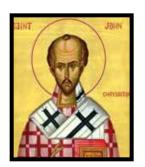
Light of the East

Newsletter of the Society of Saint John Chrysostom Western Region Edition Website: www.lightoftheeast.org

Summer 2014



2014 Orientale Lumen Conference explored marriage from both Eastern and Western Christian perspectives

By Robert Greenwell, SSJC-WR

Volume 9, Number 1

I was privileged to attend the 18th annual Orientale Lumen Conference. "Orientale Lumen" is Latin for "Light of the East." The conference is sponsored by the Orientale Lumen Foundation and the national Society of St. John Chrysostom. The theme of this year's conference was "Ecumenical Dimensions of Marriage."

In attendance were priests, sisters, and lay people from Roman Catholic, Eastern Catholic, and Orthodox faith traditions. Also, Bishop John Michael Botean of the Romanian Catholic Church in North America was present for the whole conference. Metropolitan Kallistos of the Greek Orthodox Church of Great Britain presented one of the talks from an Orthodox perspective, and Archpriest Peter Galadza of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church in Canada presented another talk regarding married priests in both

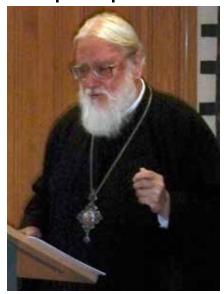
Father Peter Galadza

the Eastern Catholic and Orthodox traditions.

After registration on Monday, we shared a meal and then celebrated together an Eastern Moleben to the Holy Spirit. Father Ron Roberson, secretary to the ecumenical commission of the USCCB, gave an introduction to the theme of "Ecumenical Dimensions of

Marriage," not only between spouses, but between both Eastern and Western Apostolic Churches, since we are all the "Bride of Christ."

On Tuesday morning we began with a Romanian Catholic Divine Liturgy (Mass) celebrated by Bishop John Michael Botean in the St. John Paul II National Shrine, adjacent to the conference center. Our first presenters were Solon and Marianna Patterson. He is Greek Orthodox and she is Roman Catholic. They have been married over 50 years, and when they were married, they needed the ceremony



Metropolitan Kallistos

in both Eastern and Western traditions. They discussed the constant compromise needed in all marriages, and concluded by optimistically stating that constant prayer for unity and reconciliation is needed at each parish level. A lively question-and-answer discussion between the presenters and audience ensued.

After lunch Tuesday, we were presented a video on "Sister Churches," which interviewed clergy from Roman Catholic, Eastern Catholic, and Orthodox traditions. All were favorable and positive in their belief that Catholic and Orthodox should reunite in the near future.

Sister Vassa Larin, a Russian Orthodox nun who teaches at the University of Vienna and has an Internet program called "Coffee with Sister Vassa," was the next presenter. She has a wide and varied background in Catholic-Orthodox dialogue. She stated that mutual recognition of Or
Continued on Page 4

Happenings!

SSJC-WC Presentation: State of the Christian Church in Ukraine Presented by Fr. James Bankston, Pastor of St. John the Baptizer Ukrainian Catholic Church - Saturday, Sept 27, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at St. John the Baptizer Ukrainian Catholic Church, 4400 Palm Avenue, La Mesa. Archpriest George Morelli will moderate. Call 619-697-5085 for information. The Society of Saint John Chrysostom

The Society of Saint John Chrysostom is an Ecumenical group of clergy and lay people that promotes Eastern Christianity and Ecumenical Dialogue between the Eastern and Western Churches. It has sponsored the Eastern Churches Journal and the annual Orientale Lumen Conference. It has been in existence since 1997 in the United States and for over 70 years in England.

The Goals of the Society are to:

- Make known the history, worship, spirituality, discipline and theology of Eastern Christendom
- Work and pray that all Christians, particularly the Orthodox and Catholic Churches, will attain the fullness of unity which Jesus Christ desires
- Develop educational programs that present information about the Eastern Churches
- Organize and conduct pilgrimages and conferences that encourage ecumenical dialogue
- Contribute to fundraising activities that support Eastern Christian communities and other programs in need of financial aid.
- Publish books, brochures and other information which help explain Eastern Christianity.
- Encourage and support the study of the writings and liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom.
- Promote scholarships for the study of Eastern Churches and Orthodox Seminaries.

Western Region

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Light of the East

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Message from the President of SSJC-Western Region



New Martyrs everywhere

By the Very Reverend Archpriest George Morelli, PhD

The Light of the East President's Message just two years ago was titled *The New Martyrs in Syria*. Sad to say, today the geographic area and ferocity of Christian Martyrdom has greatly expanded.

