

Michigan Deanery Report

2020 was the year that we were going to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Autocephaly of the OCA in our Deanery during Bright Week. We were also planning a nice retirement celebration for our former Dean, Very Rev. Fr. Andrew Yavornitzky . Our Deanery had many plans to celebrate Holy Week and Pascha in our parishes, along with wedding, baptisms, and funerals. However, with the Covid 19 Pandemic everything was closed down on March 25th. For the first time our churches were actually closed, and our priests were not able to serve or to make any ministerial visits. This was not only tough for the parishioners, but also to the clergy. This was truly challenging times. However, with the challenge the Michigan Deanery kept hopeful and positive.

Due to the decline of Covid disease in our area and with the guidance of His Eminence Bishop Paul, we were the first to begin the process of Opening Churches, directed by the OCA Guideline for our Diocese. By the beginning of the openings May 10, phase 1, we had churches in our Deanery in Phase 3 by the end of May 31. This process took a lot of work and prayers. On a weekly basis each priest in our Deanery reported to His Eminence the Covid stats for the area from each parish, which included hospital beds, PPE, and ventilator availability.

Each priest was eager to open their church up to serve their parishioners. Each parish was able to video LIVE their liturgical services during this pandemic, and continue to do so, for those who are unable to attend.

All our parishes are open and in Phase 3, practicing social distancing, masks, and other CDC guidelines.

Currently, our parishes have outdoor coffee hours.

Fr. Andrew Yavornitzky did retire on August 1st at his Parish of St. Mark's in Rochester Hills, MI

Fr. Dimitrie Vincent is on loan from the Romanian Diocese as an interim priest until June 1st 2021 ministering to St. Mark's Church until a new Priest is appointed for that parish.

The Orthodox Detroit Outreach (ODO) continued to serve the neighborhood poor with bagged lunches to go. Parishes have been sending the bagged lunches to ODO, while the lunches were distributed by the same ODO workers

Although we did not plan to have a pandemic that changed the way we were worshipping, we do have the will and perseverance to maintain our faith and keep the Church going, with God's Help and Mercy.

Archpriest Fr. Dusan Koprivica

Dean Michigan Deanery

DOM PARISH ANNUAL REPORT

As of September 1, 2020

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

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 2019	
Highlights of Top Three Activities	
Hardly did anything this year, COVID! :-(
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 2020 to August 2021

n/a

	As of September 1, 2018	As of September 1, 2019	As of September 1, 2020
Supporting Membership Count	55	57	65
	September 2016 thru August 2018	September 2018 thru August 2019	September 2019 thru August 2020
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Attendance	85	85	100
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Communicants	65	65	95
Average Saturday Vigil/Vespers Attendance	30	30	35
Number of Catechumens	7	7	11
	September 2016 thru August 2018	September 2018 thru August 2019	September 2019 thru August 2020
Baptisms	4	5	10
Funerals	1	0	0
Marriages	2	1	1

Receptions into Orthodoxy	2	17	10
Church School/Number Enrolled	15	25	30
Adult Education/Number Participating	10	10	10

Parish Name

Holy Trinity Church - Detroit, MI

Date Submitted

09/14/2020

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

Committees / Societies

Holy Trinity Brotherhood, Protection of the Virgin Mary Sisterhood

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

Sisterhood annual Pokrova Banquet, Visitation of Myrrstreaming Icon of Rt. Anna, Brotherhood Souper bowl Sunday

Outreach and Charitable Activities Since the Last Report

Feeding the homeless at St. Peter and Paul in Deroit, Church School charity outreach fund

raising., Food pantry .

Major Challenges Faced Since the Last Report

Water leakage in basement hall, Making the Temple handicap accessible,

Upcoming Special Events / Anniversaries Between Now & August 2020

Date	Event / Anniversary
10/04/2020	Pokrova Bqt.

