



# ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA

DIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA AND PENNSYLVANIA

P.O. Box 11, South Canaan, Pennsylvania 18459

The Most Reverend KIPRIAN, Archbishop of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania (717) 937-4185

The Right Reverend HERMAN, Bishop of Wilkes-Barre (717) 937-4686

SEPTEMBER 1979

ARCHPASTORAL ADDRESS OF HIS EMINENCE, THE MOST REVEREND

K I P R I A N,

ARCHBISHOP OF PHILADELPHIA AND EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA

Reverend Fathers and Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

CHRIST IS IN OUR MIDST!

I greet and welcome all of you who have gathered at the Gus Genetti Motor Inn in the City of Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania for the occasion of the Sixteenth Diocesan Assembly.

The following events have taken place in our Diocese since the last Diocesan Assembly held at the Monastery/Seminary of St. Tikhon of Zadonsk in South Canaan, Pennsylvania on Saturday, September 9, 1978:

## 1978

October 1st: Priest Daniel Kovalak at his own request was transferred from the Diocese of the South to the Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania and assigned as the Rector of the Church of the Holy Cross in Williamsport, Pennsylvania.

October 12th: The 62nd Diocesan Council Meeting of our Diocese was conducted at the Church of the Holy Trinity in McAdoo, Pennsylvania.

Upon the resignation of Archpriest Daniel K. Donlick as the Secretary to the Diocesan Council, I appointed the Priest Robert S. Kondratich as the Secretary to the Diocesan Council.

Also, appointed was the Priest Dionysius Swencki as the Diocesan Director of Religious Education.

October 29th: Bishop Herman served the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy in the Mission of the Holy Trinity in Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania. A Liturgical Concert was sponsored by the parishioners of the Mission that afternoon.



- November 5th: Bishop Herman served the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy in the Church of St. John the Baptist in Edwardsville, Pennsylvania.
- November 15th: Priest John Chupeck at his own request was relieved from his duties as the Rector of the Church of St. Michael the Archangel in Old Forge, Pennsylvania and was transferred to the Diocese of New York and New Jersey for assignment.
- December 7th: A Pastoral Conference was convoked for all the Clergy of the Diocese at the Orthodox Seminary of St. Tikhon of Zadonsk in South Canaan, Pennsylvania. Many important questions were asked by the Clergy concerning Liturgical practices as they exist today.
- December 10th: Bishop Herman served the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy in the Church of St. Michael the Archangel in Old Forge, Pennsylvania followed by the parish annual meeting.
- December 12th: The 63rd Diocesan Council Meeting of our Diocese was convoked in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania and was presided over by Bishop Herman in my absence.
- December 29th: Archpriest John Kuchta at his own request was transferred from the Diocese of Western Pennsylvania and assigned to the Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania at the Church of St. Michael the Archangel in Old Forge, Pennsylvania.

## 1979

- January 1st: Archpriest Michael Chanda at his own request retired as an active priest of the Orthodox Church in America and from his duties as the Rector of the Church of All Saints in Olyphant, Pennsylvania.
- March 1st: Priest Michael Lepa was appointed Priest-in-Charge of the Church of All Saints in Olyphant, Pennsylvania.
- March 11th: Bishop Herman along with the Clergy of the Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania and myself conducted the beautiful Triumph of Orthodoxy Service in the Cathedral of the Holy Resurrection in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. There was a tremendous amount of Orthodox faithful in attendance. Also, the choir was composed with voices of parishioners from various parishes in the Diocese under the direction of the Archpriest Daniel Ressetar and Mr. Leonard Soroka. The Archpriest John Kuchta preached the homily.
- March - April Bishop Herman and I served the Divine Liturgy and Lenten Mission Services at various parishes in our Diocese throughout the entire Great Lenten Season.
- May 5th: His Beatitude, Metropolitan Theodosius and I served at the Seventy-fifth Anniversary Festivities of the Church of St. Nicholas in Olyphant, Pennsylvania. A grand banquet was held in the evening.



