

~ AGENDA ~  
ANNUAL ARCHDIOCESAN ASSEMBLY  
ARCHDIOCESE OF PITTSBURGH AND  
WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA (OCA)  
1 NOVEMBER 2025  
 St. Alexander Nevsky Cathedral  
 Allison Park, PA

DIVINE LITURGY.....9:00 AM  
 CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST / REGISTRATION OF DELEGATES.....10:30 AM  
 PLENARY SESSION ONE.....11:15 AM

- Opening Prayer
- Credentials Report (Treasurer)
- Election: (2) Vice-Chairs: (1) Clergy and (1) Laity
- Election of (2) Secretaries: (1) Clergy and (1) Laity
- Review/Approval - Archdiocesan Assembly 2024 meeting minutes
- Report of the Hierarchy
- Report of the Chancellor
- Report of the Treasurer
- Archdiocesan Audit (External Audit / Internal Auditing Committee)
- Reports of the Deans:
  - \* Eastern Deanery
  - \* Northwest Deanery
  - \* Southwest Deanery
- Reports of Committees/ Programs/ Departments:
  - \* Archbishop Benjamin Scholarship Fund (with Treasurer Report)
  - \* Building and Grounds
  - \* Education

- \* "Light of Orthodoxy" publication
- \* Communication platforms - Website + Facebook
- \* FOCA Pittsburgh District - Governor
- \* Legacy Parish Assistance Program (LPAP)
- \* Metropolitan Council
- \* Sexual Abuse Prevention Policy Coordinator
- \* St. Cyril of White Lake Food Pantry
- \* Youth

MEAL BREAK.....1:00 PM

PLENARY SESSION TWO.....2:00 PM

- Unfinished Business
- New Business:
  - \* Budget
  - \* (Other items)
- Elections:
  - \* Archdiocesan Council - Eastern Deanery - Laity
  - \* Archdiocesan Council - Clergy at-Large
  - \* Archdiocesan Council - Laity-at-Large
  - \* Internal Auditing Committee (3)  
*(One-Year terms: (1) Clergy + (2) Laity)*
- Announcement of next Assembly date: **November 7, 2026**
- Closing comments
- Motion to adjourn
- Closing Assembly Prayer
- Archdiocesan Council Installation Prayer
- Vespers

## **Archdiocese of Pittsburgh and Western PA (OCA): Archdiocesan Assembly 2024**

The annual assembly of the Archdiocese of Pittsburgh was held on November 2, 2024, at Saint Alexander Nevsky Cathedral.

The assembly opened with the celebration of the Hierarchal Divine Liturgy with Archbishop Melchisedek presiding. His Eminence was co-served by the Chancellor, district Deans and Protodeacon John Oleynik.

The first plenary session was called to order by His Eminence at 11:30 am

Credentials: 1 Hierarchy; 24 Priests; 6 Deacons; 26 Parish Delegates; 4 Alternates; 4 Observers; 1 Retired Priest; 60 Voting Members ; 69 registered in attendance

Nominations: Clergy Chair: Priest Ignatius Hunter; Lay Chair: Ron Skvir; Clergy Sec. Archpriest Michael Senyo and Lay Sec. Deacon John Shultz were appointed by His Eminence

Previous Minutes: Distributed electronically prior to the assembly. Archpriest Alexander Cadman moved to accept without corrections or additions. Second: Michael Eckert. Minutes accepted.

Hierarchy's Report: His Eminence noted:

All communities have been visited at least once

Annual trip to Italy for Spirituality Conference

Intensifying efforts with OCF, with a new chapter organized at La Roche College

All American Council to be held in Phoenix, AZ , July 14-20

Did not attend the Assembly of Bishops meeting recently held in Atlanta, GA due to weather /travel concerns

Fall meeting of the OCA Synod of Bishops to be held in November in Virginia

The Archdiocese currently has two seminarians, with another in the application process

Marked growth in several parishes, thus increasing the general census numbers of the Archdiocese

Property and residence repairs and issues being addressed

Archpriest Thomas Soroka asked His Eminence regarding OCA participation in the so-called Assembly of Canonical Bishops headed by the Ecumenical Patriarch. Of particular concern is the continuous refusal to recognize the Autocephaly of our local church, the continued attempts to construct parallel diocesan structures, both in America in throughout the world. His Eminence replied that the concerns are real and are expressed. There are some advantages to continue involvement with this current manifestation of SCOBA, but fewer local Churches are participating.

Chancellor's Report: Report was electronically distributed. Father Chancellor Noted:

OCA department of Pastoral Life programs both for clergy and their Matushki. A substantial grant was obtained from the Lily Foundation for clergy assistance and pastoral care and to develop a long term program and fully time coordinator

Growth is being experienced in many of our communities, while several remain in severe financial distress. Our administration must deal with the reasonable closure of parishes, and the feasibility of monitoring these properties until a final disposition of these is attained. Canonical structures and procedures are in place to follow in the closure and consolidation of parishes. Costs are very high for insurance and maintenance of these structures.

Reviewed salary requirements for full-time clergy and guidelines for substitute clergy.

Youth program continues to be built up and strengthened.

Deanery Reports: Reports were previously distributed. Igumen Patrick moved to accept all reports as submitted. Second: Deacon Nicholas York

Treasurer's Report: previously distributed. Alexis Parshook explained extraordinary expenses: maintenance of the Residence and Center, installation of a generator, expenses related to the closed parishes in Charleroi and Monessen, parish fair share for AAC expenses. Deacon Nicholas York moved to accept the report as submitted. Second: Michael Eckert

Metropolitan Council: Priest John Parker reported on the agenda of the Metropolitan Council, and a renewed sense of good will and resolve to do the work of the Church. The Pension Board reported an increase in participation, more contributions are being generated, and the awakening of the markets is providing for a better financial picture.

Parish Development: Changes/Transition from Joseph Kormos to Archpriest John Mikita as Chair. Focus will be to encourage greater clergy involvement through fellowship, education and spiritual support.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: Budget for 2025 was presented by Alexis Parshook. Budgeted expenses amount to \$477,228. Motion to accept: Priest John Kotalik. Second: Archpriest Mark Meholic

Elections: Archdiocesan Council NW Deanery Lay: Deacon Nicholas York SW Deanery Lay: Michael Eckert (3 year terms) Metropolitan Council: Priest John Parker nominated for 3 year term by Priest Stephan Gresh Rebecca Danchenko nominated by Alexis Parshook. Internal Audit: Archpriest Elijah Bremer, Reader John Thompson, Paul Dille nominated by Greg Sidorick. Second: Protodeacon John Oleynik

Motion to Close: Priest Andrew Nelko Second: Greg Sidorick

Respectfully Submitted,

Archpriest Michael Senyo

Secretary

Dn. Dr. John Schultz

Secretary

THE MOST REV. MELCHISEDEK

Archbishop of Pittsburgh and W PA (OCA)

Archpriest William J. Evansky

Chancellor - Pittsburgh and W PA

# ANNUAL ASSEMBLY REPORT OF THE CHANCELLOR

## 1 NOVEMBER 2025

*Glory to Jesus Christ!*

I begin my 14<sup>TH</sup> annual report by reviewing the six broad areas of responsibility given me in my role as Chancellor of the Archdiocese of Pittsburgh and W PA. (Please note that the position of chancellor remains a part-time position - all this diocesan work is in addition to my responsibilities as full-time parish priest at the Holy Ghost Church in Ambridge.)

1. The ruling bishop assigns areas of responsibilities and scope of decision-making, but, in general, the ruling hierarch relies on his chancellor as a trusted assistant in the day-to-day administration of the diocese and holds him accountable in assigned areas.
2. The chancellor supports and/or guides the work of the various departments, projects, and committees.
3. The chancellor assists in the development and accomplishment of the diocesan goals, including such areas as budget and financial management.
4. The chancellor guides and/or supervises the work of the other members of the diocesan administration.
5. The chancellor serves as a voting member of the Archdiocesan Council and is responsible for planning the Council's meetings and later for implementation of the Council's decisions in cooperation with other members of the diocesan administration, committee chairs, etc.
6. The chancellor represents the ruling hierarch in religious and spiritual activities and acts with the blessing of the hierarch in his absence in dealing authoritatively with clergy/laity of the diocese as well as inter-Orthodox relationships and relationships with other religious bodies and laity organizations.

