

MEETING OF THE DIOCESAN COUNCIL OF THE DIOCESE OF THE MIDWEST

Diocesan Chancery, 917 N Wood Street, Chicago, IL • 10 December 2024

I. OPENING PRAYER.

The meeting opened with the singing of “O Heavenly King” and blessing of His Eminence, Archbishop DANIEL, at 12:01pm CST.

ATTENDANCE.

- A.** Officers: His Eminence, Archbishop DANIEL; Archpriest Herman Kincaid, Chancellor; Priest Esteban Vázquez, Vice Chancellor; Priest Nikolai Lochmatow, Secretary, Subdeacon Dimitri Pletz, Treasurer.
- B.** Deans: Archpriests Alexander Kuchta, Dusan Koprivica, Paul Wesche, Timothy Sawchak, Steven Kostoff, Nicholas Wyslutsky.
- C.** Clergy Delegates: Archpriest Christopher Rowe; Priests John Segvich, Jacob Van Sickle, William Rettig.
- D.** Lay Delegates: Lori Billy, Angela Zekios, John Maddex, Mark Phillip.
- E.** Metropolitan Council Representatives: Archpriest John Baker, Basil Kochan.
- F.** Absent: Archpriest Zachariah Trent, Mary Ann Bobulsky.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING.

Motion to accept: Archpriest Christopher Rowe. All accepted.

III. OPERATIONAL REPORTS.

- A.** Archbishop DANIEL: Thanks everyone for taking the time to meet, acknowledges business of the season, grateful for dedication of all to the diocese.
 - a. Updates: Hosted Canon Law Conference at Sts Peter & Paul in Burr Ridge, nationwide for OCA, purpose is to educate diocesan clergy on the procedures for spiritual courts. Thanks to Priest Daniel Greeson for hosting and Priest Esteban Vázquez for organizing.
 - b. Meeting of the Holy Synod, 2024 fall session.
 - c. Repose of Archbishop Peter, ROCOR DOM, positive influence on interjurisdictional cooperation and friend.
 - d. Parish visits: almost all visited. Going forward, two per month for 2025. Growth of parishes and parish life, especially young people. This needs to be studied to determine our best response.
 - e. Department Directors appointed, structure developed in conjunction with Alice Woog. Names posted on DOMOCA website, take effect on January 1.
 - f. Theological Education – for those who are unable, due to circumstances, to attend seminary studies in person. In discussion with Saint Tikhon’s Orthodox Seminary for a remote option.
 - g. Two diaconal ordinations and two priest ordinations upcoming. Protodeacon Nicholas Denysenko and Deacon Jason Ketz to priesthood.
 - h. Mother Alexandra of Holy Resurrection Monastery hopes to relocate closer to Chicago.
 - i. Archbishop Daniel is encouraged by life in the diocese. Visiting parishes, clergy and their families is a highpoint of his archpastoral service.
- B.** Chancellor:
 - a. Sister Olyve, near Boscobel, WI, wishes to donate two properties to the diocese – home in town with school, plus farmhouse outside of town. She will remain living on the property for the duration of her earthly life. Properties will be kept

as non-for-profit entities within the diocese. Thanks to Archpriest Thomas Mueller for supporting Sister Olyve and coordinating this gift.

- b. Searching for legal counsel to be an advisor to the Diocese on such matters.
- c. Chancellor has made four parish visits since the October Diocesan Assembly. Role of chancellor is to ensure that all priests have what they need to perform their role successfully. Next visit will be in Madison, IL this coming weekend.

C. Vice Chancellor:

- a. Chancery work continues to evolve and move forward. Justin Tatoes moving on to employment and master's degree at Belmont University. Gained work of Subdeacon Dimitri Pletz as Treasurer, who has control of diocesan finances. Deacon Nikola Tambur as Chancery Assistant to man the Diocesan Office and receive/direct all communications. Priest Nikolai Lochmatow continues as Archbishop's Secretary and Diocesan Secretary, official communications, Archbishop's schedule and travel coordination.
- b. Q: Archpriest Timothy Sawchak – Certificates for Saint Macrina's? A: These will be issued via Department of Education, annually. Backlog to be cleared at that time.
- c. Department Directors named, posted on website. Department of Evangelization pending – no nominations to date.
- d. Q: Diocesan Assembly at All-American Council? A: Archbishop Daniel – Yes.

D. Treasurer:

- a. Deposits will be separated from expenses. Deacon Nikola (as bookkeeper) receives deposits, Subdeacon Dimitri pays expenses.
- b. Accounts receivable is a very high number – invoices from parishes which are unpaid. Archbishop Daniel: bring this to the attention of Deans and Financial Council.
- c. Investments doing well.
- d. Transitioning to a paperless documentation system. Also to an accounting system designed for non-profits, and a better payroll system.
- e. Analysis of restricted/non-restricted funds.
- f. Internal diocesan audit earlier in the year.
- g. Archbishop Daniel – Treasurer will be available to teach and coach parish treasurers on best practices.
- h. Budget – some updates. No free month for 2025.
- i. All American Council – each diocese charged a percentage for preparations. Previously, the diocese would push the cost onto parishes in a proportional amount. Archbishop Daniel: for 2025, parishes will be covering. But moving forward, there will be no direct assessment to parishes in DOM. Q (Archpriest Dusan): How is the parish amount determined? A: Based on proportional assessment.
- j. Motion to accept revised budget: Priest Jacob. Accepted.

E. Metropolitan Council:

- a. Basil Kochan – Metropolitan Council Report.

F. Communications. See written report.

G. Youth. See written report.

H. Saint Macrina's Institute. See written report.

IV. DEANERY REPORTS.

- A. Chicago. See written report. Celebration for Archbishop Daniel's 70th Birthday moved to 12/19 at Saint Nicholas Church in McHenry, IL.
- B. Cleveland. See written report. Enjoyed hosting Diocesan Assembly. Archpriest Jan Cizmar is diligently working toward restoration of Saint Theodosius Cathedral.
- C. Indianapolis. See written report. Lot of growth. FOCUS chapter in Cincinnati, interjurisdictional cooperation improving.
- D. Kansas City. See written report. Fr. James Dank in Lincoln, NE retiring. Desloge, MO diocesan church building being rented by Antiochian western rite parish, could potentially purchase.
- E. Detroit. See written report. New priests – Priest John York and Priest Phillip Dage. Starting prison ministry.
- F. Minneapolis. See written report.

V. OLD BUSINESS.

- A. None at this time.

VI. NEW BUSINESS.

- A. Looking forward to Department Reports at future meetings. Meeting with Directors on Wednesday 12/11.
- B. Mark Phillip – researching law firms to be advisors to DOMOCA.
- C. Priest Esteban – all reporting for 2025 will be due earlier. PSP Reports must be turned in by 2/15 and no later. Parish financial worksheet will be due mid-March. Diocesan council meeting reports due mid-May.

VII. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS, In Person. AAC Preparation.

- A. Clergy Convocation – May 12-14, 2025
- B. Bishops Council – Wednesday, May 21, 2025
- C. Diocesan Council - Thursday, May 22, 2025

VIII. ADJOURNMENT.

- A. **Motion** – Subdeacon Dimitri, 1:45pm
- B. **Archbishop Daniel** thanks everyone for attendance and efficiency of meeting, and for your dedication to the diocese. Praying for everyone to enjoy a blessed Nativity Feast.

Respectfully submitted,
Priest Nikolai Lochmatow, Diocesan Secretary



The Diocese of the Midwest, Orthodox Church in America

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October 2024 YTD Financial Report Summary

December 2nd, 2024

I. Executive Summary

- Overall, the Diocese is in good financial position, but more thorough review is needed.
- Ongoing restructuring of the financial office to bring the diocese into better compliance and best practices.
- October YTD Benchmark should be at 83% of annual budget.
- Accounts Receivable is **high** and needs a comprehensive review.
- Investments are performing well, with steady increases most months this year.
- Major changes in diocesan financial office this year:
 - Turnover
 - Updated and reorganized financial policies and procedures
 - Updated and simplified chart of accounts / financial statements
 - Mostly paperless documentation retention system
- Future expected changes in 2025:
 - Different accounting system (Aplos) – *in process*
 - Different payroll processing system (Gusto) & pay frequency – *in process*
 - Investment Funds review
 - Earlier audit date
 - Further reorganization and simplification of financial statements
 - Updated policies and procedures on clergy compensation and taxes for Diocese

II. Operating Funds Performance vs Budget

Our diocesan financial reports are based on an accrual-basis accounting methodology. This means that when revenue is invoiced, or an expense is incurred, it is recorded on the date of that transaction, regardless of when the money actually enters or leaves the bank account. For revenue under this methodology, it is best to look at revenue on the Income Statement as well as the Accounts Receivable line item on the Balance Sheet. The Income Statement will show the revenue recorded, and the Balance Sheet will show how much of that revenue has not yet been received. Likewise with expenses: the Income Statement will show what has been expensed, and the Accounts Payable line item on the Balance Sheet will show how much is yet to be paid out.

A cash-basis accounting methodology is where transactions are recorded strictly based on when the money enters or leaves the bank account. Most cash-based businesses use this accounting method.

The Operating Fund shows the revenues and expenses necessary to run the operations of the Diocese. The actual activities are compared to the budget to determine how closely the Diocese is operating to how it was expected to operate. If there are major variances compared to the budget, they should be identified and explained. This report should give a clear indicator of how much of the budget has not been spent yet (or spent in excess of the budget).

