

THE ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN HERALD

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE ROMANO BYZANTINE SYNOD OF THE ORTHODOX CATHOLIC CHURCH
PO Box 16201 • Duluth Minnesota 55806-1612

"Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you..." I saiah 43:1-2

CUBAN DIOCESE UNITES WITH SYNOD

[Cuba] The Orthodox Church of Cuba met at consistory in March 2000 and unanimously voted to be in full union with the Romano Byzantine Synod. The Diocese of Cuba has approximately 5,000 faithful being served by six parishes: Our Lady of the Ascension, Our Lady of the Presentation (Candelaria), Holy Christ and Saint Michael, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, St Jude Thaddeus, and St Stephen the Protomartyr Mission. These parishes are served by their clergy: Fathers Fernando Rey, Pedro Lemus, Manual Quintero, Rogel Rodriguez, Ricardo Salabarria, and Father Deacon Carlos Castaneda. Archbishop Ricardo Jose Roque Beltran is Ordinary of the Diocese, and he is assisted by Auxiliary Bishop Pedro Crespo Jimenez. With this addition to the Romano Byzantine Synod the current number of faithful throughout the world now exceeds 25,000. ✠



Archbishop Ricardo

PROVINCE OF ENGLAND



[Lancashire]
The Romano Byzantine Orthodox Catholic Church is now officially represented in England by Father Singleton Father George Leo Singleton MCSB, VG. Father Singleton was incardinated into the Synod in February 2000. He is now a member of the Monastic Community of St Basil and its Prior at St Mark's Cleft Hermitage, in Lancashire England. Plans for the Church in the United Kingdom are still being discussed, and additional information will be in forthcoming newsletters. ✠

COMPANIONS OF SAINT BASIL

[England] The Romano Byzantine Synod has a society which encompasses those who wish to be associated with a religious congregation. This is open to healers, counselors, lawyers, and other professionals and non-professionals. Members are referred to as "Companions" and allowed to use the acronym "CSB" after their names. The Moderator and Center for the Companions of Saint Basil is located in Lancashire England. Is God calling you to be closer to Him in your service to others? For additional information write to: St Mary's Church, 5907 Grand Avenue, Duluth Minnesota

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April – October 2000

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55807. This is primarily an ecumenically structured society open to men and women over the age of eighteen of the Christian Faith. Members receive a "Pilgrim's Cross" to be worn, Certificate, and Prayer Book. ✠

WORSHIP SHOULD APPEAL TO THE WHOLE PERSON

by Metropolitan Hierarch
Archbishop Stephen

From the beginning of the Christian Church, the apostles, and followers of our Lord, met in various places from catacombs to temples to give worship to the Blessed Trinity. The types of worship differed from place to place, and from priest to priest, but they all provided spiritual security to the person attending. In the Orthodox Christian Church today, as it was almost 2,000 years ago, Orthodox worship continues to provide spiritual security and peace of mind to its faithful. Through worship in the Orthodox Christian or Catholic Church, one will find that all five senses are pleased through the various

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ORDINATIONS AND RELIGIOUS CLOTHINGS

- ✦ Father David Bowler admitted to Monastic Community of St Basil on May 19, 2000.
- ✦ Father Roberto Cranshaw admitted to Monastic Community of St Basil on June 2, 2000.
- ✦ Subdeacon Timothy Aaron Kjera admitted to Monastic Community of St Basil on July 2, 2000.
- ✦ Bishop Lukas of Norfolk admitted to Monastic Community of St Basil on August 2, 2000.
- ✦ Father George Singleton admitted to Monastic Community of St Basil on May 2, 2000.
- ✦ Zafar Joseph ordained Deacon by Bishop Rufin Julius at Saint Paul's Church, Gujranwala Pakistan, on March 26, 2000.

