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Membership Renewal

February 2022



OCWA Myrrhbearers

A message from our Chairperson:

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Saint Matthew's Gospel Chapter 1:18-23 tells us of the birth of Christ. These verses tell us of the supernatural conception from the Holy Spirit of the Son of God. This is a movement from the spiritual realm to the natural realm. These verses show us that this is our wonderful process as well. A seed of the Godhead can be planted in our hearts and we as Mary are to feed, guide, protect and nourish it into birth.

Now during this season of birthing all God's promises, let us make, with God's help, what is heavenly brought to what is earthly. Like Mary may we be stewards and bring to birth what is sent to us by the Holy Spirit. What we carry inside must be manifest on the outside.

We pray that in Jesus name, may we birth the seeds of life that God has given us and carry them from the spiritual realm to this earthly realm for all our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Blessings,

Janet Christopoulos

Chairperson

SAVE THE DATE AND JOIN US FOR:

Dr. Mary P. Hallick Scholarship Dinner & OCWA Slava

Thursday, May 12, 2022

Alioto's Restaurant

3041 North Mayfair Road, Wauwatosa

Guest Speaker:

Dr. John M. Mamalakis MD

*"Navigating In the Future During
Uncertain Times."*

**Cost: \$27 OCWA Members
\$30 Non-Members \$24 Students**

MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW

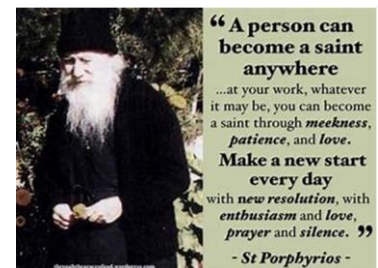
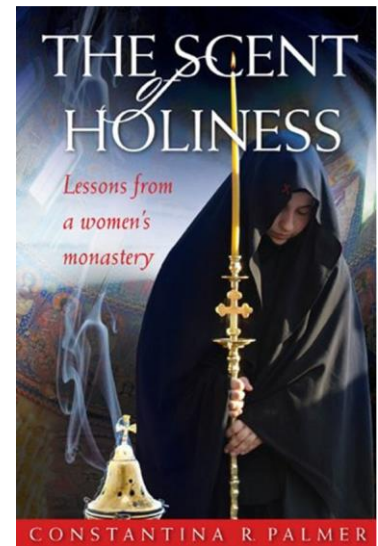
We are accepting non-perishable food items at the registration table to be given to the food pantry.

Turning The Pages With Popadija Cheri Radovancevic :

A Book Review of The Scent of Holiness by Matushka Constantina R. Palmer

When people ask me what book I would recommend when just getting started with exploring the world of Orthodox stories and writing, I always love to suggest The Scent of Holiness by Matushka Constantina R. Palmer. This is such a lovely, very comfortably written story about her experiences learning about monastery life through a visitor's eyes. Constantina and her husband lived in Thessaloniki, Greece before he was ordained and when studying in the school of theology there. It was then that she started visiting a local women's monastery. Her stories are filled with curiosity, humility, humor, love and faith. She shares about how she learned the ways to be an Orthodox pilgrim by making mistakes that were gently corrected by the nuns (who became lifelong friends) and by observing and immersing in monastery life as a visitor. Some of the mysteries of life in the monastery are shared. I read this book before visiting Orthodox monasteries in the U.S. and Serbia, and so much of her writing has helped me to be more prepared and deepen these experiences. Here are just a few examples. It is natural when making a pilgrimage to a monastery and staying overnight that you may be concerned when learning that you will not have much sleep, as some services start in the middle of the night. But when you sleep at a monastery, God blesses you with double the rest, making waking up for prayer so much easier. Also, the food at a monastery tastes like some of the most gourmet food you can ever have, even though it is simple. Constantina shares that this is because the tradition is that food is made by monastics who are saying the Jesus Prayer, which blesses the food with Grace and love. I had a simple morel mushroom gravy over gluten-free biscuits at Saint Archangel Michael Skete in Missouri, and it was like having a Michelin-star gourmet meal. The Grace in the monastery is so comforting, and what Matushka Constantina refers to as the scent of holiness, like the greatest love that your mother has ever shown you. This is the love through Christ, His Holy Mother and the Saints. I was always a fan of fiction books and was in a book club to read the best sellers with a group of friends. After reading this book, however, I changed, and it started me down a path of reading Orthodox books and the experiences of so many that we can learn from and enrich life through. If you have tried to read heavier dogmatic Orthodox books in the past and found them difficult to follow, please do not stay away from these treasures forever. There are so many amazing Orthodox books that are truly captivating and life changing. You can get absorbed in these books and find yourself turning to them more and more. Books like this one can be found online, and for anyone living nearby, there is a wonderful bookstore with English books at Saint John Chrysostom Monastery in Pleasant Prairie, Wisconsin. When you enter the Monastery, turn right to the Panagia (Mother of God) Quick to Hear Chapel building, and the bookstore and bakery is inside right down the hall. There you will find stories about the lives of Saint Paisios, Saint Porphyrios, Saint Nektarios, Saint Nikiforos and countless others. Such joy to meet them through their stories!