- Revenues YTD are nearly at 100% of budget, with two months remaining. Expect revenues to *exceed* budget in 2024.
- YTD Expenses are slightly overbudget (85.7% vs. YTD budgeted of 83%). With a little bit of belt-tightening the diocese can meet total annual budgeted expenses with only 2 months remaining in the year. However, this year *may* see some accounting entries to clean up our financials and complete year-end activities, impacting our expenses.
- Uncategorized Expenses are high as it is acting as a temporary holding place until proper documentation is obtained. They will be categorized in their proper place when receipts are received. Most of this is credit card expenses, but not all of it. Partly this is high due to transitioning to a paperless documentation retention system.

III. Restricted Funds Performance

An analysis needs to be done to verify the diocese's restricted funds, their balances, and transactions that have occurred during 2024, given the turnover in the chancery office this year. Restricted funds are monetary gifts given for a specific purpose. They must be spent for that intended purpose, unless the donor elects to un-restrict them or direct them elsewhere.

Within Restricted Funds are Council-Designated Funds. These are funds that the Diocesan Council have designated to be set aside for a specific purpose, but ultimately control the use of these funds and can repurpose them at will. See the "Investment Funds" attachment for activity and balances of these funds, or the "Equity" section below.

IV. Balance Sheet

The Balance Sheet is a financial report showing the balances of all the monies, properties, other assets, along with liabilities, loans, and other monies it is expected to pay out that the Diocese either has or is expecting to receive.

Assets

Assets are monies, properties, items, etc. that have value that are recorded in this section of the balance sheet. Assets also include monies and items of value that are due to be received but have not yet been received. *Current Assets* are expected to be received within 1 year. *Long-Term Assets* are expected to be received in excess of 1 year (e.g. OCCIF investment).

- Accounts Receivable - are monies the diocese has invoiced for or has recorded a transaction as income but has not yet received the actual cash for it yet. This is where the parish assessments go, for instance. Ideally, it is best to get this as close to zero as possible. Currently, accounts receivable is too high, and a review will be conducted to determine how much each parish owes to the diocese.
- Other Assets - Added the St. Mary property in Desloge, MO to the balance sheet, as this property has reverted to ownership by the Diocese. Valuation of this property should be recorded according to the fair-market value of the real estate at the time of possession, or if barring that, the tax-assessed value per the County Assessor's Office.
- Fixed Asset Depreciation – using the accrual-basis accounting, some items need not be expensed completely upon purchase (e.g. computers, automobiles, furniture, etc.). They can be expensed incrementally each year throughout the span of their useful life. The Fixed Assets section therefore shows the balance of these depreciable assets, and how much useful life they have remaining until they are fully expensed.

Liabilities

Liabilities are monies and other items that are due to others. They are listed on the balance sheet section here as they are currently in the company's possession but are expected to be paid out. *Current Liabilities* are items to be paid out within 1 year (e.g. taxes). *Long-Term Liabilities* are ongoing items needing to be paid out longer than 1 year (e.g. loans).

- Currently, prepaid payroll expenses represents the payroll arrangement the diocese is using whereby we pay in advance of work completed for salaried employees. This will change starting 2025 to a system where work is completed first, then payment is given.
- There are some old payroll liabilities (e.g. OH state taxes, IN state taxes, etc.) that need to be reviewed and resolved. This will happen in 2025.

- Pension is withheld from clergy who receive pay, then dispensed to the Pension Fund the following month.

Equity

The equity section of the balance sheet shows the balances of funds and accounts the diocese owns, minus what is owed to others. Equity is usually the difference between Assets and Liabilities. $Assets - Liabilities = Equity$.

- Permanently Restricted Funds – this section shows equity that is reserved for a specific purpose and can only be used in fulfillment of that purpose. This is usually at the express direction of a donor who places conditions on the receipt of the gift.
- Temporarily Restricted Funds – this section shows the various balances of designated funds set aside either as restricted funds or as council-designated funds for specific purposes. Council-designated funds have a self-imposed restriction for a specific purpose, which can change at the discretion of the company. Temporarily restricted funds may be changed to council-designated funds in the future, based upon the investment review conclusions.
- Unrestricted Funds – no restrictions are placed on these monies and can be utilized however the organization decides.
- A review of Invested Funds may change the classification of some of these funds and their balances.

Restricted Funds	Beginning 12/31/2023	Ending 10/31/2024
Archangel Michael Fund	\$ 29,720	\$ 29,720
Mother Maria of Paris	\$ 20,710	\$ 20,710
Total Restricted Cash	\$ 50,430	\$ 50,430
AAM Equity Reserve	\$ 465,775	\$ 506,102
AAM MF Reserve	\$ 686,276	\$ 695,829
ArchBp Scholarship Reserve	\$ 19,785	\$ 20,271
Auto Reserve	\$ 45,818	\$ 53,902
Family Trust Fund	\$ 56,881	\$ 58,278
Legal Reserve	\$ 74,652	\$ 72,448
Maintenance Reserve	\$ 63,343	\$ 72,940
Mission Projects	\$ 104,447	\$ 110,025
Monastery Reserve	\$ 10,320	\$ 11,010
Special Visits Reserve	\$ 6,247	\$ 6,763
	\$ 1,533,543	\$ 1,607,567
Total	\$ 1,583,973	\$ 1,657,997

V. Investment Activities / Trends

Invested funds are those gifts or excess cash that are set aside in hopes they will garner a return greater than if they were to stay as simply cash. Various options exist such as stocks, CD's, bonds, mutual funds, etc. and are purchased or sold on the open market. There is some risk involved with engaging in the open market with one's money, but there is also potential for greater returns which can increase the value of the monies invested. Care must be given with regards to invested funds to reduce acceptable risk, especially church funds, to minimize the potential for erosion of invested funds and an overall decrease in their value. It is expected and normal to see volatility and fluctuation in the balances of invested funds, but the hope is that they grow and increase over time.

- Overall, the diocese's investment funds have performed well YTD and have increased in value in recent quarters in 2024. We have seen steady increases each month this year resulting in growth of \$382,850 YTD despite a few negative months in both April and October. We have rebalanced our mix of funds within each portfolio to minimize risk and stay within the targeted portfolio blend. The Finance Committee has been designated to review the risk and blend of the diocese's invested funds and portfolios and will continue to assess performance to achieve future returns and growth.
 - We maintain a consolidated portfolio balance of \$2.56 million in investments
- With the future review of invested funds in 2025, the hope is to identify what funds can be consolidated (if any) and what further amounts can be utilized to further the financial needs of our departments, while protecting the health and viability of the funds for the future.

VI. Parish Receivables

This section of the report will be reserved for those parishes who are significantly delinquent on their parish assessments. No numbers will be given, just names, and those parishes can contact the Treasurer directly to get more information and how they can resolve their open balances.

As of today, no parishes will be listed, as a review of open balances will need to be conducted to determine the accurate accounting of how much is outstanding to collect on. As part of that review, the scope will consist of 2023 – 2024, so as to not modify past financial reports and their corresponding audits. This review will be occurring late-2024 / early 2025. The hope is that this will produce an accurate and clean foundation to start from for 2025. Periodic statements will be given to each parish with open balances.

VII. Financial Statements (see attached)

- a. October 2024 YTD Actual vs Annual Budget (incl %)
- b. Balance Sheet - October 2024 YTD
- c. Mission Parish Endowment Fund
- d. Restricted Funds

Diocese of the Midwest
Budget vs. Actuals: Budget_FY24_P&L - FY24 P&L
January - October, 2024

	Actual YTD	Annual Budget	% of Budget
Income			
Assessment Income	1,114,163	1,229,681	90.6%
Conferences & Seminars			
Canon Law Conference	3,600		
Convocation Income	17,025	13,800	123.4%
Diocesan Assembly Income	15,600	13,500	115.6%
Protect My Ministry Income		5,250	0.0%
Total Conferences & Seminars	36,225	32,550	111.3%
Department Income			
Dept of Christian Education			
Late Vocations	15,750	12,000	131.3%
Total Dept of Christian Education	15,750	12,000	131.3%
Total Department Income	15,750	12,000	131.3%
Other Contributions			
Restricted Income - Monastery	9		
Total Other Contributions	4,159	0	
Rental Income	1,083		
Scholarships / Charity			
Other Fundraisers		2,000	0.0%
Support our Seminarians Appeal	33,892	13,000	260.7%
Total Scholarships / Charity	33,892	15,000	225.9%
Uncategorized Income		500	0.0%
Total Income	1,205,272	1,289,731	93.5%
Gross Profit	1,205,272	1,289,731	93.5%
Expenses			
OCA Assessments	325,342	442,685	73.5%
Salaries & Wages			
Salaries			
Bishop	77,250	92,700	83.3%
Bishop's Secretary	17,266	21,216	81.4%
Bookkeeper	6,780	7,416	91.4%
Chancellor	43,339	33,345	130.0%
Kelenik	7,584	17,888	42.4%
Vice-Chancellor	45,492	54,590	83.3%
Total Salaries	197,711	227,155	87.0%
Housing Allowance			