APPOINTMENTS & ASSIGNMENTS

- ✦ Father David Bowler MCSB, Pastor of St Michael & All Angels Parish, Nottinghamshire England, effective June 10, 2000.
- ✦ Rev Fr Roberto Cranshaw MCSB JCD, Executive Director of the North American Canon Law Society, effective January 20, 2000.
- ✦ His Excellency Bishop Pedro (Crespo) named Ordinary of the Diocese of Cuba by the Metropolitanate on July 11, 2000.
- ✦ Father Thomas Dillon, Pastor of St Paul's Parish, Middletown NJ, effective March 1, 2000.
- ✦ Father Glenn Jensen, Pastor of St Luke's Parish, Paris TX, effective February 15, 2000.

- ✦ Father Patrick Lemming, Attached to St Mary the Theotokos Church, Duluth Minnesota, effective on May 10, 2000.
- ✦ Br Timothy Aaron Kjera MCSB, Synodal Moderator of the Commission on Religious Counseling & Healing, effective February 1, 2000.
- ✦ Subdeacon Timothy Aaron Kjera MCSB, Assistant at St Mary the Theotokos Church, Duluth MN, effective May 5, 2000.
- ✦ Rev Fr Basil Koch SSS, Vicar General of Archdiocese of the Americas, effective February 3, 2000.
- ✦ Reverend Peter Simbeye, Pastor of Ss Joachim & Anna Mission and St Timothy's Pro-Cathedral, Dar-es-Salaam Tanzania, effective May 20, 2000.
- ✦ Father George Singleton MCSB, Provincial Prior of Monastic Society of Sacred Sacrament, Society of Hermits of St Basil, in United Kingdom, effective March 9, 2000.
- ✦ Father George Singleton MCSB, Pastor of St Mark's Parish, Lancashire England, effective on June 4, 2000.

PROMULGATION OF NEW CANONS (STATUTES) & CANONICAL NORMS

- ✦ The Society of the Sacred Sacrament has been dissolved by the Metropolitanate and becomes effective on September 1, 2000.
- ✦ Celibate clergy may petition admission to the Monastic Community of Saint Basil.
- ✦ The Metropolitanate has decreed that the official liturgy of the Romano Byzantine Orthodox Catholic Church is the Divine Liturgy of Saint

James. Permission to use any other liturgy must be obtained from the Metropolitan See before doing so. The Liturgy of Saint Basil to be celebrated ten times per year on appointed days. The Presanctified Liturgy is used when appropriate, e.g., Good Friday.

APPROBATION FOR ISSUANCE OR DISSOLUTION OF CHARTERS

Dissolved

- ✦ St. Nicholas Parish, Independence Missouri, September 24, 1999.

Canonized and Chartered:

- ✦ St Basil the Great Seminary, Havana Cuba, June 23, 2000.
- ✦ The St. Mark's Cleft Hermitage, Accrington Lancashire England, March 17, 2000.
- ✦ Holy Cross of Jesus Parish, Iringa Tanzania, August 28, 2000.
- ✦ Ss Joachim & Anna Mission, Dar es Salaam Tanzania, May 20, 2000.
- ✦ Ss Joachim and Anna Parish, Mbeya Tanzania, January 1, 2000.
- ✦ St Mark Church, Lancashire England, June 4, 2000.
- ✦ St Mary the Theotokos Church, Duluth MN, June 1, 2000.
- ✦ St Michael and All Angels Church, Nottinghamshire England, June 10, 2000.
- ✦ St Michael the Archangel Parish, Norfolk VA, July 16, 2000.
- ✦ St Nicholas Romano Byzantine Institute, Mbeya Tanzania, March 1999.
- ✦ St Paul Parish, Middletown NJ, May 2, 2000.
- ✦ St Stephen the Protomartyr Church, Havana Cuba, May 15, 2000.

- ✦ St Stephen the Protomartyr Parish, Dodoma Tanzania, August 28, 2000.
- ✦ St Timothy's Pro-Cathedral, Dar-Es-Salaam Tanzania, August 30, 2000.
- ✦ Vicariate of Tanzania.

