

OUR VIEW

Our View is the official Youth Page of the Path of Orthodoxy. Created by the Youth Ministry Committee of the Serbian Orthodox Church in North & South America, **Our View** includes:

- *Pastoral Discussions* - Discussions of feast days, scriptural passages, etc., with emphasis on applying our faith in our daily lives.
- *Living Our Faith* - Practical advice on how to make your faith real.
- *Our Youth Speak* - Spotlight on youth activities.
- *Questions and Answers* - Questions from youth answered by clergy of the Serbian Orthodox Church
- *Did You Know?* - Exciting information about our faith.
- *Resources* - Internet web sites that may be of interest to Orthodox Christians.
- Plus much more!

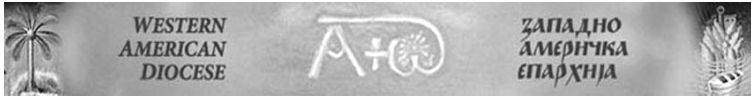
The editors of **Our View** are always looking for new material. Would you like to contribute material for print? Email the Youth Ministry Committee at youth-ministry@earthlink.net. Some ideas for material include:

- Article/Pictures of a youth event in your parish community
- Announcements of upcoming youth events
- Perspective on a topic affecting the church
- Anything you think other Orthodox youth might like to read

KEYWORD GOD...R U CONNECTED? Hollywood vs. Holy Wood: The Power of Image



The Third Annual High School
Youth Conference
of the Serbian Orthodox Church in
North & South America
August 6-10, 2008
Los Angeles, CA



Welcome to Los Angeles and the Western American Diocese!

On behalf of the Episcopal Council of our Church, I welcome all of you to this year's Youth Conference. May God grant that our gathering be a wonderful opportunity to rejoice with each other, to share our experience, faith, love, and compassion. The Church is the place of love, communion and joy because our Trinitarian God is Love, Communion and Joy! Welcome and God Bless all of You!

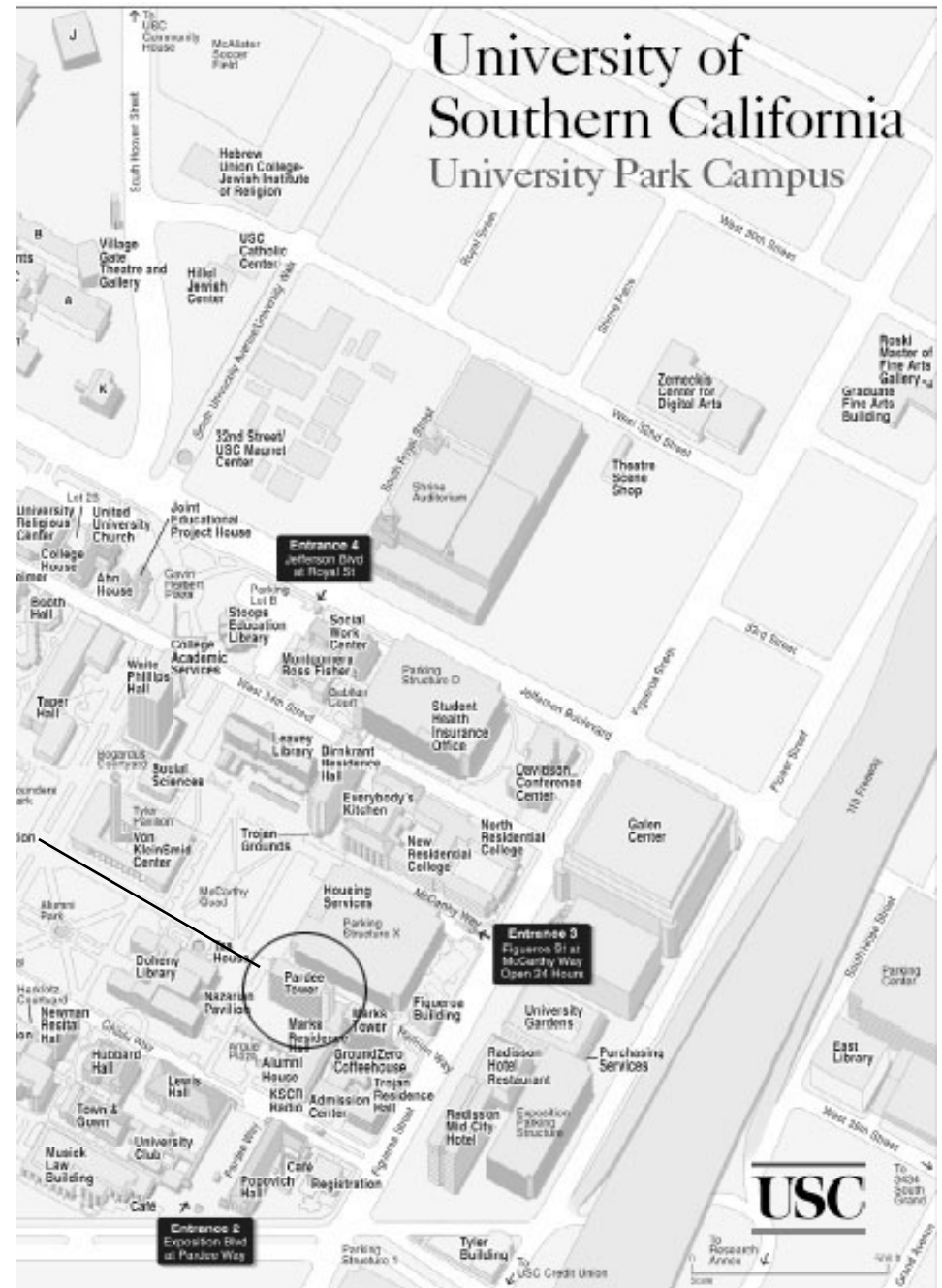
† *Bishop Maxim*
Serbian Orthodox Bishop Western American

