



GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

43rd CLERGY-LAITY CONGRESS

Nashville, TN – July 3 - 8, 2016

His Grace Bishop Andonios of Phasiane

Chancellor of the Archdiocese & Direct Archdiocesan District

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The Archdiocesan Office of the Chancellor is primarily responsible for matters related to the clergy of the Holy Archdiocese of America, assuring their overall well-being, first assignments and clergy between assignments, continuing education and any benefits provided to them by the Church. To this end, the Office works closely with the Archdiocesan Presbyters Council (APC) as well as the Clergy Care and Development Committee of the Archdiocesan Council.

The office maintains up-to-date files and databases for all clergy and parishes throughout the United States. Moreover, the Chancellor's Office is charged by the Holy Eparchial Synod with processing all applications for ordination as well as for incardination from other Orthodox ecclesial entities.

The Chancellor's Office also coordinates and administers the Taylor Scholarship which provides grants primarily to graduates of Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology pursuing advanced degrees in theological studies and in

pastoral training. In addition, this office administers and processes applications for the Trakatellis, Gioles, Malta and Paleologos Scholarships.

Clergy Statistics: Since the July 2014 Clergy-Laity Congress in Philadelphia, there have been **38 individuals ordained to the Holy Deaconate**. Of these, **6 were ordinations to the special (“permanent”) deaconate program**, a course of study established by the Holy Eparchial Synod to facilitate the diaconal ordination of individuals to meet the growing needs of the parishes of the Archdiocese. During the same period of time, **35 deacons were ordained presbyters**, a total of **6 clergy were accepted into the Holy Archdiocese of America** from other Orthodox Churches and jurisdictions while **2 were released**. Moreover, **14 of our priests officially retired** from active service but a number of these dedicated individuals are still serving the Archdiocese in some capacity while **30 clergymen fell asleep in the Lord**.

Parishes and Monasteries: A function of the Archdiocesan Office of the Chancellery is the issuance of charters to new established communities in the United States thus recognizing their full canonical status. During this period, one new parish was established (Cottonwood Heights, UT) but has not yet received a charter.

During the past two years, no new monastic communities were established.

Direct Archdiocesan District: On behalf of His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios who is the presiding hierarch, this office also oversees the 63 parishes of the Direct Archdiocesan District and is responsible for assignments of clergy as well as coordinating the plethora of ministries of the District such as Camp St. Paul, Marriage Preparation Seminars, Parathosis Dance Festival, Parish Council Seminars, etc.

Vicariate for Palestinian/Jordanian Christian Orthodox Communities in the USA: The Vicariate was created to encompass the clergy and 8 communities in the USA which had been under the Patriarchate of Jerusalem. They are directly under the Archbishop of America, and the Chancellery acts on behalf of His Eminence regarding matters of ordinations, registry and other ecclesial issues. Since the last Congress, there were **2 individuals ordained to the diaconate, one of whom was later ordained a presbyter**.