Here is a review of some selected tasks/activities done as chancellor since our 2024 Assembly:

- ~ Frequent contact with ruling hierarch concerning diocesan administration
- ~ Preparations for Archdiocesan Council meetings (i.e., agenda/ compilation of needed reports/ meeting notifications, etc.) as well numerous meetings of subcommittees
- ~ Meetings with investment firms concerning diocesan investment accounts
- ~ Coordination of the hierarch's archpastoral visitations, meetings calendar, and transportation needs
- ~ Frequent communications with the deans + meetings of the Deans' Council at the Chancery
- ~ Frequent communications with OCA Chancery staff, administrations of other Orthodox jurisdictions, and other O.C.A. dioceses concerning common administrative matters
- ~ Numerous meetings/ emails/ phone calls with clergy and laity concerning problems, requests for assistance, transfers, conflicts, etc. in diocesan parishes
- ~ Frequent communication with Building & Grounds Chair Jack Bonifati
- ~ Frequent updates concerning the diocese to the clergy/laity leaders group email list
- ~ Communications with Archpriest Alexander Cadman, Sexual Abuse Prevention Policy Coordinator, + contacts with local priests & laity concerning policy implementation
- ~ Worked with Amber Ashmore and Barry Migyanko to update the diocesan web site and diocesan Facebook page as info becomes available
- ~ Regular chancery administrative duties (done at least once a week at the chancery office and at my Ambridge parish office remotely during the remainder of each week) – worked with Administrative Assistant Omelan Mycyk and Archdiocesan Treasurer Alexi Parshook frequently
- ~ Provided personal car transportation for the archbishop when other modes weren't available
- ~ Budget preparation process coordinated with archbishop, treasurer, and budget committee

~ Monitored the status of the five-year-old Legacy Parish Assistance Program (LPAP)  
 (NOTE: Now beginning the sixth and final year; LPAP to be reviewed with the goal of future implementation to be planned during 2026)

~ Planned March diocesan retreat led by Archpriest Victor Gorodenchuk in conjunction with the Allison Park Cathedral, Fr. John Mikita, Fr. David Vernak, and laity leaders

~ Officiated along with the Deans at the annual diocesan Lenten Vespers service at Allison Park

~ Communicated with our four diocesan seminarians (Dn. Evan Ashmore / Alex Listvinsky / Matthew Emerson / Andrew Barrertt) for updates

~ Visits and communications with several ailing diocesan clergy

~ Concelebrated at the funeral services for +Archpriest Alexander Poshyvajlo. +MEMORY ETERNAL!+

~ Concelebrated at the funeral services for +Matushka Suzanne Senyo. +MEMORY ETERNAL!+

~ Concelebrated at the funeral services for +Matushka Sophie Daniels. +MEMORY ETERNAL!+

~ Numerous meetings with the Youth Committee (virtual and at Camp Nazareth, Mercer, PA)

~ Attended meetings of the Christian Associates of W PA Board of Trustees with the archbishop - including the planning of a CASP retreat at the Holy Transfiguration Monastery in Ellwood City hosted by the archbishop

~ Conducted a meeting of the Northwest Deanery parish priests + hosted a deanery Lenten Vespers at the Ambridge parish

~ Attended the Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood of Greater Pittsburgh Pan-Orthodox Lenten Vespers with the archbishop in Mt. Lebanon at Holy Cross Church

~ Phone calls and emails to coordinate planning with the OCA Department of Pastoral Life for program implementation

~ Numerous visits, phone calls, and emails concerning inactive diocesan parishes problems - also formed and met several times with an Archdiocesan Council ad hoc subcommittee to plan strategically for future action dealing with both current and potential crises in parishes

~ Attended the OCA All-American Council in Phoenix and concelebrated at the main Synodal Liturgy

~ Planned and concelebrated at the Liturgy in Canonsburg for the diaconal ordination of Deacon John Thompson. +AXIOS!

~ Planned and concelebrated at the Liturgy in State College for the diaconal ordination of Deacon Evan Ashmore. +AXIOS!+

~ Concelebrated at the Black Lick parish's Liturgy commemorating the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the repose of +Archbishop JOB of blessed memory. +MEMORY ETERNAL!+

~ Helped plan/execute (along with Frs. Gresh - Mikita - A.P. Nelko) the two-day Archdiocesan clergy retreat with Bishop GERASIM for the priests and deacons at Antiochian Village, Bolivar, PA (Liturgy - Main Celebrant - as well)

~ Attended the (first ever) Archdiocesan Family Retreat at Camp Nazareth (Mercer, PA) - also officiated at a divine service in the absence of the hierarch who was traveling away from the diocese for an OCA bishop ordination

~ Attended the celebration honoring the 25<sup>th</sup> Priesthood Ordination Anniversary of Archpriest Thomas Soroka in McKees Rocks +MANY YEARS+

~ Hosted the Anglican Church of North America's Bishops Conference for a church service and reception at the Holy Ghost parish in Ambridge on behalf of our hierarch who was hosting (along with St. Tikhon's Seminary Dean Archpriest John Parker)

~ Concelebrated at the Southside-Pittsburgh parish Liturgy honoring Protodeacon Joseph Balkunowa on his 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Diaconal Ordination. +MANY YEARS!+

~ Concelebrated at the St. Alexander Nevsky Cathedral (Allison Park) Liturgy honoring Archpriest David Vernak on his 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Priesthood Ordination. +MANY YEARS!+

~ Attended the Canonsburg parish Memorial Service and subsequent program/reception in commemoration of the 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Repose of +His Beatitude, Metropolitan THEODOSIUS. +MEMORY ETERNAL+

An overview of the Archdiocese: we currently have officially 41 parishes configured into three geographical deaneries - Eastern Deanery (17 parishes); Northwest Deanery (11 parishes); Southwest Deanery (13 parishes). Thirty-seven of the 41 parishes are considered “active” (at least minimally!) with full-time priests, part-time priests, or services routinely conducted by visiting priests or deacons. Two of the 41 parishes (Duquesne and Patton) are completely “inactive” spiritually and financially since they currently do not have any parish services or activities. Two other parishes (Charleroi and Monessen) are considered “inactive”, but an occasional service is done at those locations. Some statistical perspective: eleven of our Archdiocesan parishes are without an officially assigned OCA priest [i.e., *Amsterdam (Wolf Run), Blairsville (Black Lick), Charleroi, Curtisville, Donora, Mingo Junction, Monessen, Monongahela, Philipsburg, Steubenville, and West Brownsville*] although there is always the possibility that priests’ appointments/ transfers/ parishes merging/closing may decrease that number. These parishes are serviced on behalf of the hierarch by the Chancellor, local Dean, assigned deanery priests, retired diocesan priests, non-OCA priests, diocesan deacons, or local reader service.

There are currently 38 priests officially under the omophorion of Archbishop MELCHISEDEK – 25 on “active” service (with varying types of assignments) and 13 priests officially “retired.” A change since last year was the repose of long-time Curtisville parish priest +Apr. Alexander Poshyjvalo. There are 18 diocesan deacons attached/assigned by the hierarch to the various parishes within our boundaries. (Dn. Ashmore is not included in this number since he is attached to St. Tikhon’s Seminary until his 2026 graduation.) The list of diocesan deacons now also includes Dn. John Thompson who was ordained to the Holy Diaconate by His Eminence in the Canonsburg parish in February 2025. He is now attached to that parish. Total number of OCA-Archdiocese of PGH and W PA clergy is therefore “56.” The latest available official adult census membership for the Archdiocese is “1,708” - - this compares to “1,756” last year.

The area Dean, working in concert with the Chancellor, becomes responsible for parishes spiritually and administratively on behalf of the hierarch when no priest is assigned, assisted by other priests and deacons as the local Dean and/or Chancellor assign. The Deans work closely with the Chancellor concerning the scheduling of clergy to service these vacant parishes. The large number of vacancies spread far apart geographically causes much difficulty, but we DO strive to service these parishes equitably. This task becomes more difficult when clergy vacations start to multiply during the summer months for additional parishes. Fr. Mark Meholick is Dean of the Eastern Deanery while Fr. Andrew P. Nelko is Dean of the Southwest Deanery. In addition to my duties as Chancellor, I also function as Dean of the Northwest Deanery - with Fr. Thomas Soroka as Associate Dean. Father Deans - - THANK YOU - you ARE appreciated!

### ITEMS OF NOTE

1. **PARISH PRIESTS SALARIES:** the diocesan hierarch expects each of the diocesan parishes to enact a minimum **cost-of-living adjustment** for the salaries of our parish priests effective January 1, 2026, to be *no less than 3%*. NOTE! Each parish is urged to *exceed this 3% level* if possible - - we must continue to increase the base salaries of the diocesan clergy after years of lagging behind what is offered by other OCA dioceses as well as other Pittsburgh area Orthodox jurisdictions. It is therefore difficult to attract - and keep – quality clergy in the Archdiocese. Parishes with questions about the level of clergy support required nationally within the OCA should consult the page dealing with the subject of clergy compensation at [www.oca.org](http://www.oca.org). These O.C.A. standards of compensation are what parishes with vacancies should strive to provide as new priests are assigned by the hierarch in the Archdiocese.

2. **SUBSTITUTE CLERGY HONORARIA:** Honoraria in the Archdiocese will continue unchanged in 2026 - *substitute priests* celebrating Sunday Liturgies should receive *no less* than \$225 *plus round-trip vehicle mileage* per the I.R.S. rate in effect on that date from the parish utilizing his services. (The diocese is currently using \$.70 per mile reimbursement, although that may be adjusted early in 2026 - I will send an official notification email if this changes.) Overnight lodging and miscellaneous expenses as they arise should be discussed and agreed upon in advance. *Deacons* substituting on Sundays in our parishes should receive *no less* than \$175 *plus round-trip mileage*. Honoraria for other weekday services or special services can be discussed separately should they arise. Please contact your local Dean, or me, should questions arise about these stipends. (Parishes are encouraged to exceed these figures if financially possible.)

