

First Focus Group to be Held Nov. 18



Deacon Mark Oleynik leads a procession before the funeral service for Metropolitan Theodosius, former primate of the Orthodox Church in America (see related story, last page). When possible, worship has taken place in outdoor facilities during the pandemic, one of the several future possibilities for the parish that can be explored this month at a workshop conducted by architect Bob Hoffman.

PHASE I OF THE MASTER SITE PLAN and Feasibility Study near-unanimously supported by the parish begins in earnest this month, with the first comprehensive on-site “charrette” (i.e., focus group) of all members, their children, catechumens, students, etc., taking place on Wednesday, November 18, at 7 p.m. Bob Hoffman—who spoke at length to the parish after liturgy in September—and his colleagues will conduct the hybrid in-person and virtual meeting to hear what you consider to be your needs, desires, and wants for parish facilities in the near- and long-term future. To allow your feedback to be as candid as possible, clergy will excuse them-selves from the proceedings. Those unable to join the discussion in person can call (814) 231-2855 to be connected or visit holytrinity-oca.org/zoom. ■

Amid Extraordinary Challenges, a Great Hope for the Future

ALMOST A YEAR AGO NOW, I travelled to Cranberry Township to meet with His Eminence and with our diocesan chancellor to discuss my appointment to Holy Trinity as the successor to this parish’s “wise master builder,” Fr. John Reeves, who had so effectively “laid a foundation” on which his successors might build (*1 Cor. 3:10*). In a long and enjoyable conversation, I promised that I would change very little in my first year at the helm.

(continued, see 2020 ANNUAL REPORT, next page)

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Schedules

TELLERS		SERVERS	
November 1	D. McNulty and M. Fiori	All Servers welcome each Sunday	
November 8	G. Cattell and M. Anthony		
November 15	K. Cattell and M. Fedkin		
November 22	M. Anthony and M. Fiori	Altar Server Co-Captains: J. Cushman and S. Oleynik	
November 29	G. Cattell and D. McNulty		
December 6	K. Cattell and M. Fiori		

Let’s Triumph Over the World’s Ethos

My plan was to observe and integrate myself into the rhythms and patterns that were already in place at Holy Trinity. Little did any of us realize at the time that this objective would end up proving utterly impossible, as 2020 would be a year filled with intense challenges for church life, both here and around the world.

This year our parish witnessed an unprecedented 10-week suspension of corporate liturgical life, we experienced the discontinuation or heavy modification of many of the parish’s established ministries, and we have contended with an uneven social, legal, and ecclesial landscape, in which external expectations for our behavior have changed with great rapidity.

However, the most difficult thing we have had to contend with this year is the rise of a new cultural ethos that screens all of human life through the filter of COVID-19 and its possible transmission. This ethos and the moral vision that accompany it have proven to be deeply incompatible with traditional Orthodox faith, piety, and practice. As Christians, it is undeniable that we are called to regularly come together physically as “Church” for worship and fellowship. The very word “Church” means “assembly” or “meeting,” and from the beginning this assembly consisted of corporate worship and of fellowship over food (*cf. 1 Cor 11:18–34*). Moreover, at its heart, our religion is a sacramental religion. The normative pattern of Christian life is to frequently confess and frequently receive Holy Communion “for the healing of soul and body.” This is our way, and has been our calling from the beginning.

But the present ethos of the age understands our sacred gathering and many of our practices principally as vectors of disease and death, and touts the preservation of biological life as the ultimate purpose of morality. This is flatly contrary to the teachings of Christ, who says “whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, and

Meeting Information

*Holy Trinity will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, November 8 following the Divine Liturgy (12 noon). Nominations are open for Council positions of President, Vice President, and Grounds Chair. All agenda items must be submitted in writing to the Parish Council for review prior to November 6. **Nothing will be considered from the floor.***

Parishioners in good standing who were registered as members at the end of the previous ecclesiastical year (August 31, 2020) and who have fulfilled their annual obligations of Confession and Communion may and should attend in person, by phone (814-231-2855), or via holytrinity-oca.org/zoom.

