

2014

Diocesan Assembly

Chancery Office

His Grace
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Bishop of
Sitka and Alaska

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DEANERY REPORTS

Alaska Peninsula Deanery Report

The Alaska Peninsula Deanery consists of: Chignik Lagoon Mission (Chignik Lagoon), Elevation of the Holy Cross Church (South Naknek), St. Anna the mother of the Theotokos (Naknek), St. Herman Church (King Cove), St. John The Theologian Church (Perryville), St. Matrona Church (Port Heiden), St. Nicholas Church (Chignik Lake), St. Nicholas Church (False Pass), St. Nicholas Church (Pilot Point), St. Nicholas Church (Sand Point), and Transfiguration of our Lord Church (Egigik).

Fr. Andrei Tepper continues to be a priest in St. Herman Church (King Cove), and Fr. Simeon Askoak St. Nicholas Church (Pilot Point). After the retirement of the Archpriest Michael Oleksa in 2013, I was assigned dean of Alaska Peninsula. This is my brief report.

In Christ,

Archpriest Victor Nick

Dean of The Alaska Peninsula Deanery

Anchorage Deanery: 2014

The Orthodox Churches of Anchorage and Eagle River were blessed with the visit of the Myrrh Streaming Iveron Icon from Hawaii. The icon was brought to St. Innocent's Cathedral on Saturday, July 19th. The icon was met by His Grace, Bishop David and local clergy. Great Vespers was served followed by veneration of the icon and anointing with the Holy Myrrh. A reception was held in the Cathedral hall. On Sunday, July 20th, the hierarchical Divine Liturgy was celebrated followed by veneration and anointing. On Sunday, July 27th, St. Tikhon Orthodox parish hosted the visit of the icon with the celebration of the akathist to the Mother of God.

St. Innocent Cathedral hosted a fund raising auction and reception for St. Tikhon's Theological Seminary on Tuesday, August 12th.

St. Alexis Orthodox parish is currently celebrating services at the Aleutian Pribilof Island Association building. The parish is looking for permanent property to hold services.

Archpriest Mikel Bock and faithful have moved into the new St. Juvenaly and His Companion Orthodox Church in Wasilla, Alaska. Blessing of the new church is scheduled in conjunction with the celebration of the feast of St. Juvenaly and his companion and Peter the Aleut.

The Anchorage Deanery purchased and sent food supplies to the village of Tyonek this past summer when a wild fire broke out near the community. Supplies helped to feed the fire fighters and local people.

Bethel/Kuskokwim Deanery Report
Diocesan Assembly 2014
Priest Vasily Fisher – Dean

Priests assigned and to which parish they are assigned to:

St. Sophia - Bethel: Fr. Elia Larson - Rector

St. Nicholas - Kwethluk: Fr. Alexander Larson – Rector; Fr. Martin Nicolai and Fr. Dcn. Methodius Nicori, attached; Fr. George Berezkin – inactive; Fr. Stephen Epchook- medical leave; Fr. Dcn. Yako Fisher, retired

St. James the Apostle - Napaskiak: Fr. Vasily Fisher – Rector; Fr. Ishmael Andrew – Attached, serving Oscarville mission and visits Napaskiak; Fr. Andrew Wassillie – serving Eek and Quinhagak

Holy Trinity - Kasigluk: Fr. Nicholai Larson - Rector

Presentation of the Theotokos - Nunapitchuk: Fr. Phillip Alexie - Rector

St. Herman of Alaska - Atmauthluk: Fr. Daniel Charles - Rector

St. Agaphia - Tuntutuliak: Fr. Leonty Johnston - Rector

Villages with churches and no priests:

St. Michael the Archangel – Eek – Served by Fr. Andrew Wassillie

St. Gabriel – Kongiganak – Served by Fr. Leonty Johnston

St. Michael - Kwigillingok

Mission parishes: Oscarville, Quinhagak, Tuluksak,

Villages with Orthodox normally needing visits:

Akiak, Akiachak, Chefornak

Transfers in or out of the Deanery over the past year:

V. Rev. Victor Nick has moved from St. Agaphia – Tuntutuliak to Nanwalek

Fr. Leonty Johnston has moved from St. Michael – Kwigillingok, to St. Agaphia - Tuntutuliak

Special Events, celebrations or conferences:

The 2013 Bethel/Kuskokwim Conference was held in St. Nicholas church in Kwethluk this year and was attended by His Grace our Bishop David (Mahaffey) and area clergy. The conference was well attended and addressed such problems like needing church school and care of the priests. +Bp. David set aside a certain afternoon to speak with the youth who gathered at the local school in Kwethluk. There are plans to speak about adding the parish of St. Sophia, Bethel, to be one of the sites for the Kuskokwim Conference. The next conference is planned to be held in St. James the Apostle church in Napaskiak for the summer of 2015.

