

1968

The minutes of the Diocesan Assembly of the Diocese of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania held on July 27, 1968, at St. Tikhon's Monastery, South Canaan, Penna.

THE DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY OF THE DIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA AND PENNSYLVANIA INCLUDING THE DEANERIES OF PHILADELPHIA, FRACKVILLE, AND WILKES-BARRE WAS HELD ON JULY 27, 1968, AT ST. TIKHON'S MONASTERY, SOUTH CANAAN.

An opening Molieben was served by Rev. Joseph Swaiko of St. Tikhon's Seminary. Immediately following the Molieben, the priests and lay delegates gathered in the Seminary building and the meeting was officially opened with the prayer "O Heavenly King" at 10:30 a.m.

There were twenty-eight (28) clergy, seventeen (17) laymen, and four (4) laymen guests present.

Fr. John Rachko, Edwardsville, and Michael Stchur, Wilkes-Barre were elected as Presidents. Fr. Joseph Martin, McAdoo, and Russell Dugan, Edwardsville were elected as Secretaries.

The Agenda was read and distributed by Fr. Joseph Swaiko.

Fr. Fedoronko made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the last Assembly meeting, second by Fr. Romanchuk. All were in favor.

His Grace, Bishop Kiprian gave his report which included the following matters the deaths of two priests and two Matushki; Parish changes in the diocese due to deaths or transfers; lenten Missions in the Frackville Deanery; the conditions of the Seminary, its growth, with the addition of the educational auditorium, and the assigning of three new professors; the Monastery's acquiring 12 acres of additional land; the additions and renovations to the Children's Home costing \$35,000 and the assigning of a new administrator; concerning the bond issue of the Seminary, a total of \$42,000 was received so far.

The Bishop also clarified the Calendar Issue. The Calendar change would be for Christmas and all other immovable Feast Days. Only Easter and those Holy Days connected with it will remain according to the Old Style Julian Calendar. A short discussion followed.

Fr. Fedoronko made a motion to accept the report, second by Fr. Romanchak.

The Secretaries report included the resignation of Edward J. Reta; six council meetings were held during the year and the attendance was very good; Mr. Leon Hrynich accepted the position on the Metropolitan Council left vacant by Mr. Ret's resignation.

Fr. Holoviak made a motion to accept the report, second by Fr. Shuga.

The Treasurers Report was distributed by Leon Hrynich and a discussion was held concerning those parishes delinquent in their Diocesan Assessment.

Fr. Bohush made a motion to accept the report, second by Walter Cherkas.

The Auditors reported that the figures were accepted. They made several recommendations- (1) that one ledger be kept for all funds; (2) that there should be a cut-off date and that this date be rigidly maintained; (3) the auditors should be from the same geographical area as the treasurer in order to allow them more time to study the books.

Fr. Slepecky made a motion to accept the report, second by Fr. Sovyrda.

OLD BUSINESS

A discussion was held concerning the Calendar change; the percentage of the vote necessary to make the change, and that the Bishop must receive a list of eligible voters and the ballots.

Statistical Commission Report: It was moved by Fr. Fedoronko and second by Fr. Borichevsky that a Census Questionnaire be sent to all parishes who have not already submitted their report and that the format of the questionnaire be determined by the Statistical Commission. After a lengthy discussion on the matter, the motion was withdrawn.

Missionary Fund: Money has been deposited into a special account for the Missionary Fund.

NEW BUSINESS

The Deanery Reports:

The Wilkes-Barre Deanery report was given by Fr. Pawlush. Fr. Bohush made a report to accept the report, second by Fr. Slepecky.

The Frackville Deanery Report was given by Fr. Pavelchak. Fr. Slepecky made a motion to accept the report, second by Fr. Sovyrda.

Fr. Fedoronko gave the report from the Philadelphia Deanery. A suggestion was made that at the next Diocesan Council meeting, all Deans should be invited to discuss the number of parishes in the Philadelphia Deanery and to attempt to solve this matter. A motion was made by Fr. Donlick to accept the report, second by Fr. Romanchak.

Budget Commission

It was decided to keep the old Budget except that the semi-annual reimbursement to St. Tikhon's Seminary as a contribution towards the office expenses incurred by the Diocese be increased from \$50.00 to \$300.00 for a total of \$600.00 annually. The motion was made by Russell Tatusko and second by Fr. Pawlush.

An election was held to fill the seat on the Diocesan Council left vacant by the resignation of Edward Reta. Fr. Ressetar nominated Russell Tatusko, second by Fr. Pavelchak. The election was unanimous.

Delinquent Diocesan Payments

A discussion was held as to the determination of the assessment of parishes. The consensus of opinion was that the assessments would have to continue at their present rates until the report of the Statistical Commission was completed and a study of the report was made. Only after this study was completed would it be feasible to determine if a more equitable assessment could be made to each individual parish based on membership rather than on the method of placing a parish

into one of three categories, small, medium, or large. The commission was urged to complete this report with a minimum of delay.

Harrisburg Parish expressed its gratitude for the assistance it received.