Agenda

- i. Opening Prayer: “O Heavenly King...”
- ii. Establishment of Quorum
- iii. Minutes of the 2019 Meeting
- iv. Acting Rector’s Report (*see pages 1-3*)
- v. Associate Rector’s Report
- vi. Treasurer’s Report
- vi. Review and Approval of the 2021 Budget (*see next page*)
- vii. Election of Officers
- viii. Closing Prayer: “It is truly meet...”

whoever loses his life for my sake will find it” and “what will a man be profited if he gains the whole world and loses his soul” (*Mt. 16:25–26*)? The calling of Christ is always that we offer up that which we cannot keep in order to lay hold of that which we cannot lose. This is why Christ can call us to visit the sick or to invite the stranger into our midst (*Mt. 25:35–36*). He doesn’t pretend to claim that if we do this our health will be preserved, or that the stranger won’t abuse or defraud us. He tells us to do these things in imitation of Him, so that when our earthly life ends, the angels will receive us “into everlasting habitations” (*Lk. 16:9*). We must

Chapel of the Holy Spirit

	2019	2020 YTD ¹	2020 BUDGET	2021 PROPOSED	% CHG.
INCOME					
Stewardship Offerings	43,209	34,365	42,400	50,560	19.3%
Contributions from Holy Trinity ¹³	3,200	4,725	6,300	9,000	42.9%
Total Budgeted Income	\$43,209	\$39,090	\$48,700	\$59,560	22.3%
Total Non-Budgeted Income ¹⁴	\$7,640	\$92,676			
TOTAL INCOME	\$50,849	\$131,766			
EXPENSES					
Personnel					
<i>Priest-in-Charge</i>	16,600	20,475	27,300	36,000	31.9%
<i>Supply Clergy</i>	1,200	—	1,000	1,000	0%
Total Personnel	\$17,800	\$20,475	\$28,300	\$37,000	30.8%
Mortgage ¹⁵	3,000	2,500	6,000	6,000	0.0%
Outreach and Fellowship	1,882	818	4,000	4,000	0.0%
Operating Expenses ¹⁶	2,765	1,642	3,000	3,500	16.7%
Utilities	1,709	1,327	2,100	2,500	19.1%
Property	904	616	1,000	1,000	0.0%
Insurance	500	500	500	500	0.0%
(Transfer to) Discretionary Fund ¹⁷	500	375	500	500	0.0%
Archdiocesan/OCA Assessments ¹⁸	—	2,700	3,300	4,560	38.2%
Total Expenses	\$29,060	\$30,952	\$48,700	\$59,560	22.3%
Total Non-Budgeted Expenses ¹⁹	\$7,135	\$69,022			
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$36,195	\$99,974			