Martyrdom is especially prevalent throughout the Middle East, in Syria, of course, but in Iraq, Gaza, and Palestine, and in adjacent areas in Africa, such as Egypt and other Arabic countries, as well.

We can look at the violence around the world, and which is now so prevalently raging throughout the Middle East. We hear cries of vengeance on all sides. It is lamentable that scores are being massacred, youngsters being killed or beaten. Unfortunately, many consider that such acts of vengeance, retribution and terror are blessed by God.

Sad also is that political differences have led to further divisions among Apostolic Christians, such as between the various Catholic and Orthodox jurisdictions in the Ukrainian conflict. We can see increasing divisiveness even within jurisdictions themselves.

It is not hard to see the increasing violent division as the cunningly stealthy work of the Evil One working under the guise of the foibles of the brokenness of mankind - that is to say, the passions and prejudices that all of us have inherited from our ancestral parents' fall from paradise.

The understanding of the Eastern Church may be instructive in this matter. Reflecting the Mind of Christ, echoed by His Church, is the teaching that there is no such thing as a "just war." All war, even a war that on a human level seems eminently just, is actually a manifestation of the brokenness of mankind and must be lamented and forgiveness asked for all by all.

On a human level, speaking of peace may seem totally unattainable. However, it behooves all of us to keep in mind Christ's words to his disciples as recorded by St. Mark: (10:27) "And Jesus looking on them, saith: With men it is impossible; but not with God: for all things are possible with God." So we can never give up hope and must do all we can do within our state of life, and with the gifts given to us by God, to preach peace to all at all times, and be cooperators with God in this endeavor.

St. Paul's instruction to St. Timothy may be a good starting point in nurturing the virtue necessary to overcome war with peace: "And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but kindly to everyone, an apt teacher, forbearing ..." (2Tim 2:24).

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THE SOCIETY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

~ Western Region ~ presents

State of the Christian Church in Ukraine



Sat., Sept. 27, 2014 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.



St. John the Baptizer Ukrainian Catholic Church

4400 Palm Avenue, La Mesa, CA 91941 619-697-5085 (Office) pastor@stjohnthebaptizer.org

Presenter: Fr. James Bankston

Pastor. St. John the Baptizer

Moderator: V. Rev. George Morelli, Ph.D Asst. pastor St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church, San Diego; Pres. SSJC-WR.

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A freewill offering will be taken.

Business meeting of The Society of St. John Chrysostom-Western Region during lunch (approx.1 p.m.). All welcome. Coffee and tea provided. If attending the meeting, please bring a sack lunch.

Contact: Bob Greenwell: 619.644.3600 or Fr. George Morelli: (760) 920 6530

Directions to St. John the Baptizer

US 8Fwy E. or W. Exit: "Spring St." S. on Spring St. (approx. 1 mile) to Palm Ave.; Left on Palm to 4400. Left into Church parking lot. US 94/125 Exit Spring St. N. to Palm Ave. and to church.

For interesting news articles related to this topic see:

http://stjohnthebaptizer.org/news.php

The Society of St. John Chrysostom-Western Region, is an ecumenical organization of laity and clergy of the Eastern and Oriental Orthodox Churches and the Eastern Catholic and Roman Catholic Churches which was established to make known the history, worship, spirituality, discipline and theology of Eastern Christianity, and to work for the fullness of unity desired by Jesus Christ.

Marriage issues explored in spirit of camaraderie and shared worship

Continued from Page 1

thodox and Catholic Churches as authentic embodiments of the one Church of Christ, founded on the apostles, is essential. This would include the recognition of our fundamental agreement on central Christian dogmas, despite variations in our theological and liturgical traditions. The Eastern and Western traditions of the marriage rite are vastly different, and Eastern Orthodoxy allows a second and even a third marriage, instead of the Catholic practice

of needing an annulment before another marriage is contracted. A panel session then took questions from audience members to further draw out Sister Vassa's presentation.

After dinner and daily vespers in the conference center chapel Tuesday evening, Father Peter Galadza from Canada spoke about optional celibacy in the Eastern Churches, both Catholic and Orthodox, as an ancient established norm. He does not wish the Roman Catholic Church to change its 1,000-year-old practice; but some Roman Catholic writers have ignored the Eastern norm to the detriment of Catholic-Orthodox dialogue.

