

# IMPACT REPORT

ACADEMIC YEAR

2021–2022



ST VLADIMIR'S  
ORTHODOX THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY



8

**3 Investing in the Future**  
*Dn Michael Hyatt*

**6 A Legacy on the Move**  
*Fr Chad Hatfield*

**8 Becoming a Nexus of Orthodox Christian Scholarship & Education**  
*Dr Ionuț-Alexandru Tudorie*

**15 On Mission to Indonesia**  
*Alumnus Dn Philip McClanahan*

**16 Where Seekers Find Rest**  
*Alumnus Fr Christopher Foley*

**18 SVOTS was the Next Step**  
*Seminarian Sam Laposky*

**19 From Women's Studies to Monasticism**  
*Seminarian Mother Devorah*

**20 No Other Life**  
*Seminarian Dn John Black*

**22 Money & Salvation**  
*Dr Andy Geleris*

**24 SVS Press Highlights**

**30 A Pioneering Orthodox Leader Baptized at Seminary**  
*Alumna Hollie Benton*

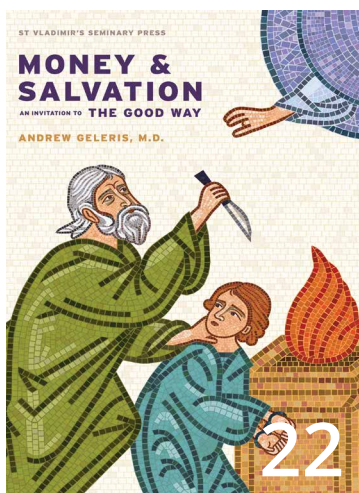
**34 Ordinations**



16



19



22



34



## A Word from the Board of Trustees

# Investing in the Future



**The Rev. Dn Michael Hyatt**  
*Executive Chair*

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

When I see the work of St Vladimir's Seminary, when I meet the students and interact with the faculty and staff, it gives me hope for the future. I am constantly reminded of this by people like Seminary President Fr Chad Hatfield, the entire faculty and staff, and all of our students who have made great sacrifices to build up the Church. This reality, along with my love for Christ, is what inspires me to give of my time and money to the mission of St Vladimir's.

When I decided to accept the role as the executive chair of the Board of Trustees five years ago, I did so because I realized that in order to grow our tiny percentage of Orthodox Christians here in America

into a major movement of Christ-followers, we need great theological education and great pastoral leadership. **I got involved with St Vladimir's Seminary in order to affect the quality of theological education for those who are entering the priesthood, who will in turn raise up the next generation of Orthodox Christians worldwide.**

We are living in a time when Truth has become individualistic. In our current cultural landscape, everyone defines "truth" for themselves. You often hear people say: "I'm living my truth," or "That's your truth." But we, as Christians, believe that Christ is the only Way, Truth, and Life. God is our source of Truth and we bear witness to that Truth. Today, more than ever, we need priests who are committed to the Orthodox faith, who can go out and not just be culturally sensitive and relevant, but also wholly faithful to that Truth and proclaim it.

By God's grace, St Vladimir's Seminary and the Orthodox Church are on the cusp of enormous growth and expansion. There are hundreds of people coming into the Church from various backgrounds and belief systems and are looking for Truth. As a theological institution, St Vladimir's is tasked with passing on the Tradition that was passed on to us from Christ and his Saints, and we are careful to remain faithful stewards of this holy task. We are carrying out this mission by helping form the theological understanding of these young priests and lay leaders, so that when they go out and preach the gospel, people can have confidence they're being faithful to that Truth.

Some members of our larger Church community have raised the question of "Why does St Vladimir's

need to grow and expand? Why can't St Vladimir's just focus on training the best priests possible?" My first answer is this: you don't have to compromise quality to grow. My second answer is that if you look at the number of priests retiring, and the number of priests we will need in the future to serve the beautiful surge of people coming to the Church, it's clear that we need a plan for growth. We have to get ahead of the pending vacancy of priests. If we are going to be faithful to the Great Commission, to go and make disciples of all nations, we need priests who are educated and skilled to go into places where we don't have Orthodox churches and start missions; we need priests who are able to revitalize dying parishes; we need priests to shepherd existing parishes with love and Truth. Ultimately, the answer to this question of "why grow?" is the mandate of the Great Commission from Christ Himself.

