## DOM PARISH ANNUAL REPORT

As of September 1, 2017

email completed form to chancery@domoca.org by September 15

## **Parish Name and Address**

Photo

Presentation of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Monastery P.O. Box 644 Marshfield, MO 65706



## Clergy

Hiermonk Alexii (Altschul), of Holy Archangel Michael and All Angels Skete, Weatherby, MO, is our Spiritual Father and Confessor.

We honored to have the Very Reverend Peter Bodnar serving Divine Liturgy the second Sunday of the month, as well as 9<sup>th</sup> Hour, Vespers and Compline the fourth Thursday.

Other Sundays, we normally attend Unexpected Joy Orthodox Church (Pastor, the Very Reverend Moses Berry) in Ash Grove, MO, and occasionally Annunciation of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Christian Church (Pastor, the Reverend Joel Wilson) in Rolla, MO.

Monastics: Mother Sergia, Abbess, and Mother Victoria

## Committees/Societies

None

### Since September 2016

Highlights of Top Three Activities

The Monastery's Annual Founders Day was held September 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>. With upwards of 100 in attendance, the event virtually outgrew the capacity of our chapel.

Mother Sergia attended the Synaxis of Monastic Superiors held at the Orthodox Monastery of the Transfiguration, Ellwood City, PA, October 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>.

After the indescribable blessing of receiving the Holy Fire April 30<sup>th</sup>, on May 27<sup>th</sup>, the monastery hosted a Retreat and Instructional Liturgy presented by the Very Reverend Peter Bodnar and Hierodeacon Theodore Niklasson for catechumens from Mountain Home, AR, who had never before attended an Eastern Rite Orthodox Liturgy.

#### Outreach and Charitable Activities

A major reason for our move to Missouri more than ten years ago was to increase awareness and help the growth of Orthodoxy in this region of the county. Virtually every week, we are approached by people who come up to speak with us on the assumption that we are Roman Catholic. In the process of talking with them, we are able to tell them about the Orthodox Church and invite them to "come and see" and learn more at one of our area parishes.

The monastery annually provides donations of clothing, funds and household items to charitable organizations and individuals in need.

## Major Challenges Faced

It is always a challenge to balance the time needed for the daily schedule of services, our rule of prayer and intercessions for others, the requirements of the monastery itself, and the production and shipment of liturgical candles to various churches.

Annually addressing the needs of the monastery buildings and property to keep them in good repair, we did a major revision of the landscaping with gravel. This served to further enhance the monastery grounds and, in years to come, should provide a considerable saving of funds that were annually required to purchase large quantities of mulch.

# **Upcoming Special Events/Anniversaries - September 2017 to August 2018**

On September 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>, our monastery will celebrate its Annual Founders Day as a combined event with the Patronal Feast of Holy Archangel Michael and All Angels Skete.

Attendance of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, Overland Park, KS, October 8<sup>th</sup>.

The honor of hosting the visit of His Grace Bishop PAUL to the monastery, October 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>.

Attendance of the Annual Retreat held at Annunciation of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Christian Church, Rolla, MO, November 3rd-4<sup>th</sup>.

Celebration of our Annual Feast Day (Presentation of the Virgin Mary at the Temple), November 21<sup>st</sup>.

	As of September 1, 2015	As of September 1, 2016	As of September 1, 2017
<b>Supporting Membership Count</b>	2	2	2
	September 2014 thru August 2015	September 2015 thru August 2016	September 2016 thru August 2017
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Attendance	(Once a month at the monastery; other Sundays we attend a local parish.)	10 (Once a month at the monastery; other Sundays we attend a local parish.)	10 (Once a month at the monastery; other Sundays we attend a local parish.)
Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Communicants	10	10	10
Average Saturday Vigil/Vespers Attendance	2	2	2
Number of Catechumens	0	0	0
	September 2014 thru August 2015	September 2015 thru August 2016	September 2016 thru August 2017
Baptisms	0	0	0
Funerals	0	0	0
Marriages	0	0	0
Receptions into Orthodoxy	0	0	0
Church School/Number Enrolled	0	0	0
Adult Education/Number Participating	0	0	0