- May 13th: The Hierarchical Divine Liturgy was served at the Church of the Holy Trinity in Catasauqua, Pennsylvania in honor of the Eightieth Anniversary of the founding of the parish.
- May 15th: The 64th Diocesan Council Meeting of our Diocese was conducted at the Church of St. John the Baptist in Nanticoke, Pennsylvania.
- May 28th: The Seventy-fifth Annual Pilgrimage to our St. Tikhon's Monastery was held with a record number of Orthodox Clergy and Faithful in attendance. In addition to the two Hierarchical Divine Liturgies, many Liturgical Services were conducted throughout the day.
- June 1st: Priest David Lisko was released as the Acting Rector of the Church of St. Andrew in Dallas, Pennsylvania and assigned as the Rector of the Church of All Saints in Olyphant, Pennsylvania.
- June 1st: Priest Michael Lepa was released as the Priest-in-Charge of the Church of All Saints in Olyphant, Pennsylvania and attached to the Monastery of St. Tikhon of Zadonsk in South Canaan, Pennsylvania.
- June 3rd: The Hierarchical Divine Liturgy was served at the Church of St. Herman in Shillington, Pennsylvania in honor of the Sixth Anniversary of the founding of the parish. A banquet was held in the afternoon at which a building fund was established to purchase a new Iconostasis.
- June 10: Bishop Herman served the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy in the Church of the Holy Trinity in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.
- June 17: Bishop Herman served the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy and A Service of Thanksgiving in the Cathedral of the Holy Resurrection in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania in honor of the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the Rector, Archpriest Vladimir Petorak in the holy priesthood. A grand banquet was held in the evening.
- June 17: The Hierarchical Divine Liturgy was served at the Church of St. Mark in Buckingham, Pennsylvania.
- June 24th: Bishop Herman served Divine Liturgy at the Church of St. John the Baptist in Edwardsville, Pennsylvania and presided at a parish meeting.
- July 1st: Priest Nestor Geeza was released as the Rector of the Church of St. John the Baptist in Edwardsville, Pennsylvania and attached to the Monastery Church of St. Tikhon of Zadonsk in South Canaan, Pennsylvania.
- July 1st: Hieromonk Gamaliel (Allman) was released as the Administrator of the Church of SS. Peter and Paul in Uniondale, Pennsylvania and the Church of St. John the Baptist in Dundaff, Pennsylvania and attached to the Monastery Church of St. Tikhon of Zadonsk in South Canaan, Pennsylvania.



July 1st: Priest Michael Lepa was assigned as the Rector of the Church of SS. Peter and Paul in Uniondale, Pennsylvania and the Church of St. John the Baptist in Dundaff, Pennsylvania.

July 8th: Bishop Herman served the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy in the Church of the Assumption of the Holy Virgin in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and presided at a special church council meeting.

July 9th: Archpriest Basil Stroyen was assigned to take care of the pastoral needs of the Church of St. Andrew in Dallas, Pennsylvania.

July 15th: Reader John Kondratich was ordained to the Diaconate at the Church of St. John the Baptist in Mayfield, Pennsylvania and attached to that Church.

July 26th: The 65th Diocesan Council Meeting of our Diocese was conducted at the Church of St. John the Baptist in Nanticoke, Pennsylvania.

July 29th: Bishop Herman served the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy in the Church of St. Michael in Old Forge, Pennsylvania and presided at the special parish meeting.

August 26th: The Annual Patronal Feast of our Monastery of St. Tikhon of Zadonsk was commemorated with many of our venerable Clergy and Faithful in attendance.

September 1st: Priest John Adamcio was transferred from the Diocese of Western Pennsylvania and assigned to the Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania at the Church of St. Michael the Archangel in Old Forge, Pennsylvania.

Respectfully submitted,

*+ Kiprian,*

+KIPRIAN, Archbishop of Philadelphia  
and Eastern Pennsylvania

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# **Diocese of Philadelphia and Eastern Pennsylvania Orthodox Church in America**

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## **Report of the Secretary of the Diocesan Council**

The following report outlines the highlights of the Diocesan Council Meetings held since the last Diocesan Assembly held at St. Tikhon's Monastery/Seminary in South Canaan, Pennsylvania on September 9, 1978:

