

Archpriest Michael G. Dahulich

The son of Ann (Rosics) and the late Peter Dahulich, I was born in Johnson City, N.Y., on August 29, 1950. I grew up in Binghamton, N.Y., and have one brother, retired US Air Force Captain George Dahulich, who presently works for Lockheed Martin and lives in Centreville, Va., and a sister, Barbara Knighton, who lives in Binghamton and works as a secretary at the State University of New York at Binghamton.

I was baptized in the Orthodox Faith as an infant at St. Michael's Church in Binghamton, where my parents had been married in 1948. My father was a convert from the Byzantine Catholic Church, while my mother was cradle Orthodox. She and her parents nurtured me in the Faith by their example, and my mother read to me Bible stories and the lives of the Saints from my earliest childhood.



From the age of ten until I graduated from college and went to Seminary, I served as an altar boy under the tutelage of my pastor, Fr. Stephen Dutko, who was the inspiration for my vocation. At the age of 14, praying before the Icon of the Theotokos on the Feast of her Dormition, I pledged myself to serve the Holy Church in whatever capacity God would direct me, asking the protection and guidance of the Holy Mother.

I attended Binghamton Central High School in 1967. My senior paper was a biography of Ecumenical Patriarch Athenagoras. I graduated two years later from Broome Community College, and set out to pursue my dream to serve the Church by attending Christ the Saviour Seminary in Johnstown. I completed my theological studies there in December of 1972, having been privileged to be mentored by His Grace, Bishop JOHN of Nyssa.

While a student at the Seminary, I met Deborah Sandak, a parishioner of Christ the Saviour Cathedral in Johnstown. We were engaged on the Feast of the Protection of the Theotokos in 1972 and were married on January 21, 1973 in the Johnstown Cathedral.

I was ordained by Bishop JOHN, first to the Diaconate on February 3, 1973, in St. Peter the Apostle Chapel in Johnstown, and then to the Holy Priesthood the following day, in Christ the Saviour Cathedral.

I assumed my first parish assignment at SS. Peter and Paul Church in Homer City, Pa., a small mission community which had never had a full time priest, on Sunday, February 18, 1973. Two days later, en route to dinner at my best friend's home in Jenners, Pa., my wife and I were in a car accident; she was killed instantly, and I was hospitalized for three months. I struggled for a long time afterward with her loss.

In June of 1973, I returned to serve the Homer City parish, while living at Christ the Saviour Seminary. My wife's death had had a profound effect on me, and after months of spiritual

struggle, Bishop JOHN decided it best for me to pursue further studies, reasoning that I “did best in the classroom.” His Grace applied for my admission, provided me with a vehicle for commuting, and funded my education personally. I have never forgotten his generosity, and have strived to provide scholarships for my students to this day in memory of what had been given to me.

Over the next few years, I attended St. Vincent College in Latrobe, Pa., graduating with a degree in philosophy, and Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, graduating with a Master of Arts in Theology and later a Ph.D. in Theology, with a concentration in New Testament studies.

Upon my graduation from St. Vincent College, I was named Prefect of Student Life at Christ the Saviour, a position I held for five years, until SS. Peter and Paul Church achieved parish status, and I became its first full-time pastor. I was also assigned as instructor of Ethics at the Seminary, where I also taught Scripture and Homiletics, until I was transferred from the area in 1985. During my Ph.D. studies at Duquesne, I was also adjunct lecturer, teaching Scripture and Eastern Orthodoxy in the Theology Department.

For nearly 13 years, I served SS. Peter and Paul Church. I was privileged to see it grow from 60 to more than 130 members, and from mission to parish status. The church building was brick-encased, its interior was decorated, and a rectory was built.

During that time, I also served as Religious Education Director for the Johnstown Deanery and the Associate Editor of *The Church Messenger*. In 1982, I was elevated to the rank of “Archpriest,” and named Vice-Chancellor of the Diocese. In addition, until his untimely death in 1984, I was privileged to serve as personal secretary to His Grace, Bishop JOHN.

I continued as Vice-Chancellor and Secretary to Bishop NICHOLAS of Amissos, until December of 1985, when I was transferred to Holy Ghost Church in Phoenixville, Pa., where I served as pastor for 16 years. During that time, the parish grew from 256 to nearly 450 members, including more than 100 children. Several improvements in the temple and the 20-acre facility were successfully undertaken a new educational facility was completed. A pre-school and day care was established, with the intent to grow into an Orthodox school.

