



*The Orthodox Church in America*  
*DIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA AND EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA*  
*The Most Rev. Mark, Archbishop of Philadelphia*

September 3, 2021

SEMINARIAN APPEAL BILL RUSK AND FAMILY

Dear to God,

Christ is in our midst! He is and ever shall be! The V. Rev. Fr. Nicholas Solak reminded me that we have another seminarian this year, Bill Rusk from Holy Trinity, Stroudsburg. He previously took courses at St Tikhon's but will complete his degree in one year at St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary in NY.

As mentioned in my previous letter, seminarians are responsible for raising half their tuition money each semester, approximately \$3,155, as well as cover costs of books, supplies, rent, utilities, groceries, etc. Rent is not cheap and housing keeps getting more costly regardless of where one lives. St Vladimir's has a matching Grant Program which requires the students to raise half their tuition money.

Our parishes and faithful have been very generous in supporting our seminarians in the past and I pray you will continue to do so. There is a shortage of priest in our Diocese as well as the OCA. We need to show our support for our seminarians so that they will want to return to serve one of our parishes. A one time gift or monthly support would also be greatly appreciated. If you would like to assist Bill Rusk and his family as they prepare for parish ministry, you may send a check directly to them at:

Bill Rusk  
St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary  
575 Scarsdale Rd  
Yonkers, NY 10707-1699

If you need to receive a letter for your donation, then speak to your parish priest or send the check to the Diocese and we will forward the money and write letter confirming the donation. Once again thank you for your generosity and support of our seminarians.

Yours in Christ,

+ *Mark*

+ MARK, Archbishop of Philadelphia and the Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania



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"Thou hast made us for Thyself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it finds its rest in Thee." Augustine