

# SOLIA

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## ARCHPASTORAL LETTER 2024

### NATIVITY OF OUR LORD AND GOD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

Beloved Spiritual Children in Christ,  
Reverend Clergy, Devout Faithful and  
Venerable Monastics of our  
God-protected Episcopate:

May God our Father, the Lord Jesus  
Christ, and the All-Holy Spirit, grant  
you grace and peace, and from us,  
hierarchical blessings!

***“...in our own time, the last days, [God  
the Father] has spoken to us through  
His Son, the Son that He has appointed  
to inherit everything and through  
whom He made everything there is”***  
(Saint Paul to the Hebrews 1:2).



Dearly Beloved in Christ:

### **Christ is born! Glorify Him!**

In Genesis, we learn that ***“God created man in the image of Himself:”***  
and ***“God said: ‘Let us make man in our own image, in the likeness  
of ourselves’.*”** God is speaking in the plural. Thus, man was created  
by the Holy Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

In May of 2025, we will celebrate the 1,700th Anniversary of the First  
Ecumenical Council which was held in Nicaea. Then the Church  
clarified and decreed that Jesus the Word, the Logos, Son of God, is  
uncreated, ever-existent, and fully divine. He is the Creator - not  
created. He is begotten—“born” or generated—from the Father, not  
made or created by Him. Jesus Christ is of one essence with the Father.  
He is true God of true God, the Word of God by Whom all things were  
made. You and I, Orthodox Christians, for 1700 years state and confess  
this in the Creed we recite at every Divine Liturgy.

Today, celebrating the Nativity of Jesus our Lord, we are present at His birth in the flesh. The Logos, the Word and Son of God was conceived in the womb of His virgin Mother Mary nine months prior. Then the Archangel Gabriel brought to the holy Virgin Mary the unique invitation to materially bear in her womb, Him who was the Chosen one, the Redeemer of humankind, the one “*...through whom He made everything there is*” and who will “*inherit everything.*”

This is why we rejoiced in the conception of Jesus into His human presence in this world, and today, His birth in the flesh out of Mary’s womb to be numbered in the census of the people of Israel. Christ came to bring us Good News, the Gospel, to speak to us, not as one of the prophets who foretold of His own coming among us, but as the fulfillment of the prophecies, He who will “*inherit everything,*” everything meaning us who are His by creation, His inheritance.

Saint John the Evangelist reminds us that: “*He [the Son, Jesus our Lord] was with God in the beginning. Through Him all things came to be, not one thing had its being but through Him*” (John 1:2-3). Saint Paul wrote in his letter to the Hebrews that: “*...in our own time, the last days, [God the Father] has spoken to us through His Son, the Son that He has appointed to inherit everything and through whom He made everything there is*” (Heb. 1:2).

But why did God the Father, in “*these last days,*” give His only-begotten Son to take on our human nature, our flesh, which He Himself had created? Saint Leo, Pope of Rome, enlightens us: “*Since the Son of man came that He might destroy the works of the devil, and has so joined Himself to us and us to Him, that the descent of God to what was human, has brought about the raising of man to what is divine*” (Sermon 7 For the Nativity). Jesus came to re-claim what was His, mankind’s fallen humanity; he came to save us, you and me.

This is the WHY Jesus came; to raise humankind back to its original state of its creation, to “*what is divine!*” Saint Leo then guides us with these words: “*Christians must remain ever watchful, so that they fall not into the snares of the devil and become again entangled in errors they have renounced*” (Sermon 7 For the Nativity).

God sent His Divine Son to us to save what He had created as good, created in His own image, to release us from the stranglehold of death

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and eternal non-being. The Man-loving God, Jesus, who is equal to the Father and the Spirit, “*..from compassion becomes one with our nature*” (2<sup>nd</sup> Stichera of Vespers of the Prefeast). Because He has saved us, we are His inheritance from the Father. He came to save the lost sheep, you and me, us.

Thus, our humanity lies down with the babe in the manger; we cry out to that same Father as He an infant cries out to His Father, as He is enrolled in the census of Caesar, so we are enrolled in the census of eternal life; as He is cradled in the safe arms of His virgin Mother, so we too are under her protecting veil, praying for her intercession as we each live our own daily lives. The gift of life to each of us is blessed from the manger in Bethlehem; the gift of eternal life is bestowed on us by Him, who is the fulfillment of the prophecies. Glory to God in the highest and peace on earth to renewed humanity raised to divinity by our compassionate, saving Lord.

Let us rejoice in hearing the golden words from our father, Saint John Chrysostom, in his homily of this day. *“I behold a new and wonderful mystery. My ears resound to the shepherd’s song, piping no soft melody but chanting full voice a heavenly hymn. The Archangels blend their voice in harmony. The Cherubim hymn their joyful praise. The Seraphim exalt His glory. All join to praise this holy feast, beholding the God-head here on earth and man in heaven. He Who is above, now for our redemption dwells here below; and he that was lowly is by divine mercy raised...”* up to heaven (Homily 1, PG 56, col. 385).

Today, we are raised to heaven and are the inheritance of Christ the Savior who was born today!

**Christ is born! Let us glorify Him!  
The Messiah is among us! Let us go forth and receive Him!**

**+ NATHANIEL  
Archbishop of Detroit and The Romanian Episcopate  
Orthodox Church in America**

## SCRISOARE PASTORALĂ 2024



### NAȘTEREA DOMNULUI ȘI DUMNEZEULUI ȘI MÂNTUITORULUI NOSTRU IISUS HRISTOS

Preaiubiți Fii și Fiice Duhovnicești în Hristos,  
Preacucernici și Preacuvioși Părinți,  
Iubiți Credincioși și Venerabili Monahi și Monahii ai de Dumnezeu păzitei noastre Episcopii:

Dumnezeu Tatăl, Fiul și Duhul Sfânt să vă dăruiască har și pace, iar de la noi, arhieresti binecuvântări!

*„...în zilele acestea mai de pe urmă,  
[Dumnezeu Tatăl] ne-a grăit nouă prin Fiul, pe Care L-a pus moștenitor a toate și prin Care a făcut și veacurile”*

(Evrei 1,2).

Iubiți Credincioși întru Hristos,

### **Hristos Se naște! Măriți-L!**

În cartea Facerii, aflăm că „*Dumnezeu L-a creat pe om după chipul Său*”. „*Și a zis Dumnezeu: ‘Să facem om după chipul și după asemănarea Noastră’*”. Dumnezeu vorbește la plural. Așadar, omul a fost creat de Sfânta Treime: Tatăl, Fiul și Duhul Sfânt.