This year we hosted the first annual Three Holy Youths Kuskokwim youth conference in the village of Napaskiak lead by the Deanery Youth Director Fr. Ishmael Andrew and it was attended by over 50 teenagers and youth. There was gathering for prayers and teaching. The conference also focused on activities such as making Icon houses to post in throughout the village and visiting elders. The children loved the bonfire where fellow youth gathered together and shared s'mores and social activity. For the 2015 Three Holy Youth conference we will be gathering in Kasigluk.

Lenten Matushka Retreat was held in Napaskiak and was presented with guest speaker Mother Gabriella fro St. Herman's Seminary and was well attended by the local deanery Matushki and some of the Yukon Deanery Matushki.

Choir Conference was hosted by Presentation of the Theotokos - Nunapitchuk for the communities in the deanery, and St. Agafia – Tuntutuliak.

Diocese Of Alaska

Holy Transfiguration of Our Lord
Lake Iliamna Deanery
P.O. Box 224
Newhalen Alaska 99606

"Deanery Report 2014"

Your Grace, members of the diocesan assemble;

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory forever!

I am humbly submitting our Deanery Report, I am still alone in our deanery I have four parishes around Iliamna Lake which I try to visit by-monthly. Only project that we had this spring, is at Nondolton, St Nicholas church with the repair of the foundation in order to redo the tile roof, to be replaced by tin sheeting, in preparation for the new cupola project.

Newhalen/Iliamna Holy Transfiguration of Our Lord, is still in working process with the candle stand, painting of the narthex and fund raising for the cupolas. This year we celebrated our 30th anniversary for St Julenaly Youth Camp, August 11th -15th we only had campers from Newhalen, Iliamna and one from Kokhanok and an adult, total camper was 27 and up to 37 with day campers.

Kokhanok SS. Peter and Paul Church, is in need of repair, or the other option is to build a new church. It was built with no insulation and roofing paper which is not suitable for the wind, efforts are being done for up keep but water damage has already set in.

Humbly submitted, Asking for your Archpastoral prayers and blessings, I remain your humble servant

Archpriest David Askoak, rector
Holy Transfiguration of our Lord
Iliamna Lake Deanery

The Right Reverend David
Bishop of Sitka and Alaska
PO Box 210569
Anchorage, AK 99521

GLORY TO JESUS CHRIST! GLORY FOREVER!

Vladyka Bless!

Kenai/Prince William Sound Deanery Report 2014 for the Diocesan Assembly

The Holy Transfiguration of Our Lord (Ninilchik):

- ❖ We were blessed to have the “Hawaiian” Myrrh-Streaming Iveron Icon of the Mother of God arrive July 29th and it also traveled to Nanwalek, Port Graham, and Kenai.
- ❖ 1 Wedding
- ❖ As a traveling priest to St. Peter and Paul (Nikolai); there were 3 funeral services and 2 baptisms.

The Holy Assumption of the Virgin Mary Russian Orthodox Church (Kenai) highlights:

- ❖ Our new building was blessed by His Grace in June. It contains the Gift Shop, a public restroom, and the heating furnace for the church.
- ❖ The restoration of the Church and grounds is ongoing with further studies of the original wallpaper design for the interior and the restoration of the bell tower to its original appearance.
- ❖ The fence around the church will be replaced, currently in plan stage.
- ❖ Services are done every weekend and holy days throughout the year. Hospital and shut in visits, Bible Studies at the prison are done.

We have had:

- ❖ 11 baptisms with Chrism; 2 Chrismations; 2 marriages and 2 funerals.

St. Herman (Port Graham):

- ❖ Parishioners are building a new rectory that is near completion.
- ❖ 1 baptism

SS Sergius/Herman of Valaam (Nanwalek):

- ❖ Remodeled rectory
- ❖ Funerals, weddings, and baptisms?

St. Nicholas (Valdez and Tatitlek); St. Michael the Archangel (Cordova); Nativity of the Theotokos (Chenega Bay) -- Prince William Sound:

- ❖ ?Funerals and ?baptisms (Accidentally deleted information from Father Alexie Knagin)

I remain your servant,

Archpriest Michael Trefon, Dean
Kenai/Prince William Sound Deanery

2014 Kodiak Island Deanery Report

By the grace of God, 2014 was another productive year in the Kodiak Deanery.