Over the next year, and beyond, St Vladimir's priorities will be focused on preparation and prayerful strategy for the future. The Board of Trustees, alongside Fr Chad Hatfield and Dr Alex Tudorie, and all the senior faculty and staff, are committed to building a solid foundation and creating a clear vision for the future of St Vladimir's.

**And we need your help! We need an army of people praying for the Seminary. We need people who are willing to serve as trustees. We need quality staff willing to do the work. We need men and women willing to be trained to be future priests and lay leaders. And we need financial support.** It's more expensive to run a seminary than I would have ever imagined before I joined the Board of Trustees.

There are so many needs in the world. You can support causes that feed the hungry, clothe the naked, minister to people in prison. And ALL of those are *valid and needed* ministries. But the thing I love about giving to St Vladimir's Seminary is that it's a gift that keeps on giving. When you invest in a priest, that investment pays dividends for forty to fifty years. Saint Vladimir's is one of the few ministries that pays those kind of long-term dividends. From an investor's standpoint, an investment in St Vladimir's is one of the best investments that you can make for the future



“

**Today, more than ever, we need priests who are committed to the Orthodox faith, who can go out and not just be culturally sensitive and relevant, but also wholly faithful to Truth and proclaim it.**

of the Church. And that's what it is: an investment for the future.

Will you join me and the Board of Trustees of St Vladimir's Theological Seminary in making a financial investment into the future of the Orthodox Church in America and abroad?

Visit [www.svots.edu/compelled](http://www.svots.edu/compelled), call 914-961-8313 x328, or simply use the enclosed envelope to return your generous gift in the mail.

**Your generosity will change people, families, and communities forever.**

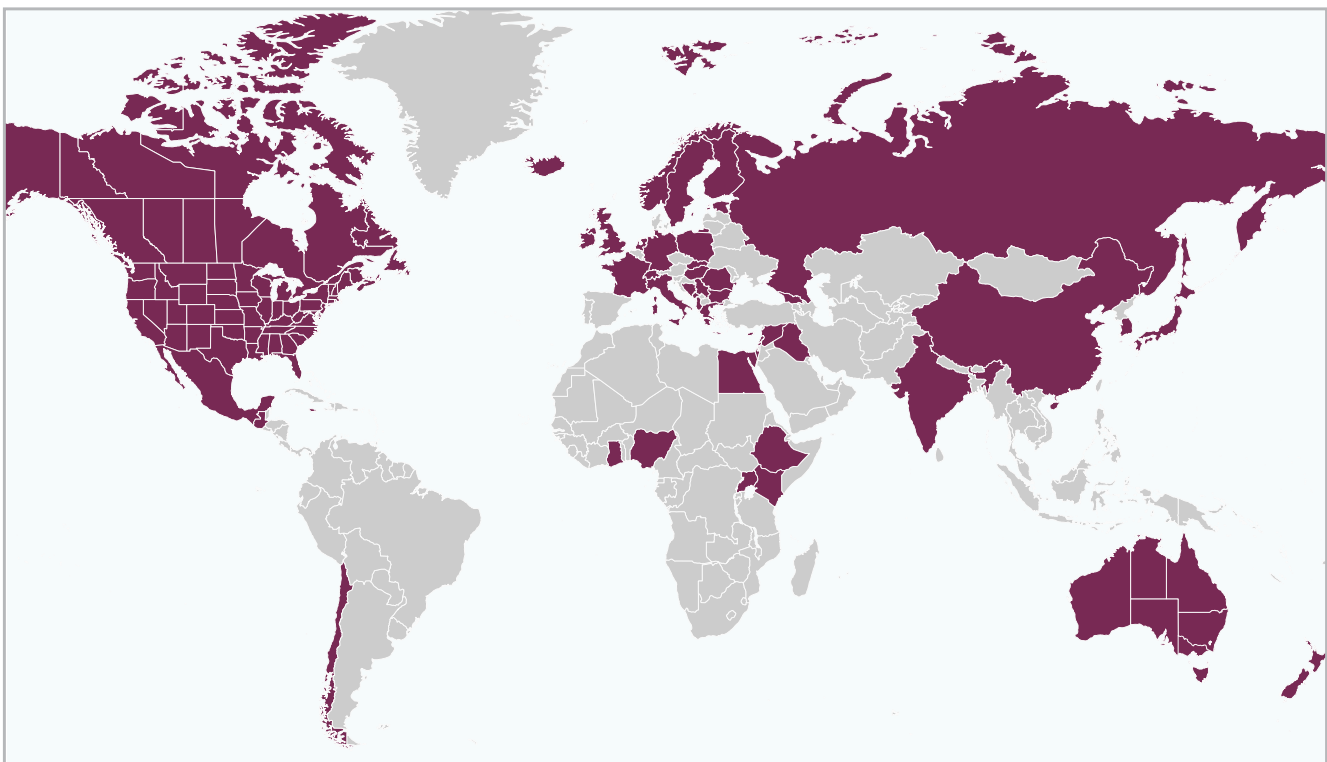
May God's unwavering Truth compel you to cling to him and proclaim with joy the Hope of our Risen Lord, Jesus Christ.