Reminder: Clergy substitutes in our parishes are coordinated through the local Dean – NOT arranged independently by the parish laity or the parish priest without the knowledge of the Dean. Any parish priest who will be absent on a Sunday from his parish assignment must notify the dean as far in advance as possible- - this includes vacations, health issues, etc. Also, any parish that is forced to forego a Sunday Liturgy due to inclement weather should notify the local Dean, so he is aware of this cancellation. This helps make the assignment of clergy much more orderly and avoids conflicts. A priest should contact the Chancellor should he not be able to reach the Dean for some reason in such situations.

**ADDITIONAL NOTES:**

1. I am VERY happy to acknowledge the successful **DIOCESAN FAMILY RETREAT** this past August at Camp Nazareth (Mercer, PA). The Youth Committee, along with our recently added Retreat Coordinator Kyra Mathewson, did an OUTSTANDING job for us! THANKS!


2. A major success in 2025 was the addition of the two-day **CLERGY RETREAT** at Antiochian Village. This event was nicely attended by our priests and deacons with positive “vibes” palpable in the services, lectures, and social time. We WILL plan on doing this again! I sincerely thank Frs. Mikita - Gresh - A.P. Nelko who helped plan/execute this event alongside me - BRAVO!

3. The problem of **INACTIVE or CLOSING PARISHES** is an ongoing issue that we will continue to deal with in the coming year since it is sure to multiply as we view the diocesan demographics. I am pleased with the work by the Archdiocesan Council’s special ad hoc Committee that is planning in conjunction with the hierarch, the treasurer, and me to establish a formal, orderly procedure to handle these situations as they arise. Yes, this is truly a sensitive issue ... but one that CANNOT be ignored for the sake of our diocese with the hope it will “just go away!”

**FINALLY:**

I thank our hierarch, the clergy, and the laity of this God-protected diocese for the support during the past year. I also thank Treasurer Alexis Parshook who has labored “extra hard” alongside me dealing with some particularly “thorny” issues. *Let us labor together in 2026 for our Lord!*

In Christ,

  
Archpriest William J. Evansky  
Chancellor - Archdiocese of Pittsburgh and Western PA (OCA)

Account	2025 Actual (Through Sept 2025)	2024 Actual (Through Sept 2024)	2025 Budget (Through Sept 2025)	Prior Variance	Budget Variance
<b>Income</b>					
Parish Assessments	187,620	181,145	182,425	6,475	5,195
Total Other Income	52,637	12,303	55,425	40,334	(2,788)
<b>Income from Operations</b>	<b>240,257</b>	<b>193,448</b>	<b>237,850</b>	<b>46,809</b>	<b>2,407</b>
Income withdrawn from Endowment	123,000	151,000	78,905	(28,000)	44,095
Diocese of Alaska Withdrawal	20,000	20,000	20,000	-	-
ABp Benjamin Sch Investment Income	12,000	8,000	12,000	4,000	-
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>395,257</b>	<b>372,448</b>	<b>348,755</b>	<b>22,809</b>	<b>46,502</b>

<b>Expenses</b>					
<b>Stipends and Benefits</b>	<b>94,978</b>	<b>94,284</b>	<b>97,651</b>	<b>694</b>	<b>(2,673)</b>
<b>Other Administration Expenses</b>	<b>46,712</b>	<b>34,077</b>	<b>35,438</b>	<b>12,635</b>	<b>11,275</b>
<b>Total Administration</b>	<b>141,690</b>	<b>128,362</b>	<b>133,088</b>	<b>13,328</b>	<b>8,602</b>
Archdiocesan Center	75,296	61,995	59,925	13,301	15,371
Charitable Grants / Gifts	28,173	39,500	30,500	(11,327)	(2,327)
Education	29,619	38,124	31,500	(8,505)	(1,881)
Special Events	23,998	1,882	28,775	22,116	(4,777)
<b>OCA</b>					
Metropolitan Council	-	471	1,500	(471)	(1,500)
OCA Funding (Fair share)	65,008	66,609	65,008	(1,601)	(0)
<b>Total OCA</b>	<b>65,008</b>	<b>67,080</b>	<b>66,508</b>	<b>(2,072)</b>	<b>(1,500)</b>

<b>Misc. Property</b>					
Patton	137	161	3,750	(24)	(3,614)
Monessen	6,555	5,790	10,500	765	(3,945)
Other	2,661	-	-	2,661	2,661
Charleroi	24,256	18,254	18,000	6,002	6,256
<b>Total Misc. Property</b>	<b>33,608</b>	<b>24,205</b>	<b>32,250</b>	<b>9,404</b>	<b>1,358</b>

<b>Total ADWPA Expenses</b>	<b>397,392</b>	<b>361,148</b>	<b>382,546</b>	<b>36,244</b>	<b>14,846</b>
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<b>Net Income / (Loss)</b>	<b>(2,135)</b>	<b>11,300</b>	<b>(33,791)</b>	<b>(13,435)</b>	<b>31,656</b>
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Account Balances	9/30/2025	6/30/2025	3/31/2025	1/1/2025
PNC	51,053	36,464	25,185	26,565
BPU	1,526,411	1,548,012	1,459,689	1,476,380
FNB	1,528,948	1,477,323	1,447,290	1,449,664
LCBA	106,555	105,366	104,216	103,091
ABp Benjamin Sch. Fund	165,820	147,119	140,910	153,487

Account	2024 Actual (Through Dec 2024)	2023 Actual (Through Dec 2023)	2024 Budget (Through Dec 2024)	Prior Variance	Budget Variance
<b>Income</b>					
Parish Assessments	236,906	228,557	235,000	8,349	1,906
Total Other Income	19,284	127,409	13,450	(108,124)	5,834
<b>Income from Operations</b>	<b>256,190</b>	<b>355,966</b>	<b>248,450</b>	<b>(99,775)</b>	<b>7,740</b>
Income withdrawn from Endowment	176,000	139,716	105,207	36,284	70,793
Diocese of Alaska Withdrawal	20,000	-	20,000	20,000	-
ABp Benjamin Sch Investment Income	8,000	4,000	11,758	4,000	(3,758)
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>460,190</b>	<b>499,682</b>	<b>385,415</b>	<b>(39,492)</b>	<b>74,775</b>

<b>Expenses</b>					
<b>Administration</b>					
Episcopal Stipend / Benefits	65,989	61,798	63,347	4,192	2,642
Other Stipends / Benefits	59,182	55,867	58,739	3,315	443
Other Administration Expenses	42,410	68,879	46,400	(26,469)	(3,990)
<b>Total Administration</b>	<b>167,581</b>	<b>186,543</b>	<b>168,486</b>	<b>(18,962)</b>	<b>(905)</b>
Archdiocesan Center	74,588	95,978	64,050	(21,390)	10,538
Charitable Grants / Gifts	43,500	37,712	32,000	5,788	11,500
Education	46,380	33,899	41,500	12,481	4,880
Special Events	1,882	1,764	500	118	1,382
<b>OCA</b>					
Metropolitan Council	932	625	2,000	308	(1,068)
OCA Funding (Fair share)	88,812	96,985	88,812	(8,173)	-
<b>Total OCA</b>	<b>89,744</b>	<b>97,610</b>	<b>90,812</b>	<b>(7,865)</b>	<b>(1,068)</b>
<b>Other Property</b>					
Holy Spirit Church Mortgage	-	20,060	-	(20,060)	-
Patton	219	268	3,000	(49)	(2,781)
Ellwood City Cemetery	-	-	-	-	-
DuBois Loan	-	-	-	-	-
Monessen	7,737	16,174	15,000	(8,437)	(7,263)
Duquesne	-	500	-	(500)	-
Charleroi	21,322	-	7,000	21,322	14,322
<b>Total Other Property</b>	<b>29,277</b>	<b>37,002</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>(7,725)</b>	<b>4,277</b>

<b>Total ADWPA Expenses</b>	<b>452,953</b>	<b>510,508</b>	<b>422,348</b>	<b>(57,555)</b>	<b>30,605</b>
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<b>Net Income / (Loss)</b>	<b>7,237</b>	<b>(10,826)</b>	<b>(36,933)</b>	<b>18,063</b>	<b>44,170</b>
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Account Balances	12/31/2024	9/30/2024	6/30/2024	3/31/2024	1/1/2024
PNC	26,565	39,958	69,859	30,990	14,306
BPU	1,476,380	1,534,208	1,482,910	1,513,344	1,468,916
FNB	1,449,664	1,451,458	1,393,805	1,430,319	1,383,928
LCBA	103,066	101,954	100,829	99,730	98,645
ABp Benjamin Sch. Fund	153,487	156,787	154,979	158,684	146,057

## Notes to FY2024 Treasurer Report

### Other Income

- \$10,200 received in loan repayments
- \$1,405 collected for Diocese of Alaska assistance at Archdiocesan Lenten Vespers

### Investment Withdrawal

- Withdrew \$176,000 from Archdiocesan Endowment to aid in covering FY24 expenses.
- Withdrew additional \$20,000 to donate to Diocese of Alaska.
- Withdrew \$8,000 from ABp Benjamin fund to cover seminarian scholarships (\$4K/seminarian).