INCARDINATIONS

- ✦ The Orthodox Diocese of Cuba, Havana Cuba
- ✦ Father David Bowler, Nottinghamshire England
- ✦ Father Thomas Dillon, New York New York
- ✦ Reverend Peter Reward Simbeye
- ✦ Father Leo Singleton, Lancashire England
- ✦ Reverend Roberto Walsh (Pending)

DICIPLINARY ACTS

- ✦ Heather Murphy Pollard, Chiroprath, License Revocation on March 10, 2000, by Western Region Tribunal (Tacoma Washington).
- ✦ John Bliss suspended from pastoral duties effective March 1, 2000 by Archdiocese of the Americas.

COMPANIONS OF SAINT BASIL

- ✦ Patricia Anderson CSB, California
- ✦ Michael Houston CSB, Texas
- ✦ Irene Koch CSB, Washington
- ✦ Mary Romano Leason CSB, Washington

PRAY FOR THE ILL AND SUFFERING

- ✦ Archbishop Ricardo, Cuba
- ✦ Archbishop Metropolitan Stephen, Duluth Minnesota
- ✦ Connie Bravoco, New Jersey
- ✦ Hampton Bumgarner, Denver Colorado
- ✦ Father Roberto Cranshaw MCSB, California

- ✦ Father Michael Dickens, Walaku Hawaii
- ✦ Albert DiPietro DCh, LCh, Saratoga Springs New York
- ✦ Anna DiPietro, Saratoga Springs New York
- ✦ Father Basil Koch, Tacoma Washington
- ✦ Presbyter Irene Koch CSB, Tacoma Washington
- ✦ Janet Maus, LCh, Clinton Maryland
- ✦ Bishop Lukas Prieto MCSB, Norfolk Virginia
- ✦ Teresa Utz, Tennessee

PRAY FOR THE DECEASED

- ✦ Bishop George Erb of Ohio (June 2000)
- ✦ Dr Jack Nanney (July 2000) Commission Member 1990-1996
- ✦ Joseph Fellerer, February 22, 2000, infant son of Martin and Jericho Fellerer, Belgrade Montana.
- ✦ Please pray for all children who now rest in the peace of our Lord.

IMPORTANT NOTES

- ✦ His Grace, Most Reverend Pedro Crespo, Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Cuba, has notified the Metropolitanate of the failing health of Archbishop Ricardo, Ordinary of the Diocese of Cuba. His Eminence Archbishop Ricardo, before witnesses, requested that the Church consider naming Auxiliary Bishop Pedro the new Ordinary. The Metropolitanate has granted this request in lieu of the Archbishop's failing health. Bishop Pedro becomes the second to serve as Ordinary of the Cuban Diocese for the Synod. An official announcement appears in this issue of the Orthodox Christian Herald.

- ✦ The Archdiocese of The Americas has been divided into three geographical regions to serve the United States and Canada. These are the Eastern Region, Central Region, and the Western Region. The Central and South American territories form their own regions under the Archdiocese for now. Guatemala and Cuba are dioceses under the Archdiocese for now.



SAINT MARY THEOTOKOS CHURCH OPENS

[Minnesota] Saint Mary the Theotokos Church has officially opened its doors and is currently making itself ready for its first official Divine Liturgy scheduled for Sunday, October 1, 2000. The dedication will be scheduled for later in the year. St Mary's will also serve as Pro-Cathedral of the Archdiocese until a more suitable site is found. The Divine Liturgy of Saint James will be celebrated every Sunday at 10:30 A.M. at the church, which is located at 5907 Grand Avenue in Duluth Minnesota. The Service of Healing will be administered every Wednesday at 7:00 P.M. Most Reverend Archbishop Stephen is pastor and is assisted by Subdeacon Timothy Aaron Kjera, who is scheduled to be ordained

Deacon in October of this year. The phone number at the church is (218) 624-0202. ✕

ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL PARISH

[Virginia] It was announced by Auxiliary Bishop Lukas (Prieto), that he has approached St Stephen's Episcopal Church in Norfolk Virginia, and requested that he be allowed to use their sanctuary on a temporary basis to establish St Michael the Archangel Parish (Romano Byzantine). More information can be obtained by writing the rectory at 8115-1 Redmon Road, Norfolk VA 23518.