This summer we bid farewell to Archimandrite Juvenaly who served Port Lions and taught at the seminary. Father is in the process of becoming an OCMC missionary.

Archpriest John Dunlop, in addition to his duties as Dean of St. Herman Seminary, maintains regular pastoral visitations to Ouzinkie. Over the summer Father oversaw two of the four mission teams that served throughout the deanery and hosted many missionaries and pilgrims at the seminary.

Igumen Iosaph is currently serving Old Harbor as rector of Three Saints Church. In addition to his pastoral duties Father also works in the community. Father hosted an OCMC missionary team this summer and assisted them in their camp program.

The village of Larson Bay is still served by Priest Joshua Resnick of St. Innocent Academy. He has been able to utilize fishing vessels and a private plane to make the trip, which has enabled monthly visits and most major feasts.

Archpriest Paissius DeLucia of St. Innocent Academy is assisting us in serving the village of Akhiok, where a team from the Academy is completing renovations to the church.

Archpriest Innocent Dresdow continues as Dean of Holy Resurrection Cathedral and serving the pastoral needs of the faithful in Karluk. In addition to the daily responsibilities of parish life, Father was busy this summer with assisting over 75 pilgrims from around the world, ranging from Bishops to enquirer's seeking to learn more about Orthodoxy and St. Herman's life who wanted to make the pilgrimage to Monk's Lagoon.

More and more clergy and their families are making the trip to Kodiak for respite and pilgrimage. We have increased our coordination with the monastics on Spruce Island to help accommodate them. These efforts continue to bring a deeper sense of unity and love between the local clergy and monastics. It also exemplifies, how on a local level, jurisdictional lines and politics don't have to interfere with the local ministry. This is bringing tremendous healing throughout our communities.

In July, the deanery was blessed with a visit from the Hawaiian Myrrh-Streaming Iveron Icon. She visited every village and monastic community as well as Afognak Island. It was a pivotal week for the deanery, filled with both spiritual blessings and battles.

Deacon Irenaios Anderson continues his teaching at St. Herman Seminary in addition to his service at Holy Resurrection Cathedral.

Deacon Innocent Philo continues his work as the Providence Hospital Chaplain and assists with catechism at the Cathedral.

In August, Deanery clergy were blessed to participate in the St. Herman Pilgrimage and the following week go back to St. Nilus Island and witness the elevation of Mother Nina as abbess of St. Nilus Skete.

I am personally grateful to my brother clergy for their dedicated and selfless service to serve the communities here on Kodiak Island. Rest assured of our ongoing prayers before the holy relics of St. Herman for the clergy, their families and the faithful of the Diocese of Alaska.

Giving thanks to God-almighty,



Archpriest Innocent Dresdow – Dean
Holy Resurrection Cathedral
Kodiak Deanery

Nushagak Deanery Report

Glory to Jesus Christ; Glory Forever!

We give thanks to Our Lord who had blessed us with many good things this year. We had our Bishop with us during the conference at Dillingham this past August. All the priests from the Nushagak Deanery attended and we look forward to have His Grace Bishop David with us next year in Koliganek.

This year for the first time St. John the Baptist church at Ekwok, celebrated Pascha with a priest, many thanks to Fr. James Gust who went to Ekwok and held services and gave Holy Communion to the faithful.

With God's help we hope to continue His works in our Deanery.

Respectfully submitted:

V. Rev. Alexie Askoak

Dean. Nushagak Deanery



Sitka Deanery
Diocese of Sitka and Alaska
Orthodox Church in America

P.O. Box 697 Sitka, Alaska 99835 (907) 747-8120

SITKA DEANERY REPORT
Diocesan Assembly October 17-19, 2014

His Grace the Right Reverend David
Bishop of Sitka and Alaska

At the present time there is one Priest (Sitka), one Protodeacon (Juneau) and two Readers (Juneau/Hoonah) within the Deanery.

