

Metropolitan Tikhon, OCA delegation visit Orthodox Church of Finland

SYOSSET, NY – At the invitation of Archbishop Leo of Karelia and All Finland, Metropolitan Tikhon and a delegation from the Orthodox Church in America made an official visit to the Orthodox Church of Finland during the last week of February 2016. Members of the delegation included Archbishop Melchisedek of Pittsburgh and Western Pennsylvania, Archpriest John Jillions, Archdeacon Joseph Matusiak, Dr. Paul Meyendorff, and Subdeacon Jeremy Pletnikoff.

Metropolitan Tikhon and Archbishop Melchisedek concelebrated the Liturgy at New Valaam Monastery with Archbishop Leo and Bishop Arseni; met with Metropolitans Ambrosius and Elia; visited the Lintula Women's Monastery, the Valaam Lay Academy, Helsinki's Dormition Cathedral, Joensuu's theological department and seminary, and other Church sites; and participated in a one-day conference in Sweden on the current situation of migrants across Europe. Metropolitan Tikhon and Archbishop Leo also signed a cooperation agreement pledging closer ties in five major areas of Church life. ■ **FULL**

STORY: <http://oca.org/news/headline-news/metropolitan-tikhon-oca-delegation-visits-orthodox-church-of-finland>

Metropolitan Tikhon presents icon, relics of St. Herman to Archbishop Leo.



Metropolitan Tikhon with Cardinal Theodore McCarrick and PBS staff on News Hour set.

Metropolitan Tikhon interviewed by BBC, NPR

WASHINGTON, DC – British Broadcasting Corporation and Public Broadcasting Service interviewed Metropolitan Tikhon on the widely publicized meeting between Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and Pope Francis in Cuba February 12, 2016. In both interviews, Metropolitan Tikhon shared his insights on the encounter, including its meaning for Church relations in the US, its broader historical impact, the persecution of Christians in the Middle East, and prospects for cooperation. Also interviewed was Cardinal Theodore McCarrick, who offered a Roman Catholic perspective on the meeting.

After the Havana meeting, Metropolitan Tikhon issued a Pastoral Letter concerning the meeting, the complete text of which may be found on-line at <https://oca.org/holy-synod/statements/his-beatitude-metropolitan-tikhon/pastoral-letter-on-meeting-of-patriarch-pope>. ■ **FULL STORY:** <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/bbc-pbs-interviews-with-metropolitan-tikhon-highlight-meeting-of-pope-franc>

The reinterment of Archbishop Dmitri

DALLAS, TX – Metropolitan Tikhon presided at the reinterment of the late Archbishop Dmitri of Dallas and the South at Saint Seraphim Cathedral here March 4-5, 2016. Archbishop Dmitri fell asleep in the Lord in retirement at the age of 87 on Sunday, August 28, 2011.

On Friday, March 4, Archbishop Dmitri's body was brought to the cathedral, after which Vespers and a Panikhida were celebrated. On Saturday, Metropolitan Tikhon and Archbishop Alejo of Mexico City and numerous clergy concelebrated the Divine Liturgy, after which Archbishop Dmitri was laid to rest in the cathedral's recently completed Resurrection Memorial Chapel. Hundreds of clergy and faithful from across the US and Mexico participated.

"Archbishop Dmitri was father of the Diocese of the South... who personally engaged with his people and his clergy, less as 'master' than as first shepherd," Metropolitan Tikhon said in his homily during the Liturgy. "At the same time, [he]



was also an uncompromising teacher of the Orthodox Christian faith who saw that we are in an age that will severely test our faith and commitment."

May Archbishop Dmitri's memory be eternal! ■ **FULL STORY:** <http://oca.org/news/headline-news/metropolitan-tikhon-presides-at-reinterment-of-archbishop-dmitri>

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New DCE activity book fourth in series on saints

SYOSSET, NY – “Saints and the Animals that Served Them” – the fourth in an on-line series of activity books produced by the OCA’s Department of Christian Education [DCE] – was released during the last week of January 2016.

“Many of the saints are known for having befriended God’s creatures, and their stories have always been beloved parts of sacred Tradition,” said Matushka Valerie Zahirsky, DCE Chairperson. “Saints and the Animals” offers rich opportunities for discussions on miracles, the cosmos, and man’s place within the world as priest, prophet and king, manifesting God’s will and love for all that exists.”