ST MARY THE THEOTOKOS MISSION OPEN

[Greece] It was announced by Dr Basil Gikas that the Romano Byzantine Mission of St Mary the Theotokos is now officially open in Nea Ionia Hellas (Greece). It will be located on property at his residence until other plans can be made. Dr Gikas joined the Synod in 1998. He is president of Hellenic Orthodox University in Athens Greece. Dr Gikas also advised the Metropolitanate that two other parishes are under consideration which will be built by benefactors if certain construction costs can be raised. ✕

ABBEY CANONIZED

[California] Our Lady of Solitude in Los Angeles California, has been canonized an Abbey by the Metropolitanate. Father Roberto Cranshaw MCSB, will be officially installed as Abbot when plans have been completed. The monastery will make and sell vinegar and various oils to help sustain itself. ✕

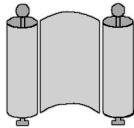
WEBSITE LAUNCHED

Although certain pages of the website are still under construction, you can now read about the Romano Byzantine

Synod, Commission on Religious Counseling and Healing, and other organizations online. You can reach our website at **RBSOCC.org**



PLACE YOUR AD HERE!



The Orthodox Christian Herald is accepting ad copies from clergy, parishes and Commission on Religious Counseling and Healing Members. Reach over 1,000 readers worldwide. All submissions subject to approval for content. For more information contact OCH/Editor, PO Box 16201, Duluth MN 55816.

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prayers, customs or ritual, and the guidance given by the priest.

Sight... One will see the beauty of God and His Creation through the various icons used to represent those who served God, and those who followed His Son. They give us a visual taste of heaven and all that is holy and pleasing to Almighty God. Even the priestly vestments remind us that he who leads worship to God must be properly attired, as in ancient times.

Smell... We are reminded of the fragrances which were brought to the birth of Christ by the Magi, and those which surrounded Christ's body in the tomb, by the incense used in liturgy. We are also reminded by the incense rising into the heavens that, like Abels' sacrifice, our prayers are being received by God.

Sound... Through the chants and prayers of the priest, and the hymns of the faithful, we are reminded of Holy Scripture since most prayers of the Church are biblically founded, or date back many years to the Early Church Fathers. We are called to remember the life of Christ, His Apostles, His Saints and Martyrs, and all those living and deceased in God.

Taste... We are reminded of what the Last Supper must have tasted like when we receive again the Body (Bread) and Blood (Wine) truly consecrated in Holy Liturgy.

Touch... We express our faith and love for God by the crossing of oneself, and the lighting of candles which calls to mind that Christ gives us light and warmth in life.

Truly the Orthodox Church has witnessed a great influx of not only lapsed church-goers over the last ten years, but also many new converts to the Orthodox Christian Church as well. Not well known are the facts that the Orthodox Catholic Church is the second largest Christian Church next to the Roman Catholic, although its combined numbers here in the United States, (Eastern Orthodox and Oriental Orthodox), is about 7 million and growing. The first missionaries to America were Russian Orthodox monks who Christianized Alaska. Also, no other Christian Church has given as many martyrs to the faith as has the Orthodox Christian Church. We hope this brief synopsis on the Orthodox Liturgy has helped you better understand our faith.



NEWS FROM AROUND THE CHURCH WORLD

MONASTIC COMMUNITIES MERGE

The Metropolitanate granted permission on May 1, 2000, to join the Monastic Society of the Sacred Sacrament to the Monastic Community of Saint Basil founded in Lancashire England. Very Reverend George Singleton MCSB will serve as the Abbot for the United Kingdom Province, assisted by Father David Bowler MCSB, and Father Roberto Cranshaw MCSB will oversee the work of the Community in the United States. Subdeacon Timothy Aaron Kjera MCSB has been asked to serve as Sub-Prior but the appointment is pending. In time, an Archabbot will be named who shall head all international affairs of the Monastic Community for the Metropolitanate.