FOOTNOTES
1. through September 30, 2020. • **2.** until depleted, Phase II funds from the Trinity House Capital Campaign are transferred monthly into the Operating Account to offset mortgage payments. • **3.** in 2021, this is the total compensation budgeted for the rector’s package (i.e., salary, allowances, benefits, etc.); from 2019 through February 2020, the Interim Priest received an annualized stipend of \$37,800; visiting clergy received an annualized stipend of \$20,800 (\$400 per weekend); and the Acting Administrator received a stipend of \$4,000. • **4.** in 2021, the Campus Missionary, in addition to evangelism to the Penn State campus, will also coordinate and conduct meetings of the Orthodox Christian Fellowship at Penn State (OCF). He or she will also serve as Fr. Ignatius’ designated representative on the OCF Board • **5.** in 2021, the Communications Coordinator, in addition to scheduling events for the parish and clergy, will be responsible for producing the This Week at Holy Trinity weekly email and The Trisagion monthly newsletter. • **6.** includes Holy Trinity’s contribution to the annual Archdiocesan assessment. The Chapel will tithe (contribute 10% of) its prior-year income toward the payment. • **7.** includes both interest and principal payments. The mortgage balance was \$378,315 on October 31, 2020. • **8.** Parking income is transferred into the Capital Projects Fund for future lot enhancements. The account balance was \$20,048 on October 31, 2020. • **9.** indicates contributions to the Property Reserve Fund. The account balance was \$9,483 on October 31, 2020. • **10.** includes electronic payment convenience fees and the cost of background checks for all clergy, teachers, and volunteers who have direct contact with children. • **11.** indicates savings towards the triennial All-American Council (the next one will be held July 26–30, 2021). The balance was \$1,594 on October 31, 2020. • **12.** indicates contributions to the Rector and Ministry Director’s discretionary accounts. In 2021, contributions to the Ministry Director’s fund will be suspended. • **13.** In 2021, Holy Trinity’s Outreach and Fellowship budget line-item includes \$9,000 of Chapel support (\$6,000 for the Priest-in-Charge’s stipend, and \$3,000 in matching support for the Chapel’s refinanced mortgage; see footnote 14). • **14.** includes loan disbursements from a refinanced mortgage to fund the Chapel’s new altar addition. • **15.** The Chapel’s new mortgage balance as of October 31, 2020 was \$148,000. In 2020, the Chapel applied and received a new \$150,000 mortgage (0% APR at \$500 per month for 25 years), which paid off the existing mortgage and financed a new 24’-by-12’ addition for its sanctuary. • **16.** For the sake of year-to-year comparisons, “Operating Expenses” includes the following budget categories: Office Administration, Liturgical, Christian Education, Furnishings, and Snow Removal. • **17.** indicates contributions to the Associate Rector’s discretionary account. • **18.** As of 2020, Holy Trinity no longer subsidizes Archdiocesan/OCA assessments for parishioners who regularly attend the Chapel of the Holy Spirit. The Chapel contributes 10% of its prior-year income to the assessment payment, which is calculated to be \$380 per month in 2021. • **19.** includes payments from the Chapel of the Holy Spirit Building Fund for the new altar addition.

■ NEWS & NOTES

In Memoriam: Metropolitan Theodosius (1933-2020)

CANONSBURG, PA [*via oca.org*] — On October 19, His Beatitude Theodosius, former Archbishop of Washington, Metropolitan of All-America and Canada, fell asleep in the Lord here after an extended illness. The Primate of the Orthodox Church in America from 1977 to 2002, His Beatitude’s full obituary can be found at *oca.org*. Condolences to Dn. Mark Oleynik’s family who lovingly cared for him. Memory eternal!

Beware of Scams!

SYOSSET, NY [*via oca.org*] — Faithful across the country are receiving “spoofing” emails from imposters posing as clergy asking for money or gift cards. Remain vigilant with regard to internet security. Feel free to contact the Parish Office at (814) 231-2855 if you suspect fraud or wish to verify the authenticity of any correspondence.

Nov. 15 is “Stewards Sunday”

SYOSSET, NY [*via oca.org*] — Faithful stewards support the work of the ministries and departments of the OCA. Learn more or make an offering at *oca.org/stewards*.

