

METROPOLIS NEWS

Minnesota Church Marks 75th Anniversary

ST. PAUL, Minn. – St. George Church celebrated its 75th anniversary Oct. 24-25 with a jubilee banquet and hieratical Divine Liturgy. Honored guests and speakers included Metropolitan Iakovos of Chicago, U.S. Sen. Amy Klobuchar, Mayor Chris Coleman of St. Paul, Deacon Chris Avramopoulos (Metropolis director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries), Fr. John Angelis (who served the parish 1966-1974), priests and presvyteras who grew up at St. George including Fr. George Dokos (St. Mary GOC, Minneapolis), Fr. Micah Hirschy (Holy Trinity Church Birmingham, Ala.), Presvytera Diana Lamberis (Niles, Ill.), and Presvytera Kathy Pappas (Merrillville, Ind.).

The program was emceed by Rena Sarigianopoulos, reporter and anchor for local NBC affiliate KARE11.

The evening included a continuous slideshow of hundreds of photos from the parish's rich history.

The 75th Anniversary video premiered, and included several key photos of important events and persons from each of the seven and a half decades of the parish's existence. The video was tracked with Byzantine hymns and period popular music, along with a voice-over script and it was produced and narrated by Soule Paraschou, eldest son of former parish priest, +Fr. Paraskevas Parry Paraschou.

Metropolitan Iakovos offered his pastoral words to those in attendance and a closing benediction. Photos with several groups were followed by Greek dancing to the music of local band, The Levendes.

On Sunday Oct. 25, Metropolitan

Iakovos celebrated Orthros and Liturgy with proistamenos Fr. Richard Demetrius Andrews, Fr. John Angelis, Fr. George Dokos, Fr. Micah Hirschy, Fr. George Pappas, Fr. George Lamberis and Deacon Chris Avramopoulos. A memorial and artoklasia service followed before parishioners and guests made their way into the social hall for a delicious luncheon and fellowship.

St. George Greek Orthodox Church began in Saint Paul with its first liturgy on Palm Sunday 1940. The immigrant community purchased a mansion on historic Summit Avenue and converted it into a house of worship. Four priests served the parish until 1966: Fr. Constantine Capoyianis, Fr. Constantine Souliopoulos, Fr. Joseph Vasiliou and Fr. Gerasimos Rassias.

Archbishop Athenagoras (who later became Ecumenical Patriarch) visited the community in 1936 and 1940. Archbishop Michael consecrated the church in 1954.

In 1967, soon after Fr. John Angelis arrived, the church was damaged by fire beyond repair. A neo-Byzantine style church was built and opened in 1968. Right after Fr. Parry Paraschou was assigned, Archbishop Iakovos consecrated the church in 1975.

Fr. Parry retired in 1999 and Fr. Richard Andrews was assigned. Since then the whole facility has been renovated including the sanctuary. The land next door to the church was also acquired and developed. Metropolitan Iakovos has served the Metropolis of Chicago since 1979 and has visited the St. George parish numerous times, including its 50th Anniversary celebration in 1990.

CLERGY UPDATE

Ordinations to the Diaconate

Gilbert, Gregory (Brent) – Metropolitan Evangelos of New Jersey, Sts. Peter and Paul Church, Frederick, Md. 10/04/15

Kallis, Kosmas – Bishop Demetrios of Mokissos, St. Demetrios Church, Libertyville, Ill. 10/26/15

Walker, Aaron – Metropolitan Methodios of Boston – St. Demetrios Church, Weston, Mass. 10/26/15

Ordinations to the Priesthood

Dn. Gregory Gilbert – Metropolitan Evangelos of New Jersey, St. Demetrios Church, Upper Darby, Pa. 10/25/15

Dn. Anthony (formerly Arkady) Tandilyan – Metropolitan Methodios of Boston, St. Demetrios, Weston, Mass. 10/26/15

Dn. Aaron Walker – Metropolitan Methodios of Boston, St. Nectarios Church, Roslindale, Mass. 11/09/15

Dn. Anastasios Athanasiou – Metropolitan Savas of Pittsburgh, Holy Trinity Church, Pittsburgh, 11/21/15

Assignments

Fr. Allan Gabriel Boyd – St. Basil Church, San Jose, Calif. 12/01/15

Fr. Gregory Gilbert – Sts. Mary Magdalene and Markella Church, Darlington, Md. 11/15/15

Fr. Gregory Koo – Holy Monastery of the Life-Giving Spring, Dunlap, Calif. 11/15/15

Fr. Anthony Tandilyan – St. Vasilios Church, Peabody, Mass. 11/15/15

Fr. Nikolaos Galanopoulos – Holy Trinity Church, Roanoke, Va. 12/01/15

Fr. Michael Marcantoni – Holy Spirit Church, Rochester, NY 12/15/15

Offikia

Fr. Chrysanthos Kerkeres – Office of Confessor, bestowed by Metropolitan Iakovos of Chicago 03/25/12

Fr. Harry S. Pappas – Office of Protosphyter, by Archbishop Demetrios 11/08/15

Fr. John Kalantzis – Office of Protosphyter, by Archbishop Demetrios 11/15/15

Receptions

Fr. Dragan Filipovich, Sept. 2, 2015 (from the Orthodox Church in America)

Returned to the status of layman

Upon the recommendation of the Eparchial Synod of the Archdiocese, the Holy and Sacred Synod of the Patriarchate did return the following to the status of layman:

Iliou, Fr. Demetrios 11/29/15

George Passias, defrocked as per the Archdiocese clergy sexual misconduct policy 11/29/15

Roll, Fr. John 11/29/15

Savas, Fr. George 11/29/15

Stearns, Fr. Michael 11/29/15

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