During that time, I was also named to the Study and Planning Commission and the Ecumenical Commission of SCOBA. I served for more than a decade as the Dean of the Mid-Atlantic Deanery parishes of the Carpatho-Russian Diocese, and Vice-Chairman of the *Harvest 2000* Committee on Missions, Evangelization and Diocesan Growth. I also edited the Diocesan Prayerbook, *Come To Me*.

I was especially honored in 1998 to be named “Protopresbyter” by the Ecumenical Patriarchate, and elevated by His Eminence, Metropolitan NICHOLAS of Amissos, in my parish in Phoenixville.

In 1993, I was asked by His Eminence, Archbishop HERMAN, to teach at St. Tikhon’s Seminary, where I have served on the faculty to this day. In 2001, I was released from the Carpatho-Russian Diocese to the Orthodox Church in America, and came to serve full-time at St.

Tikhon's Seminary, first as Administrative Dean (2001-2002) and then as Dean (2002-present). My field of expertise in teaching is New Testament, and I have also taught Old Testament courses, Homiletics, Pastoral Theology, and Ethics at St. Tikhon's.

During the past eight years, God has blessed St. Tikhon's by more than doubling in its enrollment. I was privileged to be a part of the team that earned national accreditation for the Seminary from the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada. I have helped work on a revision of the curriculum for our Master of Divinity program, and I have served as Editor of *The Tikhonaire*, *The Spirit of St. Tikhon's*, *By the Waters*, and *St. Tikhon's Theological Journal*. I also work as director of recruitment, development and fund-raising at the school.

Also during this time, I have served as a member of the Board of Theological Education of the Orthodox Church in America, OCA Representative to the National Advisory Board of the American Bible Society, a member (and former national secretary) of the Orthodox Theological Society of America, and a member of the Advisory Board of the Orthodox Christian Association of Medicine, Psychology and Religion (OCAMPR).

I have tried to bring to the Office of Dean a pastoral sensibility borne out of 28 years of parish ministry. I believe that the Lord has commanded clergy to do two very important things: to make disciples of all nations (Matthew 28), and to assist those in need (Matthew 25). I have sought to recruit into Seminary men who share that vision and to promote that vision beyond Ordination through continuing education for clergy.

My goal has been for every student to be able to study for the priesthood without having to worry about financial concerns. The two top items of my Deanship have been scholarships for deserving students and assistance for married students and their families.

Additionally, I have published a number of articles in theological journals, magazines and newspapers. I have a recurring column in *The Orthodox Herald* on "Sobornost." I have presented several papers, delivered numerous talks, lectures, and keynote addresses, and led many seminars and retreats in schools and parishes throughout the country, as well as teaching week-long seminars in Scripture in both Brazil and India.

My philosophy of life is taken from St. Paul the Apostle: to do my best to fight the good fight, to run the race of salvation, by working as hard as I can, as fast as I can, for as long as I can, until the Lord calls me to pass the baton on to someone else. (II Timothy 4).

CURRICULUM VITAE

Very Reverend Michael G. Dahulich, Ph.D.
Dean of St. Tikhon's Seminary
Associate Professor of New Testament
Post Office Box 124
South Canaan, PA 18459

- Education:** Continuing Studies, Business, 2002
Villanova University
Villanova, Pennsylvania
- Ph. D., Theology, 1998
Duquesne University
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Dissertation: "A Comparative Study of 'Sobornost' and 'Reception by the Faithful'" (with highest honors)
- M. A., Theology, 1979
Duquesne University
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Thesis: "Historical, Cultural, Psychological and Theological Reasons for the Underdevelopment of a Systematic Moral Theology in the Orthodox Church" (with highest honors)
- B. A., Philosophy (summa cum laude), 1975
Saint Vincent College
Latrobe, Pennsylvania
- B. Th., Theology (summa cum laude), 1972
Christ the Saviour Seminary
Johnstown, Pennsylvania
- A.A.S., Liberal Arts (summa cum laude), 1969
Broome Community College
Binghamton, New York
- High School (summa cum laude), 1967
Binghamton Central High School
Binghamton, New York
- Ordination:** Holy Priesthood – February 4, 1973
Christ the Saviour Cathedral
Johnstown, Pennsylvania
His Grace, Bishop JOHN of Nyssa

