

Greg Abdalah, a native of the Pittsburgh area, began his college career studying Music Education during which time he gained theoretical knowledge and practical experience in how children learn, ultimately graduating with a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from Duquesne University. From 2001-2005, Greg worked in various positions at the Antiochian Village, applying what he was learning at Duquesne. Following graduation, Greg worked as the Deanery Coordinator for the Western Pennsylvania Deanery, organizing and implementing youth programs for eleven churches in the Pittsburgh area. In 2005, Greg enrolled in St. Vladimir's Seminary to gain the education needed to continue work in youth ministry. While there, he was often invited to speak at various camps and youth retreats around the US and Canada. He earned a Master of Divinity in 2008 with a thesis titled: "The Role of Youth Choirs in the Orthodox Church." Following graduation, he served as the Pastoral Assistant and Youth Director at St. George Antiochian Orthodox Cathedral in Worcester, MA until 2014 when he became the Youth Pastor at St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church in Phoenix, AZ where he currently serves as the Pastoral Assistant. In 2018 he earned his Doctor of Ministry, focused on teaching the Divine Liturgy to our Youth, also from SVS. Greg was married to his beautiful bride Diana in April of 2018 and they are the proud parents of Eleanor.

Articles

"The Hymnography of John of Damascus" – Word Magazine 2020
"The Samaritan Woman: A Model for Ministry" – Word Magazine 2020
"Living the Liturgy: A Practical Guide" – Word Magazine 2019-2020 (10 part series)
"Grief is a Funny Thing" – Word Magazine 2018 (Reprinted)
"Grief is a Funny Thing" – Public Orthodoxy 2018
"Not as Those Who Have no Hope" – Word Magazine 2018
"Who is my Neighbor (And Who Did They Vote For)?" Word Magazine 2017
"Our Youth Teach Us" – Word Magazine 2017
"What is Our Focus?" – Word Magazine 2016
"Music Education in our Church" – SVS Synaxis 2016 (Reprinted)
"To Liturgy and Beyond" – Word Magazine 2015
"Music Education in our Church" – Pan-Orthodox Liturgical Music Symposium 2015 (Updated)
"Liturgical Discipleship: A Framework for Youth Ministry" – Word Magazine 2015
"Be Still" – SVS Synaxis 2013 (Updated)
"Church vs. Church" – CrossRoad 2013
"Music Education in our Church" – Word Magazine 2013
"Be Still" – CrossRoad 2009
"Reflection" – CrossRoad 2008
"Who's the Boss" – The Basil Leaf 2005
"A Revelation" – The Basil Leaf 2004

Retreats and Lectures

St. Athanasius Academy, Antiochian Archdiocese of North America
March-April 2020. Topic: "Don't Stop Believing: A Journey Through the Divine Liturgy Parts 1-4." Participant Ages: Various

St. Athanasius Church, Santa Barbara, CA
March 2019. Topic: "On Behalf of All and for All"

Webinar, St. Vladimir's Seminary, Crestwood, NY

May 2018. Topic: “The Church of Today: Youth, Liturgy, and Community.”

St. George Church, Little Falls, NJ

January 2018. Topic: “What is Community? To Whom Do We Belong?”

Camp St. Nicholas, Frazier Park, CA

February 2016. Topic: “Lives of the Saints.”

Camp St. Nicholas, Frazier Park, CA

February 2015. Topic: “Liturgy and Community.”

OCF College Conference, Ligonier, PA

December 2013. Topic: “What Makes us Orthodox?”

Sacred Music Institute, Ligonier, PA

July 2013. Topic: “Youth and Liturgy.”

Sacred Music Institute, Ligonier, PA

July 2013. Topic: “The Divine Liturgy.”

SOYO Leadership Training, Ligonier, PA

July 2013. Topic: “The Divine Liturgy and Leadership.”

Antiochian Village Chanting Camp, Ligonier, PA

July 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010. Topic: “Learning to Chant.”

St. George Church, Phoenix, AZ

April 2013. Topic: “Call to Duty: Answering God’s Call.”

Holy Apostles Mission, Bowling Green, KY

October 2012. Topic: “Orthodox Sacred Arts: Purpose and Use”

Holy Apostles Mission, Bowling Green, KY

October 2012. Byzantine Chant Workshop.

St. John’s High School Russian Club, Shrewsbury, MA

March 2012. Topic: “Orthodox Sacred Arts: Purpose and Use”

Assumption College OCF, Worcester, MA

March 2011. Topic: “Who is God?”

Assumption College OCF, Worcester, MA

February 2010. Topic: Vocation and Nacho Libre.

Diocese of New York and New Jersey, Orthodox Church in America, Princeton, NJ.

February 2008. Topic: “J.O.Y – Jesus, Others, Yourself.”

Orthodox Christian Fellowship, Ligonier, PA.

September 2007. Topic: “Vocation.”

Camp Transfiguration, Ottawa, CA.

August 2007. Topic: “Vocation.”

St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Worcester, MA.

March 2007. Topic: “Holy Week in the Orthodox Church.”

St. Vladimir’s Orthodox Theological Seminary, Crestwood, NY.

December 2006. Topic: “Inked or Sealed? To whom do you belong?”

St. George Antiochian Orthodox Cathedral, Charleston, WV.
November 2006. Topic: "True Connections."

St. John's Camp, Eagle River, AK.
August 2006. Topic: "The Liturgy."

CrossRoad Program, Brookline, MA.
June 2006. Topic: "Vocation in Movies."

St. Ellien Antiochian Orthodox Church, Brownsville, PA.
April 2005. Topic: "Holy Week in the Orthodox Church."