PARISHES OF THE DEANERY

<u>St. Michael's Orthodox Cathedral</u>	Sitka	<u>Committed/Active Parish Stewards-</u> 21
<u>Chapel of the Annunciation</u>	Sitka	
<u>St. Nicholas Orthodox Church</u>	Juneau	<u>Committed/Active Parish Members</u> -10
<u>St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church</u>	Angoon	<u>Committed/Active Parish Members-</u> 7
<u>St. Nicholas Orthodox Church</u>	Hoonah	<u>Committed/Active Parish Members-</u> 3

Highlights of the Deanery

In 2014, the Sitka Deanery has shown good progress in developing cohesive relationships amongst the parishes, most especially between Sitka and Juneau. With the blessing of having Fr. Peter Chris as the Priest-in-Charge in Juneau, it has helped to free up Fr. Michael to tend to the flock in Sitka and give needed attention to the Deanery as a whole. The weaknesses of our Deanery are reflected in the continued difficulty in pastoring the churches in Angoon and Hoonah who haven't had a consistent priestly presence for years and years. It is our prayer that in 2015 we will acquire a priest for Juneau and be able, firstly, to begin building a priestly brotherhood for shepherding the various flocks within our southeast boundaries.

St. Michael's Orthodox Cathedral- Sitka

V. Rev. Father Michael Boyle

Of all the highlights that could be mentioned, the most significant would be that the parishioners of St. Michael's Cathedral this year have shown a continued deepening of the practice of their faith with more frequent attendance at church services, a more consistent participation in prayer services during the week, and a demonstrably increased participation in coming to confession and asking questions about confession and wanting "to know". Confession is becoming more understandable for them, and as a result, parishioners are responding.

Highlight #2: The desire by parishioners wanting to learn more about the Faith. To address this desire we have begun a weekly Sunday informal potluck luncheon after Liturgy followed by a spiritual reading or instruction from the Priest and then a roundtable discussion/teaching about the topic at hand. This small beginning has proved very fruitful for those attending to not only build a greater experience of the Faith, but also a time to share our stories, our victories and our challenges in leading an Orthodox life.

Highlight #3: This cannot be pasted over, which is the emergence of individuals who have long past been absent from the church, but have very gradually been coming back to "taste and see". In addition, we have also been blessed with two baptisms and the making of two catechumen (young men in their 20's) this year.

Highlight #4: The on-going community participation in the Cathedral by the Downtown Revitalization Committee, the National Park Service, the Boy Scouts of America leadership, Christ the Savior Brotherhood for financial support for

display cabinets, and two major financial donations to the Cathedral for purchasing icons of saints we did not have for their feast days and for two new sets of adornments for the church.

Highlight #5: Our cemeteries now have two volunteer groundskeepers to watch over the graves/land and provide daily care. Bob and Alexandra are guardian angels for both cemeteries here. Another blessing has been the tending of the grounds around the Cathedral by our new landscaper who has renovated, refreshed and may I say, resurrected the land surrounding the church. For the first time many, many, many local people have approach us and told us how beautiful the Cathedral looks, as if seeing it for the first time. The new landscaping has made the impression that the cathedral is loved and cared for. This is especially important for us, that as the inside of the Cathedral is adorned with beauty, so should the outside as well be adorned, which is viewed by thousands of people from all over the world each year. We are thankful for all community members who love the Cathedral and volunteer to help us.

Highlight #6: Special Events

The main Special event this year was the Installation of Bishop David last February. This historic event was a blessing to our entire Diocese and for the future growth of our apostolic labors in the “vineyards” of Alaska. Also this year St. Michael’s, with the support of the Sitka Arts Council, hosted a 40 hour Iconography Workshop under the guidance and instruction of a master iconographer from Juneau. Finally was the annual Blessing of the Fleet with the whole community’s participation.

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church-Juneau

V. Rev. Father Peter Chris- Priest-in-Charge

The year has been a busy one for the church in many ways. The highlights include:

- The recent passing of Reader John (Richard Dauenhauer). Memory Eternal! One of the many projects that Dick completed this year was the revision of the St. Nicholas Church Historical Book to remember the 120 years of the church. It is dedicated in his memory.
- The Rasmusson Foundation, ROSSIA, and the National Park Service worked together with the parish to begin the significant and long overdue work on the foundation of the church building and the water drainage system on the church property. Work will continue on the church building and the old rectory in the coming years as both are being historically restored and should add many years of life to the buildings.
- Significant remodeling work is also being done on the new church rectory. Our prayer is to have it completed and ready for an anticipated priest in the future. Presently, St. Nicholas Parish has not had a priest in 1 ½ years. We are also looking at renting out the downstairs apartment to help with finances of the parish and re-payment of the construction loan.

Challenges/Needs:

A full time priest needed, a full cycle of liturgical services, education of parishioners on an on-going basis, strength for the continuation of weekly Reader Services on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights, and the Sunday Obednitsa Service. Keeping the parish financially balanced and in the black, with the desire for building up savings. Completing the restoration work.