### Other Administration

- FY2023 expenses were high due to anonymous donor using the diocese as a pass-through entity for \$13,250 donation to LPAP parish.

### Archdiocesan Center

- \$13,700 paid to Jessen Tree Service for clean-up and removal of downed trees from July windstorm.
- FY2023 expenses were high due to bathroom remodel, purchase of a generator, and installation of foam insulation.

### Charitable Grants/Gifts

- \$21,500 given to Diocese of Alaska for Clergy Stipend Fund.
- \$5,000 given to St. Theodosius Cathedral in Cleveland, OH, to aid in fire damage restoration.

### Bishop Discretionary

- \$12,000 for clergy assistance

### Education

- \$8,395 for retreats led by Steven Christoforou and Kh. Frederica Mathewes-Green
- Seminarian scholarships distributed to 2 diocesan seminarians, \$2K/seminarian/semester

### Monessen Property Expense

- \$5,791 for utilities

### Charleroi Property Expense

- \$5,485 for property insurance
- \$9,039 for utilities
- \$2,901 for property taxes

## Notes to FY2025 Treasurer Report

### Other Income

- \$23,938 collected for AAC25 assessments
- \$16,273 received from cashed-out CD from closed Holy Trinity parish in Ellwood City. These funds were added to the ABp Benjamin Scholarship Fund.
- \$7,650 received in loan repayments
- \$946 collected for Diocese of Alaska assistance at Archdiocesan Lenten Vespers

### Investment Withdrawal

- Withdrew \$123,000 from Archdiocesan Endowment to aid in covering FY25 expenses and anticipate withdrawing an additional \$25K before the end of the year.
- Withdrew additional \$20,000 to donate to Diocese of Alaska.
- Withdrew \$12,000 from ABp Benjamin fund to help cover seminarian scholarships

### Other Administration

- \$6,700 in external diocesan travel for attendance at Episcopal Consecration of Bishop Vasily (DOW)
- \$1,800 for webmaster and social media manager stipends

### Archdiocesan Center

- \$24,360 paid to Clair Boring Painting for painting of Chancery exterior, including all railings and trim

### Charitable Grants/Gifts

- \$21,000 given to Diocese of Alaska for Clergy Stipend Fund.

### Education

- Seminarian scholarships distributed to 4 diocesan seminarians, \$3K/seminarian/semester

### Monessen Property Expense

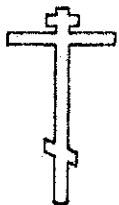
- \$6,555 for utilities

### Charleroi Property Expense

- \$9,261 for utilities
- \$7,380 for electrical work
- \$4,743 for property insurance
- \$2,593 for property taxes
- \$280 for grass cutting

### Other Misc. Property

- \$2,661 in legal fees



The Orthodox Churches of Somerset County  
Holy Assumption Orthodox Church  
629 Sunshine Avenue • Central City, Pa. 15926  
www.saintmarysocacc.org

1 November 2025

The Archdiocese of Pittsburgh & Western Pa.  
Attn: Archdiocesan Assembly  
Post Office Box 1769  
Cranberry Township, Pa. 16066-1769

RE: Archdiocesan Audit, 2024

Your Eminence, Very and Reverend Fathers, & Assembled Faithful:

Master, Bless!

Glory To Jesus Christ!

It is the pleasure of the Internal Auditing Committee to state that no issues were found with the external audit prepared by W. T. Grimm & Associates, and that the Archdiocese of Pittsburgh and Western Pennsylvania was issued an unqualified (clean) opinion.

As all accounting practices are in accordance with accepted professional standards, and show no irregularities, it is the advice of this committee to accept the audit as received from W.T. Grimm.

Sincerely in Christ,

The Archdiocesan Auditing Committee

V. Rev. Elijah J. Bremer  
Clergy Representative

Mr. Paul Dille  
Representative

Rev. Fr. Deacon John Thompson  
Representative

## **Archdiocese of Pittsburgh and Western Pennsylvania Eastern Deanery Report, 2025**

The Eastern Deanery consists of the following active parishes:

1. Holy Ascension Church, Colver
2. SS. Peter & Paul Church, Altoona                      Administrated by the Dean
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, Rector; Rev. David Smith, Associate Priest; ProtoDn. Mark Oleynik, attached
6. Chapel of the Holy Spirit, Beavertown                      Rev. David Smith, Administrator
7. Nativity of St. John Church, Philipsburg (Chester Hill)      *Administrated by the Dean with assistance by Archimandrite John-Jacob (Piruta).*
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                      V. Rev. Alexander Cadman, 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)      *Administrated by the Dean; Hieromonk Alexei (Alexiev) Attached*
15. St. Nicholas Church, DuBois                      V. Rev. Mark Meholick, Rector
16. SS. Peter & Paul Church, Urey

Some notable events in the life of the Eastern Deanery include the following:

Subdeacon Evan Ashmore was ordained to the Holy Diaconate at the Holy Trinity Church, State College, on May 3, 2025, by His Eminence, Archbishop MELCHISEDEK. He continues his studies at St. Tikhon's Seminary.

More than 60 people came together to celebrate the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul at our annual Orthodox Family Picnic at Curwensville Lake. It was a beautiful day filled with delicious food, joyful fellowship, and fun activities for all ages. St. Michael Church, Irvona and Nativity of the Theotokos Orthodox Church, Madera, hosted this event.

There were three Baptisms and Chrismations and a Wedding at St. Nicholas Church in DuBois this past year. Online classes are held most Wednesday evenings for the growing number of catechumens and seekers. Pascha and Christmas bake sales, a rummage sale and a dinner-dance in February among other activities were held in the parish hall.

There was one funeral at Sts. Peter & Paul Church in Urey, and three burials at the Cemetery. We also have some catechumens and seekers who attend when there are Services there.

Respectfully submitted by Archpriest Mark Meholick, *Dean*

3 October, 2025

Church of the Holy Spirit Archdiocesan Report  
1 November 2025

- Since our transition from being a dependent “child” of HTOC to independent, our life together has somewhat “normalized” though not dramatically since we were permitted great leeway under the previous relationship.
- We continue to offer a healthy liturgical fare, serving (Vesperal) Liturgy at the 12 Great Feasts whenever they fall during the week; serving Great Vespers (with Litya) on festal occasions, as well as serving Akathists and Molebens throughout the year.
- We continue to support a missionary priest through the OCMC SAMP program as a way of focusing beyond ourselves. Monies raised above and beyond our annual SAMP commitment are given in support of our Deacon.
- We continue our support of one of the local pro-life pregnancy centers -Expectations of Lewisburg – through almsgiving three times a year as well as the county CYS agency with “Back to School” and Christmass distributions.
- We continue to participate in such outreach events as the daylong street fair in Selinsgrove at which we typically distribute 1000+ bottles of water as well as the weeklong Beaver Community Fair. This year we seemed to have an increase in foot traffic evidenced by the amount of materials distributed and conversations engaged in, most especially at the Selinsgrove Street Fair.
- At the time of this writing, we have six (6) catechumens and four (4) inquirers. Additionally, we welcomed two (2) adults and one (1) child by transfer from another Orthodox church, bringing our roster to 22 sacramentalized adults and 10 sacramentalized children. Presently, we have 20 voting members.
- There have been no Baptisms, Marriages, or Funerals to date.
- 2024 average attendance for Liturgy was 28, up by 5 from 2023; as of this writing, 2025 average attendance is 30, compared to 27 last year at this time.
- We continue to be challenged in a most blessed way with the need for increased space due to attendance. (No congregation should ever bemoan this or begrudge it as a problem, and, if they do, shame on them!) In light of this we have been exploring possible remedies – temporary or permanent. However, to date, there are still no clear answers as to what might be accomplishable.

Glory to God for all things!

Respectfully submitted,

Fr. David L. Smith  
Rector

## **Annual Report St. John the Baptist Church, Black Lick**

This year, shortly after Pascha, our long time treasurer, William Shulick, reposed in the Lord. Burial took place here in Blairsville; three former rectors besides myself took part in the funeral.

Later in the year, four young people, including one married couple, were enrolled as catechumens. The couple have a newborn son who will shortly be baptized. The parents, along with the other catechumens, are scheduled to be baptized on Lazarus Saturday Also, at least one other young person has shown interest in the faith and may soon become a catechumen.

Also, we are continuing with Bible study on Tuesday evenings preceded by Daily Vespers. During Great Lent, this is shifted to Wednesday evenings after the Presanctified Liturgy.

Plans are being sought out for our next major project; a handicap entrance to the basement. This should begin in the spring of 2026; we are talking to contractors before they line up work for next year.

Finally, the nut roll making in time for Nativity Fast is continuing as a major fundraiser .