An Orthodox
BOOK REVIEW!



The OCWA Prayer TREE

MaryAnn Lindberg

Please Join our Prayer Tree!!!

If you would like to be included or would like the OCWA prayer tree to pray for you or someone you love, simply email MaryAnn @ maryann.lindberg@gmail.com
As Orthodox Christians, we know the value and importance of praying for others. God hear our prayer!

INTRO to ORTHODOXY Catechism Class

"Everything you wanted to know about the Orthodox faith...but were too shy to ask!"

Starting Monday nights (January 24th) for a Pan-Orthodox 6-session seminar covering all the core beliefs of the Orthodox Church. Classes run from 7-8:15 pm and will be held both "in-person" and via zoom (see links below). Also the classes will be held at various southeastern Wisconsin parishes (see below).

Monday, January 24- *Introduction*

Fr. Constantine Bodien

@ Kimissis Tis Theotokou Church, 1335 S. Green Bay Road, Racine

Monday, January 31st- *God/Holy Trinity*

Fr. Tom Mueller

@ Ss. Constantine & Helen Church, 2160 North Wauwatosa Avenue, Wauwatosa

Monday, February 7th- *Mankind/Creation/Fall/Messiah*

Fr. Elijah Mueller

@ Ss. Cyril & Methodius, 2505 S. 30th Street, Milwaukee

Monday, February 14th- *Christ*

Fr. David Moga

@ St. Nicholas Church, N65W6503 Cleveland Street, Cedarburg

Monday, February 21st- *Church (What is it?)*

Fr. Ciprian Sas

@ Annunciation Church, 9400 W. Congress Street, Milwaukee

Monday, February 28th- *Sacraments*

Fr. John Ketchum

@ Kimissis Tis Theotokou Church, 1335 S. Green Bay Road, Racine

Join us via zoom at: <https://tinyurl.com/5ahwmuxz>

For more information, contact Fr. Panteleimon Dalianis at father.pgd@gmail.com

BIBLE STUDY CLASSES in our Orthodox Community:

Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church has "ORTHODOX LIFE CLASSES" on Tuesdays at 10:30 am. Location: 9400 West Congress Street, Wauwatosa in the Cultural Center.

St. Sava has Bible Study Classes on Thursdays at 10 am & 6:30 pm.
Location: 3201 S. 51st Street, Milwaukee in the Board Room at the Cultural Center.

Ss. Constantine & Helen has Bible Study Classes on Fridays at 10:30 am.
Location: 2160 West Wauwatosa Avenue, Milwaukee.

Everyone Welcome!

“The Theotokos and The Nativity... Exploring Her Role, Beginning at the Temple”



On November 13, 2021, we had a wonderful presentation by Presbytera Rebecca Luft, PhD of Ss. Cyril and Methodius Orthodox Church. We enjoyed celebrating Matins together, followed by breakfast and Rebecca's presentation. Thanks to all who participated in this educational opportunity.



RECIPES from our OCWA Bless the Food and Drink Cookbook:

If you haven't gotten this cookbook, reach out to Zoki Miskov at eadsmom@att.net to secure a copy as a great gift for wedding showers or even birthdays. We do have aprons available too! In the meantime, enjoy this recipe!

