

Archdiocese of Pittsburgh and Western Pennsylvania Eastern Deanery Report, 2020

The **Eastern Deanery** consists of the following active parishes:

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| 1. Holy Ascension Church, Colver | |
| 2. SS. Peter & Paul Church, Altoona | V. Rev. Andrew Matychak, Rector |
| 3. Holy Assumption Church, Central City | |
| 4. SS. Peter & Paul Church, Pine Hill | Rev. Elijah Bremer, Rector |
| 5. Holy Trinity Church, State College | Rev. Ignatius Hunter, Acting Rector; Rev. David Smith, Associate Priest; PDn. Alexander Cadman, Assigned Protodeacon; Dn. Mark Oleynik, attached |
| 6. Chapel of the Holy Spirit, Beavertown | Rev. David Smith, Administrator |
| 7. Nativity of St. John Church, Philipsburg (Chester Hill) | <i>Administrated by the Dean</i> |
| 8. Nativity of the Virgin Mary Church, Osceola Mills | Archimandrite John-Jacob (Piruta), Rector |
| 9. St. Michael Church, Irvona | |
| 10. Nativity of the Theotokos Church, Madera | Igumen David (Lewis), Rector |
| 11. St. Michael Church, Portage | |
| 12. SS. Peter & Paul Church, Vintondale | V. Rev. Gregory Tsjouman, Rector |
| 13. St. John the Baptist Church, Johnstown (Conemaugh) | V. Rev. George Johnson, Rector |
| 14. St. John the Baptist Church, Black Lick (Blairsville) | <i>Administrated by the Dean</i> ; V. Rev. Andre Alexiev, Attached |
| 15. St. Nicholas Church, DuBois | V. Rev. Mark Meholick, Rector; V. Rev. John Steffaro, V. Rev. |
| 16. SS. Peter & Paul Church, Urey | Michael Simerick, V. Rev. John Horosky, Attached |

Notable events in the life of the Eastern Deanery includes the following: Holy Assumption Church in Central City celebrated their 100th anniversary; St. John the Baptist Church in Black Lick established "The Archbishop Job Memorial Scholarship Fund" to assist seminarians at St. Tikhon's Seminary, and commemorated the 10th anniversary of the falling asleep in the Lord of Archbishop Job of Chicago; With help from our Archdiocese, the Chapel of the Holy Spirit in Beavertown is being expanded with the addition of an altar area; Fr. Ignatius Hunter was assigned acting rector of Holy Trinity Church in State College; SS. Peter & Paul Church in Boswell had to be demolished because of structural damage caused by a fire several years ago; Fr. Michael Simerick was granted retirement as acting priest at St. John's Church in Philipsburg (Chester Hill); With the help of an interest free loan from our Archdioces, St. Nicholas parish in DuBois purchased the former St. Joseph Roman Catholic church at 301 S. State Street in DuBois for \$120,000. Space in the old church at 108 N. Third Street is being rented by Fr. Mark and Tom Stewart as an iconography studio and carpentry shop while the Sanctuary is retained as a chapel; Deanery parishes have continued aid to Fr. Parthenios Kulali of St. Andrew's Mission Center in Kenya. At present the funds we have been sending are being used for the construction of a new church building for St. John the Baptist Orthodox parish in Mumias, Kenya, which is also being served by Fr. Kulali. The Eastern Deanery has 16 active parishes served by 9 active priests, 3 retired priests, and 2 active Deacons.

Respectfully submitted by Archpriest Mark Meholick, *Dean*

29 September, 2020