Respectfully in Christ,  
Hieromonk Alexei (Alexiev)



**Ss. Mary  
and Michael  
Orthodox Parish**

**St. Michael the Archangel Orthodox Church, Irvona**  
**Nativity of the Theotokos Orthodox Church, Madera**  
151 Alexander Road • Madera, PA 16661  
info@orthodoxclearfield.org • (814) 862-8694

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## Annual Parish Report – 2025 Ecclesiastical Year

St. Michael's Orthodox Church in Irvona and St. Mary's (Nativity of the Theotokos) Orthodox Church in Madera together make up one "parish" of two churches and three cemeteries serving the Moshannon Valley of Clearfield County. The community continued to grow and strengthen over the past ecclesiastical year.

As of the 2026 census taken September 1, 2025, the combined parish counted 53 adult members, defined as those aged 18 and older who have, at minimum, fulfilled their Lenten obligation of Confession and Communion. This reflects an increase from 48 the year before and 35 since Archpriest Alexander Cadman succeeded Igumen David Lewis as rector.

Although the census officially divides as 22 from Irvona and 31 from Madera, members worship together as one community, alternating locations each Sunday, exchanging Pascha and Christmas between the two churches annually, and sharing the celebration of Great Feasts as evenly as possible. Both churches maintain annual budgets of approximately \$75,000 each, with \$100,000 in jointly held liquid assets, including charitable, outreach, and cemetery funds. The cemetery fund is planned to grow into a six-figure endowment. The parish also jointly manages the Parish House, which provides rental income to support parish ministries.

During the past year, eight new adult members were added: one by Baptism and Chrismation, five through reactivation or reaching adulthood, and two by transferring in from other parishes. Three faithful reposed in the Lord. One catechumen was enrolled during the past ecclesiastical year, and there are currently three recently enrolled catechumens preparing to be received into the Faith. The parish also continues to be blessed with several inquirers exploring Orthodox Christianity.

The community's life was also marked by several notable events over the past year: a Lenten retreat on the Divine Liturgy led by Protopresbyter Stephen Loposky, the annual Clearfield County Orthodox Family Picnic in June, and the First Responders' Molieben and Appreciation Luncheon in October. Both churches experience full attendance each Sunday, presenting "good problems" as the parish continues to expand its charitable and outreach efforts.

Plans for 2026 include continued renovation and improvement projects at both locations to enhance worship capacity, accessibility, and overall functionality in service to the growing life of the parish.

*Respectfully submitted,*  
Archpriest Alexander Cadman, Rector

## **HOLY TRINITY CHURCH - STATE COLLEGE, PA**

This past year has been one of growth, service, and deepening faith at Holy Trinity Orthodox Church. We welcomed six adults into the Church through Baptism and Chrismation and received six additional members through transfer and addition. We had one funeral.

Our Sunday School program continues to grow, with 38 children enrolled. We currently have 18 catechumens receiving instruction in preparation for entry into the Church. Adult education has remained active, with monthly offerings and a weekly Orthodoxy 101 class, as well as a Sunday morning Bible study held prior to Divine Liturgy.

In outreach, we launched a new prison ministry at Rockview State Prison, extending pastoral care and Christian witness to those incarcerated. A men's ministry was started to assist with repairs and maintenance around the church, and to help parishioners and others in the community with household projects and practical needs. Additionally, in partnership with the Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF) national office, an exploratory committee was formed to bring a full-time campus minister to Penn State, with an anticipated start in summer 2026.

Our parish continues to serve the broader State College community through regular charitable efforts. We teamed with local organizations for Thanksgiving and Christmas drives, and on a monthly rotation, parishioners pack and distribute approximately 200 meals to families in need. These acts of mercy reflect our shared commitment to living the Gospel—not only within the walls of the church, but in the world around us.

REPORT OF THE DEAN OF THE SOUTHWEST DEANERY OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF PITTSBURGH  
AND WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA – November 1, 2025

**Officers:**

Rev. Andrew Nelko: Dean

Deacon David Rostcheck: Treasurer

The parishes of the *Southwest Deanery* include:

Belle Vernon, PA, Holy Resurrection  
Canonsburg, PA, St. John the Baptist

Charleroi, PA, Holy Trinity  
Donora, PA, St. Nicholas

Jeannette, PA, Ss. Cyril & Methodius  
Mingo Junction, OH, St. Andrew  
Monessen, PA, St. John the Divine  
Monongahela, PA, Nativity of the Virgin

New Salem, PA, Holy Trinity  
Steubenville, OH, Holy Transfiguration  
West Brownsville, PA, Holy Resurrection  
Weirton, WV, St. Nicholas

Wolf Run, OH, All Saints

Rev. Stephan Gresh, Rector

Rev. John Kotalik, Rector

Protodeacon John Oleynik

Deacon Theodosius Onest

Deacon John Thompson

VACANT

VACANT

Deacon Robert Motichak

V. Rev. Michael Senyo

VACANT

VACANT

VACANT

Deacon David Rostcheck

V. Rev. Vitaly Dudkin, Rector

VACANT

VACANT

Rev. Andrew Nelko, Rector (Dean)

Deacon John Schultz

VACANT

We currently have **eight** 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. Each parish was asked to submit a report that can be found below.

I want to thank all the clergy and lay leaders for their continued support and the work they are doing in their parishes. The parishes that have full time clergy continue to see growth and increased stability bringing hope and a sense of the future for our deanery and Archdiocese. During Lent we held a Deanery Mission Vespers, Presanctified Liturgy and Unction service. We hope to keep this tradition ongoing.

I also want to thank all the clergy who are helping serve these many vacancies; V. Rev. David Vernak, V. Rev. Sam Smolcic, and clergy from ACROD, V. Rev. Michael Zak, and V. Rev. Bob Prepelka who also help. I also want to thank our deacons in our deanery who also help serve in these vacant parishes when a priest is unavailable.

Respectfully, submitted,



Rev. Andrew P. Nelko

Dean of the Southwest Deanery

**All Saints**

Amsterdam, OH

Rev. Andrew P. Nelko, Administrator

All Saints is a small, rural parish. However, it is supported by parishioners and others.

Tis past year we have had two funerals. We have had a young couple and young man attend several services as they were drawn to Orthodoxy. Because we do not have a resident priest, they were advised to seek instruction at another parish. Financial support was sent to Ukraine, as well as local volunteer fire departments. We try to contribute when called upon locally for causes in need. A portion of the church parking lot was graveled, as well as the entry into the church cemetery. The church and rectory is on schedule to be power washed and painted in the last week fof September and first week of October. Parish facilities continue to be maintained. We sincerely appreciate Fr. Andrew Nelko for providing our parish with a priest or deacon for Sunday services as well as being available when someone is in need for guidance or funerals. We wish to express our gratitude also to Fr. David Vernak, Dn. Matthew Stahoviak, Dn. Theodore Onest, and Dn. John Schultz for their willingness to travel to serve on Sundays in Wolf Run.

**Holy Resurrection**

Rostraver Township(Belle Vernon), PA

Hrocbv.org

Rev. Stephen Gresh

Holy Resurrection Orthodox Church in Belle Vernon 2024:

- averaged over 70 people on a Sunday
- had two infant baptisms
- received one adult through chrismation
- received 5 new members who moved into the area
- currently have 6 catechumens and numerous people visiting/inquiring
- 15 church school members
- currently conducting adult education
- 2 funerals for Belle Vernon
- 13 funerals for the Monongahela valley
- both restrooms were renovated and accommodations were made for handicapped accessibility
- Services were held at Charleroi Parish during renovations

**Holy Resurrection**

West Brownsville, PA

No Report Given

**Holy Transfiguration Monastery**

Steubenville, OH

Holy-transgiuration-oca.org

Rev. Andrew P. Nelko, Administrator

No Report Given

**Holy Trinity**  
Charleroi, PA  
Pr. Andrew Nelko, Administrator

Inactive

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**Holy Trinity**  
New Salem, PA  
Arp. Vitaly Dudkin

No Report Given

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**Nativity of the Virgin Mary Church**  
*Monongahela, PA*  
Rev. Andrew P. Nelko, Administrator  
Pdn. David Rostcheck, Attached

The Nativity of the Virgin Mary parish consists of a small yet dedicated group of faithful striving to hear the word of God and keep it. We are blessed to be able to continue to celebrate weekly Divine Services thanks to our Dean, Father Andrew, scheduling the numerous retired priests that graciously assist the vacant parishes of our deanery along with our attached Protodeacon. We are also grateful to have available Father Stephan Gresh, of nearby Holy Resurrection Orthodox Church in Belle Vernon, who supports Protodeacon David when he must serve alone and makes time to help with the needs of our parishioners when called upon.

This year's major projects have been the replacement of the church roof and the siding on the bell tower, sealing of the parish's parking lot, and the removal of one hundred feet of overgrown shrubbery along the rear perimeter of the property which will be replaced by a fence. In addition to the generous support of our faithful, we also hold quarterly "Halupki Sales" throughout the year to supplement our income to meet the financial needs of the parish and fund these projects.