On Wednesday morning after breakfast, we all celebrated the

Moleben to Jesus Christ in the chapel. Then Father John Beal took the podium. He further developed the theme of marriage not only between individual spouses, but between Churches. Father talked about the tension between autonomy and primacy in each Church and parish, and the current practice in many parishes and dioceses, both east and west, of committing the spouse with the stronger faith, whether Catholic or Orthodox, with the task of raising the children in the faith tradition of that spouse. Again, we finished the session with a lively question-and-answer period.

A meeting of the national Society of St. John Chrysostom was held Wednesday afternoon. Everybody enthusiastically endorsed an Orientale Lumen XVIX to be held in June 2015 at the Franciscan Retreat Center on the campus of the Catholic University of America.

Our Wednesday afternoon speaker was Father Patrick Viscuso, a married priest in the Greek Orthodox Church.

Wednesday evening we took a "field trip" to St. Nicholas Orthodox Cathedral in Washington DC. The ladies of the parish treated us to a wonderful vegetarian buffet din-

ner, because they were observing the traditional Apostles Fast. Metropolitan Kallistos of the Greek Orthodox Church in Great Britain was our Wednesday evening speaker at the cathedral. A large turnout was there since the host parish had invited many for the talk. Metropolitan Kallistos is always interesting and humorous when he talks, and he also spoke about a hoped-for "marriage" between all apostolic Churches of the east and west, while respecting the particular traditions of each. We then closed with a spirited

question-and-answer session.

Thursday morning after breakfast, we celebrated the Akathist to the Mother of God in the chapel. Following the Akathist, we all convened in the auditorium for a talk by Archimandrite Robert Taft, a Jesuit priest with bi-ritual faculties in the Byzantine Catholic tradition and noted scholar on the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom. Father Taft explained that both Catholic and Orthodox Churches contain the full apostolic truth and sacred tradition passed down to us through all generations from apostolic times. He further stated that the few doctrinal problems and many procedural problems between the Churches can only be resolved by asking the right

be resolved by asking the right questions. While a serious study of history shows rights and wrongs on both sides of the Catholic-Orthodox divide, Father Taft remarked that self-criticism is totally foreign to Orthodoxy. Many problems can also be traced to the eleventh century, when the Bishop of Rome began acting as a political monarch. We need to forget about the problems and insults of the past and get together to respect each other today.

We, the participants of the conference, need to take the information presented at the conference back to our individual parishes and dioceses and pray and work for communion between all the Churches, east and west. Needless to say, the audience peppered Father Taft with very pointed questions. In reply, Father did not pull any punches, but freely spoke his mind.

After sharing a final meal together, and with many warm "goodbyes" among friends old and new, we all resolved to see each other again next year, to spread the word that we are getting very close to intercommunion and that we need to work and pray daily for this.



Right Rev. Archimandrite Robert Taft, SJ

Patriarchs come together to condemn ISIS genocide

From news reports

After two millennia of existence in Syria and Iraq, entire communities of Christians are being obliterated by the Is-

All branches of the history of the h

Mar Dinkha IV, Catholicos-Patriarch of the Assyrian Church of the East

lamic State of Iraq and Syria after it seized military control of the Ninevah plains of northern Iraq this summer.

Mosul, which has had a Christian community since the Assyrians adopted Christianity in the first century A.D., now is reportedly empty of Christians - all followers of Christ having fled ahead of the ISIS advance or having been slaughtered or forcibly converted to Islam once the city fell.

Christians are not the only targets of the Islamic State: Yazidis, who follow an ancient monotheistic faith related to Zoroastrianism, are also being killed or converted at gunpoint in their ancestral homelands in northern Iraq. CNN.com reported in late August that ISIS was selling Yazidi women and girls into sexual slavery. The much smaller Yarsan (founded 14th Century), Shabak (16th Century) and Mandean (1st or 2nd Century) religious communities are also being persecuted. (Nearly all of the ancient Jewish communi-

ties of Iraq and Syria were driven out following the establishment of Israel in 1948.)

Sadly, with all of these faiths under attack by ISIS -

whose leaders proclaim an extremely strict interpretation of Islam, and have proven willing to kill any who do not leave or convert - historic communities are being lost.

