

Philadelphia Deanery Report to the 2024 Diocesan Assembly

Philadelphia Deanery of the Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania is comprised of nine parishes. All parishes are served by full-time clergy and have full cycle of Liturgical services.

During the time of Lent Clergy Brotherhood of Philadelphia held Mission Vespers services at various churches in the area. Two parishes of our Deanery hosted these services: St. Herman of Alaska and St. Michael the Archangel. On Holy Wednesday we had the service of Unction at St. Stephen Cathedral with clergy and faithful of neighboring parishes participating.

On September 17 we held our annual Clergy Family Picnic. This is always a memorable event that provides much-needed fellowship for the priests, deacons, matushki, and their children.

On Friday, Sept 22 there was also an Annual Two Holies and a Sain Golf Tournament which raised over \$6000 for the benefit of IOCC that helps Ukrainian Orphanage in Uzhhorod.

The weekend of Sept 24 was marked by a 50th anniversary celebration of St. Herman of Alaska Orthodox Church, the parish of our Deanery in Glen Mills, PA. Archbishop Mark, Fr. John Perich and the parishioners of St. Herman were joined by Metropolitan Tikhon and other visiting clergy in the celebration of this important milestone in the life of the parish community. We want to express deep gratitude to Fr. John for the many years of his tireless pastoral work at St. Herman's.

Two other events will be taking place before the Diocesan Assembly. On Sunday, Jan. 14 many Orthodox from the area will get together for the Annual Novogodny Ball organized by the Colonial District of the FOCA. The following Sunday, Jan. 21, for the first time since pandemic, we will hold a Blessing of Delaware River in Palmyra Cove Natural Park on NJ side of the river. We hope that both of these events will bring many faithful from the area and will be regular events with good participation for many years to come.

Respectfully Submitted

Fr. Victor Gorodenchuk, Dean of Philadelphia Deanery

Parishes of the Philadelphia Deanery:

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church, (Bethlehem, PA), Fr. Nikolai Breckenridge.

St. Mark's Orthodox Church, (Wrightstown, PA), Fr. Martin Browne.

Assumption of the Holy Virgin Mary Orthodox Church, (Philadelphia, PA), Fr. Mark Koczak.

St. Stephen Orthodox Cathedral, (Philadelphia, PA), Fr. Victor Gorodenchuk.

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church, (Coatesville, PA), Fr. Stephen Miller.

St. Michael the Archangel Orthodox Church, (Wilmington, DE), Fr. Silouan Burns.

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, (Pottstown, PA), Fr. John Edward.

St. Herman of Alaska, (Gradyville, PA), Fr. John Perich.

Theotokos of the Life-Giving Spring Mission, (Philadelphia, PA), Fr. Nikolai Gulin.