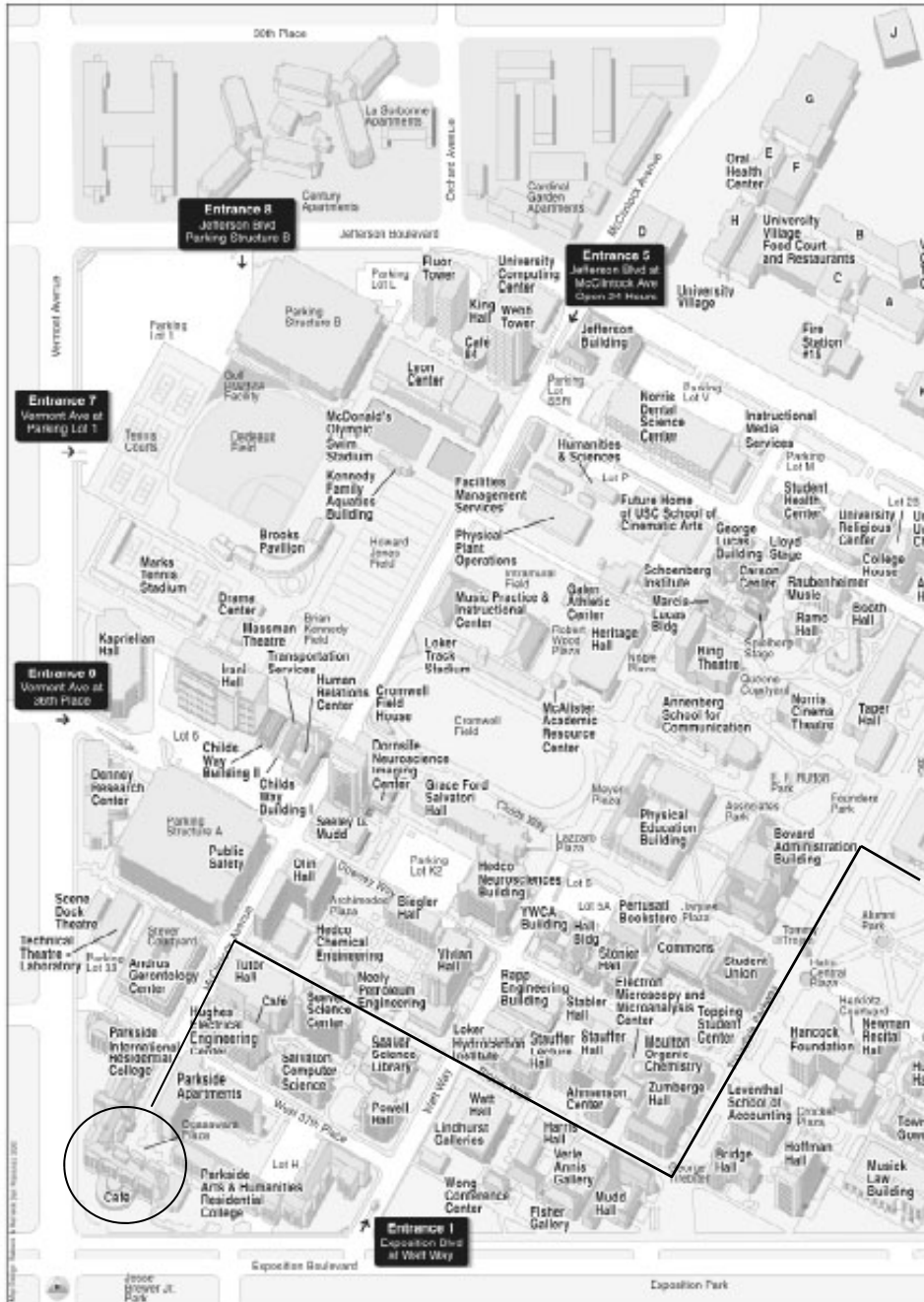
Dear Youth Delegate:

