

New Jersey Deanery
Diocese of New York and New Jersey
Orthodox Church in America

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Report to the Diocesan Assembly – November 7, 2010
Holy Virgin Protection Cathedral
59 East 2nd. Street
New York, New York 10003

Your Grace, Father Chancellor, Very Reverend and Reverend Fathers, Deacons, Delegates and Observers to the Diocesan Assembly.

Glory to Jesus Christ!

Greetings from the Clergy of the New Jersey Deanery.

There are currently twenty-six parishes which comprise the New Jersey Deanery. One is a Mission Station, Saint John Chrysostom Mission in Absecon, NJ, two are Chapels, Holy Transfiguration Chapel, Princeton, NJ (under the care of Archpriest Daniel Skvir) and Saint Martin Chapel, West Point, NY (under the care of Archpriest Joseph Frawley).

Our meetings are attended by approximately 12 to 20 clergy (retired clergy are also active participants). The Deanery clergy meet monthly at various Churches of the New Jersey Deanery. Guest speakers on various subjects of interest to the Clergy have been invited to speak at different meetings. Hieromonk Calinic (Berger) from Holy Cross Church, Hermitage, Pennsylvania was our guest homilist at Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers, at Christ the Saviour Church, Paramus, New Jersey. Hieromonk Michael (Dahulich) (now Bishop Michael) was the homilist at Bright Wednesday Vespers at Christ the Savior Church, Paramus, New Jersey. Mr. Alex Liberovsky presented a talk and slide show on the Autocephaly and the history of the Orthodox Church in America at Holy Transfiguration Church, Pearl River, New York. Our clergy viewed the “Architecture as Icon” Exhibit at the Princeton Art Museum. We extend our deepest gratitude to Fr. Daniel Skvir and Protodeacon Michael Sochka for facilitating this tour for us.

Lenten and post Lenten mission services were held at the following parishes:

February 21st-Sunday of Orthodoxy: Christ the Saviour Church, Paramus, NJ
February 28th-St. Gregory Palamas: Holy Trinity Church, Rahway, NJ
March 7th-Veneration of the Precious Cross: Annunciation Church, Brick, NJ
March 14th-St. John Climacus: Assumption of the Holy Virgin Church, Clifton, NJ
March 21st-St. Mary of Egypt: SS Peter & Paul Church, Manville, NJ
April 7th-Bright Wednesday: Christ the Saviour Church, Paramus, NJ

Our New Jersey Deanery was blessed to have the consecration of His Grace, Bishop Michael, take place at Saints and Peter and Paul Church in Jersey City, New Jersey on May 8, 2010.

A Clergy Retreat for the priests of the NJ Deanery and the Diocese of New York and New Jersey was held August 31-September 1 at Assumption of the Holy Virgin Church, Clifton, NJ. The

major theme(s) for the retreat was the current state of the Priesthood, the current state of the Church, and where we are as a whole. The retreat began with Vespers on August 31st and the first presentation by His Grace, Bishop Michael followed by discussions. The Divine Liturgy for the Church New Year was celebrated the next morning by His Grace Bishop Michael followed by another presentation and discussion.

An Open Forum on the subject of the "Strategic Plan- Draft" of the Orthodox Church in America was held in two sessions at Saints Peter and Paul Church in South River, NJ, September 14th. Lively discussion took place.

Pastoral visitations to almost all of the parishes of the New Jersey Deanery have been made by His Grace Bishop Michael, Father Chancellor Joseph Lickwar and me.

The Kursk Root Icon of the Mother of God visited Saints Peter & Paul Church-Jersey City on January 2, 2010. It was a wonderful event and over 300 faithful came to venerate the Icon.

Saint Spyridon Church, Perth Amboy, New Jersey has purchased additional property with a home adjacent to their Church.

Mother of God Church, Princeton New Jersey has won a bid to purchase 8.25 acres of land and a large house to build their community.

St. Gregory the Theologian Church, Wappingers Falls, New York is presently preparing to undergo an expansion project.

Holy Transfiguration Church, Pearl River, NY and Holy Spirit Church, Wantage, NJ have recently replaced the roofs on their temples.

Mother of God Church, Mays Landing, NJ has recently installed 4 new cupolas on their Temple.

All of the parishes in the New Jersey deanery have priests assigned, or attached to them and are serving them regularly.

The New Jersey Deanery has sent monetary donations to three priests who are ill or in need of financial help to at least three priests. The New Jersey deanery has also sent monetary donations to widowed Matushki who were in need of help.

I personally thank the clergy of the New Jersey Deanery for their continued dedication and hard work in the building up of the Body of Christ. They are in the forefront in all aspects of our Deanery, Diocese and our Orthodox Church in America.

I and the clergy of the New Jersey Deanery ask for your prayers and support as we continue to do the work set out for us by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Respectfully submitted,



Archpriest Samuel Kedala,
Dean of New Jersey Clergy