

## **Metropolitan Tikhon, seminary deans, guests of Malankara Church**

**KOTTAYAM, KERALA, INDIA** – At the invitation of His Holiness, Catholicos Baselios Marthoma Paulose II of the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church, His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon, delivered an address at the 200th Anniversary of the Orthodox Theological Seminary here November 26, 2015.

Traveling with Metropolitan Tikhon were Archpriest Dr. Steven Voytovich, Dean of Saint Tikhon's Seminary, and Archpriest Dr. John Behr, Dean of Saint Vladimir's Seminary. In recent years, the Orthodox Church in America has developed a strong relationship with the Malankara Church in North America through its seminaries, at which many Malankarese clergy and lay leaders have studied. Metropolitan Zachariah is a member of Saint Vladimir's Seminary Board of Trustees, while two Malankarese clergy, Priest M. K. Kuriakose and Priest Dr. Varghese M. Daniel, serve on the faculties of Saint Tikhon's and Saint Vladimir's seminaries respectively.

Metropolitan Tikhon also spoke at ceremonies in remembrance of the seminary's founder, Metropolitan Joseph Mar Dionysius, and at events marking the opening of the Sopana Academy for Studies in Theology and Culture.

The ancient Malankara Church traces its origin to the Apostle Thomas. It numbers about 1000 parishes in India and another 200 parishes in North America. ■ **FULL STORY:** <http://oca.org/news/headline-news/metropolitan-tikhon-seminary-deans-participate-in-malankara-church-celebrat>



**Metropolitan Tikhon, Frs. Behr and Voytovich with Catholicos Baselios Marthoma Paulos II.**

### **A reminder...**

Parishes are asked to duplicate and distribute **OCAreview** monthly, especially to those without internet access who desire printed highlights of OCA web site postings.

## **OCA Treasurer's report for January-September 2015 released**

**SYOSSET, NY** – The financial report for the first three quarters of 2015, prepared by Melanie Ringa, Treasurer of the Orthodox Church in America, was released in mid-November.

"Year to date, through September 30, 2015, expenses were under budget by \$107,054.00," Ms. Ringa noted. "Total revenues for the same period were under budget by only \$18,856.00, representing slightly lower assessments and lower Chapel and Continuing Ed revenues." ■ **FULL STORY:** <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/oca-treasurers-report-for-first-three-quarters-of-2015-released>

## **On-line series on saints launched by Youth Department**

**SYOSSET, NY** – In mid-November, the Department of Youth, Young Adult, and Campus Ministry launched a new on-line series, "Saints You Missed in Sunday School," which highlights the lives of some of the Church's lesser known saints.

"The lives of our saints demonstrate the continuous preaching of the Gospel and encourage us to engage in missionary work, deeper prayer, and acts of mercy," said Andrew Boyd, OCA Youth Director. "We hope to present these saints in a way that's easier to share on social media and through other digital means." ■ **FULL STORY:** <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/oca-youth-department-launches-saints-you-missed-in-sunday-school>

## **Christ is born! Glorify Him!**

### **Metropolitan Tikhon prays at French Embassy**

**WASHINGTON, DC** – On November 14, 2015, His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon visited the French Embassy here to pay respect to those who lost their lives as a result of the multiple terrorist attacks on Paris, France one day earlier.

"On behalf of the Orthodox Church in America, I offer my condolences to the people of France, to the citizens of Paris, and to the President for this terrible tragedy endured in the land of France," said Metropolitan Tikhon in English and



French. "We offer our prayers that indeed such events will cease and that people will come to reason and to understand that life is important and death accomplishes nothing, certainly not senseless death."

On the same day, the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the USA issued a statement on the attacks.

"We convey our deep condolences  
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## 100th Anniversary of St. Raphael's repose

**BROOKLYN, NY** – At the invitation of His Eminence, Metropolitan Joseph of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America, His Eminence, Archbishop Michael of New York and New Jersey represented the Orthodox Church in America at the celebration of the Divine Liturgy



marking the 100th Anniversary of the repose of St. Raphael of Brooklyn at St. Nicholas Antiochian Orthodox Cathedral here November 7, 2015.

