



INTERNATIONAL
ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN
CHARITIES

November 20, 2020

His Eminence Archbishop Mark
OCA Diocese of Philadelphia and Eastern Pennsylvania
325 N Walnut St
Bath, PA 18014

Your Eminence, Your blessing.

For the last **seven** years, IOCC's *Serv-X-Teme! Youth Leadership Conference* has reached almost 200 young people across the country, helping them to live out their Orthodox faith through acts of love and philanthropy. This annual conference prepares young Orthodox Christian leaders from throughout the United States through participation in meaningful volunteer service opportunities and service-inspired workshops.

As has been done in the past, **each Diocesan Bishop of the Assembly is being asked to select a representative from their respective diocese/metropolis.** Your nomination will allow a young Orthodox Christian to gain a deeper understanding of diakonia from a theological perspective, participate in hands-on service projects, and be inspired to return to their parishes with a zeal for philanthropy. One parent shared of her child's experience, *"He is so pumped up about service because of your time together. You have inspired my child! What more could I ask for?"*

In the coming year we anticipate having two conferences in Minneapolis, Minnesota*: July 17-23 and July 24-30, 2021. Your appointee will be able to choose which week works best for him or her.

Through the support of generous IOCC donors, we are once again able to offer this opportunity at a fraction of the cost for Hierarchy appointees. We are asking each participant to contribute \$100 in stewardship to attend (this includes airfare, transportation, lodging, activities, and all meals).

We respectfully request the following:

1. Appoint one young man or woman entering their senior year of high school in the fall of 2021; and,
2. Have your office complete the online nomination form at: www.iocc.org/servx by Monday, May 17.

Once we receive your nomination, we will reach out to each young person and their guardians to provide logistical details. Should you have any questions, please feel free to let me know.

I thank you for your assistance in this matter, and pray that our loving Lord continues to bless your Archpastoral ministry among His people.

With thanks and respect in Christ,

Dn. Paul Zaharas, IOCC US Country Representative
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**IOCC is committed to following local and federal safety regulations related to COVID-19 in the US and will aim to offer this conference in the safest and most effective format possible.*