DIOCESE OF IMO STATE NIGERIA

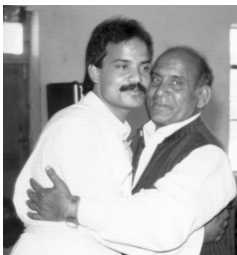
[Ezindo] The Most Reverend Samuel Akanwa has announced that his diocese has a new priest who formally was a catechist in the Roman Catholic Church. Father Raymond Onuoha joined the Diocese of Imo State Nigeria in 1995 where he was trained for service in the Orthodox Christian Church. He was ordained a deacon in 1997, and a priest in July of 1998. He currently serves the Diocese of West Africa in Nigeria. Father Onuoha plans to continue his education in Canon Law at Holy Family Seminary in Tacoma Washington.

NEW ORDINARY NAMED FOR DIOCESE OF CUBA

[Cuba] The Metropolitanate has named His Excellency Bishop Pedro as Ordinary of the Diocese of Cuba effective on July 11, 2000. Bishop Pedro replaces Archbishop Ricardo who is seriously ill in a Havana hospital and not expected to survive. Archbishop Ricardo becomes Ordinary Emeritus. Bishop Pedro will oversee the 5,000 faithful belonging to the Romano Byzantine Orthodox Catholic Church in Cuba. These members belong to one of seven parishes in the diocese served by ten priests and deacons, and assisted by several seminarians. Bishop Pedro will be officially enthroned by Metropolitan Hierarch Archbishop Stephen when he visits the Diocese of Cuba in 2001. The Church prays for the recovery of His Eminence Archbishop Ricardo, and for the episcopacy of His Excellency Bishop Pedro.

DIOCESE OF SPAIN

[Cordoba] His Excellency, The Most Reverend Cristobal (Roldan), reports that the Romano Byzantine Church is doing very well in Spain, and is growing. There are currently three parishes and a school, and an administration center. The Bishop is assisted by Father Miguel Moreno Martin of Theotokos Parish, and Father Rafael Gomez Gago of Divine Providence Parish. His Excellency is the pastor of St Mary Magdalene Cathedral Parish in Cordoba.



DEACON ORDAINED IN PAKISTAN

[Gujranwala] Most Reverend Rufin Julius ordained Joseph Zafar to the Holy Diaconate of the Romano Byzantine Orthodox Catholic Church at St Paul's Church on Sunday March 26, 2000. The ceremony was attended by over 250 faithful of the Church. Father Deacon Zafar will currently serve the Diocese of Pakistan until he comes to the United States to assist in various parish and parochial assignments later this year.

(Left: Newly ordained Deacon Joseph Zafar embraces his father)

DEATH: A BEGINNING-NOT AN END

By Archbishop Stephen

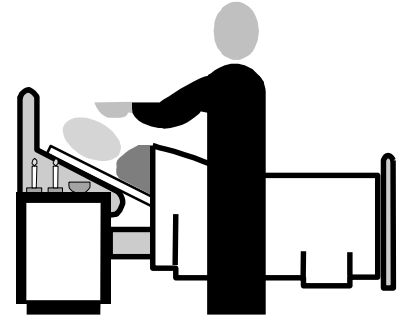
The Orthodox Christian Church has always maintained that death is nothing more than the passing from our temporal limited time on earth to our perpetual eternal reward. This is not an end to our existence, but one that will be full of joy and peace and closeness to God and His Saints - if we tried to live a good life on this earth. God is a very compassionate father who loves each of us equally and very much, and who wants the best for us both here on earth and in the hereafter. We see death as the natural process which causes us the loss of the body and passing of the last breath. The soul, however, for those who pass, returns to its Creator, Almighty God, and the soul then becomes one with Him for eternity. There is life after death because Christ Himself proved this to humankind when He died and

then rose from death.

“Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was; and the spirit shall return to God who gave it.” Ecclesiastes 12:7. It is true that the human body is a beautiful and well thought out creation of Almighty God. No science can duplicate this divine achievement. But it is only temporary. It was given to us as clothing for the soul while on earth much like designers create beautiful clothing to cover the body. The soul, because it is made in the image and likeness of Almighty God, never dies. Some “modern” theologians of other religious groups now teach that God will destroy those souls which have not honored Him, and that they will exist no more. This is contrary to the teachings of the Ancient Christian Fathers of the Church. Although the body will die, the soul shall be eternal and will return to its origin, to God!