Hierarchs, clergy and faithful from throughout the New York area, representing many jurisdictions, participated in the historic gathering in the cathedral, which was established by St. Raphael in 1895. ■ **FULL STORY:** <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/100th-anniversary-of-the-repose-of-st.-raphael-commemorated-at-antiochian-c>

## Orthodox end-of-life resources now available

**SYOSSET, NY** – In early November, the Orthodox Church in America's Department of Christian Service and Humanitarian Aid [CSHA] released resources addressing end-of-life issues from the Orthodox Christian perspective.

"While the Department has provided related materials for years, there seemed to be a gap in resources to guide Orthodox Christians in making faith-informed decisions," said Donna Karabin, CSHA Chair.

"A Gift For My Loved Ones" contains everything necessary to know should one become disabled or incapacitated and unable to make decisions on one's own. It includes a Health Care Power of Attorney and Advance Directive for Health Care/Living Will. A companion resource, "Another Gift For My Loved Ones," includes a wealth of necessary information concerning funerals and burial – an Advance Directive for Funeral Care.

"We urge clergy and faithful to familiarize themselves with these resources and to reflect and pray about personal desires for medical treatment options, end-of-life care, and related issues," added Mrs. Karabin. ■ **FULL STORY:** <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/orthodox-christian-end-of-life-resources-now-available>

## SVOTS awarded \$250K Luce Foundation Grant

**YONKERS, NY** – On November 20, 2015, the Henry Luce Foundation announced that a \$250,000.00 grant has been awarded to St. Vladimir's Seminary here to fund a three-year study of the Sacred Arts. Through a series of conferences, workshops, and seminars to be held in the fall of 2016 through the spring of 2018, the grant will allow seminary faculty to survey the current state of Sacred Arts and explore the distinctive contribution Orthodox theology can make within it. Dr. Peter C. Bouteneff, SVOTS Professor of Systematic Theology, and Deacon Evan Freeman, doctoral candidate in the History of Art at Yale University and Lecturer in Liturgical Art at the seminary, will direct the series.

The grant award was given through the Henry Luce Foundation's Theology Program, which aims to "advance understanding of religion and theology" through projects that "cross religious, disciplinary, and geographic borders," and through support for "scholarship that is theoretically sophisticated, historically informed, critically reflexive, and practically invested. ■ **FULL STORY:** <https://oca.org/news/headline-news/henry-luce-foundation-awards-st.-vladimirs-seminary-250000-for-sacred-arts>

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Father John Matusiak, Editor  
[info@oca.org](mailto:info@oca.org)

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## Prayers at Embassy

to those who have lost loved ones, and we beseech the Lord Jesus Christ to grant a speedy recovery to those injured and eternal repose to those who have fallen asleep," the statement reads in part. "We condemn these barbaric acts against humanity, and during this worrisome time we draw strength from the words of Saint Peter, who encourages us to 'cast all of our anxieties onto Christ, because He cares for us'" [1 Peter 5:7]. ■ **FULL STORY:** <https://oca.org/media/photos/metropolitan-tikhon-pays-respects-to-terrorist-victims-at-dcs-french-embass>

## In Memoriam

- **Archpriest Frank Timpko**, who in retirement was attached to St. Paul Cathedral, Dearborn Heights, MI, fell asleep in the Lord November 16, 2015. **FULL STORY:** <https://oca.org/in-memoriam/archpriest-frank-timpko>
- **Deacon David Fabula**, who was attached to St. Andrew Church, Delta, CO, fell asleep in the Lord November 12, 2015. **FULL STORY:** <https://oca.org/in-memoriam/deacon-david-fabula>
- **Priest Jose Raul Valencia Salinas**, a retired cleric of the Diocese of Mexico, fell asleep in the Lord November 10, 2015. **FULL STORY:** <https://oca.org/in-memoriam/priest-jose-raul-valencia-salinas>
- **Sister Brigid [Savage]**, a Companion of New Skete, Cambridge, NY, fell asleep in the Lord November 5, 2015. **FULL STORY:** <https://oca.org/in-memoriam/sister-brigid-savage>