Because of the many blessings that the Lord has bestowed upon us, we have been able to share our good fortune with a multitude of organizations. We support International Orthodox Christians Charities and the Greater Washington County Food Bank monthly. Locally we support the New Life Options Pregnancy Resource Center, Mantle House Mission Women's Shelter, Domestic Violence Services of Southwestern PA, and have helped fire victims in a nearby community. At the church level we support Saint Tikhon's and Saint Vladimir's Seminaries, Orthodox Monastery of the Transfiguration, Saint Tikhon Monastery, Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry, and Orthodox Christian Fellowship. At the national level we have supported relief efforts for Hurricane Helene and the Texas flood victims through the Brother's Brother Foundation.

By God's grace we pray that we are able to continue to sustain our parish and reach out to our neighbors in need.

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## **SS. Cyril and Methodius**

Jeanette, PA

Jeannetteorthodox.org

Arp. Michael Senyo

Please see LPAP Report for parish report

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## **St. Andrew**

Mingo Junction, OH

Pr. Andrew Nelko, Administrator

No Report Given

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## **St. John the Baptist**

Canonsburg, PA

Frunner.org

Pr. John Kotalik

Pdn. John Oleynik, Attached

Pdn. Theodore Onest, Attached

Dn. John Thompson, Attached

By the grace of God, St. John's in Canonsburg continues to grow and work towards renewed repentance and life in Christ. We have received thirteen converts into the Orthodox Church. We are also blessed with 12 catechumens, whom we hope to receive in the coming year, as well as 9 serious inquirers who have not yet been enrolled. We sadly had a family of four recently decide to cease their catechumenate after over a year of commitment, reminding us of the need for continued effort in our missionary efforts. We also lost a beloved parishioner – one of our oldest – but we are thankful that we only served a single funeral in the past year. Much more joyfully, we have welcomed seven new babies into our parish, and expect four more in the coming weeks (three by the time of the Archdiocesan Assembly). With these coming births, we will have 20 infants in the parish, and 30 more kids below high school age. We rejoice in the holy noise this produces in the life of our community, which has been averaging 115 in attendance on Sundays. As one parishioner recently wrote to Fr. John: "I love how loud it is during coffee hour most weeks. I love the noise of catching up, supporting one another, bouncing ideas off one another, laughing with each other, helping each other through hard parts of life, babies crying, and kids yelling and playing; these are just different ways of showing how parishioners are part of each other's lives. It's the most beautiful cacophony I've been a part of."

Some highlights of parish life include:

- Most weeks, we strive to have services five days per week, including Daily Vespers on Mondays and Wednesdays. This year, our catechesis classes are held after Sunday Liturgy.
- Fr. John and Mka. Janine continue to host the faithful for dinner at their home most Saturday evenings after Vespers, as a bonfire or indoor social, as weather allows. This has been especially effective at helping to welcome young adults into the parish.
- To save money on janitorial services, and to spread the load across many hands, our Men's Club continues to organize five weekly teams of 4/5 members to clean our parish church and hall. This saves our parish nearly \$10,000 in janitorial services per year.
- With the help of our faithful parishioners, we were able to resurface our parking lot and to add two large icons

to the church: an icon of Our Lady of the Sign, More Spacious than the Heavens, overlooking the altar, and a large Deesis in the narthex, overlooking the front doors of the church. Come visit and see!

- In honor of the 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Response of Met. Theodosius, beloved son of our parish, we have modified our Met. Theodosius Library (off the narthex) to serve as a cry/comfort room during Liturgy for our mothers with infants (especially nursing mothers) with a TV streaming the service into it. This will facilitate the liturgical participation of our young mothers and their infant children.

Beyond the walls of the parish, we have worked to witness to Christ and serve our community:

- We continue to offer our Metropolitan Theodosius Memorial Lecture series on a not-quite-monthly basis. Our most recent speakers have been Dr. David Ford, Mka. Mary Wusylko, and Alexis Liberovsky, the OCA's Archivist Emeritus.
- Each year, we participate in Canonsburg's Old-Fashioned Christmas Celebration by setting up a warming station and providing free hot cocoa on behalf of the borough.
- We have continued to develop an Orthodox Christians for Life chapter, which supports both Pittsburgh's Network for Life and Genesis of Pittsburgh's location in Washington. Last holiday season, we had a diaper drive in which we collected thousands of diapers, and on the Sunday following Annunciation, we had a "baby shower" in order to collect diapers, wipes, baby formula, and other items which are needed by those in crises pregnancies.
- For the fifth year, we have a parish booth at Canonsburg's Oktobefest the Houston Pumpkin Festival in the fall. So far, this has brought several new inquirers to the parish, and continues to be a fun way to "advertise" the Orthodox Faith in our community.

We continue to search for a choir director to lead and teach our choir, thus beautifying our divine services. We offer \$1,000/month. If anyone in the archdiocese knows of someone able and interested, please contact Fr. John at [frjohnkotalik@gmail.com](mailto:frjohnkotalik@gmail.com).

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### **St. John the Divine**

Monessen, PA

Pr. Andrew Nelko, Administrator

No Report Given

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### **St. Nicholas**

Donora, PA

[Stnicholasorthodoxdonora.org](http://Stnicholasorthodoxdonora.org)

Pr. Andrew Nelko, Administrator

Pdn. Robert Motichak, Attached

No Report Given

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### **St. Nicholas**

Weirton, WV

[Stnicholasweirton.org](http://Stnicholasweirton.org)

Pr. Andrew Nelko

Dn. John Schultz, Assigned

St. Nicholas has continued to see growth and increased activity as a parish over the past year. Just this year we received 18 new parishioners through baptism/chrismanation. We now have roughly 30 children, most of which

are under the age of 12, making us create a new church school class. Currently, we have seven official catechumens with new visitors nearly every week. Over the past year the parish has added numerous events/activities such as a monthly women's group, game nights, and a monthly book study, as well as continued events such as liturgical services, community events such as our prayer service for first responders, bible studies, men's nights, and additional parish projects. This coming year we have many plans and events we are looking forward to, including, Fr. Sergius of St. Tikhon's Monastery joining us for our patronal feast and retreat, St. Tikhon's Mission Choir visiting during lent, a new fire pit, a belfry for our new bells, hosting baby shower during lent at the local pregnancy shelter for low-income mothers among many expected projects for this coming year. We look forward to what this coming year brings us and by the grace of God we hope to continue to be a beacon for our local community and a place of prayer and worship for those who continue to search for Christ.

## **Building and Grounds Report 11/1/2025 Annual Assembly**

- Contracted Clair Boring Painting to paint exterior of Chancery, including railings and trim. Painting was completed in August 2025 at a cost of \$24,360.
- Purchased new side-by-side style freezer/refrigerator for Chancery at a cost of \$1,203 and a microwave at a cost of \$180.
- Contacted Armstrong Plumbing to clear out clogged drain at the bottom of exterior basement stairs
- Mailbox at end of driveway was repaired by remounted to the post using several long screws to more permanently secure it to its post.
- Replaced pipe insulation and caulked around A/C condenser coolant tubes and dryer vent to prevent mice and snakes from entering and to prevent water from leaking in.
- Scraped and painted office entrance door
- Repaired cement step at office entrance
- Removed downed trees from April thunderstorms and trimmed overgrown tree branches along the driveway
- Patched leak in kitchen ceiling
- Painted lintel posts that support the large mosaic icon

Additionally, in the near future, Omni Electric will be replacing corroded exterior light fixtures, and replacing/rewiring two interior light switches at a cost of roughly \$3,100.

2026 projects include sealing/painting the driveway and replacing the sign at the entrance of the driveway.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jack Bonifati

## Report of the Fall Session of the Metropolitan Council

Your Eminence, and all present at the Archdiocesan Assembly,  
Master, bless!

The Fall Session of the Metropolitan Council was held Wednesday October 8 and Thursday October 9 in Springfield, Virginia.

Minutes from the Spring Session, in addition to Special Sessions were approved.

In the report of His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon, he talked about his experience during the Canonization of St Olga and mentioned that her Feast Day will be commemorated on October 27.

A new honor has been created for the lay community. It is St Theodora medal.

The Syosset property continues moving slowly through its legal process. The chairman, Gregory Honshul, gave a brief history of the property and the current situation. Because the selling process has taken an inordinate amount of time, a law firm has been engaged to move the process at a more rapid pace. If all goes smoothly, the closing is projected to be in the Spring of 2026 (possibly April). There are other interested buyers even though the property is under contract. Contents of the Chancery will be sent to St Vladimir's Seminary, placed into storage or auctioned off.

The Pension Board report was positive because the fund added \$360,000 to investments in 2025. In the past (2015-2024), there were not enough funds to cover the obligations of the pension board. Parish participation has increased from 306 parishes in Sept. 2024 to 372 parishes in Sept. 2025. Many parishes are noncompliant- not giving either portion (clergy or parish) to the pension fund. Also, parishes are paying quarterly. The payments need to be monthly (and on time!). A late fee is being considered. ACH payments can be set up through the bank. The funds go immediately into the pension account. Using a no-growth scenario, the pension fund will be fully funded by 2037. Currently, data is not available as to how many clergy are noncompliant.