Housing Allowance - Bishop	33,333	40,000	83.3%
Housing Allowance - Chancellor	13,333		
Total Housing Allowance	46,667	40,000	116.7%
Total Salaries & Wages	244,377	267,155	91.5%
Benefits			
Pension			
Pension - Bishop	15,482	18,578	83.3%
Pension - Chancellor	7,934	4,668	170.0%
Pension - Secretary	1,141		
Pension- Vice-Chancellor	6,369	7,643	83.3%
Total Pension	30,926	30,889	100.1%
Health Insurance			
Health Insurance - Bishop		1,000	0.0%
Health Insurance - Chancellor	293		
Health Insurance - Vice Chancellor	6,758	10,000	67.6%
Total Health Insurance	7,051	11,000	64.1%
Life Insurance			
Life Insurance - Bishop		1,600	0.0%
Life Insurance - Diocesan Keyperson		1,600	0.0%
Total Life Insurance	0	3,200	0.0%
Workers' Comp	2,144	1,000	214.4%
Total Benefits	40,120	46,089	87.0%
Payroll Expenses			
FICA Taxes			
FICA Taxes - Bishop	5,910	10,156	58.2%
FICA Taxes - Bookkeeper	519		
FICA Taxes - Chancellor	3,315	2,551	130.0%
FICA Taxes - Vice-Chancellor	3,480	4,176	83.3%
Total FICA Taxes	13,224	16,883	78.3%
Total Payroll Expenses	13,224	16,883	78.3%
Stipends			
Deans			
Chicago	4,120	4,326	95.2%
Cleveland	4,120	4,326	95.2%
Indianapolis	4,120	4,326	95.2%
Kansas City	4,120	4,326	95.2%
Michigan	4,120	4,326	95.2%
Minneapolis	4,120	4,326	95.2%
Total Deans	24,720	25,956	95.2%
Communications Director	4,120	4,944	83.3%
Diocesan Secretary	2,369	2,843	83.3%
Late Vocations Coordinator	11,138	13,365	83.3%
Mission Development Coordinator	4,167	5,000	83.3%
Supply Priest	11,130	6,600	168.6%

Treasurer	5,150	6,180	83.3%
Youth Coordinator	2,369	2,843	83.3%
Stipends - Pension			
Pension - Chicago	577	606	95.2%
Pension - Cleveland	577	606	95.2%
Pension - Communications Director	577	692	83.3%
Pension - Indianapolis	577	606	95.2%
Pension - Kansas City	577	606	95.2%
Pension - Late Vocations Coord.	1,559	1,871	83.3%
Pension - Michigan	1,269	606	209.5%
Pension - Minneapolis	577	606	95.2%
Pension - Secretary	332	398	83.3%
Total Stipends - Pension	6,621	6,595	100.4%
Total Stipends	71,783	74,326	96.6%
Professional Fees			
Accounting	6,250	7,500	83.3%
Counseling		3,000	0.0%
Investment Fund Management Fees	5,328	4,500	118.4%
Legal		1,200	0.0%
Payroll Preparation		500	0.0%
Website Support	25,389	4,420	574.4%
Total Professional Fees	36,967	21,120	175.0%
Insurance			
Auto Insurance	1,300	2,000	65.0%
Liability	5,500	9,000	61.1%
NVM Insurance	4,968	4,000	124.2%
Property		2,000	0.0%
Total Insurance	11,768	17,000	69.2%
Office Expense			
Background Checks		6,500	0.0%
Bank Service Charges	371	200	185.4%
Bank Stripe Fees	963	700	137.5%
Dues & Subscriptions	19	420	4.4%
Licenses & Fees	64	250	25.6%
Office Rent	16,500	18,000	91.7%
Office Supplies	843	3,000	28.1%
Postage and Shipping	180	500	36.1%
Printing & Reproduction	63		
Psychological Evaluations	-770	4,000	-19.3%
Rectory Refurbishment Expense (inactive)	886		
Seminarian Apartment		3,000	0.0%
Service Contracts	889	2,200	40.4%
Equipment Lease	77	2,200	3.5%
Total Service Contracts	966	4,400	22.0%

Software Expense	1,758		
Total Office Expense	21,843	40,970	53.3%
Utilities			
Internet Service Provider	1,320	1,800	73.3%
Telephone	1,428	4,000	35.7%
Total Utilities	2,748	5,800	47.4%
Miscellaneous	-93	1,000	-9.3%
Debts Forgiven	0		
Discretionary Fund - Bishop	501	1,200	41.8%
Reconciliation Discrepancies	1,250		
Total Miscellaneous	1,658	2,200	75.4%
Repairs and Maintenance			
Labor	566		
Repairs	690		
Supplies		1,200	0.0%
Total Repairs and Maintenance	1,256	1,200	104.7%
Special Events Exp			
Alaska-Mexico Appeal	1,000		
Tikhvin Icon Anniv Trip	13,687		
Total Special Events Exp	14,687	0	
Travel	233		
Auditors		2,000	0.0%
Automobile Expense	3,667	4,000	91.7%
Bishop	26,800	20,000	134.0%
Bishop's Kelenik	1,769	2,000	88.5%
Chancellor	2,603	6,000	43.4%
Deans	2,462	1,200	205.2%
Diocesan/Bishop's Council	6,542	24,000	27.3%
Late Vocations		500	0.0%
Metropolitan Council		1,000	0.0%
Secretary	468	600	77.9%
Vice Chancellor	9,552		
Total Travel	54,096	61,300	88.2%
Department Expense			
Dept of Christian Education			
Clergy Development and Formation		4,000	0.0%
Continuing Education		3,000	0.0%
Family/Youth Ministry		8,000	0.0%
Late Vocations	10,600	12,000	88.3%
Youth Camps	15,898	25,000	63.6%
Total Dept of Christian Education	26,498	52,000	51.0%
Dept of Liturgical Practice			
Music Ministry	1,782	10,000	17.8%

Total Dept of Liturgical Practice	1,782	10,000	17.8%
Total Department Expense	28,280	62,000	45.6%
Program Expense			
Charity		1,500	0.0%
Conferences & Seminars			
Convocations	18,455		
Diocesan Assembly	10	13,500	0.1%
Seminars & Meetings		13,800	0.0%
Total Conferences & Seminars	18,465	27,300	67.6%
Hospitality	5,325	2,500	213.0%
Laity Engagement		4,000	0.0%
Mission Grants	5,000	60,000	8.3%
Seminarian Scholarships	0		
Budgeted Portion	50,000	50,000	100.0%
Fundraisers Portion	23,353	13,000	179.6%
Other Scholarships		1,000	0.0%
Total Seminarian Scholarships	73,353	64,000	114.6%
Total Program Expense	102,143	159,300	64.1%
Uncategorized Expenses	76,409		
Uncategorized Expense (inactive)		65,754	0.0%
Total Uncategorized Expenses	76,409	65,754	116.2%
Total Expenses	1,046,702	1,220,810	85.7%
Net Operating Income	158,570	68,921	230.1%
Other Income			
Interest Income	17,120		
Interest Income on OCCIF Inv	6,000		
MS Investment Income			
Dividend Income	24,723		
Total MS Investment Income	24,723	0	
Total Interest Income	47,843	0	
Gain (Loss) on Sale of Assets			
Short-Term	2,544		
Long-Term	8,757		
Total Gain (Loss) on Sale of Assets	11,301	0	
Transfers to Investments			
Auto Reserve Trfs		5,000	0.0%
Manintenance Reserve Trfs		5,000	0.0%
Total Transfers to Investments	0	10,000	0.0%
Total Other Income	59,144	10,000	591.4%
Other Expenses			
Bishop's Discretionary Fund (inactive)	-5,000		
Interest Expense	111		

Depreciation Expense			
Depreciation- Buildings	1,133		
Depreciation- Computers	306		
Depreciation- Equipment	839		
Depreciation- Furniture	1,632		
Depreciation- LHI	5,216		
Total Depreciation Expense	9,125	0	
Support of Orthodox Youth Conference being held in Chicago		5,000	0.0%
Taxes and Licenses (inactive)	272		
Total Other Expenses	4,508	5,000	90.2%
Net Other Income	54,636	5,000	1092.7%
Net Income	213,206	73,921	288.4%

Wednesday, Nov 27, 2024 09:20:50 AM GMT-8 - Accrual Basis

Diocese of the Midwest

Balance Sheet

As of October 31, 2024

	TOTAL
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
Bank of America Checking- (3437)	139,160.88
Bank of America Checking- (8445)	17,848.72
Checking Accounts- Restricted	
Archangel Michael Checking- (6674)	29,719.85
MMP Checking - (9966)	20,709.67
Total Checking Accounts- Restricted	50,429.52
Portfolio Investments	
MS 8772 Inv Advisory Fund	2,174,225.41
MS 8774 Basic Sec Income Fund	290,421.32
Total Portfolio Investments	2,464,646.73
Total Bank Accounts	\$2,672,085.85
Accounts Receivable	\$156,576.16
Other Current Assets	
Due from Bank of America	2,549.99
Due from Employees	400.00
Employee Advance	500.00
Investment in OCCIF	200,000.00
Other Receivables	2,500.00
Prepaid PR Expenses	35,073.68
Total Other Current Assets	\$241,023.67
Total Current Assets	\$3,069,685.68
Fixed Assets	
Depreciable Assets	
Buildings/ Property	54,491.02
Computer Equipment	1,312.54
Equipment & Machinery	1,397.88
Furniture and Fixtures	8,898.34
Leasehold improvement	84,403.07
Total Depreciable Assets	150,502.85
Total Fixed Assets	\$150,502.85
Other Assets	
Church Properties	
Desloge, MO Property	192,780.00
Total Church Properties	192,780.00
Total Other Assets	\$192,780.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$3,412,968.53