Halftime Chili pg. 76 Submitted by Valentina Kirykowitz

2 T olive oil	½ tsp dried thyme
1 ½ cups chopped onion	1 (28 oz) can crushed tomatoes
8 large garlic cloves	1 (14.5 oz) can of low salt chicken broth
2- 2 ½ pounds of ground chuck	1 (12 oz) bottle of beer
5 tsp chili powder	1 (6 oz) can tomato paste
1 tsp ground cumin	2 (15 oz) cans of chili beans
1 tsp dried basil	1 can of black beans
1 tsp dried oregano	

Heat oil in a heavy large Dutch oven pan. Add onions and chopped garlic cloves. Saute until translucent. Add ground chuck and saute until brown, breaking up meat with the back of a spoon. Add chili powder, cumin, basil, oregano, and thyme. Stir for 2 minutes. Mix in crushed tomatoes, chicken broth, beer and tomato paste. Simmer until thickened to desired consistency, stirring occasionally to prevent sticking, about 1 hour 15 minutes. Mix in beans. Simmer 5 minutes more. Season to taste. Can be prepared 3 days ahead. Refrigerate. Warm over low heat to serve.

Serving at The Shelter

Diane Markovina has done a great job keeping the OCWA involved in serving food at the Cathedral Center. On January 2, 2022, OCWA provided monies for the Cathedral Center shelter and Friendship House to purchase pizzas, since there were still Covid restrictions in place. Going forward, OCWA is responsible for serving on the FIRST Sunday of every month (except for July and September). Our next few dates will be February 6th, March 6th, April 3rd, and May 1st. If you are interested in helping out, contact Diane Markovina @ holyamamarko@wi.rr.com.

The Blessing of the Waters

In spite of the cold temperatures, on Sunday, January 23, 2022, clergy and devote Orthodox Christians gathered on the shore of Lake Michigan to celebrate the Blessing of Outdoor Waters. This short service consisted of prayers and included the throwing and retrieval of the cross into the lake. This ancient Orthodox tradition, which is experienced worldwide, commemorates the event of the Lord's baptism, the revelation of the Holy Trinity, and also expresses Orthodoxy's belief that creation is sanctified through

Christ. You can watch the video of this blessing at:

www.tinyurl.com/OutdoorBlessingofLakeMichigan

The Pan-Orthodox Young Adult League (YAL)

Come join a group of "college & older" Orthodox singles to build lifetime friendships, while learning more about our faith. This group has enjoyed meeting for Buck's games, dinners, and just hanging out together. Don't be shy...grab a friend or two and join us! Any questions or if you want to get on our mailing, please send an email to Vivian Limberatos at vivianvivi007@gmail.com Put "YAL" as the subject!

PLEASE FILL OUT AND RETURN THIS PAGE!

Use this form to become an OCWA member or to renew your membership for 2022.

Renew Your Membership TODAY

- Become a member of the only inter-Orthodox women's group in Wisconsin and one of the few associations of its kind in the nation.
- Carry out the OCWA mission by increasing fellowship and providing greater visibility among inter-Orthodox parishes.
- Be invited to participate in our organization's activities and service projects, such as our volunteer opportunities, retreats, scholarship dinner, and more.
- Have discounted rates for our events.
- Our annual fee is \$25, and covers the full year from January through December. This fee helps support our charitable giving efforts, including our scholarship awards program, Orthodox Christian Mission Center's "Support a Parish Priest," and charitable giving to families in need.
- Bring a friend to join with you!

Any questions? Call or email Tutty Astin

@ 262.751.3556

mickeymousecrazy@aol.com

Name

Address

City, State, Zip

Best phone number cell/landline
(circle)

Email address
(for newsletter and announcements)

Parish Affiliation

\$25 Annual Membership Fee

\$ _____

Donation for charitable causes

\$ _____

Total Amount enclosed

\$ _____

**Please include a check,
payable to OCWA, with this
membership application and
mail to:**

Tutty Astin

**W158 N11137 Legend Avenue
Germantown, WI 53022**