. Archpriest Michael E. Butler Rev. Protodeacon Jacob Frimenko V Rev. David Lis, retired, attached.</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, and 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, and the Fellowship of St Moses the Black.</p>	
<p>Since September 2018</p>	
<p>Highlights of Top Three Activities</p>	
<p>--Major strides taken in adding Iconography to the upper side walls of the temple: the Communion of the Apostles (2 panels), and Pentecost were completed; Ascension is in progress. --We hired a new choir director over the summer who brings exceptional skills to the job. --We hired a consultant to help us in the process of reorganizing the administrative structure of the parish better to reflect the larger size of the parish and its needs.</p>	
<p>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. Annual Christmas family project through Livonia Goodfellows organization.</p>	
<p>Major Challenges Faced</p>	

The parish is no longer functioning well as a “pastor-led” small church congregation because of the growth in our membership. We are currently working on reorganizing/restructuring the parish administration and ministries into a sustainable model that involves much more lay participation in ministry. The process is slow and difficult and involves some growing pains.
Establishing new ministry opportunities for the many people who want to serve is an ongoing challenge, as well.

Upcoming Special Events/Anniversaries - September 2019 to August 2020

Our parish will be hosting the Deanery celebration of the 50th anniversary of the OCA's autocephaly on the weekend of 24-25 April 2020.


	As of September 1, 2017	As of September 1, 2018	As of September 1, 2019
Supporting Membership Count	184	178	172
	September 2016 thru August 2017	September 2017 thru August 2018	September 2018 thru August 2019
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Attendance	145	155	151
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Communicants	125	130	130
Average Saturday Vigil/Vespers Attendance	28	27	25
Number of Catechumens	22	23	2
	September 2016 thru August 2017	September 2017 thru August 2018	September 2018 thru August 2019
Baptisms	7	6	4
Funerals	7	6	3
Marriages	1	4	0

Receptions into Orthodoxy	1	9	5
Church School/Number Enrolled	54	50	
Adult Education/Number Participating	45	50	50

DOM PARISH ANNUAL REPORT

As of September 1, 2019

email completed form to chancery@domoca.org by September 1

Parish Name and Address	Photo
<p>St. Mark Orthodox Church P.O. Box 71130 400 West Hamlin Road Rochester Hills, MI 48307</p> <p>Photo at right: Youth choir at Nativity Divine Liturgy</p>	
Clergy	
Very Rev. Andrew Yavornitzky	
Committees/Societies	
Parish council, Various working ministry groups (church cleaning, proshpora, coffee service, yard work, etc); Men’s Fellowship	
Since September 2018	
Highlights of Top Three Activities	
Added another phase of the iconographic adornment of the temple. Negotiating a partial land sale to a local developer Whole parish outing to a local baseball game	
Outreach and Charitable Activities	
Annual Christmas food basket distribution to over 250 families on the Saturday before Christmas; “Love Thy Neighbor” weekly food distribution and in-class tutoring at our neighborhood elementary school; Actively engaging and contributing to the Mission Outreach in SW Detroit and ODO meal service; OCMC – SAMP collection; IOCC Lenten collection; Rochester Neighborhood House Advent collection; Other Ad Hoc charitable collections; Prayer Shawl ministry; hosting visiting groups from schools and other churches	

Major Challenges Faced
Always striving to learn how to be the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church in our current 21 st century suburban environment – then doing something about it. Working through a generational transition among the parishioners.
Upcoming Special Events/Anniversaries – September, 2019 to August 2020
2020 is the 40 th anniversary of the founding of St. Mark in Rochester, MI

	As of September 1, 2017	As of September 1, 2018	As of September 1, 2019
Supporting Membership Count	120	120	130
	September 2016 thru August 2017	September 2017 thru August 2018	September 2018 thru August 2019
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Attendance	125	Summer c. 100 Other c. 130	Summer c.100 Other c. 130+
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Communicants	c. 85% of attendees	80% - 85%	80% - 85%
Average Saturday Vigil/Vespers Attendance	20	30	30
Number of Catechumens	3	11	8
	September 2016 thru August 2017	September 2017 thru August 2018	September 2018 thru August 2019
Baptisms	2	3	1
Funerals	3	1	3
Marriages	2	3	0
Receptions into Orthodoxy	0	11	0
Church School/Number Enrolled	41	39	31
Adult Education/Number Participating	c.20	c.20	c.20