Community Numbers**Supporting Membership Count**

80

Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Attendance

60

Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Communicants

60

Average Saturday Vigil/Vespers Attendance

12

Number of Catechumens

0

Number of Baptisms with Chrismation

3

Number of Chrismations (without Baptism)

1

Number of Marriages

1

Number of Funerals

11

Number of Children's School Participants

15


Number of Adult Education Participants

12

DOM PARISH ANNUAL REPORT

As of September 1, 2020

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	
Since September 2019	
Highlights of Top Three Activities	
<p>1) Developing parish campus 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 Church Campus to better serve our neighbors in need.</p> <p>2) Sale of Community Center to Dresner Foundation, a local philanthropic foundation which plans to further expand the presence of not for profit organizations in the facility to help our neighbors.</p> <p>3) Reception of sizeable donation which enabled us to contract over \$300 K in building repairs to our church proper exterior</p>	
Outreach and Charitable Activities	
Under current COVID restrictions this has been minimal. We have continued limited distribution of food items even though our campus has not been open for public activities.	
Major Challenges Faced	
Currently developing master plan for restructuring and expansion of outreach ministries at our church campus. Parish Council currently working with long term vision and priorities with focus on spiritual/missionary/administrative/financial areas.	
Upcoming Special Events/Anniversaries	
May 2020 opening of All American Saints Chapel in our Church School Wing.	

	As of September 1, 2018	As of September 1, 2019	As of September 1, 2020
Supporting Membership Count	32	34	34
	September 2017 thru August 2018	September 2018 thru August 2019	September 2019 thru August 2020
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Attendance	30	30	24
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Communicants	25	28	20
Average Saturday Vigil/Vespers Attendance	6	6	6
Number of Catechumens	2	6	5
	September 2017 thru August 2018	September 2018 thru August 2019	September 2019 thru August 2020
Baptisms	2	3	1
Funerals	1	1	1
Marriages	1	1	0
Receptions into Orthodoxy	1	0	1
Church School/Number Enrolled	2	2	2
Adult Education/Number Participating	12	20	12

Saints Peter & Paul Orthodox Cathedral
2020 Report/Summary

Thanks be to God, as we continue to meet our many challenges with continuing faith and love-for God and neighbor, we are encouraged by the grace and blessings God gives us, and a growing spiritual maturity within the members of our missionary team.

We continue to provide a sacramental presence in the inner city of Detroit and extend our Eucharistic celebration into the neighborhood. During the COVID period, our neighborhood meals have been restricted to weekly distribution of prepackaged food items on Sundays and Wednesdays. Missionaries continue to bring the Church to where it is not in its fullness.

As a parish, in July 2019 we finally paid off our 18-year burden of bond debt (\$1 M of principle and interest). Since our last annual report, we received a sizeable donation which enabled us to contract over \$300 K in building repairs to our church proper exterior. In February of 2020 we sold our Community Center to the Dresner Foundation, a local philanthropic foundation which plans to further expand the presence of not for profit organizations in the facility to help our neighbors. With all our given challenges, we consider this nothing short of miraculous, and thank God.

We are currently deliberating on future development of our church school wing (which in the past hosted a Head Start School Program) to accommodate different missionary ministries as well.

By the grace of God, our precarious situation has continued to gain a more stable footing for the future.

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.

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, God willing, in the coming years of better health.

Sincerely in Christ,

V. Rev. Fr. Paul Albert
Pastor

Parish Name

St. Demetrius Church - Jackson, MI

Date Submitted

09/11/2020

Submitted By

V. Rev. Dusan Koprivica

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Community Name

St. Demetrius Orthodox Church

Attached Clergy

Title	First Name	Last Name
V. Rev.	Dusan	Koprivica

Committees / Societies

sisterhood

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

Church was Locked down due to pandemic
Church opened up in phases, 3rd phase began May 24
25 Christmas baskets and gifts o needy families in Jackson

Outreach and Charitable Activities Since the Last Report

Relay for Life Cancer walk
ODO Mission team to Sts. Peter and Paul
Right to Life 40 Day prayer vigil in front of Planned Parenthood

Major Challenges Faced Since the Last Report

Having the Church shut down during pandemic
reopening the church
ministering to people during pandemic

Upcoming Special Events / Anniversaries Between Now & August 2020

Date	Event / Anniversary
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10/26/2020