What a joy it is to welcome you to the 'West Coast' – in beautiful Los Angeles, California – for this, our **Third Annual Youth Retreat**, hosted by our National Youth Committee, in conjunction with the St. Steven's Serbian Orthodox Cathedral. We congratulate you on being here, and thank our Heavenly Father, for your obvious dedication, devotion, and love for our Holy Orthodox Faith, and our Serbian Orthodox Church on this continent, as we look forward to a great retreat, under our Theme,

“God: R U Connected – Hollywood vs. Holy Wood
– The Power Of Image”

For the next five days, it is our hope that your eyes and ears will be opened to our role as Orthodox Christians in the realm of mass media, specifically television, computers, and movies. The workshops (and field trips) we have planned, we are confident, will both challenge AND inspire you! As an added bonus, we have included an opportunity for you to meet other Orthodox Christian





youths and interact with them on issues important to all.

We sincerely hope that you will do your best in making this Youth Retreat a memorable one for all involved. And how can you do that? By offering your BEST in setting the example of what it means to be an Orthodox Christian: in the workshops and group discussions; making new friendships (and renewing old ones) to help strengthen our network of Serbian Orthodox Youth, and finally, to be a ‘witness’ to what you experience here by taking it “home” with you and making your peers aware of this exciting event – so that they too will want to be a part of this growing movement next year – 2009!

We look forward to sharing this retreat with you – having fun, worshipping and praying together, and creating friendships for years to come!

In Christ’s Love, for you and your peers, we again
Welcome you to California!

Prota Stevo Rocknage, and the members
Of The Youth Ministry Committee of Our Church

**The Youth Ministry Committee
of the Serbian Orthodox Church
in North & South America**

- V. Rev. Steven Rocknage, chairperson
- V. Rev. Bratislav Krsic
- Rev. Dragan Petrovich
- Rev. Radovan Jakovljevic
- Chris Radanovic, secretary
- Milan Radanovic
- Becky Kesic
- Brian Hayden
- Laurie Burge

Schedule of Events

Wednesday, August 6, 2008

4:00 pm Registration of Participants at University of Southern California and Free Time (Basketball, etc.)
6:00 pm Dinner
7:30 pm Discussion with Bishop Maxim
9:00 PM Orientation and Evening Prayers
10:30 PM Fellowship and Free Time
11:00 pm Lights Out

Thursday, August 7, 2008

7:30 am Wake Up
8:30 am Morning Prayers
9:00 am Breakfast
10:00 am Presentation *Christians in Hollywood*
By Fr. George Taweel
12:00 pm Choir Rehearsal
12:45pm Lunch and Free Time
2:15 pm Presentation *Power of the Image*
by Fr. George Taweel
4:30pm Prepare for Pool Party
5:00pm Depart for Dinner/Pool Party at Burge Home
10:30 pm Return to USC Campus
11:00 pm Evening Prayers
11:30 pm Lights Out