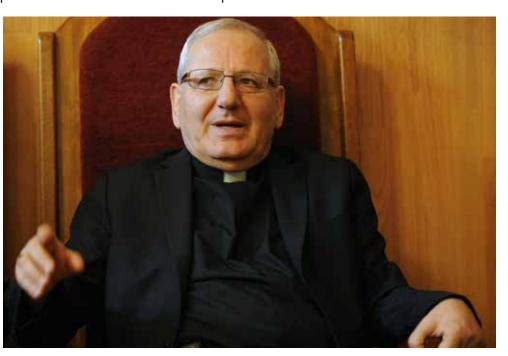
All branches of the historic Apostolic Church have roots

in Syria — Eastern Orthodox, Catholic, Oriental Orthodox and Assyrian Church of the East.

And all are under attack from ISIS - whose fighters see not the fractures that divide these believers, but only that all are Christian and, to them, therefore infidels to be converted or killed.

In July, Patriarch Louis
Raphael I Sako, head of the
Chaldean Catholic Church,
warned that Christians living
within the areas controlled by
Isis are being told to convert,
to leave with only the clothes
on their backs (with their
homes and furnishings confiscated by ISIS), or to stay and
pay the *joziah* — the special
tax all non-Muslims must pay

if living under Muslim rule. Worryingly, the amount of this tax was not specified - so Christian families who choose to



Patriarch Louis Raphael I Sako, head of the Chaldean Catholic Church

stay have no idea if they can even afford the tax.
Patriarch Sako also reported that after ISIS seizes
Continued on Page 7

SoCal Chaldeans work to rally support for the persecuted

From news reports

Southern California has a unique portal into the ongoing religious genocide of the Middle East thanks to the existence of a large community of Iraqi Christian expatriates

living in San Diego's East County area. The large (estimated at more than 70,000) Chaldean population in San Diego County still has deep ties to their homeland in Iraq, where many still have family and friends.

Mark Arabo, an El Cajon-based Chaldean Catholic, has been especially vocal and insistent in his efforts to stir up support for Chaldeans and other Christians in the path of the Islamic State.



Mark Arabo

The Voice of San Diego (VOSD) reported on Aug. 20 that Arabo was working with U.S. Representative Juan Vargas, D-San Diego, to find a way to open more slots for asylum-seekers and refugees fleeing ISIS. And on Aug. 7, U-T San Diego (the main daily newspaper in the city) reported that Arabo had met with administration officials at the White House on the crisis.

While there is no numerical limit under U.S. law for those seeking asylum, only those already on American soil can seek asylum. For those trapped in refugee camps in Iraqi Kurdistan, a lifting of the annual limit on refugees may be their only hope. The current cap is 70,000 for 2014, with 33,000 of those designated for the Middle East.

Vargas' chief of staff, Tim Walsh, told VOSD that Vargas is talking to his colleagues in Congress and the administration about increasing the number of slots available to Christians under attack from the Islamic State. While there was no concrete progress as of press time, Walsh said that all options are on the table in Vargas' view – from shifting slots to the Middle East from other regions to an overall increase. He said that when Congress reconvenes after its summer holiday, Vargas will begin trying to find the quickest way to get something done.

Nor is Arabo alone. Several hundred Chaldeans and supporters marched in downtown El Cajon on Aug. 19 to show their support for friends and family back home. Others marched Aug. 23 in Detroit, Mich.

But marches and meetings alone cannot protect the persecuted Christians, a point made by a Chaldean still in Iraq. As reported by U-T San Diego on Aug. 16, Chaldean Catholic Bishop Sarhad Jammo of the St. Peter Chaldean Catholic Diocese in El Cajon was speaking by phone that day with Abu Ammar in Dohuk, Iraq.

"We have been waiting and waiting for help," Ammar told Bishop Jammo. "By the time you are done with all of your meetings, the Christians might be all gone because of ISIS."

Morelli

Continued from Page 2

St. Dorotheos of Gaza dedicates a whole chapter in his Discourses (Wheeler, 1977)^{II}, that he titles "On Building Up of Virtue." St. Dorotheos uses the analogy of building a house, which starts with its foundation. Faithfulness is a foundation without which "it is impossible to please God." (c.f. Heb 11: 6). The walls are made from the stones of obedience and patience, with perseverance and courage as the cornerstone of the structure. Humility is the mortar that holds it all together.

St. Dorotheos points out that, like mortar, humility "... is composed of the earth and lies under the feet of all." To accentuate the extraordinary importance of humility, he goes on to say: "Any virtue existing without humility is no virtue at all." To this however, must be added discretion, which braces the building so to speak, and the roof of the building will be charity, which "completes the house."