În luna mai a anului 2025, vom prăznui Aniversarea a 1700 de ani de la Primul Sinod Ecumenic, care a avut loc în Niceea. Atunci Biserica a clarificat și a proclamat faptul că Iisus Cuvântul sau Logosul, Fiul lui Dumnezeu, este necreat, veșnic și Dumnezeu adevărat. El este Creatorul necreat. Este născut din Tatăl, nu făcut sau creat de către El. Iisus Hristos este de o ființă cu Tatăl. El este Dumnezeu adevărat din Dumnezeu adevărat, Cuvântul lui Dumnezeu prin Care toate s-au făcut. De 1700 de ani noi, creștinii ortodocși, afirmăm și mărturisim acest lucru în Crezul pe care îl rostim la fiecare Dumnezeiască Liturghie.

Astăzi, prăznuind Nașterea Domnului Iisus, suntem prezenți la nașterea Sa în trup. Cu nouă luni înainte, Logosul, Cuvântul și Fiul lui Dumnezeu, a fost zămislit în pântecele Maicii Sale, Fecioara Maria. Atunci, Arhanghelul Gavriil i-a înfățișat Sfintei Fecioare Maria chemarea neasemănată de a-L purta în mod concret în pântecele ei pe Cel care a fost Alesul, Mântuitorul omenirii, pe Cel „...**prin Care toate s-au făcut**” și Care „**va moșteni totul**”.

Acesta este motivul pentru care ne-am bucurat de zămisirea pruncului Iisus în prezența Sa umană în această lume, iar astăzi, nașterea Sa în trup din pântecele Fecioarei Mariei va fi numărată în recensământul poporului lui Israel. Mântuitorul Hristos a venit să ne aducă Vestea Bună, Evanghelia, să ne vorbească, nu precum unul dintre profeții care au prevestit venirea Sa printre noi, ci ca împlinire a profețiilor, Acela care va „**moșteni totul**”, totul însemnând noi, cei care Îi aparținem prin creație. Noi suntem moștenirea Sa.

Sfântul Ioan Evanghelistul ne amintește faptul că: „**Acesta [Fiul, Iisus Domnul nostru] era întru început la Dumnezeu. Toate prin El s-au făcut; și fără El nimic nu s-a făcut din ce s-a făcut**” (Ioan 1,2-3). Sfântul Pavel a scris în Epistola sa către Evrei că: „...**în zilele acestea mai de pe urmă, [Dumnezeu Tatăl] ne-a grăit nouă prin Fiul, pe Care L-a pus moștenitor a toate și prin Care a făcut și veacurile**” (Evrei 1,2).

Însă, care este motivul pentru care Dumnezeu Tatăl, în „**zilele acestea mai de pe urmă**”, L-a dat pe singurul Său Fiu pentru a Se întrupa și a lua asupra Sa natura noastră umană, pe care El Însuși a creat-o? Sfântul Leon, Papă al Romei, ne luminează în felul următor: „**Deoarece Fiul Omului venit pentru a destrăma lucrarea diavolului, unindu-Se cu noi și noi cu El, astfel încât coborârea lui Dumnezeu la ceea ce era omenesc a adus înălțarea omului la ceea ce este dumnezeiesc**” (Predica a 7-a, Despre Nașterea Domnului). Iisus a venit să revendice ceea ce Îi aparținea, umanitatea căzută a omenirii; a venit pentru a ne mântui.

Acesta este răspunsul la întrebarea „De ce a venit Iisus?”; pentru a ridica, din nou, omenirea la starea originală a creației, la „**ceea ce este dumnezeiesc**”! Apoi, Sfântul Leon ne îndrumă cu aceste cuvinte: „**Creștinii trebuie să fie mereu veghetori, pentru a nu cădea în cursele diavolului, rătăcindu-se din nou în greșelile de care s-au lepădat**” (Predica a 7-a, Despre Nașterea Domnului).

Dumnezeu ni L-a trimis pe Fiul Său Cel Dumnezeiesc pentru a mântui ceea ce El a creat ca fiind bun, creat după chipul Său, pentru a ne elibera de stăpânirea morții și a neînțelegerii veșnice. Dumnezeu iubitor de oameni, Iisus, același cu Tatăl și cu Duhul Sfânt, „...**din dragoste devine una cu firea noastră**” (Stihira a II-a, Înainteprăznuirea Nașterii Domnului). Pentru că El ne-a mântuit, noi devenim moștenirea Sa primită de la Tatăl. El a venit să mântuiască oia cea pierdută, adică pe noi.

Astfel, umanitatea noastră se așterne cu pruncul în iesle; strigăm către același Tată, precum El ca și prunc strigă către Tatăl Său și, așa cum El este înscris în recensământul lui Cezar, tot așa și noi suntem înscrși în recensământul vieții veșnice; precum El este legănat în brațele ocrotitoare ale Maicii Sale fecioare, tot așa ne aflăm și noi sub brăul ei ocrotitor, rugându-ne pentru mijlocirea ei, în viața noastră de zi cu zi. Darul vieții pentru fiecare dintre noi este binecuvântat din ieslea din Betleem; darul vieții veșnice ne este oferit de El, Cel care reprezintă împlinirea profețiilor. Slavă lui Dumnezeu întru cele de sus și pe pământ pace umanității reînnoite ridicate la îndumnezeire de către Domnul nostru Cel milostiv și mântuitor.

Să ne bucurăm auzind cuvintele de aur ale părintelui nostru, Sfântul Ioan Gură de Aur, în predica sa din această zi. „**Taină străină și minunată văd; cântecele păstorilor răsună de jur împrejurul urechilor mele; nu cântă cu fluierul, ci cântare cerească. Îngerii cântă, arhanghelii melodiază, heruvimii înalță imne, serafimii slavoslovesc. Toți prăznuiesc văzând pe Dumnezeu pe pământ și pe om în ceruri, pe Cel de sus jos, din pricina tainei întrupării și pe cel de jos sus din pricina iubirii de oameni...**” (Omilia 1, PG 56, col. 385).

Astăzi, suntem înălțați la ceruri și devenim moștenirea Mântuitorului Hristos Cel care astăzi Se naște!

**Hristos Se naște! Măriți-L!  
Mesia este cu noi! Să ieșim și să-L întâmpinăm!**

**+ NATHANIEL  
Arhiepiscop de Detroit și al Episcopiei Ortodoxe Române din  
America  
Biserica Ortodoxă din America**

## Învățăturile Sfinților Părinți

„Și cu adevărat, mare este taina dreptei credințe: Dumnezeu S-a arătat în trup...” (1 Timotei 3, 16). Astăzi lumea întreagă și Sfânta Biserică se bucură și preamărește această sublimă și măreață taină: Întruparea lui Dumnezeu Cuvântul din Preacurata Fecioară Maria prin revărsarea Duhului Sfânt peste Ea. Minunată, deosebită și impresionantă este această taină, atât pentru îngerii din ceruri, cât și pentru oamenii luminați de Duhul Sfânt.