Diocese of the Midwest

Balance Sheet

As of October 31, 2024

	TOTAL
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	\$2,509.19
Credit Cards	
Business Credit Card- 9080	-5,958.79
Total Credit Cards	\$ -5,958.79
Other Current Liabilities	
Payroll Liabilities	0.00
IN Withholding	2,250.93
OCA Pension Payable	6,882.86
OH Local Tax	915.24
Total Payroll Liabilities	10,049.03
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$10,049.03
Total Current Liabilities	\$6,599.43
Total Liabilities	\$6,599.43
Equity	
Perm. Restricted Net Assets	
Arch Michael Church- Restricted Assets	29,719.85
MMP- Restricted Assets	20,709.67
Total Perm. Restricted Net Assets	50,429.52
Real Estate Property	
Desloge, MO	192,780.00
Total Real Estate Property	192,780.00
Temp. Restricted Net Assets	
AAM Equity Reserve	506,101.50
AAM MF Reserve	695,829.02
ArchBp Scholarship Reserve	20,271.04
Auto Reserve	53,901.57
Family Trust Fund	58,278.37
Legal Reserve	72,448.19
Maintenance Reserve	72,939.70
Mission Projects	110,024.56
Monastery Reserve	11,010.23
Special Visit Reserve	6,763.28
Total Temp. Restricted Net Assets	1,607,567.46
Unreal Gain (Loss) on Invest	
MS 8772 Inv Adv (Port Fund)	281,753.35
MS 8774 Basic Sec (Inc Fund)	56,252.82
Total Unreal Gain (Loss) on Invest	338,006.17
Unrestricted Net Assets	1,004,379.89

Diocese of the Midwest

Balance Sheet

As of October 31, 2024

	TOTAL
Net Income	213,206.06
Total Equity	\$3,406,369.10
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$3,412,968.53

**DIOCESAN MISSION / PARISH DEVELOPMENT FUND
STATUS FOR 2024**

Morgan Stanley/Smith Barney: Yearly Summary			
	Portfolio Fund	Income Fund	Total of Both Funds
12/31/2021	\$234,030.96	\$291,536.85	\$525,567.81
12/31/2022	\$182,569.33	\$246,787.61	\$429,356.94
12/31/2023	\$235,554.76	\$275,960.80	\$511,515.56
Morgan Stanley/Smith Barney: Monthly Summary			
	Portfolio Fund 8772	Income Fund 8774	Total of Both Funds
1/31/2024	\$237,620.60	\$275,060.03	\$512,680.63
2/29/2024	\$249,654.27	\$281,375.75	\$531,030.02
3/31/2024	\$254,548.33	\$289,834.77	\$544,383.10
4/30/2024	\$244,529.90	\$281,288.20	\$525,818.10
5/31/2024	\$263,087.37	\$289,622.11	\$552,709.48
6/30/2024	\$274,076.84	\$290,421.32	\$564,498.16
7/31/2024	\$281,076.84	\$298,232.04	\$579,308.88
8/31/2024	\$287,072.06	\$305,453.73	\$592,525.79
9/30/2024	\$291,616.53	\$310,162.12	\$601,778.65
10/31/2024	\$291,637.10	\$304,386.86	\$596,023.96
11/30/2024			\$0.00
12/31/2024			\$0.00
Gain/Loss	\$56,082.34	\$28,426.06	\$84,508.40

MORGAN STANLEY INVESTMENTS 2024

2023 Morgan Stanley Investment Accounts: (Yellow Highlighted: Cash) (Green Highlighted: Diversified Funds) (Purple Highlighted: Blended, Cash and Diversified)																
9341	9340	1477	7627	5841	5835	5820	5800	5403	AAA-0309	7406	7463	8044	8093	AAA-0310	TOTALS	
Maint. Reserve	Special Visit Reserve Fund	Mission Projects Fund Opened November 2017	Mission Projects Fund Created May 2023 Preferred Savings Acc	Archbishop Life Insurance Fund (Formerly OCA Reserve Fund)	Auto Reserve Fund	Bishop Job Mem Scholar Fund	Legal Reserve Fund	Gen. Operating Reserve Fund	Gen. Operating Reserve Fund (US Savings Bonds Deposit) 11/29/2023	Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund (Created 11/2020, Closed 3/29/22)	New Monastery Created 11/2020	Proceeds from Sale of Burbank Property \$1,125,733.05 Initial Investment Created 8/7/2023		Proceeds from Petrykowski Family Trust		
12/31/2021	\$ 53,634.41	\$ 5,315.75	\$ 300,568.01		\$ 20,800.24	\$ 23,857.83	\$ 19,159.22	\$ 79,616.23	\$ 44,465.55		\$ 100,010.44	\$ 16,870.68			\$ 664,298.46	
12/31/2022	\$ 49,969.11	\$ 5,519.18	\$ 95,591.24		-	\$ 27,395.46	\$ 16,185.37	\$ 55,704.65	\$ 55,420.29		-	\$ 8,970.26			\$ 314,755.56	
12/31/2023	\$ 63,342.59	\$ 6,246.78	\$ 3.94	\$ 104,446.69		\$ 45,817.61	\$ 19,785.19	\$ 74,651.79	\$ 63,361.76	\$ 62,474.66		\$ 10,320.33	\$ 686,275.55	\$ 465,774.78	\$ 56,881.45	\$ 1,659,383.12
															\$ -	
1/31/2024	\$ 63,279.93	\$ 6,274.76		\$ 104,879.21		\$ 45,771.50	\$ 19,503.25	\$ 69,070.35	\$ 63,179.03	\$ 318,482.33		\$ 10,269.37	\$ 688,449.84	\$ 469,237.35	\$ 57,117.00	\$ 1,915,513.92
2/29/2024	\$ 65,557.59	\$ 6,470.55		\$ 105,285.44		\$ 47,205.62	\$ 19,765.50	\$ 69,930.49	\$ 65,305.24	\$ 319,715.93		\$ 10,624.29	\$ 686,228.86	\$ 486,223.57	\$ 57,338.23	\$ 1,939,651.31
3/31/2024	\$ 67,404.34	\$ 6,669.01		\$ 105,721.43		\$ 48,638.14	\$ 19,901.86	\$ 68,961.54	\$ 67,258.04	\$ 321,039.88		\$ 11,006.74	\$ 689,223.38	\$ 501,559.49	\$ 57,575.69	\$ 1,964,959.54
4/30/2024	\$ 65,461.67	\$ 6,448.31		\$ 106,145.08		\$ 47,154.75	\$ 18,766.22	\$ 67,318.61	\$ 65,156.77	\$ 322,326.36		\$ 10,724.53	\$ 686,454.96	\$ 486,621.42	\$ 57,806.39	\$ 1,940,385.07
5/31/2024	\$ 72,425.28	\$ 6,640.12		\$ 109,585.43		\$ 53,614.66	\$ 19,453.69	\$ 69,689.20	\$ 67,157.85	\$ 323,661.13		\$ 11,104.64	\$ 691,725.05	\$ 501,974.21	\$ 58,045.77	\$ 1,985,077.03
6/30/2024	\$ 72,939.70	\$ 6,763.28		\$ 110,024.56		\$ 53,901.57	\$ 20,271.04	\$ 72,448.19	\$ 67,623.01	\$ 324,958.10		\$ 11,010.23	\$ 695,829.02	\$ 505,923.56	\$ 58,278.37	\$ 1,999,970.63
7/31/2024	\$ 73,981.87	\$ 6,976.61		\$ 110,480.18		\$ 55,040.01	\$ 21,396.22	\$ 77,752.14	\$ 69,198.02	\$ 326,303.77		\$ 11,145.99	\$ 702,801.85	\$ 516,543.75	\$ 58,519.71	\$ 2,030,140.12
8/31/2024	\$ 75,594.54	\$ 7,155.22		\$ 110,937.69		\$ 56,261.98	\$ 21,896.05	\$ 77,605.36	\$ 70,925.06	\$ 327,655.01		\$ 11,460.58	\$ 708,063.48	\$ 531,149.45	\$ 58,762.04	\$ 2,057,466.46
9/30/2024	\$ 76,723.40	\$ 7,250.44		\$ 111,370.61		\$ 56,952.06	\$ 22,440.00	\$ 81,690.44	\$ 72,046.91	\$ 228,690.62		\$ 11,596.70	\$ 713,064.68	\$ 538,133.36	\$ 58,991.36	\$ 1,978,950.58
10/31/2024	\$ 75,054.21	\$ 7,152.87		\$ 111,786.60		\$ 55,805.21	\$ 22,768.70	\$ 80,764.25	\$ 70,317.04	\$ 229,544.82		\$ 11,177.38	\$ 709,256.37	\$ 527,383.15	\$ 59,211.70	\$ 1,960,222.30
11/30/2024															\$ -	
12/31/2024															\$ -	
Gain/Loss	\$ 11,711.62	\$ 906.09	\$ (3.94)	\$ 7,339.91		\$ 9,987.60	\$ 2,983.51	\$ 6,112.46	\$ 6,955.28	\$ 167,070.16		\$ 857.05	\$ 84,589.19	\$ 2,330.25	\$ 300,839.18	

Diocese of the Midwest - OCA
2025 Proposed Budget based on Tithing Relief Back to Parishes

Ordinary Income / Expenses

Income

Tithing of 13% from Parishes minus relief Granted to Parishes and accounting for projected \$15,000 uncollectable **\$ 1,403,493.14**

Program Income

Late Vocations	\$ 15,000.00	(Pass Through)	
Seminars & Meetings (Convocation)	\$ 13,800.00	(Pass Through)	
Seminary Scholarship (Other Contributions)	\$ 2,000.00	(Pass Through)	
Support our Seminarians Appeal (SOS)	\$ 13,000.00	(Pass Through)	
Total Program Income	\$ 43,800.00	\$ 43,800.00	\$ 43,800.00

Additional Income

Uncategorozed Income	\$ 500.00		
Diocesan Assembly Income	\$ 13,500.00	(Pass Through)	
Protect My Ministry (50-% Parish Reimb, Background Checks and Psych Evals)	\$ 3,500.00		
Income from Desloge MO Church	\$ 6,500.00		
Total Additional Income	\$ 24,000.00	\$ 24,000.00	\$ 24,000.00