Friday, August 8, 2008

8:30 am Morning Prayers
9:00 am Breakfast
10:00 am Presentation *Staying Connected*
by Fr. Dragan Petrovic
11:30 am Choir Rehearsal
11:50 am Lunch
1:00 pm Depart for Universal Studios

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Thursday, August 7

I Corinthians 10:28-11:7, Matthew 16:24-28

Friday, August 8

I Corinthians 11:8-22, Matthew 17:10-18

Saturday, August 9

Romans 13:1-10, Matthew 12:30-37

COMMEMORATION OF SAINTS

Thursday, August 7 (7/25)

Saint Anna, Mother of the All-holy Theotokos

Friday, August 8 (7/26)

Hieromartyr Hermolaus; Venerable Martyr Parasceva

Saturday, August 9 (7/27)

Great-martyr and Healer Panteleimon; Holy Clement of Ochrid

Notes

Be mindful, O Lord, of my parents, my brothers and sisters, my relatives and friends, and all who are near and dear to me, and grant them mercy, life, peace, health, salvation and visitation, and pardon and remission of sins; that they may evermore praise and glorify thy holy Name.

Be mindful, O Lord, of those who travel by land, and sea, and air; of the young and the old; orphans and widows; the sick and the suffering; the sorrowing and the afflicted, all captives, and the needy poor; upon them all send forth thy mercies, for thou art the Giver of all good things.

Be mindful, O Lord, of me, thy humble servant; grant me thy grace, that I may be diligent and faithful; that I may avoid evil company and influence, and resist all temptation; that I may lead a godly and righteous life, blameless and peaceful, ever serving thee, that I may be accounted worthy at the last to enter into the Kingdom of Heaven.

Be mindful, O Lord, of all those who have fallen asleep in the hope of resurrection unto life eternal, pardon all their transgressions both voluntary and involuntary, whether in word, or deed, or thought. Shelter them in a place of verdure, a place of repose, whence all sickness, sorrow and sighing have fled away, and where the sight of thy countenance rejoiceth all thy Saints from all the ages. Grant them thy heavenly Kingdom, and a portion in thine ineffable and eternal blessings, and the enjoyment of thine unending Life.

Hear my prayer, O Lord, for thou art merciful and compassionate, and lovest mankind, and to thee are due all glory, honor, and worship: to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Through the prayers of our holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us and save us. Amen.

5:00 pm Depart for Hollywood Blvd.
6:00 pm Return to USC Campus
7:00 pm Dinner
8:30 pm Presentation *Personal Relationships in a Dot Com World* by Becky Kesic
10:00 pm Evening Prayers
10:30 pm Free Time
11:00 pm Lights Out

Saturday, August 9, 2008

9:00 am Morning Prayers
9:30 am Depart for St. Nicholas Cathedral
Pan-Orthodox Youth Rally
10:00 am Icebreakers/Mixers
10:30 am Morning Session with Fr. George Taweel
11:30 am Lunch and Fellowship
12:30 pm Afternoon Session with Fr. George Taweel
1:30 pm Social Fellowship
2:00 pm Tour of the Cathedral
Prayer Service and greeting by Bp. Joseph
3:00 pm Return to USC Campus
3:30 pm Free Time
4:30 pm TBA
6:00 pm Vespers
7:00 pm Dinner
8:00 pm Final Wrap-up session
10:00 pm Evening Prayers
10:30 pm Free Time
11:00 pm Lights Out

Sunday, August 10, 2008

7:30 am Wake up and Checkout
8:30 am Depart for St. Steven's Cathedral
9:00 am Matins and Divine Liturgy
11:30 am Lunch and Departure

Presenter Biographies

Fr. George Taweel

GEORGE Taweel is Co-Founder and Partner of TLC Entertainment, which specializes in creating, producing, directing, writing, and distributing all forms of family entertainment. Taweel first partnered with TLC Entertainment co-founder Rob Loos in 1987. Under the TLC banner, Taweel and Loos produced the groundbreaking “McGee And Me!” series of mini-movies®, co-executive produced the “Treasure House Block,” the branded two-hour kids/family programming block for Fox Family Channel, “The Legend of Three Trees,” “The Christmas Lamb” “Secret Adventures,” and “Kids’ Ten Commandments” (the most awarded kids religious project ever).