Imaginați-vă Dumnezeu Cuvântul care a creat cerul și pământul, lumea văzută și cea nevăzută, îngerii și neamul omenesc se întrupează pentru a se face cunoscut ca om făpturii create de El. El, pe care nici cerurile nu-L pot cuprinde, a fost cuprins în pântecele Preacuratei Fecioare Maria. Dumnezeu se face prunc și este purtat în brațe de mamă. El, care hrănește toată suflarea, a fost hrănit de Preacurata Sa Maică. Aceasta este cu adevărat o mare taină dumnezeiască, taina iubirii nemărginite a lui Dumnezeu față de omenire.

Însuși Creatorul vine la tine, să te reînnoiască, să-ți redea starea de dinainte de păcat. Doctorul sufletelor și al trupurilor vine la tine să-și vindece durerile sufletești și trupești, să ia de la tine povara păcatului. Întâmpinați-L cu bucurie în suflet, cu mintea și inima curată, cu trupuri neîntinate, stăpânite prin post și înfrânare. Doar în acest mod îl putem cunoaște pe Dumnezeu Cel întrupat care vrea să rămână în noi.

Dumnezeu vine pe pământ pentru a ne curăți sufletele, pentru a ne porunci să ne pocăim, deoarece El Însuși suferă pentru păcatele noastre. Dumnezeu vrea de la noi să avem o pocăință adevărată, sinceră, să ne dorim să dobândim mântuirea și sfințenia cu orice preț. „Căutați pacea cu toții și sfințenia, fără de care nimeni nu va vedea pe Domnul” (Evrei 12, 14).

**Sfântul Ioan de Kronstadt**  
**Despre Nașterea Domnului nostru Iisus Hristos**

## From Parishes and Monasteries...



**The ordination of Rev. Dn. Florin Sipos into the Holy Priesthood at St. George Cathedral in Southfield, MI (September 7, 2024).**

**Hirotonia întru Preot a Diaconului Florin Sipos la Catedrala Sf. Gheorghe din Southfield, MI (7 Septembrie, 2024).**



## PREOTESE RETREAT 2024



In March of 2024, Archbishop Nathaniel sent an invitation to all the Preotese and Deaconese in the Episcopate. We were to gather at the Vatra on September 13-15 for a retreat.

On Friday evening, the ladies started to arrive. Some arrived by car, and some by plane. It was exciting to see each other after so many years. There were lots of

hugs, laughter, happy tears and excited talking that went on well into the night. There was so much to catch up on for old friends and much to share with new ones.

We came from near and far across the continent to be together at the Vatra for this weekend. We were a mixture of young and seasoned, new preotese and experienced, married and widowed -- all at the Vatra to share a weekend with our sisters in Christ. We thank the home parishes

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for supporting their clergy wives to spend precious time together.

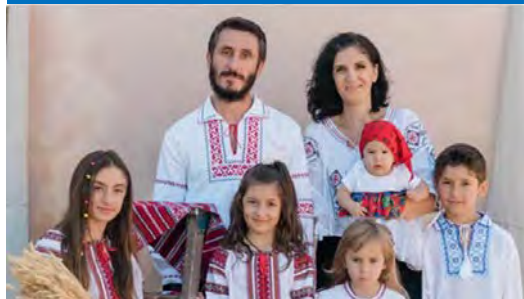
Saturday was the celebration of the Elevation of the Holy Cross. We attended the Divine Liturgy at Holy Dormition Monastery and enjoyed lunch and fellowship afterward. When we returned to the Vatra, His Eminence gave us a tour of the Administration Building, including the museum and archives, which was very interesting. Afterward, we sat with the Archbishop and chatted about questions on our hearts. He gently guided us with his words. The fellowship of other ladies walking the same path in life was also very comforting.



Sunday after Divine Liturgy and lunch was time to say, "so long." Leaving our new friends and those we've known but not seen for years was bittersweet. Thank you to Archbishop Nathaniel for his invitation and hospitality for the 2024 Preotese Retreat. We look forward to making new friends and reuniting with old friends at the next Preotese Retreat. We encourage parishes to support their preoteasa to come to the retreat, and we look forward to seeing many new faces. Until next time!



**APEL PENTRU FAMILIA LEAHU/  
APPEAL FOR THE LEAHU FAMILY**



În iulie, Arhiepiscopul Nathaniel a făcut un apel către toate parohiile Episcopiei ca răspuns la următorul eveniment tragic:

*Mesaj de la Părintele Gabriel Agoston, Parohia Sfânta Maria, Portland, OR*

Sâmbătă 13 Iulie, în parohia noastră s-a petrecut un teribil accident care a afectat o familie de buni creștini, familia Leahu. Constantin (44) și Andrei (11), tată și fiu au plecat la pescuit pe ocean cu încă trei prieteni. Era ziua băiețelului și voia să-i facă un cadou. Din cauza valurilor mari, ambarcațiunea s-a răsturnat, iar ei doi nu au fost găsiți nici până acum. A rămas acasă mama Elena (42), care nu lucrează, cu încă patru fetețe minore (Anamaria 15, Daria 9, Elizabeth 5 și Melanie

RUGAȚI-VĂ ȘI LUCRAȚI PENTRU UNITATE ORTODOXĂ ÎN AMERICA DE NORD 11

3). Înaltpreasfințitul Arhiepiscop Nathaniel solicită ca toate parohiile să facă o colectă specială pentru Familia Leahu.

**Mesaj de Mulțumire din partea Familiei Leahu**

Înaltpreasfințitul Nathaniel,  
Iubiți frați și surori întru Domnul,

Vă mulțumesc din toată inima pentru ajutorul și sprijinul acordat în aceste momente de grea încercare pentru familia noastră. Numai Bunul Dumnezeu și Maica Domnului știu durerea noastră. Dumnezeu este bun și are grijă de noi. Apreciez pe fiecare în parte pentru purtarea de grijă și rugăciunile dumneavoastră. Bunul Dumnezeu să vă poarte de grijă și să vă dăruiască cele spre mântuire.