The 106-page book includes easy-to-read lives of the saints, detailed maps, hymns, word games and puzzles, resources for further study, beautiful original line drawings of the saints, and more – all free of charge! ■ **DOWNLOAD THE BOOK:** <http://dce.oca.org/assets/files/resources/Saints-Animals.pdf>

OCA hosts pan-Orthodox Youth, Camp Conference

DALLAS, TX – Over 80 clergy and lay youth and camp workers – a 14-year record! – gathered at Saint Seraphim Cathedral here January 21-23, 2016 for this year’s Pan-Orthodox Youth and Camp Workers’ Conference hosted by the OCA.

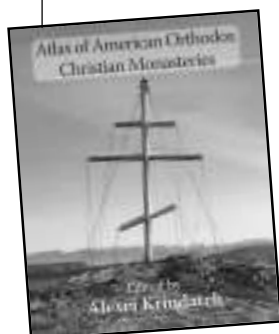
The theme of the conference – “Feed My Sheep: Crisis, Trauma, and Everyday Life” – was developed in two addresses by Archpriest Dr. Steven Voytovich, Dean of Saint Tikhon’s Seminary. Father Steven focused on mental health and development in youth and young adults and burnout and self-care for pastors and youth workers. Workshops highlighted ministering to young veterans, responding to crises at camp, building effective young adult ministries, developing youth ministry programs, and planting and expanding campus ministries. ■ **FULL STORY:** <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/oca-hosts-14th-annual-pan-orthodox-youth-and-camp-workers-conference>



Atlas of America’s monasteries a “first”

BROOKLINE, MA – The first-ever *Atlas of American Orthodox Christian Monasteries* made its debut in February 2016.

Edited by Alexei Krindatch, Research Coordinator for the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the USA, the 150-page volume includes a comprehensive directory of nearly 80 monasteries, profiles of 23 communities that provide a glimpse into monastic life, four sets of maps, over 100 photographs, and information for visitors. The volume may be ordered for \$19.95 from Holy Cross Bookstore, 50 Goddard Avenue, Brookline, MA 02445. ■ **ORDER ON-LINE:** <http://holycrossbookstore.com>



ocareview

A monthly digest highlighting news and features from the web site of the Orthodox Church in America <http://oca.org>, published with the blessing of His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon.

Parishes are asked to duplicate and distribute *OCAreview* monthly, especially to those without internet access who desire printed highlights of OCA web site postings.

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In Memoriam

- **Boris George Nicoloff**, son of the late Archpriest George and Popadia Vera Nicoloff, fell asleep in the Lord in Detroit, MI January 31, 2016. ■ <https://oca.org/in-memoriam/boris-george-nicoloff>
- **Archpriest John Udics**, Rector of Saints Peter and Paul Church, Herkimer, NY, fell asleep in the Lord in Philadelphia, PA February 3, 2016. ■ <https://oca.org/in-memoriam/archpriest-john-udics>
- **Archimandrite Athanasys [Mastalski]** of Saint Tikhon’s Monastery fell asleep in the Lord February 5, 2016. ■ <https://oca.org/in-memoriam/archimandrite-athanasys-mastalski>
- **Matushka Anna Labun**, wife of the late Archpriest Jan Labun, fell asleep in the Lord in Chicago, IL February 8, 2016. ■ <https://oca.org/in-memoriam/matushka-anna-labun>
- **Jean M. Mueller**, mother of Archpriest Thomas Mueller and grandmother of Priest Elijah Mueller, fell asleep in the Lord in Milwaukee, WI February 8, 2016. ■ <https://oca.org/in-memoriam/jean-m.-mueller>
- **Dorothy Vernak**, mother of Archpriest David Vernak and grandmother of Priest Steven Vernak and Matushka Anastasia Gorodenchuk, fell asleep in the Lord in Economy, PA February 28, 2016. ■ <https://oca.org/in-memoriam/dorothy-vernak>
- **Archpriest James Bertolini**, attached in retirement to Saint Paul Church, Las Vegas, NV, fell asleep in the Lord February 29, 2016. ■ <https://oca.org/in-memoriam/archpriest-james-bertolini>