


DOEPA – PARISH ANNUAL REPORT

for the 2025 Diocesan Assembly

Parish name and Address	Photo
<p>Christ the Saviour Orthodox Church 5501 Old Locust Lane Harrisburg, PA 17109</p> <p>www.CTSHBG.org</p>	
Clergy	
<p>V. Rev. Stephen Vernak, Pastor Rt. Rev. Daniel Kovalak, Attached Dn. John Shingara, Attached</p>	
Committees/Societies	
<p>ADULT EDUCATION MINISTRY, {3 Hierarchs}, education, outreach, guest speakers as well as weekly programs during Advent and Lent, <i>meets quarterly</i> (Weeknight evening)</p> <p>ALTAR SERVERS, (male age 7+), worship, serve in altar for <i>every service</i> (Sunday and other days)</p> <p>BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP, {St Jerome}, education, fellowship, <i>meets quarterly</i> (gen Sunday afternoon)</p> <p>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</p> <p>CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE, training & background checks of personnel, <i>meets as needed</i></p> <p>CHOIR, {St Romanos}, worship, sings for every service, <i>practices weekly</i> (Wednesday evening)</p> <p>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)</p> <p>FEAST ADORNMENT, decorate for major feasts and events in the church and hall, flowers, change and clean votives and cloths</p> <p>FOCA, (Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America) (aka “O” club), {St Andrew}, fellowship, giving, excursions, scholarships, family game nights and movie nights, <i>meets monthly</i> (gen Thursday evening)</p> <p>GREETERS, fellowship, greet new arrivals, distribute bulletin for liturgy, monitor sanctuary doors as appropriate (Sunday)</p> <p>GROUNDS & MAINTENANCE, routine maintenance (i.e. light bulbs, etc) and grounds keeping (i.e. trimming, raking, etc), <i>meets monthly</i> (Saturday)</p> <p>VIP MINISTRY, keep in touch with parishioners and friends in hospital or home bound, send cards, call, personal visit.</p> <p>LADIES’ ALTAR GUILD, {St Mary}, oversee liturgical vestments & textiles, giving, fellowship, nut roll baking, coordinates church service fellowship refreshment provision, <i>meets monthly</i> (Monday evening)</p> <p>MEN’S CLUB, {St Alexis}, fellowship, giving, provide meals, <i>meets monthly</i> (Monday evening)</p> <p>MOM’S GROUP, {St Monica}, fellowship, giving, meets during the school year</p> <p>OCCGH, ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHARITIES OF GREATER HARRISBURG, {St Herman}, outreach, fellowship, giving, volunteer opportunities, <i>meets monthly</i> (Weekday evening)</p>	

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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)

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 1st 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)

Since January 2024

Highlights of Top Three Activities

1. Adult Education (Book Club, Trivia Night, Bible Study, Orthodoxy 101, Advent Series, Great Lent Series)
2. Completed FEMA/PEMA Security Grant
3. Fr. Daniel Ressetar Memorial Bell Project

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
 Rebuilding Together Harrisburg Community Day

Major Challenges Faced

Growing pains – parking, space in church/fellowship hall
 Death of several key parishioners.

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Upcoming Special Events/ Anniversaries – January 2024 to December 2024

Annual Parish Meeting – Feb 2025
 Lilly Endowment Clergy Renewal Program (May – Sept 2024)

Median Donation for 2024 (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.

As of Dec 19, 2024

Active Members Count Total Adults: 255

Children (under 18) Total Children: 105

January 1 thru December 1, 2024

Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Attendance 180

Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Communicants Unknown – guess is 100

Average Saturday Vespers Attendance 40

Number of Catechumens Catechumens: 6
 Inquirers: 15

January 1, thru December 1, 2024

Baptisms 9

Funerals 5

Marriages 0

Receptions into Orthodoxy 3

Church School/Number Enrolled 90

Adult Education/Number Enrolled 10-50 (depending on offering)