Cu firească smerenie și aleasă prețuire,  
Elena și fetițele Anamaria, Daria, Elizabeth, Melania

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In July, Archbishop Nathaniel appealed to all parishes of the Episcopate in response to the following tragic event:

*Message from Fr. Gabriel Agoston, St. Mary Parish, Portland, OR*

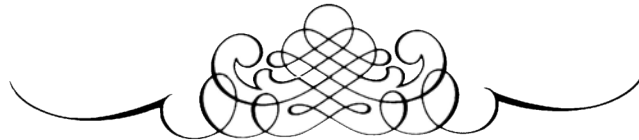
Saturday, July 13, a terrible accident occurred in our parish that affected a family of devout Christians, the Leahu family. Constantin (44) and Andrei (11), father and son, went fishing in the ocean with three other friends. It was the boy's birthday, and his father wanted to give him a present. Due to the high waves, the boat capsized, and they have not been found until now. At home, the mother, Elena (42), who is unemployed, remains with four minor daughters (Anamaria 15, Daria 9, Elizabeth 5, and Melanie 3). His Eminence, Archbishop Nathaniel, requests that all parishes make a special collection for the Leahu Family.

**Message of Thanks from the Leahu Family**

Most Reverend Nathaniel,  
Dear brothers and sisters in the Lord,

I thank you with all my heart for the help and support given in these difficult times for our family. Only the Good God and the Mother of God know our pain. God is good and takes care of us. I appreciate each one of you for your care and prayers. May the Good Lord take care of you and grant you those things necessary for salvation.

With natural humility and profound respect,  
Elena and the girls Anamaria, Daria, Elizabeth, Melania



## ARCHBISHOP NATHANIEL HONORED AT OCL'S 37TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN SOUTHFIELD, MICHIGAN



Advisors met on October 18 to discuss the focus of OCL's efforts in 2025.

OCL organized a conference on October 19 on **Inter Parish Associations (IPA) and Dialogue Across Orthodox Jurisdictions** featuring **Reverend Father Nicholas Anton**, Director of Operations of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the USA, as keynote speaker. Fr. Anton introduced **Spyridoula Fotinis**, Director of the Assembly's IPA program, who joined the conference via ZOOM and presented a slide presentation highlighting the scope, purpose, and progress of the project to date. The conference participants then had an opportunity to ask questions of a panel that included Fr. Anton, Ms. Fotinis and Their Eminences, **Metropolitan Nicholas of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Detroit**, and **Archbishop Nathaniel of The Romanian Orthodox Episcopate of America**.



Following lunch, **OCL President William Souvall** read a letter of appreciation to Archbishop Nathaniel for his 24 years of active service on OCL's Board of Advisors and presented him with a donation to the Episcopate's Archbishop's Charity Endowment Fund. Following a short video highlighting the Archbishop's participation in OCL's events, **Reverend Father**



**Nicholas Greanias**, also a long-time Advisory Board member, sang an original musical tribute to the Archbishop to the delight of all the participants.

The participants then gathered for a **round-table discussion** on several topics: What successful examples of cross-ethnic collaboration exist within

our Church? What are some practical steps to integrate parishioners from different backgrounds? What theological foundations support the pursuit of unity? How do we celebrate cultural diversity while maintaining Orthodox unity? How do personal biases hinder parish unity, and how can they be addressed?

The conference concluded with Great Vespers celebrated by **Fr. George Cautis**, parish priest of St. George Cathedral, and Fr. Nicholas Anton, with heavenly responses by the **Orthodox Choir of Detroit** under the direction of **Matushka Victoria Kopistiansky**.

The OCL Board expresses heartfelt gratitude to **St. George Cathedral** (Parish Priest Fr. George Cautis, Parish Council President **George Teodorescu**, and Cultural Center Manager **Mark Kalugar** and parishioners) for hosting the meeting and conference and providing such warm hospitality.

### **About OCL**

*Orthodox Christian Laity (OCL) is an independent, national, Pan-Orthodox, 501(c)3 non-profit, educational association, incorporated in the State of Illinois on March 17, 1988, to advance the renewal of the Orthodox Christian Church in the United States by advocating that the laity remain part of the conciliar governance process which provides balance to the hierarchy and clergy, all working together in governance, spiritual and other matters to ensure accountability and transparency in the affairs of the Church. OCL is committed to establishing an administratively and canonically unified, self-governing Orthodox Church in the United States.*

View **Conference videos** at: <https://bit.ly/OCLVIDEOS>  
or via the QR code:



**MATUSHKA OLGA'S RELICS UNCOVERED IN KWETHLUK, AK**

*Procession with the relics of  
Matushka Olga*

On November 15-16, 2024, clergy and faithful from across Alaska, the lower 48 states, and from other parts of the world gathered in the village of Kwethluk, AK for the uncovering of the relics of Matushka Olga. Led by His Grace Bishop Alexei of the Diocese of Sitka and Alaska, this event marks a significant

step toward her upcoming glorification.

On November 16, amid frigid temperatures, the relics were uncovered as the Holy Gospel was read. Matushka Olga was then brought to St. Nicholas Church and her relics were transferred to a new reliquary prepared for her. The weekend culminated in an All-Night Vigil later that night and Hierarchical Divine Liturgy the next morning, presided over by His Grace.

Holy Matushka Olga pray to God for us!

Read the full article at: <https://www.oca.org/news/headline-news/matushka-olgas-relics-uncovered-in-kwethluk-ak>.

*Source: Orthodox Church in America*



### Harvest from the Terrace Pot Garden By Monk Raphael (Brown)

I received the happy news that my niece's son has harvested his carrots from the terrace pots.

A photograph captured the beautiful simplicity: a plate of ornamental carrots.

An occasion to ponder the wonder of beautiful simplicity.

I do not want to **surprise you**... just maybe give you a smile... I am very familiar with the battle with frustration and impatience. It brings to mind the Abbess of the monastery where I took my vows, Mother

Gabriella (she is the one who made my monastic clothes). Often, Mother Gabriella would say to us, “Do small things faithfully.” As for me, I always had the desire to do great things quickly. There is a particular irony here, because to be quick has never been a piece in my puzzle box (I have searched diligently, and I cannot find it!). So, what can you and I do? Maybe, we can make a small beginning, plant a tiny seed of patience, add a drop of peacefulness and mix in a light touch of cultivation. Then, we wait and see what God can do with us. I am hopeful that something can happen... maybe, flourish???

Each day, with the help of God, I drop a tiny seed into the depth of my heart: ὁ θεὸς ἀγάπη ἐστίν – God is love (1 John 4:16).

Then, I wait to see what God can do with me.

I am hopeful that something can happen... maybe, flourish???

You may scoff at what a tiny seed of love can do....

Jesus said: “I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you” (*Matthew 17:20 NKJV*).