Total Income **\$ 1,471,293.14**

Expense

OCA Tithing (34% of \$1,302,213.78 Diocesan Tithing Received) **\$ 477,187.67**

Program Expense

Diocese of Alaska: Clergy Support	\$ 2,000.00		
Charity	\$ 1,500.00		
Late Vocations	\$ 15,000.00	(Pass Through)	
Parish Priest Stipend for Royalton, IL (New)	\$ 6,600.00		
Seminarian Scholarships			
Budgeted Portion (was \$30k for 2023)	\$ 50,000.00		
Fundraisers Portion (SOS)	\$ 13,000.00	(Pass Through)	
Scholarships - Other (\$2k for 2023)	\$ 1,000.00	(Pass Through)	
Total Scholarships	\$ 64,000.00	\$ 64,000.00	
Diocesan Assembly Expense	\$ 13,500.00	(Pass Through)	
Seminars & Meetings (Convocation)	\$ 13,800.00	(Pass Through)	
St. Andrew of Crete (Music Ministry)	\$ 4,000.00	\$10,000 this year	
Youth Summer Camp Scholarships	\$ 10,000.00	\$25,000 this year	
	\$ 41,300.00	\$ 41,300.00	
Total Program Expense	\$ -	\$ 130,400.00	\$ 130,400.00

Auto and Travel

Auditors	\$ 1,200.00		
Automobile Expense (Gas/Maintenance)	\$ 4,000.00		
Automobile Car Payments	\$ 7,845.84		
Automobile Reserve Fund	\$ 5,000.00		
ArchBishop	\$ 30,000.00		
Archbishop's Kelelinik	\$ 1,000.00		
Chancellor	\$ 10,000.00		
Deans	\$ 1,200.00		
Diocesan / Bishop's Council	\$ 24,000.00		
Late Vocations	\$ 500.00		
Metropolitan Council	\$ 1,000.00		
Vice Chancellor	\$ 1,000.00		
Total Diocesan Auto and Travel	\$ 86,745.84	\$ 86,745.84	\$ 86,745.84

Diocese of the Midwest - OCA
2025 Proposed Budget based on Tithing Relief Back to Parishes

Building: Chancery Office, St. George's and DesLodge Property

Office Rental at St. George's	\$ 30,000.00
Repairs and Maintenance	\$ 1,500.00
Maintenance Reserve Fund	\$ 5,000.00

Total Building, Grounds and Utilities	\$ 36,500.00
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\$ 36,500.00

Diocesan Staff Salaries and Benefits

Archbishop

Base Salary (2024):	\$ 92,700.00
3.16% CPI Increase = \$2,929.32	\$ 2,929.32

New 2025 Base Salary	\$ 95,629.32
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Housing Allowance	\$ 40,000.00
3.16% CPI increase on \$40,000 Housing Allowance Increase	\$ 1,264.00

Revised Housing Allowance for SS and pension for 2025	\$ 41,264.00
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Pension (14% Diocese portion)	\$ 19,165.06	14% x (\$95,629.32 Salary + \$41,264 Housing Allowance)
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Social Security (Diocese Portion)	\$ 10,472.34	7.65% x (\$95,629.32 Salary + \$41,264k Housing Allowance)
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Health Insurance (Medicare)	\$ 1,000.00
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Life Insurance	\$ 2,000.00	Estimated for a \$50,000 whole life policy
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Total Archbishop	\$ 169,530.72	\$ 169,530.72
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Chancellor

Base Salary (2024):	\$ 80,000.00
3.16% CPI Increase = \$2,528.00	\$ 2,528.00

New 2025 Base Salary	\$ 82,528.00
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Housing Allowance	\$ 40,000.00
3.16% CPI increase on \$40,000 Housing	\$ 1,264.00

Revised Housing Allowance for SS and	\$ 41,264.00
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Pension (14% Diocese portion)	\$ 17,330.88	14% x (\$82,528 Salary + \$41,264 Housing Allowance)
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Social Security (Diocese Portion)	\$ 9,470.09	7.65% x (\$82,528 Salary + \$41,264 Housing Allowance)
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Health Insurance (TRICARE)	\$ 3,082.44
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Life Insurance	\$ 435.60
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Total Chancellor	\$ 154,111.01	\$ 154,111.01
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Vice Chancellor

New 2025 Base Salary	\$ 78,000.00	\$ 78,000.00
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Pension (14% Diocese)	\$ 10,920.00	(\$78,000.00 x 14%)
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Social Security (7.65%)	\$ 5,967.00	(\$78,000.00 x 7.65%)
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Health Ins. (\$1,163.08 x 5% Inc Projected)	\$ 14,654.88
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Total Vice Chancellor	\$ 109,541.88	\$ 109,541.88
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Deans

Chicago (\$4,800.00 x 1.0316)	\$ 4,951.68	(Includes 3.16% CPI)
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14% Diocesan Pension	\$ 693.24
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Cleveland(\$4,800.00 x 1.0316)	\$ 4,951.68	(Includes 3.16% CPI)
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14% Diocesan Pension	\$ 693.24
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Indianapolis (\$4,800.00 x 1.0316)	\$ 4,951.68	(Includes 3.16% CPI)
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14% Diocesan Pension	\$ 693.24
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Kansas City (\$4,800.00 x 1.0316)	\$ 4,951.68	(Includes 3.16% CPI)
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14% Diocesan Pension	\$ 693.24
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Michigan (\$4,800.00 x 1.0316)	\$ 4,951.68	(Includes 3.16% CPI)
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14% Diocesan Pension	\$ 693.24
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Minneapolis (\$4,800.00 x 1.0316)	\$ 4,951.68	(Includes 3.16% CPI)
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14% Diocesan Pension	\$ 693.24
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Total Deans	\$ 33,869.49	\$ 33,869.49
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Diocese of the Midwest - OCA
2025 Proposed Budget based on Tithing Relief Back to Parishes

Support Staff		
Archbishop's Keleunik/Chancery Staff for Protect My Ministry	\$ 11,758.40	Keleunik: \$400/trip only with Archbishop: 10 times/year = \$4,000/yr Chancery Staff Work: \$18.65/hr (Includes 3.16% CPI), 8 hrs/wk only for Justin = \$7,758.40/yr Anyone else, \$15.00/hr for 8 hr/wk = \$6,240.00/yr
Archbishop's Secretary	\$ 30,000.00	
14% OCA Pension	\$ 4,200.00	
Bookkeeper Stipend	\$ 18,000.00	
14% OCA Pension (6mo)	\$ 1,260.00	
Communications Director Stipend (\$4,800.00 x 1.0316)	\$ 4,951.68	(Includes 3.16% CPI)
14% Diocesan Pension	\$ 693.24	
Diocesan Secretary Stipend (\$2,760)	\$ 2,847.22	(Includes 3.16% CPI)
14% Diocesan Pension	\$ 398.61	
Late Vocations Stipend	\$ 13,787.63	(Includes 3.16% CPI)
14% Diocesan Pension	\$ 1,930.27	
Mission Development Coordinator	\$ 5,000.00	
Treasurer Stipend	\$ 6,189.60	(Includes 3.16% CPI)
Youth Coordinator Stipend	\$ 2,847.22	(Includes 3.16% CPI)
Possible Dept. Director Stipends (5) at \$400/mo.	\$ 24,000.00	
14% OCA Pension if they are clergy)	\$ 3,360.00	
Total Support Staff	\$ 131,223.86	\$ 131,223.86
Diocesan Staff Salaries and Benefits		\$ 598,276.97
		\$ 598,276.97
Insurance		
Archbishop's Life Ins. (Diocesan Policy)	\$ 2,000.00	Estimated for a \$50,000 whole life policy
Archbishops Auto Ins.	\$ 383.88	
Guide One:		
Commercial Auto	\$ 1,809.00	
Commercial Umbrella	\$ 1,750.00	
Commercial Package:		
Property: Chancellery/Monastery	\$ 2,563.00	
Commercial Package: Crime, Inland	\$ 2,093.00	
Marine, General Liability		
Workers Comp (Hartford)	\$ 1,900.00	
Church Mutual (Desloge Property)	\$ 11,335.00	
Total Insurance	\$ 23,833.88	\$ 23,833.88
Office Expenses		
Bank Service Charges	\$ 200.00	
Stripe Fees	\$ 700.00	
Dues & Subscriptions		
DropBox (\$19.99/mo)	\$ 240.00	
GoToMeeting (\$14.55/M0)	\$ 180.00	
Internet Service Provider (Comcast)	\$ 2,300.00	
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$ 1,000.00	
Office Supplies	\$ 3,000.00	
Postage and Shipping	\$ 500.00	
Service Contracts		
TTSG (Copier)	\$ 1,300.00	
Pitney Bowes	\$ 1,600.00	
Office Telephones: 8x8 Service	\$ 4,000.00	
Total Office Expenses	\$ 15,020.00	\$ 15,020.00

Diocese of the Midwest - OCA
2025 Proposed Budget based on Tithing Relief Back to Parishes

Professional Fees			
Accounting	\$	7,500.00	
Background Checks (Protect My Ministry)	\$	2,000.00	
Counseling	\$	3,000.00	
Investment Fund Management Fees	\$	7,000.00	
Legal	\$	1,200.00	
Psychological Evaluations	\$	3,000.00	
Payroll Preparation	\$	500.00	
Website Support			
Diocesan Website Maintenance	\$	4,000.00	
Our Diocese: Diocesan App	\$	16,800.00	
Go Daddy/Box Inc. (Other Internet services)	\$	1,600.00	
Total Professional Fees	\$	46,600.00	\$ 46,600.00
			\$ 46,600.00

