

REPORT OF THE DEAN OF THE SOUTHWEST DEANERY OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF
PITTSBURGH AND WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA – **November 5, 2022**

Officers:

Rev. Andrew Nelko: Dean

Deacon David Rostcheck: Treasurer

The parishes of the ***Southwest Deanery*** include:

Belle Vernon, PA, Holy Resurrection	Rev. Stephan Gresh, Rector
Canonsburg, PA, St. John the Baptist	Rev. John Kotalik Protodeacon John Oleynik Deacon Theodosius Onest
Charleroi, PA, Holy Trinity	V. Rev. Gregory Peterson, Rector
Donora, PA, St. Nicholas	VACANT Deacon Robert Motichak
Jeannette, PA, Ss. Cyril & Methodius	V. Rev. Michael Senyo
Mingo Junction, OH, St. Andrew	V. Rev. John Kopcha, Rector
Monessen, PA, St. John the Divine	VACANT Hieromonk Constantine (Curchin), Temporary Administrator
Monongahela, PA, Nativity of the Virgin	VACANT Deacon David Rostcheck
New Salem, PA, Holy Trinity	V. Rev. Vitaly Dudkin, Rector
Steubenville, OH, Holy Transfiguration	VACANT
West Brownsville, PA, Holy Resurrection	VACANT
Weirton, WV, St. Nicholas	Rev. Andrew Nelko (Dean)
Wolf Run, OH, All Saints	VACANT

We currently have **Six** parishes that are vacant out of a total of 13. As of now these parishes continue to be served by retired clergy and deacons periodically. When looking at the age of other clergy in our deanery, we could easily have several retirements over the next 5-10 years, if not sooner. As a deanery and diocese. we need to look at what are the plans for these parishes when this happens. Over this past year we also had a new vacancy as Fr. John Parker was transferred from St. Nicholas in Donora to St. John's in New Kensington. Monessen which is listed as vacant is currently being serviced by Hieromonk, Constantine Curchin. A major task of the dean has been to schedule services on Sundays for these vacant parishes and to find clergy to help service them in times of need. I have also been present at council meetings at several parishes during transitions and other times of need. A big thank you to those who help fill in and serve these parishes; V. Rev. Paul Suda, V. Rev. David Vernak, V. Rev. Michael Zahirsky, Rev. Michael Sochka, and V. Rev. Bob Prepelka from the Carpatho Diocese along with our Deacons: Motichak, Onest, Rostcheck, and Stahoviak,

As a dean, I am sad to say we have not got together as a deanery in some time. Schedules, new children, transfers, among other reasons, has slowed any work the past several years we had at working closer together as a deanery. This ultimately falls on me as the dean and I am trying to do a better job bringing the clergy together, even if it is just for brotherly comradery. My goal is to attempt to get together at least every quarter even if it is just to talk about what is going on in our parishes, both the good and bad.

Respectfully, submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Reverend Andrew P. Nelko".

Rev. Andrew P. Nelko
Dean of the Southwest Deanery