Taweel and Loos have successfully written and produced for other studios, including Sony/Disney (“Buster and Chauncey’s Silent Night”), Moonwater/CBS (“Touched by an Angel”), Marvel/Cartoon Network (“Fantastic Four”), Weller-Grossman/MagRack (“John Lithgow’s Paloozaville”), and several upcoming feature films “Destiny” and “The Catch”. TLC has over 113 awards for creative excellence, 70 Gold and Platinum selling videos, spawned over 50 licensed products, 20 juvenile fiction novels, CD-ROM’s, CD’s and many other products released worldwide.

O Christ our God, who at all times and in every hour, in heaven and on earth, art worshipped and glorified; who art long-suffering, merciful and compassionate; who lovest the just and showest mercy upon the sinner; who callest all to salvation through the promise of blessings to come; O Lord, in this hour receive our supplications, and direct our lives according to thy commandments. Sanctify our souls, hallow our bodies, correct our thoughts, cleanse our minds; deliver us from all tribulation, evil and distress. Encompass us with thy holy Angels, that guided and guarded by them, we may attain to the unity of the faith and to the knowledge of thine unapproachable glory, for thou art blessed unto ages of ages. Amen.

O Lord Jesus Christ our God, who in thy mercy and all-loving kindness dost regard the prayers of all who call upon thee with their whole heart, incline thine ear and hear my prayer, now humbly offered unto thee:

Be mindful, O Lord, of thy Holy Orthodox Catholic and Apostolic Church; confirm and strengthen it, increase it and keep it in peace, and preserve it unconquerable forever; Be mindful, O Lord, of every Bishop of the Orthodox; of Priests and Deacons and all the Clergy of thy Church, which thou hast established to feed the flock of the Word; and by their prayers have mercy upon me and save me, a sinner.

Be mindful, O Lord, of all civil Authorities, of our Armed Forces, of this city in which we dwell, and of every city and land; grant us peaceful times, that we may lead a calm and tranquil life in all godliness and sanctity.

Be mindful, O Lord, of my parents, my brothers and sisters, my relatives and friends, and all who are near and dear to me, and grant them mercy, life, peace, health, salvation and visitation, and pardon and remission of sins; that they may evermore praise and glorify thy holy Name.

The Creed

I believe in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible; And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the Only-begotten, Begotten of the Father before all worlds, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Begotten, not made; of one essence with the Father, by whom all things were made: Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and was made man; And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered and was buried; And the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures; And ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father; And He shall come again with glory to judge the quick and the dead, Whose kingdom shall have no end. And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, and Giver of Life, Who proceeds from the Father, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spoke by the Prophets; And in One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins. I look for the Resurrection of the dead, and the Life of the world to come. Amen.

Presenter Biographies

Fr. George Taweel, con't.

Prior to forming TLC Entertainment, Taweel won an Emmy Award® for “Survival Guide,” hosted by Robert Guillaume (PBS), produced “Rocky Road,” the first situation comedy for basic cable (Turner), developed and produced Mousercise,” a Disney Channel series (10 years), was one of the producers of the original “Star Search,” directed daytime dramas for CBS, situation comedies, and produced/directed numerous music, variety, and beauty pageant productions.

Taweel is a member of the Producers Guild of America, Writers Guild of America, Directors Guild of America, BMI, ASCAP, an ordained priest in the Eastern Orthodox Church with a Masters Degree in Applied Theology, Black belt (Tae Kwon Do), Co-Founder of EagleScoutParents.org, Past President of the Annapolis Parent’s Club of Southern California, Producer/Director of the National Medial Prayer Breakfast, official and founding “Santa” of Studio City, CA and is married (25 years) to his equally talented wife Kimberly and has two outstanding children, Ensign David and Diana Taweel.