■ 2021 PROPOSED BUDGETS

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church

	2019	2020 YTD ¹	2020 BUDGET	2021 PROPOSED	% CHG.
INCOME					
Stewardship Offerings	\$248,320	\$182,765	\$275,600	\$256,000	-7.1%
Parking	6,835	4,145	7,200	7,200	0.0%
Candles and Flowers	3,071	1,653	2,900	2,900	0.0%
(Transfer from) Trinity House Phase II ²	10,800	5,400	7,200	440	-93.9%
Appeals (e.g., Chapel, Seminarian)	1,596	—	5,300	—	—
Miscellaneous (e.g., In-Kind Gifts, Rewards)	447	437	315	75	-76.2%
Total Budgeted Income	\$271,069	\$194,400	\$298,515	\$266,615	-10.7%
Total Non-Budgeted Income	\$47,862	\$55,081			
TOTAL INCOME	\$318,931	\$249,481			
EXPENSES					
Personnel					
Rector ³	26,000	63,004	80,000	84,000	5.0%
Ministry Director	52,879	42,000	56,000	—	—
Bookkeeper/Office Assistant	6,325	4,125	6,600	10,000	51.5%
Campus Missionary ⁴	3,000	2,250	3,000	9,000	200.0%
Custodian	7,650	5,850	7,800	8,320	6.7%
Communications Coordinator ⁵	—	—	—	6,000	—
Choir Director	3,700	2,700	3,600	3,600	0.0%
Supply Clergy	20,801	350	1,000	1,400	40.0%
Continuing Ed.—Deacons' Expenses	819	125	1,200	1,200	0.0%
Continuing Ed.—Rector Outlay	—	750	1,000	1,000	0.0%
Continuing Ed.—Asst. Rector Outlay	600	450	600	600	0.0%
Payroll Taxes	5,860	5,078	2,500	5,600	124.0%
Total Personnel	\$127,634	\$126,682	\$163,300	\$130,720	-20.0%
Archdiocesan/OCA Expenses ⁶	25,317	20,702	25,743	27,945	8.6%
Mortgage Outlay ⁷	28,721	20,867	28,572	26,820	-6.1%
Outreach and Fellowship	20,329	13,211	23,250	22,000	-5.4%
Utilities	12,801	8,744	11,850	12,280	3.6%
Property	4,048	1,892	7,000	7,500	7.1%
Liturgical	7,665	3,025	6,600	7,400	12.1%
(Transfer to) Capital Projects Fund ⁸	6,835	4,245	7,200	7,200	0.0%
Office Administration	5,885	4,441	5,850	5,350	-8.5%
(Transfer to) Property Reserve Fund ⁹	5,000	3,750	5,000	5,000	0.0%
Licenses/Fees/Service Charges ¹⁰	3,534	2,407	2,300	3,750	63.0%
Insurance	4,239	3,192	3,600	3,400	-5.6%
Christian Education	1,818	241	3,250	3,250	0.0%
(Transfer to) All-American Council Fund ¹¹	2,000	1,500	2,000	1,500	-25.0%
(Transfer to) Discretionary Funds ¹²	1,000	1,125	1,500	1,000	-33.3%
Refurnishings	762	425	750	750	0.0%
Accessibility Improvements	—	—	750	750	0.0%
Miscellaneous Expenses	—	426	—	—	—
Total Budgeted Expenses	\$257,588	\$216,875	\$298,515	\$266,615	-10.7%
Total Non-Budgeted Expenses	\$48,766	\$22,981			
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$306,354	\$242,467			

do the works of Christ in order to share in Christ's destiny: eternal life, peace with God and all creation, and unending joy. And a core part of doing Christ's work is participating in corporate worship and in the sacramental life of the Church, especially when it is not easy. This has been our challenge through much of the year, and looks to be a major challenge for us in the year ahead.

Thus, as we have been locked in battle with the spirit of this age, we have seen a significant drop in attendance and sacramental participation this year, even though we have offered accommodations up to and including communion by appointment. Consequently, 2020 has seen a substantial—but not crippling—drop in giving, which is precipitating what I believe will be our first ever decrease in our parish's budget. As you will see, we are proposing lowering our budget by slightly over 10%, from \$298,515 in 2020, to \$266,615 in 2021. Anticipating this difficulty, Dn. Alexander offered his resignation from paid ministry at Holy Trinity, effective January 1, 2021. While I and the council would have fought hard to retain him, his certainty about the correctness of this move was thorough, and I am convinced that he is following God's will and calling for his life. May God bless him for his ministry and service to Holy Trinity and open a door for powerful and effective service for him and his family, whether in our midst, or in some other place. Although Dn. Alex himself is fond of saying, "no one is irreplaceable," I think it will be very difficult for us to replace all that he has done for us.

Church School @ Home Released

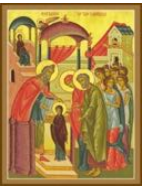
Deacon Mark Oleynik, Director of Christian Education, released the first *Church School @ Home* packet last month. In addition to daily saints and readings, the packets consist of a variety of topics, articles, and activities parents can use to deepen their child(ren)'s understanding of various aspects of our faith and Church. Beginning with the sense of smell, the theme of this and future packets are using one's senses in worship. Contact the Parish Office at (814) 231-2855 if you would like to receive this and/or future issues.