Compelled to Pray, Pursue, and Proclaim,

Dn Michael Hyatt

Executive Chair, St Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary Board of Trustees

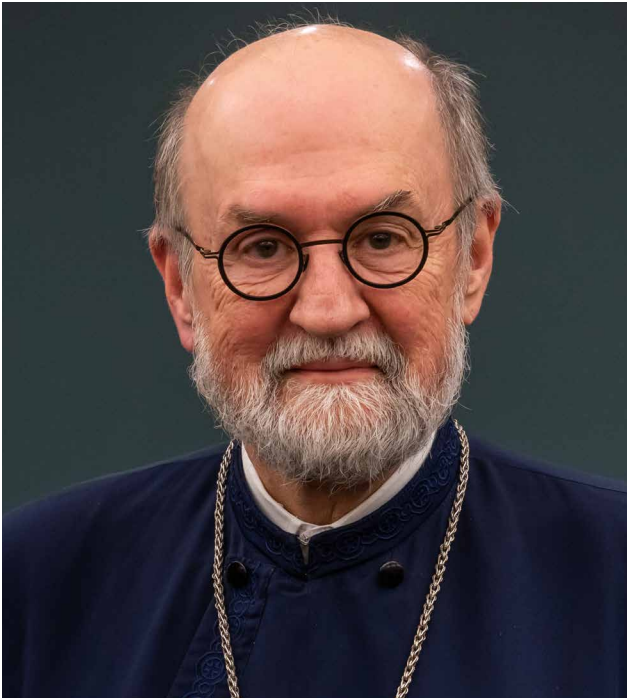




**(Top Left)** You are enabling trained priests to bring about transformation in individuals, families, and communities everywhere. One such community is Holy Cross Mission in High Point, North Carolina, led by Fr Christopher Foley (class of '06). The mission parish has seen a great increase of christmations and baptisms in recent times. On average, there is a steady stream of twenty catechumens in his classes, and Fr Christopher recently baptized and chrismated fifteen people! **(Top Right)** Deacon Michael Hyatt presented the **"Leadership Strategy of Jesus"** at the National Orthodox Advanced Leadership Conference at St Vladimir's Seminary in September, 2017. **(Bottom)** Since 1938, St Vladimir's Seminary has trained more than 1,500 hierarchs, priests, deacons, church leaders, chaplains, and missionaries. Our alumni serve the Church all over the world and can be found in: Albania, Australia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Cyprus, Egypt, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Lebanon, Mexico, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Poland, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, South Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Uganda, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

## A Word from the President

# A Legacy on the Move



**The Very Rev. Dr Chad Hatfield**  
*President*

You may have heard the Seminary's Board of Trustees is engaged in the work of serious due diligence regarding where the Seminary can best meet our future vision and needs. But this is not simply about "moving." **It is about expanding what St Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary is able to offer the Church and the world.**

But before I share more details on that, I want to give

thanks in reflecting on the great impact this Seminary has made and continues to make in the name of Christ—that is, thanks to your prayers and support of St Vladimir's; the faithfulness and dedication of our faculty and staff; the unwavering commitment of our alumni in multiple continents—both ordained and lay—in proclaiming the gospel to all nations; and the prayerful sacrifice and work of our seminarians in answering the call to be formed for service and be witnesses of Truth and Healing in our suffering, broken world.