Budgets of other Diocese were discussed and it was of the general opinion that ours would have to be increased at the following year's session pending the completion of the Statistical Commissions Report.

Other matters were discussed including the change of Deanery names. Fr. Pavelchak made a motion to change the names as follows:
Wilkes-Barre to Northeastern Pennsylvania
Frackville to Centraleastern Pennsylvania
Philadelphia to Southeastern Pennsylvania
Russell Dugan second the motion. The vote was 25 yes, 5 no and 11 abstained. This will be on the confirmation of the Bishop.

Mr. Russell Dugan made a motion for the fiscal period to be from May 1, to April 30, second by Russell Tatusko.

A discussion was held concerning the United Fund Drive by the Metropolia. Each parish should give the name of a layman to Mr. Tatusko as a parish chairman. The drive will be conducted in the month of November.

A discussion was held concerning the \$5.00 Assessment to the Metropolia.

Fr. Sovyrda made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Michael Horoschak.

The meeting was closed at 3:15 p.m. with a prayer led by His Grace, Bishop Kiprian.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Joseph Martin
Russell Dugan
Secretaries

Those who attended the Diocesan Assembly of the Diocese of Philadelphia and Eastern Pennsylvania held on July 27, 1968.

NAME OF CHURCH

REPRESENTATIVES

FRACKVILLE DEANERY:

St. Nicholas Church
1521 East 6th St.
Bethlehem, Pa. 18015

Rt. Rev. Apollon Nowitsky
Joseph Horoschak

Holy Trinity Church
1021 Fifth St.
Catasauqua, Pa. 18032

Rev. Michael Romanchak

Nativity of the Most Holy Theotokos Church
Corner 1st and Phillips Sts.
Coaldale, Pa.

Rev. Daniel Pavelchak

Holy Ascension Church
209 S. Lehigh Ave.
Frackville, Pa.

Rev. Paul Ropitsky
Russell Tatusko

Christ the Saviour Church
5501 Locust Lane
Colonial Park
Harrisburg, Pa.

Rev. Daniel Ressetar
Paul Pellegrini

Holy Trinity Church
223 South Kennedy Drive
McAdoo, Pa.

Rev. Joseph Martin
George Zabitchuk

St. Michael's Church
131 North Willow St.
Mt. Carmel, Pa.

Rev. Claude Vinyard
Peter Starinchak

St. Michael's Church
106 Morris St.
St. Clair, Pa.

Rt. Rev. Andrew Slepocky
Michael Udit

WILKES-BARRE DEANERY:

Holy Resurrection Church
Alden Station, Pa. 18634

Rt. Rev. George Senjovsky

Holy Annunciation Church
1228 2nd Ave.
Berwick, Pa. 18603

Rev. Paul Holowiak

St. John the Baptist Church
Dundaff, Pa.

Rev. Joseph Swaiko

St. John the Baptist Church
93 Zerby Ave.
Edwardsville, Pa. 18704

V. Rev. John Rachko
Russell Dugan
Michael Horoschak

St. Michael's Church
308 Walnut St.
Jermyn, Pa. 18433

Rev. John Kuchta
Kuzma Leschak

St. Vladimir's Church
211 Main St.
Lopez, Pa. 18628

Rev. Roman Wytovich

St. John the Baptist Church
Corner of Hill and Maple Sts.
Mayfield, Pa. 18433

Rev. Dimitri Oselinsky

St. John the Baptist Church
Front and Welles Sts.
Nanticoke, Pa. 18634

Rev. John Bohush
Walter Cherkis

St. Michael's Church
512 Summer St.
Old Forge, Pa. 18518

Rev. Vladimir Sovyrda

All Saints Church
Willow Ave.
Olyphant, Pa. 18447

V. Rev. Michael J. Chanda
Stephen Vesilinke

St. Nicholas Church
Lackawanna and Gravity Sts.
Olyphant, Pa. 18447

Rev. Daniel Donlick

St. Basil's Church
33 Midland St.
Simpson, Pa. 18407

Rev. Andrew Shuga

SS Peter and Paul Church
Uniondale, Pa.

Rev. Joseph Swaiko

Holy Resurrection Cathedral
591 N. Main St.
Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 18705

Rev. Vladimir Petorak

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church
444 E. Main St.
Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 18705

V. Rev. George Pawlush
Michael Stchur

V. Rev. George Cucurra

PHILADELPHIA DEANERY:

St. Andrew the Apostle Church
Chester and Lombard Sts.
Baltimore, Md.

Rev. Michael Hutnyan

Assumption of the Holy Virgin Church
South 28th and Snyder Ave.
Philadelphia, Pa. 19145

St. Nicholas Church
817 North 7th St.
Philadelphia, Pa. 19123

St. Michael's Church
335-37 Fairmount Ave.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Holy Trinity Church
Hale and Lincoln Ave.
Pottstown, Pa. 19464

Rev. Andrew Goidich
Simion Fetchina

V. Rev. Vladimir Borichevsky
Leon Hrynick

V. Rev. Alexander Fedoronko
Stephen Greenjack, Jr.

Hieromonk Sebastian
William Romanick

Anton Humnik, Dallas, Pa.