Additional Expenses:			
All-American Council Accrued Exp	\$	28,333.33	
Bishop Discretionary Fund	\$	1,200.00	
Clergy & Parish Resources: Hospitality	\$	5,000.00	
Clergy Development and Formation	\$	4,000.00	
Financial Reserves	\$	13,945.45	\$65,723.76 this year
Laity Engagment	\$	4,000.00	
Licenses and Fees	\$	250.00	
Total Additional Expenses	\$	56,728.78	\$ 56,728.78

Total Expense	\$	1,471,293.14	\$ 1,471,293.14
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Total Income (Page 1)	\$	1,471,293.14	\$ 1,471,293.14
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Balanced Budget	\$	0.00	\$ 0.00
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Metropolitan Council Report Fall 2024
Diocesan Assembly December 10, 2024

V. Rev. John Baker
Reader Basil Kochan

The fall gathering of the Metropolitan Council began with Divine Liturgy at St. Nicholas Orthodox Cathedral in Washington, D.C. at 8:30 a.m. commemorating St. Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow and Enlightener of North America, patron saint of His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon. Fr. Justin provided a wonderful and reflective sermon on the election of Patriarch Tikhon (Kind vs. Stern vs. Knowledge) and linked to our primate and his kindness in his position. Under the direction of Julianne Woodill, members of the Archdiocesan Choir led a beautiful and profound celebration of the Divine Liturgy.

The Fall Meeting of the Metropolitan Council was held at Springfield Hilton, Springfield, Virginia commencing on October 9, 2024. A resolution addressing the illness and subsequent retirement of Council member Archpriest Matthew Tate was adopted as well as resolution addressing Hurricane Milton.

Metropolitan's report

His Beatitude recognized new members. Terms expiring on Council are Fr. Joseph Ciarciaglino, David Lane, and Ray Steeb. We remembered departed since the last meeting of Council with the singing of Memory Eternal. Metropolitan Tikhon highlighted his recent activities: 1) Holy Myrrhbearers (health of Abbess and Sister); 2) St. Tikhon's (Consecration of Chrism).

He announced the ten-year accreditation of St. Tikhon's Seminary and the appointment of interim leadership at St. Vladimir's Seminary by Dr. Tudorie. He spoke of his Chicago visit to commemorate Tikhvin Icon return. In the summer, he visited St. Tikhon's summer camp. He attended the FOCA Convention July 26-29 in Mogadore, Ohio.

August brought travel to Unalaska commemorating St. Innocent. Liturgy with Bp. Alexei was part of the visit. Celebrations were part of visits to St. Cyprian in Virginia and St. Stephen's in Philadelphia for their 50th anniversary.

His Beatitude then spoke to the state of the OCA. He characterized it as the Orthodox Church in America being at the bottom of the lowering of the cross as the Lvovsky "Lord, have mercy" is being sung at the lowest range of the version. We are always raising or lowering the Cross. We are at a point of humility at the base. Now, we have to lift the Cross up!

The theme of the 2025 AAC is "Gathered together by Christ." What does that mean? What purpose? What do we do in our parishes, seminaries, monasteries, communities as we gather? At what point are we in raising or lowering the Cross? Christ's entire life is ascent and descent. We are in pursuit of a spiritual ascent. He encouraged full participation in the survey that was published as part of his message of August 18th on the OCA website.

His Beatitude further detailed external visits. He has been the only Primate of an Autocephalous Orthodox Church to visit Ukraine. We maintain communion with all Orthodox Churches

worldwide. Received in a very genuine way. Shared life in the Ukraine with Ecumenical Patriarch.

Abp. Michael, Abp. Nathaniel, Bp. Andrei, Bp. Nikodhim (Albanian OCA) met in Atlanta with the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of North America. Served 6th Among hierarchs. Favor concelebration over assertion. Reviewed the good works of ministries working with the Assembly of Canonical Bishops. There was a request to increase \$7500 to \$25,000 from the "Big Three": OCA, Antiochian, Greek Archdiocese. Discussion would follow.

There is currently \$1.3 million in the Alaskan Fund for clergy. Distributions are now beginning. Thank you video from Bp. Alexei is available to all. Reliquaries for St. Matushka Olga have been secured from Irkutsk. Some will be in Kwethluk, Anchorage, and available in Phoenix. She will stay in Alaska. There is much to be thought about, prayed about, and talked about.

His Beatitude is looking forward to the completion of closing NY property and fulfilling the focus of finding permanent place for office, staff, chancery in the DC area. He shared his gratitude to staff at Chancery. 32 staff at \$1.8m in 2006. Now, three people are in the chancery office.

Metropolitan Tikhon encouraged the Metropolitan Council to determine how we can help with all of this. We, as a church, will be able to accomplish great things for the glory of God. Diocesan Councils, Bishop Councils, Diocesan Assemblies should consider the Call for Reflection request from the August publication and submit surveys.

As questions arose regarding the visit with Ecumenical Patriarch, it was shared of importance being it was not from sources that may have a set personal agenda. A Triple Panagia was presented to the Ecumenical Patriarch from Met. Onufry via Met. Tikhon. His Holiness was taken back and said that it was of great value, then corrected his statement to "great moral value."

On archdiocesan notes, there are 9 parishes and 2 missions in the Archdiocese of Washington. What can this geographic area support? Chancery is now immersed in the community. Long Island was removed from communities.

Chancellor's report

The report of Fr. Alexander shared information about visits to Ellwood City for Transfiguration and Pittsburgh to St. Alexander Nevsky and Fr. Paul Abernathy and the Neighborhood Resiliency Program. Fr. Alexander was in Cairo as Theological Advisor at the invitation of Ecumenical Patriarch.

Fr. Nazari: delegation left early due to possible detention in Ukraine of Fr. Nazari. The Ukraine visit has had no negative effect on the relationship with the Russian Patriarchate.

Is there a special guest for AAC? St. Olga!!!

Questions followed with regard to finding a permanent site for chancery in DC. Fr. Alexander suggested that the Central Administration structure should be addressed. He brought up two models. The Russian Patriarchate has a support staff of bishops with parochial work. Bishops have real work. Constantinople Patriarchate has a patriarchal court that is attached to the office only with no parochial and no clergy responsibilities. This led to healthy discussion to the question of should the Metropolitan Council be advocating the right amount of work for the right amount of people for the right amount of compensation? Development office does not exist. The consensus opinion is that we need that office. Define the necessity of being a full-time officer(s). HR so blessed by His Beatitude to investigate organization and workload

Secretary's report

Fr. Alessandro presented his full report with minimal questions asked. He continues to serve as OCA Secretary while maintaining his mission parish that is now looking for property in the metropolitan DC area.

As for job descriptions, it was the opinion of Fr. Alessandro that it will be extremely hard to define jobs in HR.

Property Committee

Report presented.

Attorney General of NY likely to rubber stamp approval of sale. Time delay will be the roads commission and health department laying out septic systems. There is reasonable hope to close before the end of 2025. The property is on a state road. Thus, the state will be involved. As for moving forward in the DC area, a down market is time to pursue purchase. First we need to define the architectural needs of the space we need (25k square feet, 50k?)

Thursday, October 10

Pension Board

The Pension Board representatives gave a thorough and positive report on the current state of the plan. The highlights are listed below.

Investment performance: 8.63% earned through July 31, 2024

Portfolio: \$25.89 Million

January 2025 Full valuation will take place

Participation: 382 members as of August (September: 390)

Agreed upon procedures: findings were very minimal (equals work of external auditors)

Actuarial report & Executive Summary:

Cash flow: \$4.8 million (4 in 2023, 3.3 in 2022) Contributions will exceed payouts

Cash flow losses: 691K in 2023 1.57M in 2022

Administrative: \$456K (1.88% to cover cost, 1.5% recommended by actuary)

Non-participating members: Exhibit E: 45 reduced to 41 as of September

Diocese of Alaska only entity not mandated to participate in Pension Fund

Not in Bylaws of Albanian Diocese to mandate participation

All membership is based on Statute of OCA of which all jurisdictions of OCA are a part
Questions arose of Albanian, Bulgarian, and Romanian participation mandate compliance.
Exhibit F: 379 projected, presently 390 Additional 16 clergy, 15 parishes from last year
\$300K additional from 2025+ would be from additional non-participating
2037 will meet recommended 20% funding ratio
Morgan Stanley report
\$9K per month a part of annual OCA budget
15 years of eating seed potatoes. This is the first year that we are not eating our contributions.
Still in process of FIP. Increased contributions have helped tremendously.
Fr. David Garrettson & Josh Godbold candidates to serve in David Lane's replacement.
The Diocese of the South website proposes an alternative online to be discussed at their
Diocesan Assembly.

With all of the information presented, the Metropolitan Council was uniform in believing that the Pension Plan is now moving in the right direction. The mandated participation improved enrollment and the continued due diligence of the Pension Plan Board have been instrumental in setting a clearer course for stability.

Pension Committee

The report of the Metropolitan Council's Pension Committee was very positive. Their report is highlighted with the following points.

The degree of transparency is where it should be.

We are on the right path for funding.

Recommendation: Morgan Stanley should be back testing.

Departments

The report of the Departments was presented with the following pertinent details.

Department of Evangelization 2024 Mission Planting Grant Proposal

Provide funding for a full-time priest with no outside income becoming impractical with cost rising.

Evaluate the current state of mission work in OCA to understand what the greatest need is.