Holy Day this Month

ENTRY OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS INTO THE TEMPLE

VESPERS: Fri., Nov. 20, 6pm
(A.T. Pelikan, Litya)
(K. Bazilevskaya, Icon)

LITURGY: Sat., Nov. 21, 9am
(I. Andrzhievskaya, Prosphora)



For all of these reasons, and for many others which have gone unsaid, we can say that without a doubt 2020 has been a year filled with intense and unprecedented challenges. But there is great hope for us and for our future. At every liturgy, as the priest divides the holy Body of Christ, he places the precious Body in the shape of the Cross, and utters a Greek phrase which means, "Jesus Christ is victorious." In 2020 we have been beaten down and pushed around by global scale forces, but we are still the servants of Jesus Christ, and we believe we will share in His ultimate victory.

The ministries of our church will come back. The fellowship we have known will return. We will celebrate a joyous Pascha, and we will continue to look toward the future, engaging in the site survey process and seeking to understand where God desires to lead us, in 2021, throughout our lives, and until He comes. *Maranatha*: Come, Lord Jesus! ■ — Fr. Ignatius

Thanksgiving Drive to go Virtual

This year, the Thanksgiving Drive, which provides complete holiday meals to suffering families in our community, will be conducted through a Walmart.com gift registry beginning Monday, November 9. Look for details in the Bulletin and at holytrinity-oca.org/bulletin.

The Bookstore is on the Move!

The Bookstore is moving to Trinity House to give the public greater access. A crew is needed on Saturday, November 14, at 9 a.m. Refreshments will be provided.

