

2017 Winter Newsletter

We again greet you with the joy of the Nativity fast which offers to us a time to prepare to meet our Lord. We reflect back with you on the past six months and look ahead to a new year.

This year on Memorial Day, Metropolitan Tikhon presided with visiting hierarchs and clergy from around America as we welcomed once again the Myrrh-Streaming Hawaiian Icon of the Mother of God. Many faithful came (in spite of the rain) and enjoyed the blessing of the Monastery pilgrimage. We continue to be amazed every year at how God pours out a special grace to all those who come in pilgrimage during those blessed days. The pilgrimage was originally instituted by St. Tikhon of Moscow at the Monastery's founding in 1905, to be the primary day of pilgrimage to the Monastery, and a corporate remembrance for soldiers and those in the Church who served and were faithful.



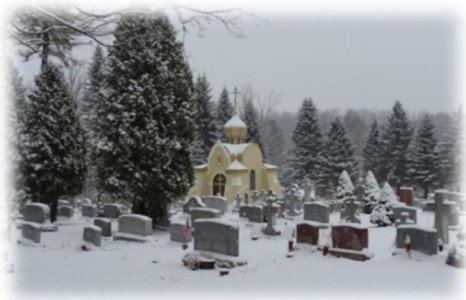
In June of this year, Archimandrite Sergius and Hierodeacon Maximus visited the Orthodox Church in Japan and were enriched by the culture and life of the faithful there. The picture to the right shows the fathers with the members of the Kyoto Parish.



In July, we celebrated St. Anna's day which was attended by many from far and near to honor the Grandmother of our Lord Jesus Christ and Her miraculous Icon which is enshrined here at the monastery. St. Anna continues to offer miraculous help to those who are sick or in need, and especially to those who cannot have children. We just met this past summer a few of those new babies that were granted by St. Anna's prayers! In the past six months, St. Anna visited South Carolina (with Riassaphore monk Daniel), parishes in New Jersey, Michigan, Philadelphia, and across Pennsylvania. If you would like have Her visit your parish, contact us through our website today at sttikhonsmonastery.org.



The Brotherhood of the Monastery continues to be involved with many aspects of the Church's ministry: Igumen Gabriel continues to serve at Holy Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church in Wilkes-Barre and teaches Greek at the Seminary. Hieromonk Innokenty works as the head of shipping for the bookstore. Hieromonk Herman works in the Bookstore publishing department, teaches Spirituality at the Seminary, and visits various parishes for retreats. Hierodeacon Maximus is currently the Bookstore Artistic director. Riassaphore monk Michael continues to work at the Seminary Library. Riassaphore monk Daniel is in charge of the cemetery and directs the monastic choir. Monk Nicodemus continues to work as the Church Sacristan. Monk Kyril helps to maintain the grounds and various house-hold needs. Riassaphore monk Anton is in charge of painting and artistic projects in Church. Novice Stephen is the guest master and helps with the roasting of our Burning Bush Coffee. Novice Stephanos is in charge of our candle factory, making candles for our Church and many parishes. Novices Paul and Kevin joined us at Memorial Day and have a variety of obediences helping the community. Finally, we welcome Archimandrite Daniel who recently joined us after retiring from his Antiochian parish in Kansas.



St. Tikhon's Cemetery recently opened a new, large section behind the Mausoleum and cemetery plots are available for \$1350.00 per plot (not including grave opening and closing.) Purchasing a cemetery plot is an easy way to support St. Tikhon's Monastery and provides a peaceful and holy place for you and your loved ones to be prayerfully remembered until the Second Coming. Consider restfully abiding in a holy place where perpetual prayers and blessings are constantly made for those who repose here. Also, for those who would like to place flowers on graves in our cemetery,

but cannot physically do so, you can now call Gary Pozza (our Florist in South Canaan) and he will take care of placement for you when you are in need. Gary can be reached at (570) 937-4600.

The monastery recently built a greenhouse for growing plants, vegetables, and flowers. The greenhouse will provide a year round growing environment for us, and will be a place of green refuge in the long winter months.



The monastery bookstore published several new titles this Fall and will have a new edition of the Divine Liturgy book available December 18th. It has a genuine leather cover, gold foil embossed onion leaf paper and several cloth ribbons. We hope it will contribute to the beauty of the Church's Liturgy. The Monastery Liturgical Calendar for 2018 features beautiful photographs submitted by OCA Churches from across America. We hope you will enjoy the unique photos for this year's calendar.



In October, the Monastery hosted the gathering (Synaxis) of the Monastic Superiors from across America. Twelve monastic superiors gathered in fellowship and prayer with Metropolitan Tikhon and our monastery brotherhood. All in attendance were greatly edified and enjoyed Metropolitan Tikhon's hospitality who has led the gathering for the past several years. After the Synaxis ended, Fr. Zacharias of Essex (a disciple of Fr. Sophrony and St. Silouan) joined us for several talks to the monastery

brotherhood, seminarians, and the general public. All who heard Fr. Zacharias were greatly inspired by the prophetic ministry of a true holy elder. You can listen to his talks on line at the St. Tikhon's Seminary YouTube site for more information.



We want to extend a special thanks to our Monastery Millennial Members who gave \$1,000.00 or more during the past year to help with our outreach and multi-faceted ministries. We are very grateful! Millennial members are remembered at Liturgy every day and receive all the new publications of St. Tikhon's Monastery Bookstore. Consider becoming a Millennial Member today! When you send in your donation, record in the memo field "Millennial Membership 2018". Thank you for all your support and prayers for America's oldest Orthodox Monastery. We are thankful to God for your love and kindness to us. May the Lord reward you and bless you and your families during this Nativity Season.

With love in Christ,
St. Tikhon's Monastery Brotherhood