Diaconate – February 3, 1973
St. Peter the Apostle Chapel
Johnstown, Pennsylvania
His Grace, Bishop JOHN of Nyssa

Pastorates: Holy Ghost Church 1985-2001
Phoenixville, Pennsylvania

SS. Peter and Paul Church 1973-1985
Homer City, Pennsylvania

Assignments:

Dean 2002-Present
St. Tikhon's Seminary South Canaan, Pennsylvania

Administrative Dean 2001-2002
St. Tikhon's Seminary South Canaan, Pennsylvania

Lecturer in New Testament 1993-Present
St. Tikhon's Seminary South Canaan, Pennsylvania

Vice-Chairman 1992-2001
Harvest 2000 Committee on Missions, Evangelization, Diocesan Growth

Dean 1991-2001 Parishes of the Mid-Atlantic Deanery

Study & Planning Commission 1991-1995
Standing Conference of Canonical Orthodox Bishops in the Americas

Ecumenical Commission 1985-2001
Standing Conference of Canonical Orthodox Bishops in the Americas

Secretary to the Bishop 1982-1985
American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese

Vice-Chancellor 1982-1985
American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese

Lecturer in Scripture 1981-1985 Duquesne University

Associate Editor 1976-1999 "The Church Messenger"
Religious Education Director 1976-1985 Johnstown Deanery

Professor of Scripture 1974-1985 Christ the Saviour Seminary

Prefect 1974-1978 Christ the Saviour Seminary

Elevations: Protopresbyter of Ecumenical Patriarchate, 1998
His Eminence, Metropolitan NICHOLAS of Amissos

Archpriest (with the title “Very Reverend”), 1982
His Grace, Bishop JOHN of Nyssa

Memberships:

Advisory Board of OCAMPR 2008-Present
Orthodox Christian Association of Medicine, Psychology and Religion

Board of Theological Education 2002-Present
Orthodox Church in America

OCA Representative 1998-Present
National Advisory Board of the American Bible Society

Member (and former National Secretary) 1995-Present
Orthodox Theological Society of America

Editorships: St. Tikhon’s Theological Journal 2003-Present St. Tikhon’s Seminary Press

By The Waters 2002-Present St. Tikhon’s Seminary Press

The Spirit of St. Tikhon’s 2002-Present St. Tikhon’s Seminary Press

The Tikhonaire 2001-Present St. Tikhon’s Seminary Press

Archbishop Herman -An Appreciation 1998
25th Anniversary of Episcopal Consecration, Diocese of Eastern PA

Come To Me 1985
Diocesan Prayer Book, American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese

Papers/Publications:

“Paul as Theologian” 2009
Seminary Celebrating the 2000th Anniversary of St. Paul’s Birth
Ecumenical Association of Northeastern Pennsylvania, Dalton, PA

“End of Life Issues – An Orthodox Perspective”
2008 OCAMPR Conference, Brookline, MA

“Religion: The Forgotten Right” New Jersey Law Center, October 2007

“The Hebrew Priesthood” The Orthodox Study Bible – The Old Testament

- “Canonization of a Monastic: How Bishop Raphael Was Made a Saint”
Alive in Christ (Winter 2004), pp. 24-30.
- “The Challenge of Stewardship” Alive in Christ (Winter 2003), pp. 7-9.
- “Sobornost” (A Monthly Column) The Orthodox Herald, 2002-Present
- “Sobornost: The Nature of the Orthodox Church” (Part II)
Alive in Christ (Spring 2002), pp.12-19.
- “Sobornost: The Nature of the Orthodox Church” (Part I)
Alive in Christ (Winter 2001), pp. 8-11.
- “Jesus Christ, the Son of the Sitka Madonna”
Alive in Christ (Summer 2001), pp. 6-8.
- “Uniting Our Church in This Country” Alive in Christ (Winter 2000), pp. 27-32.
- “The Scriptural Legacy of the Church Enshrined in the Writings of the Holy Fathers” Alive in Christ (Winter 1999), pp. 9-14.
- “Mission, Evangelism and Growth – The Sobering Facts”
Alive in Christ (Winter 1998), pp. 31-39.
- “A Modern-Day Saint and his Disciple - St. Silouan and Father Sophrony”
Alive in Christ (Winter 1997), pp. 55-61.
- “That You May Be Healed” Alive in Christ (Summer 1997), pp. 37-39.
- “Healing through Confession and Holy Communion”
Alive in Christ (Winter 1996), pp. 32-38.
- “For the Healing of Soul and Body” Alive in Christ (Summer 1996), pp. 9-13.
- “Church Renewal – ‘Behold, I Stand at the Door and Knock’”
Alive in Christ (Winter 1995), pp. 49-54.
- “The Unity of the Church: Biblical Foundations”
Alive in Christ (Winter 1994), pp. 55-59.
- “From Death to Life” Alive in Christ (Summer 1994), pp. 10-13.
- “The Apostolic Mission to America – Yesterday and Today”
Alive in Christ (Winter 1993), pp. 15-20.
- “The Orthodox Moment” Alive in Christ (Spring 1993), pp. 11-14.

