

Office of Education and Curriculum

Report to the 2018 Diocesan Assembly

Respectfully Submitted by: Maria Proch

Memorial Day Youth Activities:

Thirty- five youth from ages three through thirteen participated in the activities in the tent adjacent to the Monastery Museum. The students were given many activity options including: decorating flowerpots and planting flowers, making book markers, cross decorating and various Saints' activities. The activities were held from Noon- 3 PM.

Women's Retreat

The retreat was held on Saturday, September 9. Many of the women began the day by attending the Divine Liturgy celebrated at the Monastery Church. Forty women representing the Diocese of Eastern PA, Diocese of New York/ New Jersey, Archdiocese of Washington D.C., Antiochian Archdiocese, ROCOR, and some considering Orthodoxy.

Mat. Valerie Zahirsky, Chairman of the OCA Department of Education was the main speaker. Her focus for the retreat was Women in the Church. She introduced the lives of many of the Women Saints. She answered many of the questions regarding the role of women in the church.

She is the editor of "Encountering Women of Faith" Volumes One and Two.

The 2018 Women's Retreat will be held on Saturday, September 16.

Curriculum Materials:

Activity Book 5- "*Saints Who Were Physicians and Healers*" will be released shortly by the dce.oca.org. This is a free download and can be used for individuals or church school programs.

First of all, thank you to the parishes that have supported the events. However, since the response from out of the Diocese is increasing, I am asking the parishes to promote the activities in their parish bulletins and newsletters.