You may not realize just how important you are. But we simply cannot train seminarians, host conferences and other events for the public, publish Orthodox literature through SVS Press, or even just keep the lights on without your help. We rely on the generosity of donors such as you each year to fund St Vladimir's mission to serve Christ and his Church. And because of you, the Seminary is poised to make an even greater impact.

As I mentioned, impact is what is driving plans to expand the campus of St Vladimir's Seminary. There is much history and sentiment tied to our current home in New York. Change will be anything but easy. But it is time for the Seminary to take a leap, because we have simply outgrown our space, and the Church—and the world—need more from St Vladimir's: more clergy, more teachers, more choir directors, more writers, more chaplains, and so many other vocations; more Orthodox publications and resources; more academic programs, including more





online options and options for undergraduate and even K–12 education for Orthodox children. These things are simply not possible if we do nothing or just patch things up here and there, though we diligently explored that very option. But we have come to a clear path forward. **A modern campus will give us more financial flexibility to build on the already immense legacy of St Vladimir's Seminary, and transform it into something even more valuable for Orthodoxy in the twenty-first century.**

I hope you share our excitement at the possibilities that lie ahead of us and remember the people and work of St Vladimir's Seminary in your prayers. To make this dream a reality, we need your prayers and generosity more than ever.

In the pages that follow, we are delighted to share more about what you have made possible, through seminarians, alumni, faculty, and SVS Press. Thanks be to God for you!

Yours faithfully in Christ,

The Very Rev. Dr Chad Hatfield

President, St Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary

A Word from the Academic Dean

# Becoming a Nexus of Orthodox Christian Scholarship & Education

**A new hybrid program for remote students, a forthcoming doctoral degree, and the addition of renowned scholars as full-time faculty—St Vladimir's Seminary is moving forward!**



**Dr. Ionuț-Alexandru Tudorie**  
*Academic Dean*

**By the grace of God, there have been significant academic developments at St Vladimir's Seminary over the past year.**

These are exciting steps that will make a positive impact on Orthodox theological education and expand its reach to more people and parishes in North America and internationally. The Seminary is truly moving forward.

New degree concentrations in our Master of Arts program are a major part of the Seminary's expanding impact. One of these concentrations makes access to theological education available to a greater number of emerging and developing church leaders, in particular to lay leaders: a hybrid program in Orthodox Christian leadership for remote, part-time students. The new M.A. in Orthodox Christian Leadership Studies meets a growing need to educate Orthodox Christians who cannot physically move to the Seminary. It will help equip leaders who serve their parishes, schools, non-profits, and workplaces with servant leadership formation and practice. The new program begins this fall, and is the fruit of an excellent collaboration with the Orthodox Christian Leadership Initiative (OCLI), for which we are most thankful. The degree concentration became the fourth within the M.A. degree program, joining concentrations in General Theological Studies, Theological Scholarship and Research, and Sacred Arts. Together, these concentrations allow us to provide even more specialized education and training for the many and diverse vocations and needs of the Church.

The Seminary is also in the process of building and seeking accreditation for a doctoral degree. The future Ph.D. in Orthodox Christian Studies will





**WATCH  
NOW**

**(Top; Photo by Andrew Prather)** Dr George Kordis speaks at the Academic Roundtable hosted by the Institute of Sacred Arts in April 2022. **(Middle)** Renowned biblical scholar Dr Michael Legaspi will join the faculty this fall as tenured associate professor of Old Testament. **(Bottom Left)** Important work continues to be done at the Father Georges Florovsky Library, as it remains a pan-Orthodox resource serving all levels of St Vladimir's institutional mission and vision, as well as scholars and researchers. **(Bottom Right)** The Rev. Dr Silviu N. Bunta speaks to seminarians about Elder Aimilianos. The lecture is available to watch on SVOTS' YouTube channel.

offer something not widely available at present: a doctoral program that would draw on the strengths of our faculty and take full advantage of the Orthodox liturgical and communal life as found at St Vladimir's Seminary.