Presenter Biographies

Rev. Dragan Petrovic

Fr. Dragan Petrovic was born on May 24, 1974 in Gornji Milanovac, Serbia. His parents are V. Rev. Fr. Petar and Gordana Petrovic. He attended the first three years of grade school in Serbia, and the rest of the grade school years were in North Miami, Florida. From 1989 to 1993, he attended the St. Sava Seminary in Belgrade and from 1993 to 1994, St. Arsenije Seminary in Sremski Karlovci. He was in his second year at the Theological Institute in Belgrade, Serbia when he married Vesna Todorovic on July 16, 1995. Since then, they have been blessed with three children, Marija (born Feb.28,1997), Kristina (born July 19, 1998), and Petar (born April 3, 2003).



On September 21, 1996 - The Birth of the Most Holy Theothokos, he was ordained a deacon at St. Stevens Serbian Orthodox Church on Leland Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. Then he served as a deacon for several months at the Holy Resurrection Serbian Orthodox Church on Palmer Square, Chicago. Later he was appointed as Bishop's deacon and served in the Diocese for two years under Bishop Sava (Yurich) and Bishop Longin (Krcho). At the same time, he taught religious education to 50-80 children (ages 5 - 18) from the Monastery parish, St. Lazarus. In the same parish Popadija Vesna taught traditional folklore dancing to the youngest group . With the decision of His Grace Bishop Longin, he was appointed as parish priest for the St. Nicholas Serbian Orthodox Church in Indianapolis, Indiana on September 27, 1998 - Exaltation of the Holy Cross. He has been serving this parish since that time.

Troparia of Thanksgiving

Now that the day has come to a close, I thank thee, O Lord, and I ask that the evening with the night may be sinless; grant this to me, O Saviour, and save me.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Now that the day hath passed, I glorify thee, O Master, and I ask that the evening, with the night may be without offence; grant this to me, O Saviour, and save me.

Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Now that the day hath run its course, I praise thee, O Holy One, and I ask that the evening with the night may be undisturbed; grant this to me, O Saviour, and save me.

Lord, have mercy. (12 times)

A Prayer for Forgiveness

O Lord our God, if during this day I have sinned, whether in word or deed or thought, forgive me all, for thou art good and loves mankind. Grant me peaceful and undisturbed sleep, and deliver me from all influence and temptation of the evil one. Raise me up again in proper time that I may glorify thee; for thou art blessed: with thine Only-begotten Son and thine All-holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Evening Prayers

The Trisagion Prayers

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O heavenly King, O Comforter, the Spirit of truth, who art in all places and fillest all things; Treasury of good things and Giver of life: Come and dwell in us and cleanse us from every stain, and save our souls, O gracious Lord.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us. (Thrice)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our iniquities. Holy God, visit and heal our infirmities for thy Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (Thrice)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Through the prayers of our holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us. Amen.

Presenter Biographies

Becky Kesic



Becky Kesic is an active member of St. Luke Serbian Orthodox Church in the Washington, DC area. Over the past 3 years, she has served as the Sunday School Administrator for the parish and has taught Sunday School for over 10 years. She also serves as a member on the parish Church Board.

For the past four years, Becky has been a member of the National Youth Committee. She enjoys working with teens, and recently has been working to create a “resource center” for youth and youth leaders with the hopes that more parishes develop programs specifically for teens.

Becky converted to Orthodoxy almost 20 years ago and continues to grow in her faith. She is married to Obrad and has 1 son, Aleks.

Conference Participants

Name	City
Kyran Alexander	Pheonix,AZ
Alexis Baich	Pheonix,AZ
Dusan Bunjevich	Pheonix,AZ
Adrianna Ceko	Alhambra,CA
Maria Ceko	Alhambra,CA
Nicholas Cora	Joliet,IL
Alexander Coralic	Milwaukee,WI
Marko Coralic	Milwaukee,WI
Nikola Corolic	Alhambra,CA
Natasa Cvjetkovic	Aliquippa,PA
John Gligich	Fresno,CA
Collin Gruin	Steelton,PA
Evan Gummo	McKeeseport,PA
Christian Gunther	Steelton,PA
M.Aleks Kesic	Potomac,MD
Allison Krieger	Pittsburgh,PA
Juliana Lytkowski	Parma,OH
Rachel Lytkowski	Parma,OH
Savo Majstorovic	New York,NY
Anney Mierski	Steelton,PA
Sarah Nezich	Detroit,MI
Alexander Osman	Aliquippa,PA