But at the end of his description, he returns back, or rather looks up, to humility again, which he calls the house's crown:

The crown is humility. For that is the crown and guardian of all virtues. As each virtue needs humility for its acquisition — and in that sense we said each

stone is laid with the mortar of humility — so also the perfection of all the virtues is humility ... the man that is getting closer to God looks on himself more and more as a sinner.

We, as members and friends of the Society of St. John Chrysostom, must pray and work not only for Eucharistic union, but for peace throughout society and must nurture the virtue to attain it. We can practice being open to alternative views, resisting partisan loyalties, refrain from insisting that others acquiesce to one's own viewpoints and eschewing revenge. The very least we can all immediately apply is the wisdom St. Isaac of Syria^{III}: "...honor silence; for it prevents many wrongs."

At the same Mystical Supper where Christ in His priestly discourse to His Apostles prayed that "all may be one," (Jn 17: 21) He also uttered these words: "These things I have spoken to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you shall have distress: but have confidence, I have overcome the world." (Jn 16: 33).

I. Morelli, G. (2013, July 29). The New Martyrs in Syria. http://www.orthodoxytoday.org/OT/view/the-new-martyrs-in-syria
II. Wheeler, E. P. (ed., trans.) (1977). Dorotheos of Gaza: Discourses and Sayings. Kalamazoo, MI: Cistercian Publications
III. Wensinck, A. J. (ed., trans.) (1923). Mystic Treatises by Isaac of Nineveh. Amsterdam, Holland: Koninklijke Akademie Van Wetenschappen.

Christian refugees taking shelter in Iraqi Kurdistan camps

Continued from Page 5

control of a town, Christian homes are being painted with an Arabic "N" for "Nazara" — the Arabic word for Christian. (Muslims deemed not zealous enough or adhering to the Shia branch of Islam are having their homes labeled as "Protestant" in Arabic.)

His Holiness Mar Dinkha IV, Catholicos-Patriarch of the Assyrian Church of the East, termed what is happening to Christians in Mosul a "pogrom" — the Russian campaigns of ethnic cleansing against Jews in the 19th century.

Syriac Catholic Patriarch Ignace Joseph III Younan echoed that view, telling the Catholic News Service after a visit to Iraq that what he and other Eastern Christian leaders witnessed was "pure and simple religious cleansing and attempted genocide."

"What we, the five patriarchs, saw in Ankawa, Irbil and other cities of Kurdistan, was something indescribable in terms of the violation of human rights and the threat of disappearing of various communities among the vulnerable minorities of Northern Iraq," Patriarch Younan told CNS in an Aug. 29 report.

In a July press release, Patriarch Younan said that "We are in Iraq, Syria and Lebanon: We Christians weren't imported, we've been here for millennia and, therefore, we have the right to be treated as human beings and citizens of these countries."

Patriarch Younan traveled to Iraq in early August to visit refugee camps in Kurdistan with an interdenominational group of leaders that included Patriarch Sako, Syriac Orthodox Patriarch Ignatius Aphrem II, Maronite Patriarch Beshara Rai, and Melkite Catholic Patriarch Gregoire III Laham.

During their tour, Patriarch Rai told the press that "We want all the Christians, Muslims, Yezidis, Sunnis, Shiites



Patriarch Ignace Joseph III Younan

and Kurds to stay in Iraq and not to leave because this is our homeland. this is our culture. and civilization and we do not want to part with it."

And while ISIS claims that its efforts are part of

a battle between Islam and the rest of the world, the patriarchs pointed out that the Islamic government of Kurdistan is offering safe haven to all the refugees and promising to protect them - no matter their faith.

After their tour, the Patriarchs gathered for a summit in late August



Maronite Patriarch Beshara Rai

outside Beirut, Lebanon with United Nations representatives and other leaders of historic Christian communities in Iraq, including Armenian Catholic Patriarch Nerses Bedros XIX and Armenian Orthodox Patriarch Aram I.

At this summit, the prelates wondered where is the outrage from the rest of the world, issuing a joint statement that read in part, "The international community cannot keep silent about the existence of the so-called ISIS."

They also announced a Defense of Christians summit Sept. 9-11 2014, in Washington, D.C., to try to bring attention to bear on the crisis in Syria and Iraq.

The Society of St. John Chrysostom
Western Region
WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

Full membership: \$50 Associate: \$40 Parish Membership: \$100

For full information, call
714-985-1710 and ask for Fr. James,
or e-mail chapter secretary
Anne Petach at:
secretary.lightoftheeast@gmail.com

Conference urges lifting U.S. ban on married Eastern Catholic priests

From news reports

This summer, the North American Orthodox-Catholic Theological Consultation voted to urge the Roman Catholic Church to lift its ban on married Eastern Catholic priests in North America.

