

**NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY:
NOVEMBER 11, 2014
Endicott, NY**

JACOB'S WELL AND OTHER DIOCESAN MEDIA PROJECTS

Presented by Fr. John Shimchick

Jacob's Well
<http://nynjoca.org/jacobswell.html>

Recently, the Summer-Fall issue of *Jacob's Well* was published and distributed. Our goal each time is to develop the connection between a well as the place for learning and sharing information and Jacobs' Well as the New Testament place for an encounter with Jesus Christ. So, we always start with a particular theme, incorporate a review of Diocesan life, and include additional "Special Features" that explore contemporary concerns. In this issue we looked back in appreciation to the ministry and continued influence of Fr. Alexander Schmemmann — thirty years after his death.

Recently Bishop Michael approved the theme for our next issue, "*The Spiritual Discipline of Hospitality*." We are borrowing the topic from a recent podcast on **Ancient Faith Radio** by Fr. Barnabas Powell, "***Becoming a Welcoming Parish***." Delivered on September 14, 2014, this was the first in his series of call-in shows entitled, "*Faith Encouraged Live*." Fr. Barnabas and his guests, the leaders of Evangelization Departments within the OCA (Fr. John Parker), Greek, and Antiochian Archdioceses, discussed how a "spiritual discipline of hospitality," can enable a parish to be a welcoming place. We would like to explore how and where that is already taking place within our Diocese and what might be the barriers that are preventing both our own community members and those who visit from feeling welcome.

We have lately only been publishing one issue a year — but ironically, we have the funding to publish probably three! So, I ask you to consider submitting articles on parish life, interesting events and personalities, and reviews of materials. If we can gather enough by the end of the year, then another issue can be available in January!

Clergy Stories:
Gift and Grace: Stories of Orthodox Clergy and Their Wives
<http://nynjoca.org/interviews.html>

We value the ministry and experience of our senior clergy. Through audio and video interviews (thanks to a relationship with WHYY, the public broadcasting station in Philadelphia) we are assembling their stories.

We will continue to add other interviews, including lay people as well. Currently we have available:

- Fr. Sergius Glagolev (audio interview from 1989)
- Fr. Tom and Anne Hopko (audio interview, which was jointly produced with Ancient Faith Radio)
- Fr. Daniel and Dunia Hubiak (will appear shortly)
- Fr. Sergius and Faith Kuharsky
- Fr. John and Eugenia Nehrebecki
- Fr. Paul and Mary Shafran

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2014 Visit to Poland:

http://nynjoca.org/news_140916_1.html

Bishop Michael led a small delegation on a tour through primarily Eastern Poland into Slovakia, visiting Orthodox churches, monasteries, and the Pilgrimage to Grabarka. He also attended the enthronement of His Beatitude, Metropolitan Onufry, in Kiev, Ukraine.

Several articles are available and shortly a large display of pictures will be posted.

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Diocesan History:

Challenge and Response: The New York-New Jersey Diocese in Perspective

This history, with links to all our Diocesan parishes, is nearly complete and will be available soon.