If parishes need assistance to calculate the 14%/ 6% pension contribution, go to <https://ocapension.org> or call the office: 516-464-0322.

### Legal issues:

\* Washington state passed a law that would violate the confidentiality of Confession regarding child abuse. The OCA brought suit to strike down the law and won the case. The decision includes all religions that hold Confession as a confidential interaction.

\*Copyright infringement

See <https://www.oca.org/news/headline-news/new-article-warns-parishes-of-copyright-challenges>

Planting Grants were discussed and the rules for funding. Grants run on a calendar year.

Three grants were funded:

\$40,000 to St Catherine in Mississippi (first year)

\$40,000 to St Nina in Orlando, FL (first year)

\$24,000 to St Alexis in Wilkes Barre, PA (third year)

Social media guidelines will be issued soon by the OCA for clergy and lay people for church web sites.

There is a central 501-C EIN (tax free number) that all parishes should be using.

The 2026 Internal Auditors assigned:

Sharon Hubiak Email: [shubiak@comcast.net](mailto:shubiak@comcast.net)

Maha Adranly Email: [madranly@gmail.com](mailto:madranly@gmail.com)

Diane Dorogy Email: [ddtt@bellsouth.net](mailto:ddtt@bellsouth.net)

Metropolitan Council will meet again virtually in March.

Respectfully submitted,

Father John Parker

Rebecca Danchenko

# Sexual Abuse Prevention Policy Coordinator Report

*2025 Annual Assembly, Archdiocese of Western Pennsylvania*

## National Policies, Standards, and Procedures (PSP) Task Force

In February, at the request of the current OCA Chancellor, Fr. Alessandro Margheritino (then Secretary of the OCA), I was appointed to serve on a national “PSP Task Force,” a working subcommittee of the Sexual Misconduct Policy Advisory Committee (SMPAC). Our work focuses on reducing ambiguity, strengthening consistency, and ensuring that requirements are based on actual contact with minors or vulnerable persons rather than on titles alone. Key areas of progress include:

1. **Refinement of Screening Procedures:** Shifting to a contact-based model for determining background checks and training requirements.
2. **Standardization Across Roles:** Aligning expectations for clergy, employees, and volunteers.
3. **Hierarchy of Contact and Role Definition:** Introducing categories of incidental, supervised, and unsupervised contact to guide proper safeguarding measures.
4. **Online Application Development:** Creating a form that will direct applicants to the correct background checks, collect references, deliver training, and record acknowledgment of the abbreviated PSPs.

After pausing over the summer to allow for the All-American Council and the Chancellor’s transition, the task force has reconvened this fall. Current plans include convening a national summit of diocesan policy coordinators to share experiences and best practices, which will be used to further streamline the application process.

## Diocesan-Level Policy Coordination

Locally, the transition from Sterling Volunteers to Protect My Ministry (PMM) is now complete. Through the generous sponsorship of the OCA Central Administration, all background checks for clergy, employees, and lay volunteers in roles where youth are or could be present are now provided at no cost. Every three years, my office initiates checks for all participants, while the child protection training needs to be completed only once.

To further streamline compliance, all youth-facing volunteers listed on annual Parish Information Update Forms are automatically given access to the training module, with results tracked in the system. Each parish receives an annual audit report showing its compliance status, identifying which volunteers are up to date with background checks and training, and which still need to respond.

Sterling Volunteers remains available for the short term to cover individuals whose background checks are still active from before the transition, ensuring no disruption in safeguarding coverage.

## Conclusion

As of this Assembly, all active clergy in the Major Orders remain current with their background checks. Parish-level compliance among youth-facing volunteers has also improved, with more timely completion of both checks and training than in previous years. Rectors will receive individualized audit reports to assist them in ensuring parish-wide compliance.

Our Archdiocese remains firmly committed to safeguarding children, youth, and vulnerable persons. Through both national collaboration and diligent local implementation, we continue to strengthen the structures that uphold this responsibility.

*Respectfully submitted,*

Fr. Alexander Cadman

*policycoordinator@ocadwpa.org • (814) 321-4473*



## **St. Cyril of White Lake Food Pantry**

**At St. Mary Orthodox Church  
105 South Nineteenth Street  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15203  
412-431-6428**

**November 1, 2025**

By the grace of God, with the blessing of His Eminence, Archbishop MELCHISEDEK, the St. Cyril of White Lake Pantry opened its doors to the public on September 23, 2010 and has completed 15 full years of caring for those in need. Our goal remains to provide needed food and bread to those in need in our community. 100% of all funds received goes directly to the provisioning of the poor through food, some basic sanitary needs, and pet food when it is donated.

The St. Cyril of White Lake Food Pantry has been open the second and fourth Thursdays of each month from 5:30pm to 6:30pm. The exceptions to this are at Thanksgiving and Nativity when the holiday dictates the food pantry's operation. By the grace of God and the dedicated help of volunteers led by Michael and Frank Namisnak, the food pantry has continued to function and the poor have been cared for. Special thanks to the faithful of St. Alexander Nevsky Cathedral and St. Mary Orthodox Church for their faithful service.

The calendar year 2025 has seen over 3000 Households served, and emergency assistance provided to two other local food pantries and a local group home. The average weekly service has been 45 to 70 families each session. No one has ever been turned away empty handed. Each household served received food for four+ full days of meals.

How has this been done? It has been accomplished through the active ongoing generosity of the faithful of our Archdiocese, the faithful of the Serbian, Carpatho Russian and ROCOR dioceses, generous donors and area businesses. Special thanks to Eastern Oil Corporation, Stamoolis Brothers, Eastern Oil Corporation, Shop N Save (Heidelberg) for their help with various items throughout the year.

In closing, in December the Food Pantry is in need of hams and turkeys for the Annual Nativity distribution, and three other things, food, financial donations and especially volunteers. At present we purchase weekly about 90% of the food that is distributed – with the rest coming from area Churches. With the growing number of people in need, this requires a greater amount of food weekly, so all donations in this area would be most welcome. We also need donations of canvas bags for use in food distribution. Volunteers are needed to help with ongoing food distribution efforts. It takes about 5 to 6 volunteers weekly to operate the Food Pantry at total efficiency. So all volunteers are welcome.

Respectfully submitted, *Igumen Patrick*

## **Archdiocesan Youth Committee Report**

*2025 Annual Assembly, Archdiocese of Western Pennsylvania*

### **Archdiocesan Family Retreat**

The highlight of 2025 was the inaugural Archdiocesan Family Retreat, held August 15–17 at Camp Nazareth in Mercer, PA. Thanks to the Council's support, the retreat drew more than 40 participants from across our Archdiocese for a weekend of prayer, enrichment, and recreation. Families shared in Divine Services, a keynote address by Fr. Stephen Loposky, breakout sessions, age-appropriate activities, and time to enjoy the campgrounds. We are especially grateful to our newly-hired Family Retreat Coordinator, Kyra Mathewson, who skillfully managed logistics, registration, and volunteer coordination. Her leadership provided a smooth and welcoming experience for participants and established a model we can carry forward.

Initial feedback strongly recommended continuing the Family Retreat in 2026. At the same time, the committee believes it is prudent to wait at least one more year before launching a full Archdiocesan Youth Camp Week. This will allow time for broader education and for identifying strong candidates to serve when our Archdiocese is ready for that next step.

### **Pan-Orthodox Collaboration**

Our Archdiocese continues to partner with neighboring jurisdictions to offer pan-Orthodox youth and young adult opportunities. This past March and October, we once again co-hosted annual spring and fall Young Adult Retreats for ages 18–30 at Camp Nazareth, together with ACROD, UOCUSA, and the GOA. I have recommended that Kyra Mathewson join the planning effort, bringing her gifts and energy to represent our Archdiocese well.

### **Looking Ahead**

This year has demonstrated that family-centered ministry is a fruitful path for engaging both youth and parents in the life of the Church. Building on the success of the Family Retreat, our committee envisions a steady progression: continuing family retreats, strengthening deanery-level events, and preparing for the eventual launch of a dedicated Archdiocesan Youth Camp Week at Camp Nazareth.

In addition, we will once again conduct an Archdiocesan Skating Event on the Sunday before the Super Bowl in 2026, following its popularity and strong reception this past year. We will also look to host another Archdiocesan Family Day at PNC Park in 2026. While scheduling conflicts prevented this in 2025 (no “fast free” Fridays coincided with a Pirates home game), we are eager to bring this well-loved tradition back in the year ahead.

We are grateful to the clergy, volunteers, and faithful families who made these efforts possible, and we look forward to working with you all as we continue building up the faith of our youth and young adults.

