


DOEPA – PARISH ANNUAL REPORT

for the 2025 Diocesan Assembly

Parish name and Address	Photo
<p>St. Michael the Archangel Orthodox Church 2300 W. Huntington Dr. Wilmington, DE 19808</p>	
Clergy	
<p>Rev. Fr. Silouan Burns – Priest / Rector Rev. Dn. James Carpenter – Deacon Rev. Dn. Nicholas DiDonato – Deacon</p>	
Committees/Societies	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buildings & Grounds • Prospora Baking Guild • Altar Servers • Fellowship Hour (10 team rotation of parishioners - full meals served weekly after Sunday's Liturgy) • Church Cleaning Crew (8 team rotation to clean the Church and facilities as well) • Youth Group Ministry • Faith, Hope, & Love Girls Fellowship • Men's Group / Brotherhood • Women's Group / Sisterhood 	
Since January 2024	
Highlights of Top Three Activities	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Heavenly Vision Project – A fundraising project to beautify our temple – still in progress. Currently a full-scale iconography project is underway that involves the entire Church being completed. In 2024 the back wall was completed. We hope to finish in 2025 with iconography being added to the alcoves up front and in the altar. 2. Youth Program Growth – Both the girl's youth program and the overall youth program continue to grow. In 2024 the full youth group started meeting twice a month. 3. Adult Ministries – 2024 saw the successful launch of both a women's and men's fellowship groups. Each meet once a month. The meetings involve a meal along and a spiritual talk. 	
Outreach Directed to Growth, Adult Education and Charitable Activities	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Outreach (for the poor/needly) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Gift Cards for needy Veterans, Donations to East Side Hub (clothing, hygiene items, etc. for those in poverty), Church School fundraiser of livestock animals for those in poverty. ○ Small food pantry (keep a shelf stocked with essentials that both our parishioners and those from the community can help themselves to – we have a few that come to us from outside the parish.) 	

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- Good Samaritan Ministry – this is a ministry to aid those with financial hardships primarily in our parish, but also outside of it. Over \$30,000 of aid was provided this year!
- Liturgical Cycle – For 2024 we now have now expanded our services to include Resurrectional Matins every Sunday, Vigils (Vespers/Matins) for all the Great Feasts, and a weekday Vespers & Liturgy every week, usually on Tuesday / Wednesday unless a Great Feast or significant is commemorated a different day.
- Foundations Class – our adult education class focuses on the basics of Orthodoxy.
- Adult Bible Study – most Thursdays during the school year – journey through the Gospel of Luke.
- Youth Group Ministry – Now meeting twice a month with a bible study each time and then fun / food / fellowship.
- Faith, Hope, & Love – girl’s ministry, meets monthly and often does community outreach.
- Young Adults Ministry – Our young adults are active and frequently fellowship with one another including pilgrimages to monasteries.
- OCF – University of Delaware

Major Challenges Faced

- More Growth / Lack of space & parking – Staggering growth and lack of space. Currently sitting at 28 catechumens as of 12/15 and expect to break 30 soon. Additionally, we have multiple “expecting” families. We have had complaints due to so many having to park in the neighborhood now. Overflow has been into our Fellowship Hall where a large screen is setup, but it is not ideal.
- The repose of one of our “pillars” before his time – Edward Hojnicky Jr. played a major role in the life of our parish and is sorely missed.

Upcoming Special Events/ Anniversaries – January 2025 to December 2025

- The 2025 Diocesan Assembly hosted here.
- Our 110 year anniversary is this year.
- Completion of the Heavenly Vision project, mentioned above
- Parking Lot project - Additional parking to be added in the rear
- Launch of a mission?

	As of December 15, 2024
Active Members Count	224
Children (under 18)	76
	January 1 thru December 15, 2024
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Attendance	180 - 190
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Communicants	130 - 140
Average Saturday Vigil Attendance	50 - 70
Number of Catechumens	27

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	January 1, thru December 15, 2024
Baptisms	10
Funerals	1
Marriages	3
Church School/Number Enrolled	~50
Adult Education/Number Enrolled	~50