A Prayer of St. Basil the Great

We bless thee, O God most high and Lord of mercies, who ever works great and mysterious deeds for us, glorious, wonderful, and numberless; who provides us with sleep as a rest from our infirmities and as a repose for our bodies tired by labor. We thank thee that thou hast not destroyed us in our transgressions, but in thy love toward mankind thou hast raised us up, as we lay in despair, that we may glorify thy Majesty. We entreat thine infinite goodness, enlighten the eyes of our understanding and raise up our minds from the heavy sleep of indolence; open our mouths and fill them with thy praise, that we may unceasingly sing and confess thee, who art God glorified in all and by all, the eternal Father, the Only-Begotten Son, and the all-holy and good and life-giving Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Here may be added your own private devotions and intercessions, using your own words or the "Occasional Prayers". When you have finished, conclude with this prayer:

Through the prayers of our holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us and save us. Amen.

The Creed

I believe in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible; And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the Only-begotten, Begotten of the Father before all worlds, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Begotten, not made; of one essence with the Father, by whom all things were made: Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and was made man; And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered and was buried; And the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures; And ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father; And He shall come again with glory to judge the quick and the dead, Whose kingdom shall have no end. And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, and Giver of Life, Who proceeds from the Father, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spoke by the Prophets; And in One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins. I look for the Resurrection of the dead, and the Life of the world to come. Amen.

Conference Participants

Name	City
Ana Petronijevic	Potomac,MD
Andrej Petronijevic	Potomac,MD
Melissa Pochan	McKeeseport,PA
Rachel Powell	Hagerstown,MD
Tijana Raketic	Lansing,IL
Gabrielle Richards	Milwaukee,WI
Brittany Rodgers	Steubenville,OH
Alexandra Sellers	Alhambra,CA
Nikola Simikic	Alhambra,CA
Aleksander Sretenovich	Chicago,IL
Charles Stepich	Alhambra,CA
Ivana Tasic	Alhambra,CA
Jelena Tasic	Alhambra,CA
Natasha Trajkovic	San Diego,CA
Alexander Trbovich	McKeeseport,PA
Alexandra Trifunovic	San Diego,CA
Milica Trikić	Lansing,IL
Nikola Vranesevich	McKeeseport,PA
Alexandra Wall	Alhambra,CA
James Werner	Steelton,PA

Morning Prayers

The Trisagion Prayers

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O heavenly King, O Comforter, the Spirit of truth, who art in all places and fillest all things; Treasury of good things and Giver of life: Come and dwell in us and cleanse us from every stain, and save our souls, O gracious Lord.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us. (Thrice)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our iniquities. Holy God, visit and heal our infirmities for thy Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (Thrice)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Through the prayers of our holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us. Amen.

Troparia to the Holy Trinity

Having arisen from sleep, we fall down before thee, O Blessed One, and sing to thee, O Mighty One, the Angelic Hymn: Holy, holy, holy art thou, O God. Through the Theotokos have mercy on us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

From my bed and sleep Thou hast raised me: O Lord, enlighten my mind and my heart, and open my lips that I may praise thee, O Holy Trinity: Holy, holy, holy art thou, O God. Through the Theotokos have mercy on us.

Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Suddenly the Judge shall come, and the deeds of each shall be revealed: but with fear we cry out in the middle of the night: Holy, holy, holy art thou, O God. Through the

Theotokos have mercy on us.

Lord, have mercy. (12 times)

A Prayer to the Holy Trinity

Arising from sleep I thank thee, O holy Trinity, because of the abundance of thy goodness and long-suffering thou wast not wroth with me, slothful and sinful as I am; neither hast thou destroyed me in my transgressions: but in thy compassion raised me up, as I lay in despair; that at dawn I might sing the glories of thy Majesty. Do thou now enlighten the eyes of my understanding, open my mouth to receive thy words, teach me thy commandments, help me to do thy will, confessing thee from my heart, singing and praising thine All-holy Name: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.