### **The 62nd Diocesan Council Meeting — October 12, 1978 — McAdoo, Pa.**

1. His Eminence, Archbishop Kiprian, announced the appointment of Priest Robert Kondratich as the Diocesan Council Secretary. Also, that his private correspondence would be done at the Chancery Office in South Canaan, Pennsylvania.
2. His Grace, Bishop Herman, Chairman of the Department of Missions of the Diocese, announced the Mission Church of Williamsport, Pennsylvania would be assigned a permanent priest and that the Mission Church would be given the name of the Elevation of the Holy Cross, upon their petition.
3. It was resolved that the Department of Religious Education would conduct various workshops, lectures and retreats in the Diocese during the forthcoming months. The Chairman, Priest Dionysius Swencki, announced that the Department would meet on a regular basis to formulate all plans.
4. It was resolved that the publication, Church and Home, would be combined with the Diocesan Newsletter, if publication costs could be curbed.
5. It was announced by His Grace, Bishop Herman that the Diocesan Assembly would be conducted for a two-day period, due to the announced retirement of His Eminence, Archbishop Kiprian, causing the election and nomination to the Holy Synod of a new Diocesan Bishop.
6. It was decided that the Diocesan Secretary, Priest Robert Kondratich, would be the chairperson of the Diocesan Assembly and would begin to formulate plans with the Diocesan Hierarchs.
7. His Eminence, Archbishop Kiprian, announced that a special Pastoral Conference would be held for all the Clergy of the Diocese on Thursday, December 7, 1978.
8. It was resolved that a special study would be conducted by members of the Diocesan Council for a permanent census and computerized mailing list of all adults and children of the Diocese.



### **The 63rd Diocesan Council Meeting — December 12, 1978 — Wilkes-Barre, Pa.**

1. Archpriest Joseph Martin and Mr. Donald Motel, our Diocesan representatives to the Metropolitan Council of the Orthodox Church in America, reported on the activities of this Council. They also announced that the All American Church Council would be held from November 9th thru the 14th, 1980, at Detroit, MI.
2. It was announced that Archpriest Sergius Kuharsky would be the new Chairman of the Department of Stewardship of the Orthodox Church in America.
3. Priest Robert Kondratick, Chairman of the Diocesan Assembly, announced that His Beatitude, Metropolitan Theodosius, would attend the Assembly scheduled for September 14th and 15th, 1979, and preside at the Special Assembly to elect and nominate a candidate to the Holy Synod. The Special Assembly would be held on Friday, September 14th and the regular Diocesan Assembly would be held on Saturday, September 15th.
4. It was resolved by the members of the Diocesan Council that His Eminence, Archbishop Kiprian, would be allotted the sum of \$150.00 per month from the Diocese as our retirement subsidy. It was further mentioned that the Archbishop would remain in his present home at St. Tikhon's Seminary and that the Seminary would be responsible for the utilities.
5. The Metropolitan Council meetings of the Orthodox Church in America expenses are close to \$20,000 per year and suggestions are needed from each Diocese as to how expenses could be limited. After a lengthy discussion by those present, it was resolved that each Diocese consider the full expenses for their local representatives. Our thoughts on this matter will be presented by Archpriest Joseph Martin and Mr. Donald Motel at their next meeting.

### **The 64th Diocesan Council Meeting — May 15, 1979 — Nanticoke, Pa.**

1. It was resolved that the Diocesan Secretary would prepare Census Forms to be given to each parish priest at the Diocesan Assembly. It was decided that His Grace, Bishop Herman, would explain the proper parish administration procedures at the Diocesan Assembly.
2. It was announced by Archpriest Joseph Martin that at the Metropolitan Council meeting it was decided that a special collection would be taken in all parishes of the Orthodox Church in America in support of SS. Cosmas and Damian Old Age Home in New York.
3. It was announced by His Eminence, Archbishop Kiprian, that he was in excellent health and would remain as the Archbishop of Philadelphia and Eastern Pennsylvania, and would not retire as planned.
4. Priest Robert Kondratick stated that after careful deliberations with the Diocesan Hierarchs that the Diocesan Assembly would still be held for a two-day period. There was a discussion concerning the Seminars on Religious Education and Stewardship that will take place at the Diocesan Assembly.
5. His Grace, Bishop Herman, announced that a new Department of Public Relations has been established for the Diocese. Priest Daniel Kovalak presented a full report to the Diocesan Council concerning the needs, aims and objectives of this new Department. The Diocesan Council approved this department, and it was suggested that a full report be given to the Diocesan Assembly.
6. The Diocesan Council appointed the following priests on the Nominating Committee for the Diocesan Assembly: Priest Michael Sekela, Priest Andrew Shuga and Priest Michael Michlik. It was resolved that the Nominating Committee would meet on Friday evening, September 14th at the Gus Genetti Motor Inn.



