



## St. Macrina Orthodox Institute

*for Renewal of Diakonia and Catechesis in the Midwest*

*Diocese of the Midwest, Orthodox Church in America,*

**5037 W 83rd St, Burbank, IL 60459**

**Fr. Elijah Mueller, Ph.D., Director, 312-714-9775**

**elijahmueller@sbcglobal.net**

### **Midwest Diocesan Assembly, 19<sup>th</sup> of July 2022. Report**

ALL COHORTS outside of KC presently online through zoom. Partly pandemic, partly because of poor interest in several deaneries, and the desire to put students in a cohort as soon as they are interested and not to wait for a local deanery to have a required number of students.

Cohorts: **Detroit**—started as part of diocesan zoom online course, people in different online cohorts; **Indianapolis**; (Dayton)—alternate Bulgarian OCA diocesan cohort finished this last year. **Cleveland**— started as part of diocesan zoom online course—lack of local deanery faculty and buy-in; Chicago—several cohort cycles, still online; **Minneapolis/St.Paul**—no cohort; **KC deanery**—finishing cohort cycle at present.

21 students continuing, not counting 27 graduating this past year or in the next month or two.

Upcoming 9<sup>th</sup> Conference, in Milwaukee, featuring Fr. Silviu Bunta, August 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>. Successful 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Summer Conference, 2<sup>nd</sup> year in Milwaukee: August 6-7. Featured speaker was Dr Richard Zaleski.

As of July we had exactly 38, with some of the 14 KC students set to graduate. 13 in the Bulgarian Diocese/ Indianapolis Deanery cohort finished in 2021. The remainder of the students are primarily in Chicago, with a few in Michigan and Cleveland Deaneries.

Students, POTENTIALLY planning to petition for ordination to the Bishop and seek approval at next Synod meeting: at least 4. Many catechist certificates will be sent out soon. The 4 (or more) students at present completing the curriculum cycle are all in KC area (first time we have DV students there).

The total cost of tuition per student for each course is now \$500. We still may implement the addition of \$50 approved by the Diocesan Council if we get around to subscribing to educational software service to manage administration and teacher-student interfaces (assignments, syllabi, testing, etc.).

Please let us know if there are other students or faculty. If you desire to start a local program, please contact Fr. Elijah Mueller at the email and phone number above.

Fr. Elijah Mueller