*Saturday, October 5, 2024*

The Feast of our Holy Fathers Damian, Jeremiah and Matthew of the Monastery of the Kiev Caves



## The Greek Orthodox Priest at the Center of “Anti-Woke” Education

**Father Maximos Conostas brings traditional values to the University of Austin, challenging modern academic norms.**



*By Aris Dimitrakopoulos, KNews (Kathimerini Cyprus) [November 30, 2024]*

The ideological conflict in the US has shifted from a traditional left-versus-right divide to a new dichotomy: “woke” versus “anti-woke.” Originally, “woke” referred to being “alert to social injustices,” but critics argue that it has transformed into an ideology that threatens core values – particularly freedom of speech – by enforcing strict standards on acceptable discourse and “canceling” those who diverge from its norms. Some supporters of “woke” ideals, on the other hand, often label such criticism as “far-right” and argue that their aim is to foster respect and inclusivity.

A product of this ideological clash is the establishment of the University of Austin (UATX) in Texas, which some in the press have dubbed the “anti-woke university.” UATX was founded by The Free Press owner and former New York Times columnist Bari Weiss, Stanford and Harvard historian Niall Ferguson, venture capitalist and Palantir co-founder Joe Lonsdale and former St John’s College president Pano Kanelos – who also serves as UATX’s dean. According to The Wall Street Journal, UATX has received \$200 million in funding from various billionaire donors. Its board of advisers includes prominent figures such as economist Larry Summers and evolutionary biologist Richard Dawkins.

The university was launched in 2021 with a manifesto published by Kanelos in The Free Press, titled “We Can’t Wait for Universities to Fix Themselves. So We’re Starting a New One.” Although Kanelos does not mention “woke” explicitly, he criticizes American universities for becoming increasingly illiberal and censorious, silencing students and faculty members who are perceived to hold the “wrong views” on contentious topics such as immigration, gender etc. He announced UATX with the mission of upholding “the intrepid pursuit of truth.”

Following approval from Texas authorities, UATX, whose motto is “Dare to Think,” welcomed its first 100 students in September 2024, marking the start of its inaugural semester. Currently, the university operates out of the Scarborough Building in downtown Austin, as it does not yet have its own campus.

If one were to examine the faculty roster, Father Maximos Conostas, a Greek Orthodox priest and archimandrite, would undoubtedly stand out. A Greek American born in New York, Conostas initially pursued art

before shifting his focus to theological studies. He taught theology at Harvard University until 2004, when he left to spend seven years in monastic life at the Simonopetra Monastery on Mount Athos. Afterward, he returned to the US at the request of then-Archbishop Demetrios. Having known Pano Kanelos for many years, Conostas became one of the first faculty members to join UATX as distinguished professor of the humanities.

Constas explained to Kathimerini that he considers it fair to label the university as “anti-woke” since it does not adhere to certain policies like DEI (diversity, equity and inclusion). However, he quickly brushes off the branding of the university as being right-wing or ultra-conservative.

“I’ve been here for a year now, I can honestly say that I have never had a political conversation with any of my colleagues,” he said. “Our emphasis is on a return to traditional pedagogy, traditional education. We don’t want students or faculty to come into class and feel afraid to express their thoughts. We don’t care what those thoughts are, on the left, on the right, in the center.”

When the university launch was announced, they received some 6,000 unsolicited letters of interest from faculty across North America, which he attributed to the growing censorship in American academia. “[Professors] want to teach in an environment where they have a degree of freedom, not to be afraid or to be deplatformed or fired or whatever it is,” Conostas said.

With over 20 years of teaching experience, Conostas noted significant changes through the years in both US universities as institutions and in the students themselves. “When I first started teaching, you could make a reference, let’s say, to a play by Shakespeare, or to a dialogue by Plato, or to a passage in Dante. Most of the students would know what you were talking about. Those were names that were familiar. Now, they don’t know those kinds of names anymore,” he stressed, adding that universities over time changed “from a place of education and truth seeking to political activism.”

Constas, who is currently teaching a course called “Chaos and Civilization,” focused on classic works of Western literature, explained that all UATX students are required to do a project called Polaris,

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which they will present at the end of their four years of studies. “In addition to the academic work that they’re doing, they have a Polaris project, which is an entrepreneurial project. They’ve got to create something that will be useful for society,” he stated, adding that there are already some UATX students with their own startup companies.

Currently, UATX is in the process of applying for federal accreditation, a path that, according to the university, could take five to seven years. UATX appears to be off to a strong start, garnering significant interest from prospective faculty, students and donors. However, it remains to be seen if it will be able to transcend the initial reasons for its founding and achieve longevity by establishing itself as a respected institution with concrete academic achievements. Otherwise it risks becoming a “firework” of the contemporary culture wars, with the interest of students (and donors) waning when the political discourse inevitably shifts to a new dichotomy.



## PASTORAL CHANGES

### ORDINATIONS

**BARBOS, Cosmin Stefan**, was ordained by His Grace, Bishop ANDREI into the Holy Diaconate on April 14, 2024, and into the Holy Priesthood on May 19, 2024, and attached to St. Mary Parish, Elmhurst, NY.

**BITIS, Alexander**, was ordained by His Grace, Bishop ANDREI, into the Holy Diaconate on May 19, 2024, and into the Holy Priesthood on May 20, 2024, at St. Mary Church, Elmhurst, NY, and attached to St. Mary Hierarchal Chapel, Jackson, MI.

**LEAHU, Alexei**, was ordained by His Grace, Bishop ANDREI into the Holy Diaconate on October 14, 2024, at St. Parascheva Church, Lachute, QC, and assigned to St. Elijah the Prophet Parish, Anjou, QC.

**LIU, Subdeacon Kenneth**, was ordained by His Grace, Bishop ANDREI into the Holy Diaconate on November 3, 2024, at Protection of the Holy Mother of God Church, Falls Church, VA, and assigned there.

**MCCULLOH, Christopher**, was ordained by His Grace, Bishop ANDREI into the Holy Diaconate on May 21, 2024, at Sts. Constantine & Helen Church, Indianapolis IN, and assigned there.

**PETERS, Rodney**, was ordained by His Grace, Bishop ANDREI into the Holy Diaconate on June 9, 2024, at St. George Cathedral, Regina, SK, and assigned there.

**SIPOS, Florin Stefan**, was ordained by His Grace, Bishop ANDREI into the Holy Diaconate on September 5, 2024, at Saints Peter & Paul Church, Dearborn Heights, MI, and attached to St. Basil the Great Parish, Durham, NC.

**SIPOS, Rev. Deacon Florin Stefan**, was ordained by His Grace, Bishop ANDREI into the Holy Priesthood on September 7, 2024, at St. George Cathedral, Southfield, MI, and attached to St. Basil the Great Parish, Durham, NC.