St. Demetrius Feastday

Community Numbers

Supporting Membership Count

55

Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Attendance

50

Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Communicants

50

Average Saturday Vigil/Vespers Attendance

6

Number of Catechumens

3

Number of Baptisms with Chrismation

8

Number of Chrismations (without Baptism)

0

Number of Marriages

0

Number of Funerals

4

Number of Children's School Participants

29


Number of Adult Education Participants

10

DOM PARISH ANNUAL REPORT

As of September 1, 2020

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

Parish Name and Address	Photo
Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church 36075 W 7 Mile Rd Livonia, MI 48152	
Clergy	
V Rev. Archpriest Michael E. Butler Rev. Protodeacon Jacob Frimenko V Rev. David Lis, retired, attached.	
Committees/Societies	
The 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.	
Since September 2019	
Highlights of Top Three Activities	
Fall, 2019. Offered a video series "Reaching the Nones & Dones," and the film "Becoming Truly Human." Nov 2019. Welcomed the Wonderworking Icon of St Anne 2 Feb 2020. Hierarchical visit of Metr. Tikhon, Abp Paul & OCA Chancery staff. Spring, 2020. Became an online presence and began regular live-streaming of services via Zoom and then via YouTube.	
Outreach and Charitable Activities	
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. Provide 200 "hygiene kits" monthly for the homeless of Detroit; provide 100 backpacks for urban schoolchildren annually, and sponsor a fall coat drive for the needy.	
Major Challenges Faced	

The parish is currently working on reorganizing/restructuring the parish administration and ministries into a 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. Of course, recovering from the Covid lockdown is presenting a new set of challenges all its own, the full scope of which we don't yet know.

Upcoming Special Events/Anniversaries - September 2020 to August 2021

	As of September 1, 2018	As of September 1, 2019	As of September 1, 2020
Supporting Membership Count	178	172	174
	September 2016 thru August 2018	September 2018 thru August 2019	September 2019 thru August 2020
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Attendance	155	151	160*
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Communicants	130	130	135*
Average Saturday Vigil/Vespers Attendance	27	25	27*
Number of Catechumens	23	2	7
	September 2016 thru August 2018	September 2018 thru August 2019	September 2019 thru August 2020
Baptisms	6	4	5
Funerals	6	3	7
Marriages	4	0	3

Receptions into Orthodoxy	9	5	1
Church School/Number Enrolled	50	42	See note below
Adult Education/Number Participating	50	50	See note below

* Attendance figures are averages from Sept 2019 thru the beginning of the Covid shutdown. Figures during the shutdown are not included, but followed Synodal, Diocesan and state policy with regards to attendance. Since 31 May 2020, we have served Sunday Liturgy with a maximum of 60 persons, which is what the size of our temple and social distancing will allow.

Church School & Adult Education have not begun for the fall as of this report. Church school will be very restricted for the foreseeable future, with the youngest children receiving materials parents can use at home, young children attending class by Zoom, and a small number of middle and high school students meeting on church premises. Adult ed will take place in the temple and via Zoom simultaneously, given the restrictions on Sunday Liturgy attendance.

Parish Name

St. Mark Church - Rochester Hills, MI

Date Submitted

09/14/2020

Submitted By

V. Rev. Dusan Koprivica

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Community Name

St. Mark Orthodox Church

Attached Clergy

Title	First Name	Last Name
V. Rev.	Dusan	Koprivica
V. Rev.	Dimitrie	Vincent (interim priest)

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

Fr. Andrew Yavornitzky Retirement
Homeless Dinner

Outreach and Charitable Activities Since the Last Report

SW Detroit ODO food program
gift program, seminaries support, SAMP, IOCC
Alms for FR. Mihalick

Major Challenges Faced Since the Last Report

Keeping our community united as we deal with COVID

Upcoming Special Events / Anniversaries Between Now & August 2020

Date	Event / Anniversary
06/01/2021	New priest for parish installed

Community Numbers**Supporting Membership Count**

90

Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Attendance

130

Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Communicants

125

Average Saturday Vigil/Vespers Attendance

35

Number of Catechumens

0

Number of Baptisms with Chrismation

7

Number of Chrismations (without Baptism)

4

Number of Marriages

3

Number of Funerals

3

Number of Children's School Participants

40

Number of Adult Education Participants

20