The faculty and the academic life here continue to grow stronger with the addition of more noted Orthodox scholars, both as full-time faculty members and visiting scholars. The renowned biblical scholar **Dr Michael Legaspi** will join the faculty this fall as tenured associate professor of Old Testament. Dr Legaspi's hire was the result of an international, highly competitive process to recruit the best Orthodox scholars and teachers throughout the world. During the past academic year, St Vladimir's Seminary hosted the **Rev. Dr Silviu Bunta**, a specialist of the Hebrew Bible and Second Temple Judaism from the University of Dayton, as scholar in residence for the fall semester; in the spring term iconographer **Dr George Kordis** joined us as artist in residence. The scholar- and artist-in-residence programs will continue in the upcoming academic year with **The Very Rev. Dr Maximos Constas** of Hellenic College-Holy Cross and **Dr Alexander Lingas** of Capella Romana. It is important for our students to benefit from the continued on-campus presence of renowned scholars from both within and outside the Seminary.

There have been further developments at the Father Georges Florovsky Library—a key piece in attracting students, top faculty, and visiting scholars to St Vladimir's. We have added a new academic database and completed major and needed work on our collection through the help of Backstage Library Works. Of note, the Florovsky Library has been selected by the Orthodox Church in America to house its historical archive. We will continue to invest in adding databases and updating our collections to ensure the Library is the best-possible instrument for seminarians, doctoral students, faculty, alumni, and visiting scholars.

We have put our successful student graduate conferences on hold for the moment—but only so that we can work on expanding it to include not only St Vladimir's seminarians but also students from Holy Cross (Brookline, MA), St Tikhon's (South Canaan,

PA), and Holy Trinity (Jordanville, NY) Orthodox seminaries.

This October we will inaugurate the annual St Vladimir's Symposia. Our first, focusing on liturgical theology, had to be postponed last year due to the pandemic, but we are happy to report it will take place this year. Final dates and details are forthcoming. These symposia will bring to campus the best scholars from the fields chosen each year.

Finally, we are delighted by the positive response to our recent refresh of the *St Vladimir's Theological Quarterly* (SVTQ). Building from the diligent and excellent work of previous editor Professor Emeritus Dr Paul Meyendorff, we have seen an encouraging numbers of subscriptions and scholarly submissions to the *Quarterly* (e.g., on average, for every ten excellent articles published in just one issue of SVTQ, 120 articles are put through our rigorous, double-blind peer-reviewed process!). And it should be said that the *Quarterly* remains very, very reasonably priced for a highly academic journal.

**I am pleased to see what I envisioned at the start of my tenure as academic dean gradually becoming reality: St Vladimir's as a nexus of Orthodox scholarship, where we see a cluster of Orthodox scholars collaborating with each other, serving the students, and attracting other scholars; and a place where each seminarian is given the tools and environment they need to help realize their potential and calling as servants for Christ's Church.** But our work continues, and we continue to give glory to God—"for it is God who works in us to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose" (Phil 2.13).

Sincerely, in Christ,



Dr. Ionuț-Alexandru Tudorie

Academic Dean,  
St Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary



# New Master of Arts Degree Concentrations

## Orthodox Christian Leadership Studies & Sacred Arts


Saint Vladimir's Seminary is pleased to announce a part-time, hybrid degree program in Orthodox Christian Leadership Studies to launch in the fall semester of 2022. The new offering, developed in collaboration with the Orthodox Christian Leadership Initiative (OCLI), becomes the fourth concentration option for the Seminary's Master of Arts (M.A) degree.