**VASILE, Lucian**, was ordained by His Grace, Bishop ANDREI, into the Holy Diaconate on April 21, 2024, at St. Varlaam of Moldova Mission, Moncton, NB, and assigned there.

**VASILE, Rev. Deacon Lucian**, was ordained by His Grace, Bishop ANDREI into the Holy Priesthood on August 24, 2024, at St. Varlaam of Moldova Mission, Moncton, NB, and attached there.

**ASSIGNED / RECEIVED / RELEASED**

**BARBOS, Rev. Fr. Cosmin Stefan**, who was attached to St. Mary Parish, Elmhurst, NY, was assigned Parish Priest of St. Andrew the Apostle Parish, McKees Rocks, PA, effective July 15, 2024.

**BITIS, Rev. Fr Alexander**, who was attached to St. Mary Hierarchal Chapel, Jackson, MI, was assigned Parish Priest of St. Dimitrie Parish, Easton, CT, effective December 1, 2024.

**DIACONESCU, Rev. Fr. George Bogdan**, who was attached to St. Nicholas Parish, Gloucester, ON, was assigned Parish Priest of Holy Resurrection Parish, Hayward, CA, effective December 6, 2024.

**GHICA, V. Rev. Fr. Daniel**, who was unassigned, was assigned Temporary Administrator of Three Hierarchs Mission, Baton Rouge, LA, effective April 1, 2024.

**LUTAS, Rev. Fr. Gheorghe Cristian**, who was unassigned, was attached to St. John the Hozevite Parish, Lakewood, CO, effective December 11, 2024.

**LYSAK, Hieromonk Vladimir**, was released from his duties as Parish Priest of St. George Parish, Winnipeg, MB, effective September 22, 2023. He was released to the Archdiocese of Canada (OCA) effective May 13, 2024.

**MAHLER, V. Rev. Fr. Octavian**, was released from his duties as Parish Priest of Holy Resurrection Parish, Hayward, CA, effective July 31, 2024, and is awaiting transfer.

**NEAGU, Rev. Fr. Gheorghe Madalin**, was released from his duties as Parish Priest of St. Andrew the Apostle Parish, McKees Rocks, PA, and assigned Parish Priest of Holy Archangels Michael & Gabriel Parish, Apopka, FL, effective July 1, 2024.

**RICHARDSON, Rev. Fr. John**, was released from his duties as Parish

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Priest of St. Nectarios Mission, Stoney Creek, ON, effective July 1, 2024, and remains unassigned.

**RETIREMENTS**

**COCA, V. Rev. Fr. George**, was granted retirement and released from his duties as Parish Priest of St. Dimitrie Parish, Easton, CT, effective December 1, 2024. He remains attached to the parish.

**STOLERU, Protopresbyter Dr. Nicolae**, was granted retirement and was released from his duties as Parish Priest of Ascension of the Lord Parish, Montreal, QC, effective July 1, 2024. He remains attached to the parish.

**DEATHS**

**BARSAN, Protopresbyter Vasile**, who was retired, fell asleep in the Lord on January 1, 2024.

**ENACHE, V. Rev. Fr. Constantin**, who was attached to Descent of the Holy Spirit Parish, Warren, MI, fell asleep in the Lord on June 25, 2024.

**AWARDS**

*During the 2024 Spring Session of the Holy Synod, the following clergy received the Synodal Award of Archpriest: Reverend Fathers Valerian Badan, Antonel Dumitru, John Konkle, Stefan Dan Morariu, Sabin Pop, Stefan Florin Stoleru, and Daniel Ungureanu.*

**PARISH DISSOLUTION**

On February 17, 2024, His Grace Bishop Andrei presided at a Special General Assembly of **St. Mary Parish, Las Vegas, NV**. The Assembly voted to dissolve the parish since it could no longer fulfill its purposes and maintain the active, full life associated with a parish. On April 16, 2024, the Episcopate Council heard Bishop Andrei’s report and noted the action.



**FINANCIAL REPORT**

**EPISCOPATE SUPPORTERS**

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| Maria Timmons, Mississauga, ON.....     | \$1,000.00 |
| M/M Andre Gib, Mesa, AZ.....            | \$250.00   |
| M/M Michael Glodich, Cleveland, OH..... | \$200.00   |
| Silvia Costea, Northville, MI .....     | \$100.00   |

**2024 EPISCOPATE ASSESSMENT**

|                                 |             |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| Holy Nativity, Chicago, IL..... | \$22,840.00 |
|---------------------------------|-------------|

**GENERAL DONATIONS**

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| St George, Canton, OH .....                    | \$5,000.00 |
| (2025 Episcopate Assessment)                   |            |
| Mikael Taipale, Ann Arbor, MI .....            | \$4,923.47 |
| Holy Resurrection, Hayward, CA .....           | \$3,000.00 |
| (Hierarch Travel)                              |            |
| St Elias, Ellwood City, PA .....               | \$2,700.00 |
| (2025 Episcopate Assessment)                   |            |
| National ARFORA.....                           | \$2,100.00 |
| (Convection Ovens)                             |            |
| St Parascheva, Laval, QC.....                  | \$2,073.30 |
| (Hierarch Travel)                              |            |
| St Mary, Dallas, TX .....                      | \$2,000.00 |
| (Hierarch Travel)                              |            |
| St Andrew, Potomac, MD .....                   | \$1,500.00 |
| (Hierarch Travel)                              |            |
| Holy Trinity, Miramar, FL .....                | \$1,000.00 |
| (Hierarch Travel)                              |            |
| St Andrew, McKees Rocks, PA .....              | \$1,000.00 |
| (Camp Vatra)                                   |            |
| St Elias, Anjou, QC.....                       | \$1,000.00 |
| (Hierarch Travel)                              |            |
| St Mary, Elmhurst, NY .....                    | \$1,000.00 |
| (Hierarch Travel)                              |            |
| Sts Michael & Gabriel, Middle Village, NY..... | \$1,000.00 |
| (Hierarch Travel)                              |            |
| Sts Constantine & Helen, Lilburn, GA .....     | \$1,000.00 |
| (Hierarch Travel)                              |            |
| St Mary, Chicago, IL.....                      | \$1,000.00 |
| (Hierarch Travel)                              |            |
| St John, Lakewood, CO .....                    | \$900.00   |
| (Hierarch Travel)                              |            |
| St Elias, Anjou, QC .....                      | \$704.50   |
| (2023 Alaska Diocese Appeal)                   |            |
| St John the Evangelist, Vaughn, ON.....        | \$691.10   |
| (Hierarch Travel)                              |            |
| Holy Nativity, Chicago, IL.....                | \$500.00   |
| (Hierarch Travel)                              |            |

