

## Winter Newsletter 2014

Beloved of God, we greet you with the winter feasts and fast of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ. So much has occurred in the past six months it will be difficult to mention it all! Over the summer, we had numerous events in corroboration with the Seminary: Continuing Education for Clergy, a PATRAM Choir workshop with Vladimir Gorbik, a Women's Retreat at



the Seminary (which Fr. Sergius helped to lead) and of course our yearly summer camp. All of which were a great success by the mercy of God and those who helped in various ways. During this time our bell tower was renovated and we installed a new platform on which to ring the bells. This makes bell ringing here much easier. We hope to have a bell-ringing workshop next summer 2015 so stay tuned to our website at [stikhonsmonastery.org](http://stikhonsmonastery.org) or see the

St. Tikhon's Monastery Facebook page.

At the end of the summer, the Society of Friends assisted the Monastery in re-carpeting the entire Church! Special thanks to the many members and board of the Society who helped with so great a need! If you are interested in becoming a member of the Society of Friends, please contact the Monastery for more details.



On July 27<sup>th</sup>, we hosted our annual St. Anna's Feast day with Her Miraculous Icon (it is held on the Sunday closest to Her Feast day of July 25<sup>th</sup>). Many gathered from all over for the Moleben, Procession and Anointing that takes place at 2 p.m. The event is a yearly event open to the general public and is a wonderful blessing to all. Next year the event will take place on July 26<sup>th</sup>, so please join us.



St. Tikhon's Feast day (August 13<sup>th</sup>) was a great success with Metropolitan Tikhon, Bishop Mark, and eighteen priests! Many of the faithful attended and partook of the festive trapeza meal following the Liturgy. Please mark your calendars to join us next year.

Our Food Pantry at 920 Robinson Street in Scranton continues to do wonderful work under the supervision of Michael and Arlene Pasonick. This year at Thanksgiving, the Food Pantry gave over one hundred turkeys away to those in need! The Pantry is open every Wednesday and Friday from



11:30 am to 1 pm and Saturdays from 12 pm to 1 pm. For more information contact the monastery or visit the Pantry during the hours of operation. All are welcome.



The fathers and brothers continue to labor making candles, painting icons, visiting parishes and helping a lot at the Seminary. Fr. Basil is in charge of the maintenance on both sides of the street. The Seminary and Monastery keep him busy with boilers, lights and the like. Fr. Gabriel continues to serve at Holy Annunciation Greek Parish in Wilkes-Barre. The monastery is currently supervising and assisting in the renovation of the Wilkes-Barre Parish, with our iconographer Ivan and subcontractor Matthew Remak. Fr. Athanasius visited several parishes with St. Anna and served

for a couple of weeks at a mission in Florida. Fr. Sergius and Fr. Michael also traveled with St. Anna to San Francisco and the greater Detroit Area respectively.



Representing the OCA, Bishop Mark and Fr. Sergius traveled to Russia for the 700<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of St. Sergius. After meeting with and being hosted by the His Holiness Patriarch Kyril, they visited various holy sites and served with the Patriarch and all the representative sister Churches at Trinity St. Sergius Lavra for the feast day of St. Sergius.

The bookstore has done much this year to progress in assisting the Church in various ways. Our new website for the Bookstore is up and running so please visit us at [stspress.com](http://stspress.com). The new priest service book with many improvements will be available during the last week in November. Our new calendar, created by one of the

monastics, is currently shipping. We are particularly grateful to God for this hand illustrated icon calendar which we feel is the best yet! Please contact the bookstore for details. A new vintage of our sacramental wine is now available for purchase (twenty percent sweeter.) It is now available for pick up at the Monastery (please forgive but we currently cannot ship it).

In October, the Kursk Root Icon visited with his Grace, Bishop Nicholas of Manhattan (ROCOR.) A wonderfully inspiring event, his Grace was warmly received by the entire community. We are grateful to God for Her visitation and look forward to hosting them again in the future.

We also would like to thank all of our many supporters and friends of St. Tikhon's Monastery. We continue to serve the Liturgy daily, offering up prayers



on your behalf and for the entire world. We would also like to especially recognize our Millennial Members who support the monastery with a one thousand dollar a year pledge. In return, these 40+ members are remembered daily at Liturgy and special services and receive all the new publications from the Bookstore for free. If you would like to renew or become a millennial member, just return your pledge with your prayer card today and we will remember you for the entire year!

In May 2015 we look forward to having the Myrrh-streaming Iveron Icon from Hawaii visit again for Memorial Day 2015 and are preparing to host a Metropolitan Leonty

Symposium on May 14, 2015. For more information about the Symposium, please contact the Seminary.

Finally, it is with sadness we announce the passing of two great benefactors of the Monastery and Seminary, Paul Koronchik and Eugene Abolins. Both loved the Monastery and we loved them. May their memory be eternal!

We ask God's continued blessing upon you all as we enter the new civil year of 2015 and thank you once again for being a part our St. Tikhon's Monastery community family. If you have any special requests, don't hesitate to contact us through the website at [Sttikhonsmonastery.org](http://Sttikhonsmonastery.org) or at [abbotsergius@gmail.com](mailto:abbotsergius@gmail.com) or contact us at 570-937-4390. We wish you all a blessed Nativity!

Sincerely in Christ,  
St Tikhon's Monastery Brotherhood