“For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself.” Romans 14:7-9. We are not brought into this world alone but

are surrounded by many others. God never intended His creation to exist without companionship, and for this reason He created Eve for Adam. Even when Noah prepared for the flood, God told him to take two of every living creature. The same is true when we die, we will not pass into our new life alone, but will be reunited with loved ones and most especially, the saints who have gone before us. Eventually, we shall face the ultimate



sight after death, that of being in the warmth and presence of Almighty God. However, the journey to His Throne is not an easy one, but one filled with many rough stretches which we must overcome. Because we are born in original sin, and commit sins throughout our lives, it is important for each of us to pray and confess our sins each night asking for the forgiveness of our heavenly Father — God. Daily we must always try to do what is right, loving God above all else, and loving our neighbor as we wish to be loved. Only then have we prepared ourselves for such a journey no matter when it may come. ✠

SAINT SOPHIA

Every mother wins the “Mother of the Year” award in her own family, but if a vote were taken for the “Mother of the Thousand Years of the Byzantine Empire,” the unanimous choice would be a valiant woman named Sophia. She symbolizes motherhood in the purest sense, sanctifying the role all mothers play in the daily grind of raising a family, elevating the mothers of the world to a sacred level in the eyes of God and giving them their due recognition in the divine plan of the universe

When she married, she took leave of her parents to make a home of her own with the prayer that she would be blessed with children, a prayer which was answered. She

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**Grant that my ears be swift to hear
The cry of those in pain.
Give me good judgement to use words
That bring comfort and strength again.**

**Give to my eyes the power to see
The hidden source of ills.
Bestow to my hands the healing touch
The throbbing pains to still.**

**Fill thou my heart with kindness
My brain with wisdom true.
And when in weariness I sink,
Strengthen thou me anew.**

**And although at times I work against all odds
To exemplify your work, on old and tots,
May I waver not, for I know the strength
That guides my hands is... God's.**

Author Unknown

RUSSIAN SUCCESSION EXPLAINED

ROMANO BYZANTINE SYNOD
Svvo-Russian Succession

[Metropolitanate] Apostolic Succession is very important to all Roman and Orthodox Catholic Churches. It proves that the sacred orders imposed upon their clergy can be traced back through their bishop predecessors to one of the Holy Apostles and to Christ. It guarantees canonicity within these Churches. The Romano Byzantine Orthodox Catholic Church possesses two veins of Apostolic Succession: Syrian and Russian. The Russian Succession became a part of the Synod through (1) Archbishop Konstantin Nikolaevich (Wendland) who was consecrated by Patriarch Alexis (Serij Vladimorovich Simanskij



[1877-1970] of the Russian Orthodox Patriarchate of Moscow) on December 28, 1958, and named patriarchal exarch for the Russian Orthodox Church in America. On April 17, 1966, Archbishop Konstantin, assisted by Bishop Ivanchenko, at St Nicholas Cathedral in New York, consecrated (2) Archbishop Joseph John (Skureth), previously ordained in the Antiochene Orthodox Church, as Archbishop of the Orthodox Catholic Church of America. [3] Archbishop John Joseph, assisted by Bishop Blevins, at Holy Martyrs of Port Royal Cathedral in Gary Indiana, consecrated Bishop Joseph Gabriel (Sokolowski) on March 6, 1970 who later became Metropolitan Hierarch of the Romano Byzantine Synod. [4] Archbishop Joseph Gabriel, assisted by Bishops N Parr and J Rodriguez, at St Mary's Cathedral Chapel in LaPorte Indiana, on October 18, 1987, consecrated Bishop Stephen Robert (Thomas) who later became Metropolitan Hierarch of the Romano Byzantine Synod. This is how Apostolic Succession from the Russian Orthodox Church found its way into the Romano Byzantine Orthodox Catholic Church. ✕



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HOLY FAMILY COLLEGIATE SEMINARY RECEIVES EXEMPTION

[Washington] Holy Family Seminary in Tacoma Washington has received exemption from the Higher Education Coordinating Board, Degree Authorization Agency, of the State of Washington on March 22, 2000. The letter authorizing Holy Family Seminary to grant religious degrees was sent to Father Basil Koch, rector, by Ms Jane Battey, Associate Director. Holy Family Seminary has been the Archdiocesan Seminary since 1997. ✕