**The 65th Diocesan Council Meeting — July 26, 1979 - Nanticoke, Pa.**

1. It was announced by His Grace, Bishop Herman, Chairman of the Diocesan Mission Department, that he has received a letter from the National Department of Missions of the Orthodox Church in America that starting immediately that all mission parishes receiving monies from the National Department of Missions must be matched with equal funding from the Diocesan Mission Department.
2. It was resolved by the Diocesan Council that the Diocese would give \$200.00 per month in support of the Church of the Elevation of the Holy Cross in Williamsport, Pennsylvania, from the Mission Department Funds of the Diocese.
3. Archpriest Joseph Martin reported that the National Church hired Mr. Richard Riedy as a full-time treasurer for the Orthodox Church in America.
4. Priest Daniel Kovalak gave a full report on the forthcoming Seminar on Stewardship for the Diocesan Assembly.
5. Priest Dionysius Swencki gave a full report on the forthcoming Seminar on Religious Education for the Diocesan Assembly.
6. Priest Robert Kondratik presented the agenda for the forthcoming Diocesan Assembly. After a discussion of the above, the agenda for the 1979 Diocesan Assembly was approved.
7. Archpriest George Pawlush gave a complete report on his meeting with Attorney Jacob Russin pertaining to the Children's Home which houses the Diocesan Chancery and Auxiliary Bishop. A further study will be made to check on the actual recording of the property in Wayne County Courthouse and the results will be announced at a later date.
8. The Diocesan Budget was discussed and adopted for presentation to the Diocesan Assembly.
9. His Grace, Bishop Herman, announced that the final papers were received from Attorney Nicholas Barna of Wayne County, Pennsylvania, for the incorporation of the Diocese with the State of Pennsylvania.

*Respectfully submitted,*

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Robert S. Kondratik". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'R' and 'K'.

Priest Robert S. Kondratik  
Diocesan Secretary



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**PROPOSED BUDGET FOR DIOCESE — 1980**

**EXPENSES:**

**Salaries**

Archbishop Kiprian	\$3,000.00	
Bishop Herman	3,000.00	
Diocesan Secretary	600.00	
Private Secretary	600.00	
Treasurer	600.00	
Administrative Traveling Allowance	1,800.00	
Pension Archbishop	480.00	
Pension Bishop	480.00	
B/C - B/S - Archbishop	225.00	
B/C - B/S - Bishop	325.00	
Social Security	400.00	
	<u>          </u>	<b>\$11,510.00</b>

**Diocesan Center:**

Oil	\$4,600.00	
PP&L	1,200.00	
Telephone	250.00	
Gas	175.00	
Insurance	605.00	
Upkeep of Center	800.00	
	<u>          </u>	<b>\$ 7,630.00</b>

**Traveling Expenses:**

Metropolitan Council	\$1,500.00	
Diocesan Council (5)	850.00	
	<u>          </u>	<b>\$ 2,350.00</b>

**Diocesan Departments:**

Religious Education	\$1,500.00	
Newsletter	1,000.00	
Diocesan Choir	250.00	
Department of Stewardship	500.00	
Department of Public Relations	500.00	
	<u>          </u>	<b>\$ 3,750.00</b>

**Miscellaneous:**

	<u>\$ 550.00</u>	<b>\$ 550.00</b>
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**Rental:**

Donation to Seminary for the Archbishop Residence	<u>\$2,000.00</u>	<b>\$ 2,000.00</b>
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**Missionary:**

Department of Missions	<u>\$3,600.00</u>	<b>\$ 3,600.00</b>
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**TOTAL EXPENSES**

	<u><u>\$31,390.00</u></u>
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**PROPOSED INCOME:**

Assessment for parishes (7,000 adults at \$3.00)	\$21,000.00
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Missionary Drive	3,600.00
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**TOTAL PROPOSED INCOME**

	<u><u>\$24,600.00</u></u>
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