

Newsletter Fall 2012

As we begin the great leave-taking of Summer and begin our entry into the winter season, the colors reach their greatest intensity and we are reminded that change can bring beauty to life and that any kind of death can bring us beauty and blessing if we have hope in the Resurrection. As the Monastery prepares to enter the Nativity Season, we greet all of you with our blessing and prayers. We are constantly reminded here by our busy schedule that the main work of monasteries is the work of prayer, repentance and of our offering of the Divine Liturgy for the salvation and well being of the whole world. St. Silouan reminds us that when this kind of prayer ceases from the earth, only then will the world come to an end. We greatly appreciate all of the continued support of the Monastery through your emails, calls, letters, support of the Bookstore and by your contributions to St. Tikhon's Monastery that make it possible for us to continue the offering of our lives and prayers for the entire Church.



This year we had a wonderful Memorial Day Pilgrimage with record numbers of pilgrims and visitors who came to venerate the Myrrh-streaming Hawaiian Iveron Icon of the Most Holy Mother of God and to partake in the great outpouring of God's grace and blessing that accompanied the 108th Pilgrimage to this holy place. During the Memorial Day festivities, one of the Brotherhood, Fr. Konstantin was ordained to the Holy Diaconate by Metropolitan Jonah. Fr. Konstantin was also recently placed in charge of the cemetery. All questions and purchases of plots, etc can now be referred to Fr. Konstantin at stmccemetery@gmail.com.



Many visitors came and went over the summer and into the fall including a group from Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church in Livonia Michigan, a priest's retreat in August, two different tour groups from Russia, a traveling choral group from Finland and many, many others. Our guest houses are open to the general public (as well as our museum and Divine services) and we can have up to 12 guests stay with us at a time. For more information about visiting, tours, or questions, contact us at monasteryguesthouse@gmail.com.



The Miraculous Icon of St. Anna and Fr. Athanasys have been traveling extensively, visiting parishes in Syracuse, Otego, Medford, Hazelton and other places. Fr. Athanasys was present with St. Anna for this year's Education day at St. Vladimir's in October. St. Anna will also soon be in the following locations: Miami Florida area, November 15th-20th; Denver Colorado area, November 29th-December 2nd; All American Council, November 13th. Please visit our website for the exact schedules in those areas at www.sttikhonsmonastery.org. For more information about a visitation from St. Anna and/or the vast treasury of Monastery relics and icons, please contact Fr. Sergius at abbotsergius@gmail.com to schedule a visitation or retreat for your parish.



The Monastery brotherhood have been busy working on our candles, wine (which will be available soon at the Bookstore,) publications, calendars, Seminary teaching, parish work and so many other good things: Fr. Gabriel had been serving as the parish priest at All-Saints Church in Olyphant PA since January of this year and finished his service in August. Fr. Gabriel also visited and served at Holy Protection Monastery in Colorado, serving services and helping for two weeks at the end of the Summer. Currently, Fr. Innokenty and Fr. Gabriel are taking care of the nearby Parish of St. John's in Dundaff, PA. Fr. David Mahaffey recently joined the extended brotherhood of the monastery when he was tonsured by Archbishop Tikhon and became a riassaphore hieromonk. We wish the new Hieromonk David many years in God's service to whatever capacity he will be called. A new addition, Fr. Patrick from England is intending to join the brotherhood while finishing a P.H. D in theology. Another postulant recently became a novice and we welcome Br. John to the community as he continues to discern his monastic vocation. Our current number in the Monastery is 17 members with inquiries weekly from those interested in monasticism at St. Tikhon's. Thanks to a benefactor, the Monastery was able to build another small house with a chapel and three more cells bringing the number of rooms in our Monastery up to a marvelous 21! We give thanks to God and to the wonderful soul who made this possible.



Bookstore will have scenes from around the Monastery both past and present and next year we will feature the Monastery Iconography along with several rare icons from our Repository. Finally, a new male chorus Pannikhida CD should be out by Thanksgiving so stay tuned or visit stspress.com for more details.

The bookstore continues to work diligently on upcoming publications and other new projects. In October, the eagerly awaited 'Small Book of Needs' for Clergy was reprinted and is now available for purchase. The Monastery Bookstore will soon be offering for parish purchase a custom blended and labeled Altar Wine produced by Oneda Winery, America's oldest sacramental winery (started in 1872.) This year's calendar produced by the

The Friends of St. Tikhon's Monastery, the supporting organization for our monastery, have recently pledged \$20,000 towards the much needed project of resurfacing the cracked and disintegrating pavement around the Church and the driveways leading up to the Church. However, we still need to raise another \$48,000 to finish the project which is an imperative necessity for all those who visit the Church. We greatly appreciate their concern and help that they have shown the Monastery since the 1960's when the Society was formed. The next meeting for the Society will be on Sunday May 19th at 12 pm in the Monastery Dining hall. For more information about joining the Friend's of St. Tikhon's, contact Thomas Donlick at tddonlick@yahoo.com.

We extend our warmest greetings to you all during this Holy Season as we await the Nativity of our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ. We ask God to bless and keep each one of you in the hope, faith, and love that is in our Great God and Savior Jesus Christ. Be certain of our prayers, love and our striving to do the will of God, to fight the good fight and to help the entire Body of the Church to attain the full stature of the measure of perfection in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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