DOCTOR OF DIVINITY AWARDED

[Synod] The Doctor of Divinity Degree ("D.D."), Honoris Causa, has been awarded to the following clergy and religious practitioners for honorable service from the Romano Byzantine Synod: Dr Charles Hallquist (Lake Oswego OR); Dr Lori Hallquist (Lake Oswego OR); Bishop Rufin Julius (Gujranwala Pakistan); Bishop Lukas Prieto (Norfolk VA); Bishop Cristobal Roldan (Cordoba Spain); and Chorbishop John Marie Utz (Sevierville TN). ✕

ENCYCLOPEDIA OF ASSOCIATIONS

The North American Canon Law Society is now listed in this publication and standard guide to Associations, Societies, and other Nonprofit Organizations. You can order this publication from Gale Research, P.O. Box 9204, Farmington Hills MI 48333-9204; or by calling (248) 699-4253 or (800) 347-4253, or faxing (248) 699-8070. ✕

SUBDEACON TIMOTHY AARON KJERA TO BE ORDAINED DEACON

[Minnesota] Subdeacon Timothy Aaron Kjera MCSB will be ordained to the Holy Diaconate on Sunday, October 22, 2000, at 10:30 AM. The Ordination will take place at St Mary the Theotokos Church, 5907 Grand Avenue, Duluth Minnesota. He will be ordained by His Eminence Metropolitan Stephen. Refreshments will be served in the parish hall after the Divine Liturgy. Subdeacon Timothy has been preparing for the Sacred Priesthood since 1996. Recently he received his Bachelor of Canonical Jurisprudence from Holy Family Seminary. He is now studying for his Master of Divinity. He will continue to assist at Saint Mary's Church and the Metropolitanate. He is expected to be ordained Priest in the Fall of 2001. ✕

CHANGES ANNOUNCED BY METROPOLITANATE

[Minnesota] The Society of the Sacred Sacrament will be dissolved effective on September 1, 2000. Celibate members are being allowed to join the Monastic Community of Saint Basil. Married clergy will become diocesan. The Metropolitanate has approved the Ladies Society of Saint Irene which is open to women who wish to serve their parishes or other apostolates in a philanthropic manner. Parishes are encouraged to start chapters. More information will be available in the next issue of the Orthodox Christian Herald, or by writing to the Editor c/o Orthodox Christian Herald. ✕

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became the mother of six children, all of whom she loved deeply and none of whom lacked the religious fervor of their mother.

It was in her thirty-fourth year, when her happiness knew no bounds that her greatest joy turned to stark tragedy. A plague swept over the land and she watched helplessly as one by one her children died; followed by all of her loved ones, including her husband. In numbing grief she yearned to be stricken and join her family in death, but then her Christian faith asserted itself, reminding her that there was much she could do, not only for the Lord but in memory of her family.

She announced plans to dispense

her wealth among the poor, keeping enough to maintain her house, which she hoped would shelter underprivileged or orphaned children. In a span of twenty years, Sophia's house became a haven for the dispossessed of all ages. She actually adopted over one hundred children in this period, raising each of them as though it were her own child. She came to be known as the "Mother of Orphans," marveled at by other mothers of the empire whose burdens were made lighter when they compared their cares and worries to those of the woman who had the strength and grace to make her life worthwhile after suffering such a great loss.

One story that stands out as an example of her proximity to God is the one concerning the bottomless wine pitcher. Her hospitality extended to all corners, and when adults sought refuge in her house she customarily poured them a glass of rare vintage wine from a Grecian urn. She soon noticed that no matter how much she dispensed for her guests, the wine was always at the same level again. At first she presumed that someone had been surreptitiously refilling the urn, but she soon realized it was an unexplained phenomenon.