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|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Holy Trinity, Youngstown, OH.....           | \$500.00 |
| (Hierarch Travel)                           |          |
| St Andrew, McKees Rocks, PA .....           | \$500.00 |
| (Hierarch Travel)                           |          |
| St Dimitrie, Frederick, CO .....            | \$500.00 |
| (Hierarch Travel)                           |          |
| M/M Valeriu Morariu, Morton Grove, IL ..... | \$500.00 |
| (Seminarian Fund)                           |          |
| M/M Alexa Mindea, Morton Grove, IL .....    | \$200.00 |
| (Hierarch Travel)                           |          |
| Doinita Gramada, North Canton, OH           |          |
| Adrian Beldie-Ulmer, Springfield, VA .....  | \$100.00 |
| (Hierarch Travel)                           |          |
| Adrian Beldie-Ulmer, Springfield, VA .....  | \$100.00 |
| Simeon & Florika Stefan, Ridgewood, NY..... | \$100.00 |
| Florentina Ursu, Troy, MI .....             | \$100.00 |
| Nicholas Vasu, Southfield, MI.....          | \$75.00  |
| Psa Ramona Ursache, Niles, IL.....          | \$70.00  |
| (Seminarian Fund)                           |          |
| Marie E Metry, Southfield, MI.....          | \$50.00  |
| (Seminarian Fund)                           |          |
| Madeline Vasu, Farmington Hills, MI .....   | \$20.00  |

**MEMORIAM**

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Emilia Barbu, Oakland, MI .....              | \$700.00 |
| (IMO Deceased Family Members)                |          |
| Mihai & Mihaela Sadean, Lake Grove, NY ..... | \$250.00 |
| (IMO Theodore Andrica)                       |          |
| Calin & Aurora Nema, Naples, FL .....        | \$150.00 |
| (Pomelnic)                                   |          |
| Ana Mohan, Brunswick, OH.....                | \$50.00  |
| (IMO George Mohan)                           |          |

**VATRA GENERATIONS**

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| Atty Michael Lawrence, Layton, UT .....          | \$2,290.00 |
| St Anne, Claremont, CA .....                     | \$688.30   |
| Tonna Charitable Foundation, Worcester, MA ..... | \$500.00   |
| Joan Puscas, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI .....       | \$300.00   |
| Alina Boesteanu, Willow Grove, PA .....          | \$250.00   |

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| M/M Andre Gib, Mesa, AZ.....                   | \$250.00 |
| M/M John Pop Jr, Northbrook, IL.....           | \$250.00 |
| Virgil/Elena Simplaceanu, Pittsburgh, PA ..... | \$200.00 |
| Peter Lee, Huntingdon, PA .....                | \$144.96 |
| George & Joyce Anagnostache, Marietta, GA..... | \$100.00 |
| (IMO Mike Kalugar)                             |          |
| Vasile & Stela Socite, Chickamauga, GA.....    | \$100.00 |
| Ion Gajim, Plainfield, IL .....                | \$97.52  |
| Myke Jacobs, Peachtree City, GA.....           | \$97.52  |
| Mircea Munte, Livonia, MI.....                 | \$97.52  |
| Mary K Stanesa, Dearborn, MI .....             | \$97.52  |
| George & Lorraine Flunder, Yorkton, SK .....   | \$68.33  |
| Utku Ergun .....                               | \$50.00  |
| Alina Kleinhenz, Hudson, MI .....              | \$50.00  |
| St Innocent Monastery, Redford, MI .....       | \$25.00  |

**ALASKA DIOCESE APPEAL**

|                          |          |
|--------------------------|----------|
| St Elias, Anjou, QC..... | \$704.50 |
|--------------------------|----------|

**ARCHBISHOP’S CHARITY ENDOWMENT (ACE) FUND**

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| Orthodox Christian Laity, West Palm Beach, FL ..... | \$1,000.00 |
| Roula Karcazes, Chicago, IL.....                    | \$300.00   |
| George E Matsoukas, West Palm Beach, FL .....       | \$200.00   |
| M/M William Souvall, Salt Lake City, UT .....       | \$150.00   |
| Argo Georgandis & Howard Pyle, Houston, TX .....    | \$100.00   |
| Gayle E Woloschak, Chicago, IL.....                 | \$100.00   |

**HURRICANE HELENE & MILTON RELIEF APPEAL**

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| Three Hierarchs, Mountlake Terrace, WA.....        | \$5,000.00 |
| Sts Constantine & Helen, Indianapolis. IN .....    | \$2,650.00 |
| St Dimitrie, Easton, CT.....                       | \$1,852.00 |
| Descent of the Holy Spirit, Merrillville, IN ..... | \$1,800.00 |
| Sts Peter & Paul, Dearborn Heights, MI.....        | \$1,424.00 |
| St John the Baptist, Woonsocket, RI.....           | \$900.00   |
| St Athanasius, Aurora, IL.....                     | \$625.00   |
| St Mary, St Paul, MN.....                          | \$550.00   |
| St Elias, Ellwood City, PA.....                    | \$300.00   |
| St Thomas, St Louis, MO.....                       | \$300.00   |
| Holy Trinity, Youngstown, OH.....                  | \$255.00   |
| St Nicholas, Montreal, QC.....                     | \$206.18   |

**LEAHU FAMILY APPEAL**

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| St Mary Cathedral, Cleveland, OH .....             | \$3,781.00 |
| St Mary, Falls Church, VA.....                     | \$3,668.50 |
| St John of Suceava, Manchester, NH.....            | \$3,160.00 |
| Holy 40 Martyrs, Aurora, ON .....                  | \$3,000.00 |
| Descent of the Holy Spirit, Merrillville, IN ..... | \$2,604.00 |
| Presentation of Our Lord, Fairlawn, OH.....        | \$1,897.00 |
| Sts Constantine & Helen, Indianapolis, IN .....    | \$1,800.00 |
| Annunciation Cathedral, Montreal, QC .....         | \$1,517.66 |
| St Dimitrie, Easton, CT .....                      | \$1,500.00 |
| St Mary, St Paul, MN.....                          | \$1,200.00 |
| St Anne, Pomona, CA .....                          | \$1,000.00 |
| St Elijah, Schomberg, ON .....                     | \$1,000.00 |
| St Nicholas, Montreal, QC .....                    | \$813.42   |
| Holy Transfiguration, Manchester, CT .....         | \$700.00   |
| St Elias, Anjou, QC.....                           | \$542.77   |
| St Thomas, St Louis, MO.....                       | \$481.00   |
| St Elias, Ellwood City, PA .....                   | \$450.00   |
| St Dimitrie Ladies Auxiliary, Easton, CT .....     | \$200.00   |
| M/M William Smith, Eureka, MO .....                | \$100.00   |
| Elisabet Gusty, Newton, MA .....                   | \$100.00   |
| Dennis Frankeberger, Chino Hills, CA .....         | \$50.00    |