Holy Trinity Calendar

All events take place at 119 South Sparks Street in State College, unless where noted.
Events listed at **Trinity House** take place at 123 South Sparks Street, in State College.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
November 1 <i>(Daylight Saving Time Ends, 2am— turn clocks back one hour)</i> Divine Liturgy, 10am EST LIVE <i>(Hours, 9:40am) or Typika @ Home</i>	2 Penn State Student Open House, 7pm-10pm <i>@ Trinity House</i>	3 Orthodoxy 101, 7pm <i>@ Trinity House Conference Room</i>	4 Confessions, 4pm-6pm Vespers, 6pm Confessions, following	5 Orthodox Christian Fellowship at Penn State: Fr. Thomas Soroka, Guest Speaker, 7pm <i>via Zoom†</i>	6	7 High School Class Gathering, 4pm <i>@ Trinity House Porch (weather permitting) or Parish Hall, and via Zoom†</i> Great Vespers, 6pm LIVE Confessions, following
8 Archangel Michael Hours with the Tonsuring of Michael Stickles as Reader, 9:30am LIVE Hierarchical Divine Liturgy with Protodiaconal Elevation, 10am LIVE <i>or Typika @ Home</i> Parish Annual Meeting, 12pm	9 Penn State Student Open House, 7pm-10pm <i>@ Trinity House</i> <i>MATTHEW 25 THANKS- GIVING DRIVE BEGINS.</i>	10 Orthodoxy 101, 7pm <i>@ Trinity House Conference Room</i>	11 Confessions, 4pm-6pm Vespers, 6pm Confessions, following <i>(No Parish Council Meeting)</i>	12	13 St. John Chrysostom	14 Apostle Philip Bookstore Moving Party, 9am-10:30am <i>@ Parish Hall</i> Choir Rehearsal, 4pm Great Vespers, 6pm LIVE Confessions, following
15 Divine Liturgy, 10am LIVE <i>(Hours, 9:40am) or Typika @ Home</i> <i><u>Nativity Fast Begins:</u></i> <i>Omit meat & dairy (all days), and fish (most Mondays through Fridays, and Dec. 20-24).</i>	16 Apostle and Evangelist Matthew Penn State Student Open House, 7pm-10pm <i>@ Trinity House</i>	17 Orthodoxy 101, 7pm <i>@ Trinity House Conference Room</i>	18 Confessions, 4pm-6pm Vespers, 6pm Facilities Focus Group with K&W Engineers & Consultants, 7pm <i>@ Nave & via Zoom†</i>	19	20 Great Vespers with Litya, 6pm	21 ENTRY OF THE THEOTOKOS Hours/Divine Lit., 8:40am High School Class Gathering, 4pm <i>@ T.H. or P.H., and via Zoom†</i> Great Vespers, 6pm LIVE Confessions, following
22 Divine Liturgy, 10am LIVE <i>(Hours, 9:40am) or Typika @ Home</i>	23 <i>MATTHEW 25 THANKS- GIVING DRIVE CONCLUDES.</i>	24 <i>Matthew 25 Thanksgiving Drive Inventory, 4pm @ Parish Hall</i> Orthodoxy 101, 7pm <i>@ Trinity House Conference Room</i>	25 Confessions, 4pm-6pm Vespers, 6pm Confessions, following	26 <i>National Day of Thanksgiving</i>	27	28 Choir Rehearsal, 4pm Great Vespers, 6pm LIVE Confessions, following
29 Divine Liturgy, 10am LIVE <i>(Hours, 9:40am) or Typika @ Home</i>	30 Apostle Andrew the First-Called	December 1	2 Confessions, 4pm-6pm Vespers, 6pm Confessions, following	3	4	5 Great Vespers with <i>Evlogitaria</i> (Gifts) for the Children, 6pm LIVE Confessions, following
6 St. Nicholas the Wonderworker Divine Liturgy, 10am LIVE <i>(Hours, 9:40am) or Typika @ Home</i> <i>MATTHEW 25 “ST. NICHOLAS (ANGEL) TREE” DRIVE BEGINS.</i>	7	8	9 Conception of the Theotokos Confessions, 4pm-6pm Vespers, 6pm Parish Council Meeting, 7pm <i>@ Parish Hall & via Zoom†</i>	10	11	12 Choir Rehearsal, 4pm Great Vespers, 6pm LIVE Confessions, following

Chapel Calendar

All events take place at the new building (145 North Kern Street) in Beavertown, unless where noted.

Sunday 1 Divine Liturgy, 10am <i>(Hours, 9:40am)</i> Fellowship and Catechesis, following	Friday 20 Great Vespers w/ Litya, 6pm
Tuesday 3 Choir Rehearsal, 6pm	Saturday 21 ENTRY OF THE THEOTOKOS Divine Liturgy, 10am <i>(Hours, 9:40am)</i> Great Vespers, 6pm Confessions
Saturday 7 Great Vespers, 6pm Confessions	Sunday 22 Divine Liturgy, 10am <i>(Hours, 9:40am)</i> Fellowship and Catechesis, following
Sunday 8 Divine Liturgy, 10am <i>(Hours, 9:40am)</i> Annual Meeting, 12pm Fellowship and Catechesis, following	Monday 23 “Hats and Blankets for Babies” Ministry, 6:30pm
Tuesday 10 Choir Rehearsal, 6pm	Tuesday 24 Choir Rehearsal, 6pm
Saturday 14 Great Vespers, 6pm Confessions	Wednesday 25 Akathist “Glory to God for All Things”, 6pm
Sunday 15 Divine Liturgy, 10am <i>(Hours, 9:40am)</i> Fellowship and Catechesis, following <i><u>Nativity Fast/Advent Begins</u></i>	Saturday 28 Great Vespers/Conf., 6pm
Tuesday 17 Choir Rehearsal, 6pm	Sunday 29 Divine Liturgy, 10am <i>(Hours, 9:40am)</i> Fellowship and Catechesis, following

† to join, visit holytrinity-oca.org/zoom or call 814-231-2855.

LIVE this service will be livestreamed at holytrinity-oca.org and YouTube (holytrinity-oca.org/YouTube).

November 2020