“And the Word Became Flesh” Alive in Christ (Winter 1992), pp. 11-14.

“Harvest 2000 – A Plan for Mission, Evangelism and Diocesan Growth”
The Church Messenger, July 1992, pp. 5-8.

Retreats: Retreat on Marriage 2009
Wilkes-Barre Deanery, All Saints Church, Olyphant, PA

OCF Retreat 2009 Penn State University, State College, PA

Retreat on Marriage 2008 St. Michael Church, Louisville, KY

Retreat on Prayer 2007 St. Nicholas Church, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada

Clergy Retreat on Confession 2007 Antiochian Diocese of Los Angeles

Women’s Retreat 2006 Antiochian Village, Latrobe, PA

College Student Retreat 2006 OCF, Buffalo, NY

Lenten Retreats:

“The Orthodox Way of Life in a Post-Christian World” 2005
Canton, OH; Paramus, NJ; Williamsport, PA

Clergy Retreat – “Clergy Renewal” 2005
OCA Diocese of Chicago and the Mid-West

Clergy Retreat – “Orthodox Unity” 2005
OCA Diocese of New York-New Jersey

Diocesan Teen Retreat 2005
OCA Diocese of Philadelphia and Eastern PA

“The Passion of the Christ in the Gospels” 2004
Binghamton, NY; Pottstown, PA; Stroudsburg, PA

Diocesan Youth Retreat 2004
Indian Orthodox Church in America, Houston, TX

“Biblical Images of the Holy Land” 2003
Baltimore, MD; Pittsburgh, PA; Williamsport, PA

Diocesan Youth Retreat 2002 OCA Archdiocese of Pittsburgh and Western PA

Diocesan Altar Boy Retreats 2001-2006
OCA Diocese of Philadelphia and Eastern PA

Seminary Vocations Encounters 2000-Present
St. Tikhon's Seminary, South Canaan, PA

Advent Retreats:

“The Infancy Narratives” 2003
Bethlehem, PA; Harrisburg, PA; Philadelphia, PA

Diocesan Men's Retreats 2003-2008
OCA Diocese of Philadelphia and Eastern PA

Keynote Lectures:

“The Gospel of John, Chapter 6” 2009 St. John Church, Memphis, TN

“Sacrificial Giving”: Parish Life Conference 2009
Antiochian Diocese of Miami; Madison, MS

“Keeping the Hope of Salvation Alive” 2009 St. George Church, Toronto, Canada

Lectures on Scripture to Diocesan Youth 2009
Diocese of Eastern PA, Mount Pocono, PA

Lectures on Scripture to Indian Youth 2008 MGOCSM Centennial, Kerala, India

Lectures on Orthodox Hermeneutics 2008
St. Maximos the Confessor Institute, Recife, Brazil

“Hermeneutics and John's Gospel” (8 talks) 2008
Eagle River Institute, Eagle River, Alaska

“Theosis” Family Life Conference 2007 Indian Orthodox Diocese, Albany

“Vocations” Parish Life Conference 2007 Antiochian Diocese of Wichita

“Crisis in the Orthodox Church in America” 2006 Eastern PA Diocesan Assembly

“Crisis in the Orthodox Church in America” 2006 New England Diocesan Assembly

“College of Knowledge” 2006 St. Michael Church, Louisville, KY

“Theosis” 2005 Indian Orthodox Family and Youth Conference

“The Challenge of Stewardship” 2004 Eastern PA Diocesan Assembly

“God of the Bible and Allah of the Koran” 2003
Orthodox Peace Fellowship Conference

“Parish Renewal” 2002 Eastern PA Diocesan Assembly

“Harvest 2000 – A Plan for Mission, Evangelism and Diocesan Growth”
American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocesan Council-Sobor