Pause the program to reevaluate for realignment of the program to spread money in a more effective way to reach more people in mission situations, not just block grants.

One size does not fit all. The sum of the rules around the program may be preventing many missions from being helped.

Pausing the program is favored by the Metropolitan Council.

It is simply underfunded.

"Blessed is the Kingdom": An Orthodox Church School Curriculum: 5 levels

160 individual lessons is goal by AAC

HS curriculum aligned with Essential Orthodox Christian Beliefs

Developing slide presentation to help teachers through Essential Orthodox Christian Beliefs

Posted under Department of Evangelization (40 pamphlets now available)

Youth plan: agree to find someone to work part time to work vision beginning at parish and diocesan levels. \$2K per month salary.

Mission Grants

The above discussion points to this being paused as it was agreed that Church planting grants need to be reviewed.

Proposal to temporarily pause new grants for no more than one year for the purpose of creating a new program and enhance the funding passed unanimously.

The motion to approve 2nd and 3rd year grants passed unanimously.

Office of Pastoral Life

Fr. Nicholas Solak gave a thorough presentation of the OPL and provided the following details.

December 2023 met in Harrisburg OMS

Focused on people, processes, and technology

People: full time needed in charge of this work

February met with Central Admin.: conversation led to resolution

Lilly grants: 474K first grants for Thriving in Ministry

One of 115 to receive Lilly grant

Economic challenge grant: planning, implementation, sustaining

\$1.25million (½ for grants to clergy families)

38-55% clergy families face financial difficulties, many paid below median income.

Debt after seminary creates stress

Dave Ramsey program, 2 coaching sessions on finances

FHI fund will include clergy children scholarship for post-secondary education

Clergy health and wellness: what can we be doing to address needs?

Stress levels? Administering a parish is more and more stressful for clergy

Likelihood of a continuing grant from Lilly Foundation is strong. Connected and respected by the Foundation

OPL budget is integrated in the overall budget of the OCA. It is consistent with what we are doing with OPL. It will not impact the OCA budget significantly.

Lilly Grant will be received by the end of the calendar year. We have already accepted the grant with the positions to be paid.

Economic Challenges facing Pastoral Leaders is the grant.

Our risk is real. 1st annual contribution is \$50K. Scales up for four years.

\$625k is for the actual FHI, not administrative costs.

This will create a Development Director.

A resolution to formally institute the Office of Pastoral Life as a department with appropriate funding was approved.

Insurance Systems

Representatives from Insurance Systems spoke to the Council about an offering of insurance for employees of the OCA parishes that is available through their connection with MetLife. It was a presentation only that would be reviewed by the Holy Synod. The presentation was met with positive reactions from all in attendance.

Treasurer's report

Draw from reserves not needed due to 72% of revenue collected.

Unrestricted activity allowed the OCA a \$9.3K positive cashflow.

Pension Plan Liability is not reflected in the Treasurer's Report. That is required in government documentation, and not religious organizations.

AAC budget increases youth budget from \$27K to \$52K (\$55K spent in 2022)

Diocese contribution to AAC not asked to give over 16% from previous AAC.

Unanimous vote on 2025 AAC Budget.

40% of diocesan operating budget in 2022, moving to 34% per diocese.

Ethnic diocese contributions are not held to the same percentage as dioceses.

ORSMA Coordinator being considered as a part time position on a retainer basis.

2023 tax on Westwood was between \$42K and \$45K.

In discussion of the 2025 budget and the proposal suggested by the Assembly of Canonical Bishops, the Metropolitan Council authorized up to, but not exceeding, \$25K for the Assembly of Canonical Bishops at the discretion of His Beatitude with input of Holy Synod.

Friday, October 11

PCC for AAC

The next meeting for the Pre-Conciliar Commission will take place in early December. All things seem to be moving in good order.

Legal

The MC went into executive session. Out of session, motion approved to confirm settlement in litigation as entered into by the Executive Board of the Metropolitan Council. Further, a decision was made by the Metropolitan Council to support legal counsel's advice going forward on additional legal matters.

External Auditors

The external auditors report was accepted by a unanimous vote with one abstention.

Call for Reflection

The session concluded with a detailed discussion of all present on the Call for Reflection with individual reflections shared to inspire plans for discussion at the 2025 AAC.

**Report on the Chicago Deanery for Bishop's and Diocesan Council Meetings
December 9 and 10, 2024**

1. As of November 1st Fr. Joseph Kopka and Fr John Segvich have swapped the roles of rector and associate at St. Joseph Parish, with Fr. John being assigned as rector.
2. At the September deanery meeting we discussed hosting a Deanery retreat and/or a Workshop for Christian education. A smaller committee was organized to work on this this, but work has been delayed, due to some scheduling problems for committee members.
3. A celebration of Archbishop Daniel's 70th birthday was to take place on Saturday November 16 at St. Nicholas parish in McHenry, IL. The repose of Archbishop Peter of ROCOR with his funeral services scheduled for the same day caused the celebration to be rescheduled for December 19 (Old Calendar St. Nicholas day) in McHenry.
4. Deacon Nicholas Denysenko will be ordained to the Holy Priesthood on Saturday, January 18 at Holy Trinity Cathedral.
5. The next Deanery meeting will take place online in January.
6. At that meeting we will produce a schedule for Sunday Lenten Vespers services along with determining a topic for homilies/talks for speakers, also to be demined.
7. Archbishop Daniel blessed Deans to look into holding Assembly of Bishops' Peace of mind training. This is a kind of mental health triage for parishes. At the Bishop's Council meeting that took place before the Diocesan Assembly, this was briefly discussed with the possibility of doing this at the next Clergy Convocation. Nothing has been decided yet. A training session at St. Luke Parish in Palos Hills is to take place in January.
8. At our November meeting, Fr. Esteban Vasquez gave a presentation on Diocesan restructuring with an emphasis on formation of Diocesan Departments.



The Cleveland Deanery

Orthodox Church in America - Diocese of the Midwest

V. Rev. Nicholas Wyslutsky, Dean
Phone: (330) 608-2092 Email: clevelanddeanery@gmail.com

December 1, 2024

Cleveland Deanery Report - June 2024

Your Eminence, Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Glory to Jesus Christ! Life in the Cleveland Deanery continues and is filled with many joys and struggles as it should. The deanery was honored to host this years Diocesan Assembly in October at St. Nicholas Orthodox Church in Mogadore. What a joy it was to have His Eminence, the Chancery staff and representatives from the parishes in our diocese gathered here for prayer and the continued work of our Diocese. Hopefully it was a memorable event and one we will be able to host again in the future.

Screenings of the movie “Sacred Alaska” were hosted by St. Nicholas Church, Mogadore, raising \$2000 for the diocese of Alaska, and by the Canton area Clergy Association. These events were well attended and helped spread the good work of the Diocese of Alaska as well as insight into the Life of Matushka Olga our first American female saint.

Many of our Parishes continue to welcome inquirers, catechumens and converts to the faith. This welcome trend has been a benefit to many of our parishes bringing a new energy to the deanery. Work also continues at the mission in Athens, Ohio. Our deanery clergy both retired and in active parish ministry continue to help provide services and a pastoral presence for the mission.

Work continues at St. Theodosius Cathedral, Cleveland to do the work necessary to bring the cathedral building and community to a full recovery from the tragic fire. Under the guidance of Fr. Jan as well as the Parish council much has been accomplished. Through the prayers and support of all the future of the Cathedral is bright.

The work of our Deanery Clergy wives group continues, In July our Danery clergy and wives gathered in Marblehead Ohio. The wives group held their first in person meeting and their discussions were productive. They continue to grow and we look forward to their next gathering in the New Year.

Respectfully Submitted,

V. Rev. Nicholas Wyslutsky, Dean

Indianapolis Deanery Reports
December 2024

St. Paul in Dayton OH

Like many parishes in the diocese, St Paul's is experiencing growth. Every [Sunday](#) we see new people visiting, either new arrivals from out-of-town or people interested in the Church. Parking has become an immediate issue and space in the nave will eventually become an issue if the trend continues. The parish council and I are looking at ways to address these issues. Some highlights from parish life over the course of the past year include: a joint VCS with Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church in Dayton in July, a liturgical music workshop sponsored by St Andrew of Crete Music Ministry in [November 2023](#) (and again this year the end of [October 2024](#)), Advent retreat with Fr Stephen Freeman, and Lenten retreat with Mother Katherine Weston.

Fr. Gregory Ealy

St. Stephen's in Crawfordsville IN

In the past year, St. Stephen's has continued to grow steadily. In May His Eminence DANIEL visited. We sent Sdn. Joseph Goshorn-Maroney and his family to seminary at St. Tikhon's in August. Our soccer league has become a big draw, not only for our own community's fellowship but also consistently attracting visitors. We are currently working on a strategic plan as well as considering options for expanding our space to accommodate the steep growth we've had in the past years. A homeschool co-op began in the fall, meeting once a week, with an enrollment of over 40 kids!

Fr. Joel Weir

Christ the Savior/Holy Spirit in Cincinnati OH

We, too, are experiencing consistent growth with seemingly new inquirers visiting on a weekly basis. We now have a catechetical team in place to teach them the Faith. The parish is now, with the blessing of His Eminence, exploring the possibility of starting a "dependency" in Northern KY. This would be in cooperation with St. Athanasius church in Nicholasville, KY, led by Fr. Justin Patterson. We have about 10 households in KY, which would give this dependency a healthy start, or so we hope. We have formed a 50th Anniversary Committee (1976-2026), chaired by Presvytera Deborah Kostoff. The director of the newly established FOCUS Cincinnati is our parishioner, Charlene Myers. We are now hosting a meal for those in need on a monthly basis, as well as working in full cooperation with the local Greek Orthodox church. Summer Bible Studies and a Fall Adult Education class continues with great participation.