Solutions to Challenges:

Pastoral Care: Actively seeking for a priest to come and serve at St. Nicholas. Education: At this time, a once a month class is being considered just prior to Vespers so that children & their families will also participate in Vespers. Financial – encouraging and engaging more people in financially giving to church. Completing renovation of the new Rectory for renting out to increase income to the parish and considering additional fund raisers.

St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church-Angoon

V. Rev. Father Michael Boyle- Priest-in-Charge

- No activities, special events, camps or religious programs.
- One pastoral visit in April 2014 for the funeral and burial of Natalia “Emma” Demmert.

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church- Hoonah

V. Rev. Father Michael Boyle- Priest-in-Charge

- No liturgical services, activities, special events, camps or religious programs.
- Reader David Johnson continues to report that he conducts Reader Services every weekend at the church with attendance of about 3 people.
- No pastoral visits.
- During this year there was episodic communication between the parish, the Dean, and the Bishop regarding the clarification of status of church property and church house property, ownership issues and stewardship of church property and the church house.

Glory Be To God for All Things!!

**V. Rev. Father Michael Boyle
Dean- Sitka Deanery**

Reverend Evon Bereskin
P.O. Box 114
Unalaska, Alaska 99685
September 19, 2014

ALEUTIAN DEANERY REPORT

Your Grace, Reverends, Very-Reverends and Delegates, Observers

I am so humbly grateful to be serving on the Aleutian Chain. My reason for returning home was to assist Fr. Andrew before his illness came on so suddenly. Everything happened so fast and before I knew it I'm the Dean of the Aleutian region.

The communities I serve as in order:

Unalaska, The Holy Ascension Cathedral, 2 baptisms, 1 funeral

Akutan, Saint Alexander of Nevsky church, 2 chrismation, 2 funerals

Nikolski, Saint Nicolas the wonderworker church, 1 baptism, 1 funeral

Atka, Saint Nicolas the wonderworker church, 3 baptisms, 2 funerals

Pribilof Islands, St. Peter and Paul and St. George parishes: For couple of months, Fr. Phanourios cared for and served, performed baptism, funerals and weddings if need be in both parishes. His Grace Bishop David Mahaffey also traveled to St. Paul Island for their feast day this summer.

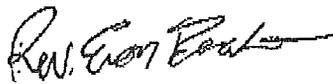
I've had luncheons with several pastors who were interested on how our services were held. One pastor attended several of our holiday feasts.

The parish house for the priest/family has been approved, the archeological dig completed. And, an estimate time of completion is by December 2014.

Our Aleutian region is in dire need of more clergymen to serve the other communities. I know it's costly to travel to and from the main land, cost of living increasing, but, we all manage with God and the Theotokos' prayers . I enjoy visiting the other villages and serving them, come winter its unpredictable to come and go between the communities.

Your humble servant

Reverend Evon Bereskin



Yukon Deanry Reports

Holy Transfiguration of our Lord----Pilot Station, Alaska

Archpriest Stephan Heckman

Baptisms with Chrismations-----16

Funerals-----2

Weddings-----1

We have Church School during the year and annual Sts. Vladimir and Yakov Youth camp. We had a 55 children this year and 15 chaperones.

Elevation of the Holy Cross----Russian Mission, Alaska

Archpriest Peter Askoar and Priest John Larson

Baptisms-----3

Funerals-----2

Weddings-----2

St. Michael the Archangel/ Protection of the Mother of God----Marshall, Alaska

Archpriest Maxim Isaac

Baptisms-----5

Funerals-----1

Weddings-----1

They have coffee hour after Divine Liturgies on Sundays with lessons

St. Serephim of Sarov----Lower Kalaskag, Alaska

Archpriest Nicholai Isaac

Baptisms-----13 Chrismations----3

Funerals-----3

Weddings-----1

They had their 4th annual Youth Camp with 45 children and chaperones

St. Sergius----Chuathbaluk, Alaska

Priest Michael Fredricks

Baptisms-----7 Chrismations----1

Weddings-----1

Funerals-----5

Sts. Peter and Paul----Pitka's Point, Alaska

Priest Jason Isaac

Baptisms-----9 Chrismations----1

Weddings-----1

Church school was started, choir practice and once a month they have a community gathering

****These are very brief reports from each Priest of the Yukon Deanry.*

We were very honored with the presence of our Bishop David during our annual Yukon Conference this year.