

ST. TIKHON'S MONASTERY NEWSLETTER

Summer 2022

We have been preparing for our Memorial Day Pilgrimage for the first time in three years, as we have not been able to host the pilgrimage since 2019! We're looking forward to seeing the pilgrims and supporters of the monastery and seminary visit for a beautiful weekend with His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon and the Hawaiian-Iveron myrrh-streaming icon of the Mother of God. Since we last wrote in December, we have been working diligently to beautify the churches, chapels, and grounds, as well as continuing with the full round of daily services, including praying for your requests and for the entire world.



At the beginning of this year, St. Tikhon's Monastery in partnership with the local community opened a Burning Bush Café franchise in Carbondale, about a twelve-minute drive from the Monastery. It is our hope that the coffeeshop will provide a local witness for the monastery to the local community as well as provide community service and outreach. Business is doing well, and there are also homemade doughnuts, so if you're in the area, drop in!

The monastery opened a music school for training choir directors last Fall with three students in the pilot program. It is a one-year residency with hands-on experience and many

opportunities for enrichment and growth. If you or someone you know has the aptitude and ability with a desire to advance in choral directing, please visit the music program website at sttikhonsmusicprogram.com or contact Archimandrite Sergius at abbotsergius@gmail.com. Please also consider supporting this program any way you can since choral music is at the heart of the Orthodox theological vision and provides an unparalleled opportunity to offer our faith to the world. Without your support this new school might not be able to survive long-term, despite the desperate need for trained choir directors in our parishes. Please consider how to help!

The brotherhood continues to struggle and pray, working for the good of all. There are now twenty-one of us, and we're again running out of room! Publications, teaching, making coffins, writing music books, making icons and icon boards, roasting coffee, serving services, and visiting parishes and parishioners: these are just a few of



things the monastics do for the Church. We are always grateful for your continued support as you make all of these things possible.

Recently, Rassophore-monk George and seminarian Deacon Herman Belt delivered a commissioned painting by Fr. George to Justice Samuel Alito of the Supreme Court. Art and artistic development on all levels is very important to our monastery brotherhood. Our new icon school building will have its groundbreaking on June 4, and the excavating and foundation should be completed, God willing, by the end of June. Thanks to the Kulik Endowment (funds of which are restricted just for the purpose of the icon school), the icon studio will be built to further not only the iconographic arts but also woodworking, church furniture, and other liturgical arts. We are indebted to the late Reader Theodore and Victoria Kulik for remembering the monastery with their endowment. May the Lord always remember them in His Kingdom!



Thanks to your support, the mercy of God, and our maintenance men Matt and Matt, our kitchen has been renovated and redesigned. Our old kitchen cabinets were severely damaged by water and were completely rotted through, so we are very grateful for the work! The new additions and different configuration are a great improvement and we are grateful to God to be back in our own trapeza after nearly a month of meals in the parish hall.

During the week of the Myrrh-bearing Women, Dennis Beach, a world-renowned tree sculptor, came to the monastery and, out of a single tree stump near the bell tower, produced a carving of our monastery's founder, St. Tikhon of Moscow. The carving stands facing the altar of the monastery church as a reminder to all passersby that our Founder remains with us, giving us his blessing and watching over and helping us to this today.

To close, we would like to offer special thanks to all our millennial patrons who have provided major support throughout the years, support that enables us to go beyond the basics to reach higher and to proclaim Orthodoxy to the world in so many ways. We appreciate all of you together with everyone who supports St. Tikhon's Monastery in ways big and small. Your support and love for St Tikhon's warms our hearts and our appreciation and love for those who love the monastery knows no bounds. May the Lord reward you and remember you all in His Kingdom, keeping you safe, healthy, and spiritually strong during these turbulent times. Asking God's blessing on you all, we remain,



Yours in Christ,
St. Tikhon's Monastery Brotherhood