**ARCHBISHOP NATHANIEL'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY  
BENEFACTORS**

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| Presentation of Our Lord, Fairlawn, OH.....             | \$5,000.00 |
| St Mary, Chicago, IL.....                               | \$5,000.00 |
| St Andrew, Potomac, MD .....                            | \$4,000.00 |
| St Athanasius, Aurora, IL.....                          | \$3,000.00 |
| National ARFORA.....                                    | \$1,000.00 |
| Annunciation Cathedral, Montreal, QC .....              | \$1,000.00 |
| Subdeacon/M Liviu Constantinescu, Simi Valley, CA ..... | \$1,000.00 |
| Atena Chiu, Woodside, NY.....                           | \$1,000.00 |
| Holy Dormition Monastery, Rives Junction, MI.....       | \$1,000.00 |
| Holy Resurrection, Hayward, CA .....                    | \$1,000.00 |
| Holy Transfiguration Monastery, Ellwood City, PA .....  | \$1,000.00 |
| Holy Trinity, Miramar, FL .....                         | \$1,000.00 |
| Holy Trinity, Youngstown, OH.....                       | \$1,000.00 |
| Rev Fr & Psa Ion Stefan, Brambleton, VA .....           | \$1,000.00 |

**PATRONS**

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Anonymous .....   | \$500.00 |
| Rev Fr & Psa Cezar Cisloiu, Monroeville, PA.....              | \$500.00 |
| Descent of the Holy Spirit, Elkins Park, PA .....             | \$500.00 |
| Descent of The Holy Spirit, Merrillville, IN .....            | \$500.00 |
| Holy Cross, Hollywood, FL .....                               | \$500.00 |
| Presentation of Our Lord Ladies Auxiliary, Fairlawn, OH ..... | \$500.00 |
| Radu Palanca, Mercer Island, WA .....                         | \$500.00 |
| Rev Fr & Psa Cosmin Preda & Family .....                      | \$500.00 |
| M/M John Santeiu Jr, Garden City, MI.....                     | \$500.00 |
| St Basil the Great, Durham, NC .....                          | \$500.00 |
| St John the Baptist, Kitchener, ON .....                      | \$500.00 |
| St John the Baptist Ladies Auxiliary, Woonsocket, RI.....     | \$500.00 |
| St Mary Cathedral, Cleveland, OH .....                        | \$500.00 |
| St Nicholas, Alliance, OH .....                               | \$500.00 |
| St Parascheva, Laval, QC.....                                 | \$500.00 |
| St Polycarp, Naples, FL.....                                  | \$500.00 |
| Sts Constantine & Helen, Lilburn, GA .....                    | \$500.00 |
| Simion & Carmen Coca, Pittsburgh, PA.....                     | \$500.00 |
| Georgeta Gassey, Woonsocket, RI.....                          | \$500.00 |
| Rev Fr & Psa John Nemes, Lake Bluff, IL .....                 | \$500.00 |
| Simona Sarsama, N Olmsted, OH.....                            | \$500.00 |
| St John, Kitchener, ON .....                                  | \$500.00 |
| St Parascheva, Laval, QC.....                                 | \$500.00 |
| M/M Stefan Russu, Kitchener, ON .....                         | \$500.00 |
| Liviu Sofian, Kennesaw, GA .....                              | \$500.00 |
| V Rev Fr & Psa David Subu, Springfield, VA.....               | \$500.00 |
| V Rev Fr & Psa George Ursache, Niles, IL .....                | \$500.00 |

**SPONSORS**

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Holy Nativity Ladies Auxiliary, Chicago, IL.....       | \$400.00 |
| V Rev Fr & Psa Ioan Catana, Kirkland, WA .....         | \$400.00 |
| V Rev Fr Chesarie & Iustin Berteau, Glendale, NY ..... | \$400.00 |
| St Elias, Anjou, QC.....                               | \$354.35 |
| Mark P Chestnut, Grass Lake, MI.....                   | \$350.00 |
| Rev Fr & Psa Daniel Pop, Naperville, IL.....           | \$350.00 |
| Drs Dan & Jane Hinshaw, Ann Arbor, MI.....             | \$322.94 |
| M/M John, Pop Jr, Northbrook, IL.....                  | \$300.00 |

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|  |          |
|--|----------|
| St Anne, Jacksonville, FL .....                    | \$300.00 |
| Raluca Dusa, West Bloomfield, MI .....             | \$270.00 |
| M/M Jonel Maiogan, Des Plaines, IL .....           | \$260.00 |
| Dan Constantinescu, Katy, TX.....                  | \$250.00 |
| M/M Victor Dinu, Skokie, IL.....                   | \$250.00 |
| V Rev Fr & Psa Remus Grama, Cleveland, OH .....    | \$250.00 |
| Mircea Halmagean, Arlington, TX .....              | \$250.00 |
| Drs. Daniel & Jane Hinshaw, Ann Arbor, MI.....     | \$250.00 |
| M/M Alexa Mindea, Morton Grove, IL .....           | \$250.00 |
| V Rev Fr Dimitrie Musta, Glendale, NY .....        | \$250.00 |
| Gabriel Nutescu, Northfield, IL .....              | \$250.00 |
| V Rev Fr & Psa Ian Pac-Urar, Akron, OH.....        | \$250.00 |
| Rev Fr & Psa Daniel Pop, Aurora, IL .....          | \$250.00 |
| M/M Joseph Popp, Oregon, IL.....                   | \$250.00 |
| St Elijah, Schomberg, ON .....                     | \$250.00 |
| St Mary, St Paul, MN.....                          | \$250.00 |
| V Rev Fr & Psa Cornel Avramescu, Anaheim, CA ..... | \$250.00 |
| M/M George Teodorescu, Plymouth, MI.....           | \$250.00 |
| Rev Fr & Psa Mirel Tudose, Houston, TX.....        | \$250.00 |
| John & Anne Ursul, Canton, MI .....                | \$250.00 |
| Rev Fr & Psa Mircea VasIU, St Paul, MN.....        | \$250.00 |
| George & Elizabeth Teodorescu, Plymouth, MI.....   | \$244.53 |

**DONORS**

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### **Save the Dates**

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**September 4-6, 2025: 93rd Episcopate Congress hosted by the  
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