When Sophia was fifty-five years old, she revealed her secret to a parish priest, who accepted it as a miracle of the Lord and prevailed upon her to become a nun. He assured her that her proximity to God was unquestioned and that she was entitled to the serenity of a cloister. One year after she became a nun she died, and just a few years later she was proclaimed a saint, an honor that is usually several years in the making. Sophia is remembered by Church Fathers as one who had "God's Favor." ✕

*Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

Math. 5:10

COMMISSION NEWS

IMPORTANT NOTICE

COMMISSION NEWSLETTER

The Commission will now publish its own newsletter effective September 1, 2000. Those who wish to continue receiving the "Orthodox Christian Herald" may do so by subscribing to it. We hope that you are interested in what you have read in it. If you wish to subscribe, please see "Subscriptions and Classifieds" section. The Commission Newsletter will be free of charge to all licensed practitioners. The Orthodox Christian Herald will continue to announce new licensed members and Commission appointments, but no longer carry a Commission Section.

NEW PHONE NUMBERS FOR COMMISSION

The Commission on Religious Counseling and Healing has now been relocated to larger facilities in Duluth Minnesota. The new phone number at the Commission is (218) 624-0207. The new fax number is (218) 624-0240. The address has remained at PO Box 16201, Duluth MN 55816. Please make note of this change.

AWARDED DOCTOR OF CHIROPATHY - ROMANO BYZANTINE COLLEGE

Thomas S Dillon D.Ch. (04.16.00)
Charles Hallquist D.Ch. (02.13.00)
Lori Hallquist D.Ch. (02.13.00)
Janet N Maus D.Ch. (03.26.00)
Saul Pressman D.Ch. (04.02.00)
Sherri-Lee Pressman D.Ch. (04.02.00)

REINSTATEMENTS

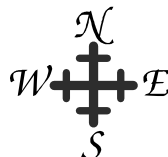
Francisco Bonites LCh, #1205
William Day LRC, #1168
Eugene C Dunn LCh, #1183
STATUS CHANGES

Sandra Dobiash from LRC to LCh (#1148)
Melodi Oray from LRC to LCh (#1142)
Sam Scott from LRC to LCh (#1140)

NEWLY LICENSED MEMBERS

Brainard Ackley LRC, #1179
Maureen Amen LRC, #1171
David Bole LRC, #1180
David M Brozovich LTH, #1186
Marie Cabak LRC, #1188
Stephen L Duncan LTH, #1178
Sherry Dupre LRC, #1176
Susan Fryer LTH, #1187
Maynard Good LRC, #1177
Jana Rae Green LCh, #1175
Lela Hash LRC, #1040
Michael Houston LRC, #1162
Jessica Jordan LRC, #1184
Sherrie Kreger, #1166
Kathleene Lane LRC, #1173
Dianna G Louie LTH, #1185
Billie S Lyde LTH, #1189
Janet Maus LCh, #1161
Stephen W Odell LRC, #1182
Wanda Peabody LRC, #1172
Mary Jo Rice LRC, #1174
Scott Robinson LRC, #1181
Sam Scott LCh, #1140

We are happy to see the membership increasing with chiropractors, dentists, nurses, and other alternative practitioners. Several of the above have also entered the chiroprathy challenge program. Please advise if your name was inadvertently omitted.



LICENSE REVOCATIONS

Heather Murphy Pollard (#1137)

CERTIFIED IN HOLISTIC HEALTH CENTER MANAGEMENT

Continuing Education Units
Awarded

Janet Angel DCh (7/00)
Camel Baker DCh (8/99)
Lindy Batis LRC (3/00)
Albert DiPietro DCh (7/99)
Sandra Dobiash BCh (8/99)
Sherri Dupre LTH (7/00)
Charles Hallquist DCh (2/00)
Lori Hallquist DCh (2/00)
Janet Maus DCh (3/00)
Melodi Oray BCh (7/99)
Saul Pressman BCh (8/99)
Sherri-Lee Pressman BCh (8/99)
Christine Spencer Smith (12/99)
Sharel Zacharias DCh (6/99)

NOTE: Those who did not complete this Continuing Education Units program are encouraged to do so by contacting the Commission at (218) 624-0202. Please advise of any errors or omissions concerning the above listings.

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