

# DOEPA – PARISH ANNUAL REPORT

*for the 2023 Diocesan Assembly*

Parish name and Address	Photo
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**Christ the Saviour Orthodox Church**  
 5501 Old Locust Lane  
 Harrisburg, PA 17109

[www.CTSHBG.org](http://www.CTSHBG.org)



Clergy
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**V. Rev. Stephen Vernak, Pastor**  
*Rt. Rev. Daniel Kovalak, Attached*  
*Rev. Aaron Rutz, Attached*  
*Dn. John Shingara, Attached*

Committees/Societies
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- ADULT EDUCATION MINISTRY**, {3 Hierarchs}, education, outreach, guest speakers as well as weekly programs during Advent and Lent, *meets quarterly* (Weeknight evening)
- ALTAR SERVERS**, (male age 7+), worship, serve in altar for *every service* (Sunday and other days)
- BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**, {St Jerome}, education, fellowship, *meets quarterly* (gen Sunday afternoon)
- CHARITABLE GIVING**, includes Food Baskets for Thanksgiving and Christmas, Food Bank/channels, Seminary Family sponsorship & Christmas gifts, Souper Bowl Sunday, Christmas angels, meeting requests made of the Church
- CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE**, training & background checks of personnel, *meets as needed*
- CHOIR**, {St Romanos}, worship, sings for every service, *practices weekly* (Wednesday evening)
- CHURCH SCHOOL**, education of youth and inquirers (with Orthodoxy 101), meets weekly through the school year for instruction following liturgy (Sunday) Teachers meet quarterly (Saturday)
- FEAST ADORNMENT**, decorate for major feasts and events in the church and hall, flowers, change and clean votives and cloths
- FOCA**, (Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America) (aka "O" club), {St Andrew}, fellowship, giving, excursions, scholarships, family game nights and movie nights, *meets monthly* (gen Thursday evening)
- GREETERS**, fellowship, greet new arrivals, distribute bulletin for liturgy, monitor sanctuary doors as appropriate (Sunday)
- GROUNDS & MAINTENANCE**, routine maintenance (i.e. light bulbs, etc) and grounds keeping (i.e. trimming, raking, etc), *meets monthly* (Saturday)
- VIP MINISTRY**, keep in touch with parishioners and friends in hospital or home bound, send cards, call, personal visit.

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**LADIES' ALTAR GUILD**, {St Mary}, oversee liturgical vestments & textiles, giving, fellowship, nut roll baking, coordinates church service fellowship refreshment provision, *meets monthly* (Monday evening)

**MEN'S CLUB**, {St Alexis}, fellowship, giving, provide meals, *meets monthly* (Monday evening)

**MOM'S GROUP**, {St Monica}, fellowship, giving, meets during the school year

**OCCGH**, ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHARITIES OF GREATER HARRISBURG, {St Herman}, outreach, fellowship, giving, volunteer opportunities, *meets monthly* (Weekday evening)

**PAN-ORTHODOX BIBLE STUDY**, education, fellowship, downtown Harrisburg, *meets weekly* (Wednesday noon)

**PARISH COUNCIL**, elected church vestry, governance, *meets monthly* (Thursday evening)

**PROPERTY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**, major maintenance, repairs and assessment of projects, *meets as needed*

**PROSPHORA BAKERS**, {Ss. Spyridon and Nicodemus}, worship, bake bread used for communion, *meets bi-monthly* (gen Wednesday)

**READERS**, worship, read pre/post communion prayers, epistle for every liturgy, vespers (Wednesday, Saturday, Sunday and other feast days)

**RELIGIOUS STORE**, {St Mary}, sales desk, inventory products, store open after liturgy (Sunday)

**SENIORS LUNCH BUNCH**, fellowship, restaurant social activity, *meets monthly* (weekday noon)

**SLAVIC + FOOD FEST**, outreach, fundraising, fellowship, provide ethnic foods made from scratch to the public, (seasonal summer & early autumn)(Fest is 1<sup>st</sup> full week-end in October)

**YOUTH CHOIR**, worship, sings for some services, practices 2 Sundays following liturgy

**YOUTH GROUP**, (Junior "O"), (aka "Teens"), (12+), fellowship, volunteering, youth winter/summer camps, week end youth retreats, *meets monthly*

**YOUTH VESTRY**, (12+), worship, shadow adult vestry members with duties *during liturgy* (bells, microphone, etc) (Sunday)

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<b>Since January 2022</b>	
Highlights of Top Three Activities	
Adult Education (Book Club, Trivia Night, Bible Study, Orthodoxy 101, Advent Series, Great Lent Series) Slavic + Food Fest Strategic Planning with Bill Marianes Effective Christian Ministry Cohort (Y2AM)	
Outreach and Charitable Activities	
Monthly Outreach Budget as part of Parish Council Souper Bowl of Caring Thanksgiving Food Outreach Angel Tree Project – over 70 wrapped presents distributed to underprivileged children in our community Seminary family support Bethesda Mission Women’s Shelter – serve lunch (monthly) FOCA Back to School Backpacks	
Major Challenges Faced	
Continual COVID challenges	
<b>Upcoming Special Events/ Anniversaries – January 2022 to December 2022</b>	
60 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Sat, Oct 28 (2023)	
<b>Median Donation for 2022</b> (Example: For the data set 1, 1, 2, 5, 6, 6, 9 the median is 5 For the data set 1, 1, 2, 6, 6, 9 the median is 4. Take the mean of 2 and 6 or, $(2+6)/2 = 4$ .	
Data not complete – will send update when all entries are completed.	
<b>As of Jan 1, 2023</b>	
<b>Active Members Count</b>	Total Adults: 256 Total Children: 93 <b>Total Souls: 349</b>
<b>Children (under 18)</b>	
<b>January 1 thru December1, 2022</b>	
<b>Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Attendance</b>	150
<b>Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Communicants</b>	Unknown – guess is 100

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<b>Average Saturday Vespers Attendance</b>	30
<b>Number of Catechumens</b>	Catechumens: 4 Inquirers: 10
	<b>January 1, thru December 1, 2022</b>
<b>Baptisms</b>	9
<b>Funerals</b>	1
<b>Marriages</b>	2
<b>Receptions into Orthodoxy</b>	0
<b>Church School/Number Enrolled</b>	62
<b>Adult Education/Number Enrolled</b>	10-50 (depending on offering)