As posted on the web site of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, the June vote urges an overturn of a 1929 decree that stated that all Catholic priests in North American would be celibate – including those Eastern Catholic priests who wished to emigrate here.

The North American Orthodox Catholic Theological Consultation is an ecumenical standing conference that meets semiannually. It was founded in 1965 by the Committee on Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and the Standing Conference of the Canonical Orthodox Bishops in the Americas.

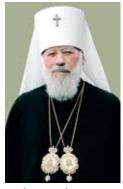
The statement argues that the 1929 Sacred Congregation for the Oriental [Eastern Catholic] Churches decree *Cum data fuerit* is contradicted by the later Second Vatican Council, which "spoke of the importance of preserving the legitimate traditions of the Eastern Churches." The Second Vatican Council's decree, *Orientalium ecclesiarum*, emphasized the need to preserve the "legitimate liturgical rite and established way of life" of Eastern Catholics.

The Consultation's official statement added that lifting the ban on already married men being ordained Eastern Catholic priests "would affirm the ancient and legitimate Eastern Christian tradition, and would assure the Orthodox that, in the event of the restoration of full communion between the two Churches, the traditions of the Orthodox Church would not be questioned. We are convinced that this action would enhance the spiritual lives of Eastern Catholics and would encourage the restoration of unity between Catholic and Orthodox Christians."

Briefly ...

Ukraine Metropolitan falls asleep in the Lord

Most Reverend Metropolitan Volodymyr of Kiev and All Ukraine fell asleep in the Lord on July 5, at the age of 78. He had been head of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church - Moscow Patriarchate since being elected in 1992.



The Metropolitan was born Viktor Sabodan on Nov. 23, 1935 to a poor family in Letychiv Raion of Vinnytsia Oblast (now Khmelnytskyi Oblast). He began his studies at Odessa, and later continued at Leningrad Theological Seminary.

He was ordained in 1962. In 1965, he completed his post-graduate studies at Moscow Theological Academy, and was named rector of the Odessa Theological Seminary and elevated to

archimandrite.

The next year, he was appointed bishop of Zvenigorod. In 1969, he was named bishop of Chernihiv. Four years later, he was named archbishop of Moscow Diocese. In 1982, he was elevated to metropolitan and assigned to the Rostov-on-Don Diocese. Two years after that, he was named Patriarcal Exarch of Western Europe. In 1992, when Metropolitan Filaret left the Russian Orthodox Church to start the Ukrainian Orthodox Church, he was elected Metropolitan of Kiev and All Ukraine.

On Aug. 13, Metropolitan Onufry (Orest Volodymyrovych Berezovskyi) was elected his replacement.

New North American Antiochian Metropolitan

Archbishop Joseph, formerly of the Diocese of Los Angeles and the West, was elected to lead the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America following the March death of Metropolitan Philip. The election came during a meeting of the Holy Synod of Antioch in Balamand, Lebanon, on July 3.

Born Joseph G. Al-Zehlaoui in Damascus, Syria, in 1950, Metropolitan Joseph completed his education in Syria and Lebanon and was ordained to the priesthood in 1980. After serving congregations in Damascus, he was assigned to the London, U.K., Antiochian Community, and in 1986 was transferred to Cyprus.

He was consecrated bishop in 1991, serving the diocese of Katana, Syria. He moved to North America in 1995 at the request of Metropolitan Philip. In 2004, he was appointed to the Los Angeles Diocese.

Free online courses for clergy

St. John Chrysostom Academy is offering free online continuing education courses for clergy.

As interest in and demand for the courses has grown, the Academy has expanded its catalog. For the fall semester, it added four new classes: History of the Early Church, Introduction to the Old Testament, Lectures on the Byzantine Lectionary (Greek and Slavic Usage), and The Clergy Wife: Her Vocation and Ministry.

The Academy was started this summer by the Central Coast Catholic Culture, based in Atascadero, Calif. (between San Luis Obispo and Paso Robles). Central Coast Catholic Culture is a private nonprofit corporation operated jointly by the Salesian Society and the Roman Catholic Diocese of Monterey. The CCCC also operates the Saint Francis Central Coast Catholic HighSchool.

Visit the website at chrysostomacademy.org or call 805-952-3699 for more information.