*Respectfully submitted,*

Archpriest Alexander Cadman, Chair

on behalf of the Archdiocesan Youth Committee: Fr. Bill Evansky, Fr. Michael Sochka, Fr. David

Vernak, and Kyra Mathewson

*alexandercadman@outlook.com • 814-321-4473*

**FY2026 ADWPA Budget**

	<b>2025 Projections</b>	<b>2026 Budget</b>	<b>2025 Budget</b>	<b>2026 Budget – 2025 Projections</b>	<b>2025 Projections – 2025 Budget</b>
<b>Income</b>					
Parish Assessments	251,000	251,949	243,233	949	7,767
Assembly Assessments	1,500	1,500	1,500	-	-
Holy Spirit Church mortgage loan repayment	6,000	6,000	6,000	-	-
DuBois Church purchase loan repayment	4,200	4,200	4,200	-	-
AAC Assessments	25,000	-	25,000	(25,000)	-
Diocesan Lenten Vespers Collection	1,405	1,000	1,500	(405)	(95)
Revenue on Sale of Properties	-	34,000	34,000	34,000	(34,000)
Other Income	19,273	3,000	1,700	(16,273)	17,573
<b>Income from operations</b>	<b>308,378</b>	<b>301,649</b>	<b>317,133</b>	<b>(6,728)</b>	<b>(8,755)</b>
Income withdrawn from Endowment	88,000	105,207	105,207	17,207	(17,207)
Diocese of Alaska withdrawal	20,000	-	20,000	(20,000)	-
ABp Benjamin Sch investment Income	12,000	12,000	12,000	-	-
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>428,378</b>	<b>418,856</b>	<b>454,340</b>	<b>(9,521)</b>	<b>(25,962)</b>
<b>Expenses</b>					
<b>Stipends and Benefits</b>					
Episcopal Stipend	50,294	51,803	50,290	1,509	4
Episcopal Pension Plan	11,859	12,215	11,913	356	(54)
Episcopal Med Ins	3,781	5,000	7,000	1,219	(3,219)
<b>Total Episcopal Stipend/Benefits</b>	<b>65,934</b>	<b>69,018</b>	<b>69,203</b>	<b>3,084</b>	<b>(3,269)</b>
Chancellor	22,827	23,512	22,827	685	0
Treasurer	5,030	5,180	5,032	151	(2)
Treasurer FICA Taxes	385	396	385	12	(0)
Administrative Assistant	19,485	20,069	19,493	585	(8)
Admin Asst FICA Taxes	1,491	1,535	1,492	45	(2)
Clergy Recording Secretary	3,095	3,188	3,093	93	2
PSP Coordinator	1,431	1,474	1,600	43	(169)
Housekeeping	6,320	6,510	6,573	190	(253)
Housekeeping FICA Taxes	484	498	503	15	(19)
<b>Other Stipends and Benefits</b>	<b>60,546</b>	<b>62,362</b>	<b>60,998</b>	<b>1,816</b>	<b>(452)</b>
<b>Other Administration Expenses</b>					
Office Expenses	4,376	3,000	2,200	(1,376)	2,176
Printing / Postage	1,179	1,200	600	22	579
Communications / Website	3,078	3,100	3,000	22	78

**FY2026 ADWPA Budget**

	<b>2025 Projections</b>	<b>2026 Budget</b>	<b>2025 Budget</b>	<b>2026 Budget – 2025 Projections</b>	<b>2025 Projections – 2025 Budget</b>
Publications	300	500	-	200	300
External Diocesan Travel	8,000	3,000	3,000	(5,000)	5,000
Assembly Expense	1,500	1,500	1,500	-	-
Deans	9,000	9,300	9,000	300	-
Meeting Expenses	1,000	800	500	(200)	500
External Audit Expense	4,500	5,000	4,500	500	-
Legal Expenses	1,000	2,000	1,000	1,000	-
Misc. Finance Expenses	540	550	500	10	40
Emergency Supply Clergy	2,323	1,000	500	(1,323)	1,823
Liturgical Needs	192	1,100	200	908	(8)
Ordination Testing	-	700	700	700	(700)
LPAP Expenses	18,000	12,000	18,000	(6,000)	-
Christian Associates Membership	1,000	1,000	1,000	-	-
Background Checks	-	150	150	150	(150)
Workers Comp Ins	700	700	700	-	-
Misc. Expenses	200	200	200	-	-
<b>Subtotal Other Administration</b>	<b>56,887</b>	<b>46,800</b>	<b>47,250</b>	<b>(10,087)</b>	<b>9,637</b>
<b>Total Administration</b>	<b>183,367</b>	<b>178,180</b>	<b>177,451</b>	<b>(5,187)</b>	<b>5,916</b>
<b>Archdiocesan Center</b>					
Property/Liability Insurances	5,000	5,000	4,500	-	500
Property Taxes	2,900	3,000	3,000	100	(100)
Housekeeping Supplies	1,277	600	300	(677)	977
Utilities	12,991	13,000	12,000	9	991
Maintenance / Grounds	12,450	12,000	15,000	(450)	(2,550)
Capital Improvements	25,000	7,500	20,000	(17,500)	5,000
Auto Expense	11,236	12,000	8,100	764	3,136
Internal Episcopal Travel	17,064	17,000	17,000	(64)	64
<b>Total Archdiocesan Center</b>	<b>87,918</b>	<b>70,100</b>	<b>79,900</b>	<b>(17,818)</b>	<b>8,018</b>
<b>Charitable Grants / Gifts</b>					
Annual ABp Kyrill Memorial Donation	500	500	500	-	-
Misc. Charitable Expenses	1,000	1,000	1,000	-	-
St. Cyril of White Lake Food Pantry	1,000	1,000	1,000	-	-
St. Constantine Pittsburgh School	1,000	1,000	1,000	-	-
Neighborhood Resiliency Project	1,000	1,000	1,000	-	-
Diocese of Alaska	21,000	-	22,000	(21,000)	(1,000)

**FY2026 ADWPA Budget**

	<b>2025 Projections</b>	<b>2026 Budget</b>	<b>2025 Budget</b>	<b>2026 Budget – 2025 Projections</b>	<b>2025 Projections – 2025 Budget</b>
Met. Theodosius Memorial Donation	500	500	500	-	-
Bishop Discretionary	5,000	3,000	5,000	(2,000)	-
<b>Total Charitable Grants / Gifts</b>	<b>31,000</b>	<b>8,000</b>	<b>32,000</b>	<b>(23,000)</b>	<b>(1,000)</b>
<b>Education</b>					
Education & Youth Program	1,837	2,000	2,000	163	(163)
ABp Benjamin Sch Distributions	18,000	18,000	12,000	-	6,000
Clergy/Laity Care	7,000	20,000	20,000	13,000	(13,000)
Catechetical Program	1,000	1,000	-	-	1,000
Educational Seminar / Programs	3,000	5,000	7,500	2,000	(4,500)
Other Education	-	500	500	500	(500)
<b>Total Education</b>	<b>30,837</b>	<b>46,500</b>	<b>42,000</b>	<b>15,663</b>	<b>(11,163)</b>
<b>Special Events</b>					
Diocesan Baseball Game	-	-	1,700	-	(1,700)
AAC Assessment	25,000	-	25,000	(25,000)	-
March For Life	500	500	500	-	-
Episcopal AAC Expenses	1,500	-	2,000	(1,500)	(500)
<b>Total Special Events</b>	<b>27,000</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>29,200</b>	<b>(26,500)</b>	<b>(2,200)</b>
<b>OCA</b>					
Metropolitan Council	1,000	2,000	2,000	1,000	(1,000)
OCA Funding (Fair share)	86,676	90,661	86,677	3,985	(1)
<b>Total OCA</b>	<b>87,676</b>	<b>92,661</b>	<b>88,677</b>	<b>4,985</b>	<b>(1,001)</b>
<b>Other Property</b>					
Patton	234	250	5,000	16	(4,766)
Monessen	8,086	9,000	14,000	914	(5,914)
Charleroi	26,938	27,000	24,000	62	2,938
Misc.	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Other Property</b>	<b>35,258</b>	<b>36,250</b>	<b>43,000</b>	<b>992</b>	<b>(7,742)</b>
<b>Total ADWPA Expenses</b>	<b>483,056</b>	<b>432,190</b>	<b>492,228</b>	<b>(50,865)</b>	<b>(9,173)</b>
<b>Net Income / (Loss)</b>	<b>(54,678)</b>	<b>(13,334)</b>	<b>(37,888)</b>	<b>41,344</b>	<b>(16,790)</b>

## **Notes to FY2026 Budget**

### **Operating Income**

-5% discount remains in place for parishes that remit all required forms by the yearly due date.

### **Investment withdrawals**

-\$105,207 (4% of the principal of unrestricted investments) is to potentially cover any shortfalls in cash flow. This does not mean that the Archdiocese will withdraw the full amount over the course of 2026.

-Up to \$12K will be withdrawn from the ABp Benjamin Scholarship Fund to aid in covering the seminarian scholarships (4 seminarians)

### **Stipends**

-3% COLA for Archdiocesan employees to keep pace with inflation. Each Dean stipend will increase by \$100, since the stipends have not increased since 2023.

### **Other Administration Expense**

-LPAP expense will decrease to \$1K/month in 2026. This will be the last year of diocesan support for the current parish in LPAP.

-Stipends for webmaster and social media manager will each remain \$100/month

### **Maintenance/Grounds**

-We are anticipating sealing/repainting the driveway in late spring/summer 2026, and we are also planning to have the sign at the entrance of the driveway replaced.