Fr. Steven Kostoff

St. Thomas the Apostle in Kokomo, IN

We are finishing up catechism class for a single man with three small children, and a married couple. The single man and his three children will be baptized, and the couple will be received via chrismation later this month.

Two children were baptized last October.

An adult male was baptized in December last year.

A child was baptized and father chrismated in Jan.

Two children were baptized, and one was chrismated in July.

There are three men that will start catechism classes beginning in October.

The Archbishop and the Vice Chancellor visited our parish during Great Lent. Archbishop Daniel was the homilist for the Annunciation Vespers and procession of icons in Indianapolis, at Holy Trinity Cathedral with all of the Central Indiana Orthodox churches coming together on Sunday evening. The Archbishop held a retreat for the priests on Monday.

We are in the process of upgrading our narthex.

We have held a harvest party in late Oct. or early Nov. for years at one of two families' homes. This year we are going to hold it Nov. 3rd, on our property adjacent to the church, and invite our neighbors. We will be roasting hot dogs and marshmallows, with a lot of sides. We are expecting around 100 to attend.

Fr Philip Vernon Lashbrook

Michigan Deanery Report – December 2024

Sts. Peter and Paul: Fr. Philip Dage reported that the parish is moving smoothly with his ministry and leadership as the new rector. The new kitchen and feeding the needy indoors is now underway, with local parishes signing up to help feed on a scheduled Sunday. The money grants that have been gifted to Sts. Peter and Paul to help support a full-time priest salary has been working great. Fr. Philip and with parish will be seeking the same financial assistance for next year beginning in June 2025. Working with St. Mark's Christmas Food Baskets, Sts. Peter and Paul uses their parking lot as a staging area to distribute 100 Food baskets to the neighborhood families in need.

Holy Trinity: Fr. John York reported that he and his family are comfortable in their transition to living at the rectory and ministry as the new rector. All services are going well. The Parish is still under a special council that is continuing to work out parish best practices in their accounting books, and donor directed funds. Once the chancellery decides the parish is stable in their bookkeeping and up to date on their bylaws, His Eminence will bless the parish to conduct regular parish elections of officers.

St. Mark: Fr. John Baker reported that the parish is continuing to run smoothly and growing. They are working on the Christmas Basket project. They hope to expand on purchasing property next to church.

Holy Ascension: Fr. Joshua Frigerio reported that all is well with his parish. He has been meeting with the architect and builder for the new church project. Still waiting for the final plan and projected building funding.

Holy Transfiguration: Fr. Michael Butler has been temporarily "removed" from his duties as rector, and Fr. Liss has been filling in as a supply priest. The parish has been struggling spiritually with this situation, but remains faithful and hopeful as Fr. Michael returns back to full duties as rector. The parish continues to help out O.D.O. and recently had a women's retreat this past November.

St. Demetrius: The parish is working on Christmas Baskets and adopting families for the Jackson area. We hosted a Thanksgiving meal and Game night / Karaoke, for 50 special needs adults (CLUBLIFE) which is so exciting for our parish and guests. We had a mortgage burning and Ho-Down celebration on St. Demetrius Day in October. Currently 8 inmates at the Jackson Correctional Facility are interested in the Orthodox Faith and I, along with Fr. Michael Basset from St. George Antiochian Church in Flint, MI, will be assisting the Prison Chaplain in facilitating their spiritual needs and catechism. Our parish will also establish an Alaska Outreach Fund, to help financially assist Native Alaskan clergy in need. My visit to Alaska in pilgrimage to the graveside and village of St. Matushka Olga allowed me to make dear friends with the fellow brother clergy and to help them in any way.

Archpriest Fr. Dusan Koprivica
Dean, Michigan Deanery, Diocese of Midwest, OCA

St. Andrew of Crete Music Ministry
Diocesan Council Report Winter 2024

Glory to Jesus Christ!

By the Grace of God, the St. Andrew of Crete Music Ministry has reached our fifth year of service within our Diocese.

Our 3rd Annual Workshop Weekend in Dayton, OH was held October 25-26, 2024. Approximately 50 singers participated. Responding to feedback, this workshop included MUCH more singing, with the addition of Great Vespers and Divine Liturgy for the Feast of St. Demetrius. We look forward to our fourth Dayton workshop in 2025.

As our committee grows, we are re-organizing into subcommittees to accomplish the following:

- Creating a new survey to assess parish musical needs
- Holding 2 or 3 zoom meetings annually to discuss the issues that arise within the above survey
- Emailing parish music leaders on a regular basis to share practical ideas (vocal technique, diction, liturgical theology/history) that can be easily implemented

Other goals include:

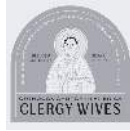
1. Update database for current parish musical leadership
2. Continuing mentorship of conductors and church music leaders
3. Review music and provide recommendations for rehearsal and performance, including audio recordings
4. Addressing the needs of teaching music to children and youth.

We welcome all questions, requests for musical assistance and ideas for increasing the quality of musicality and music education within our existing parish practices. Please contact any member of our committee for more information.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mka. Michelle Jannakos, Co-Chair
Mka. Jennifer Sawchak, Co-Chair
Fr. Gregory Ealy
Elena Monahan
Basil Kochan

Mka. Victoria Kopistiansky
Elena Monahan
Philip Sokolov
Peter Tabeling
Jonathan Wey



Clergy Wives Ministry Report

Master bless! Your Eminence, reverend fathers, mothers, brothers and sisters in Christ, Christ is in our midst!

Our Clergy Wives of the Orthodox Church in America was formed in the summer, 2020 as a result of clergy and clergy families facing many challenges in the parish ministry during the pandemic. Our group continues to focus its work on bringing beneficial programs to our clergy wives in an effort to establish a supporting environment to one another. We attempt to reach out to all clergy wives regardless of their spouse's status (active, retired, and widowed clergy wives). Our group receives guidance from the leadership from the Office of Pastoral Life (OPL chairperson - Fr. Nicholas Solak). We have three Diocesan Point People for the Diocese of Chicago and the Midwest, Protinica Michelle Jannakos (Palos Hills, IL), Mka. Valerie Zahirsky (Parma, OH) and Mka. Miho Ealy (Dayton, OH). Please note our activities including recent events listed below.

Clergy Wives Activities

- Collecting data for clergy wives directory (submit information using the link on <https://www.oca.org/about/clergy-wives-ministry>)
- Clergy Wives Quarterly Newsletter (The latest issue came out on November 27th.)
- Clergy Wives' social media presence through Facebook, Instagram and YouTube channel
- Sending e-cards to clergy wives on various occasions such as Nativity, Pascha and at individual life events
- Reaching out to clergy widows via emails, phone calls and communicating with local clergy
- Clergy Widows has a zoom drop-in hour "Merry Widows' Coffee, Tea & Chat" on Wednesday, December 4th (1pm-2pm: ET)
- Working closely with the OCA chancery regarding clergy wives' events at the All American Council in July, 2025
- Recent Zoom Retreats/Events
 - Clergy Wives Zoom Event (March 2024) - "International Clergy Wives Speak" by a number of clergy wives residing in different countries
 - Clergy Wives Zoom Event (June 2024) - "The Road to the Canonization of Blessed Matushka Olga" by Archbishop Daniel, Diocese of Chicago and the Midwest
 - Clergy Widows Online Retreat (February 2024) - Guest Speaker: Father Sergius, Abbot of the Monastery of St. Tikhon of Zadonsk
 - Clergy Widows Online Retreat (May 2024) - Guest Speaker : Father Ian MacKinnon, Retired Archpriest, Diocese of the West
- Upcoming Zoom Event
Saturday, December 14th (1pm, ET) - "A Reflection on Pain and Suffering" by Archbishop Alexander Golitzin, Diocese of the South/Bulgarian Diocese

Clergy Wives Reliquary Fundraising for St. Olga of Alaska

Clergy Wives began raising funds for St. Olga's reliquary project this past summer. We have reached over \$18,000. We continue to raise funds for any costs to support St. Olga's glorification. We greatly appreciate all the support from everyone involved.

For any questions, suggestions, and concerns, please contact clergywives@oca.org.

Respectfully submitted,

Matushka Miho Ochiai Ealy (St. Paul the Apostle Orthodox Church, Dayton OH)

December, 2024

Reporting Addendum

1. *Kansas City Deanery (Archpriest Timothy Sawchak):*

The only update from the Kansas City Deanery since the [Assembly report](#) is the upcoming retirement of Fr. James Dank in Lincoln, NE effective January 1, 2025.

2. *Minneapolis Deanery (Archpriest Paul Wesche):*

No updates since the [Assembly report](#).

3. *Communications Department (Priest Alexander Koranda):*

No updates since the [Assembly report](#).

4. *St Macrina Institute (Archpriest Elijah Mueller):*

One update since the [Assembly report](#): With the blessing of Archbishop Daniel and Bishop Alexis, some of the faculty have begun teaching at St. Herman's Seminary in Kodiak simultaneously, through hybrid online and in-person classes: Matushka Rebecca Luft (OT & NT) this semester, and both her and Fr Elijah Mueller (Ethics, Pastoral Theology, Spirituality) next semester.

5. *Youth Communications Liaison (Dr Erin Moulton):*

Since the [Assembly report](#), Erin and Subdeacon Dimitri have begun conversations about better ways to promote camps and set scholarship deadlines for the 2025 year. More information will follow via submissions to the diocese website in December and January.