**APPLY  
NOW**



**MASTER OF ARTS DEGREE IN  
ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP STUDIES**


**Theological  
Education  
for  
Part-Time,  
Remote  
Students**



**ST VLADIMIR'S  
ORTHODOX THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**

**HYBRID PROGRAM BEGINS  
AUGUST 2022**

**Learn More & Apply @ [www.svots.edu/admissions](http://www.svots.edu/admissions)**



**M.A. DEGREE  
CONCENTRATION IN  
SACRED ARTS**

**IMMERSE YOURSELF  
IN THE ARTS:**

- Music
- Iconology
- Art History
- Architecture
- & more

**Explore their theology. Engage in the Liturgy.**

**Admissions Open FEBRUARY 1, 2021**  
[www.instituteofsacredarts.com/curriculum](http://www.instituteofsacredarts.com/curriculum)

Saint Vladimir's Seminary is now offering an MA degree with a concentration in Sacred Arts. The concentration will feature coursework in both theoretical and applied theology and the arts, with opportunities to specialize in a particular discipline: music, iconology, art history, liturgy, architecture, et al. Numerous opportunities include subsidized internships and an annual artists in residence program.



**LEARN  
MORE**

# St Vladimir's at a Glance



TOTAL  
NUMBER OF  
SEMINARIANS

74\*

4 DEGREE  
PROGRAMS

Master of Divinity  
(M.Div.)

Master of Arts  
(M.A.)

Master of  
Theology (Th.M.)

Doctor of Ministry  
(D.Min.)

AGE  
RANGE  
22-54



8% OF STUDENTS  
ARE FEMALE



49%  
OF  
STUDENTS  
ARE MARRIED



51%  
OF STUDENTS  
ARE SINGLE

CHILDREN ON CAMPUS:  
42



\*Number includes 67 full- and part-time seminarians and 7 continuing students. All other figures and percentages in this infographic only account for full- and part-time students



STUDENTS COME  
FROM  
**22**  
STATES...



...AND HAIL FROM  
**8**  
COUNTRIES

**21**  
STUDENTS  
& ALUMNI  
ORDAINED  
  
(JUNE '21–  
MAY '22)

STUDENTS  
REPRESENT  
**18\*\***  
ORTHODOX  
JURISDICTIONS &  
OTHER CHURCHES



**11**  
ALUMNI  
WERE ELEVATED  
IN RANK  
OR RECEIVED  
ECCLESIASTICAL  
AWARDS  
  
(JUNE '21–  
MAY '22)

**10**  
PUBLIC  
EVENTS  
(JUNE '21–  
MAY '22)



## \*\*Seminarians by Jurisdiction/Church Affiliation

Orthodox Church in America	(18) 26%	American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese	(2) 3%
Antiochian Orthodox Christian	(15) 22%	Romanian Metropolia (OCA)	(1) 1.5%
Archdiocese of North America		Eritrean Orthodox Tewahdo Church	(1) 1.5%
Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church	(8) 12%	Melkite Greek Catholic Church	(1) 1.5%
Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America	(4) 6%	Episcopal Church	(1) 1.5%
Coptic Orthodox Church of Alexandria	(4) 6%	Free Methodist Church	(1) 1.5%
Syriac Orthodox Church of Antioch	(3) 4%	Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia	(1) 1.5%
Armenian Apostolic Church	(2) 3%	Polish Orthodox Church	(1) 1.5%
Georgian Apostolic Orthodox Church	(2) 3%	Orthodox Church of Albania	(1) 1.5%
Romanian Orthodox Church	(2) 3%		



**(Top Left)** Deacon Philip, Kristiana with their children Irene (7), Simon (2), and Miriam (5 months)

**(Top Right)** Deacon Philip at his ordination at St George Antiochian Orthodox Cathedral in Wichita, KS on February 27, 2022 **(Bottom)** Dn Philip graduating from St Vladimir's Seminary with a Master of Divinity degree in 2021



# On Mission to Indonesia

## The Ministry of Alumnus Dn Philip McClanahan

The Rev. Dn Philip McClanahan and his family have begun building support for their ministry in Indonesia.

Deacon Philip and Kristiana, along with their three children Irene (7), Simon (2), and Miriam (5 months), are preparing to travel to the city of Medan through the Orthodox Christian Mission Center (OCMC). There Dn Philip will lecture at the St Paul Theological School and teach youth at local Orthodox schools under His Eminence, Metropolitan Konstantinos of Singapore.

**“Having OCMC missionaries on the ground will greatly contribute to the efforts of the growing Church in Indonesia,” read a statement about the McClanahan family from OCMC. “His education and skills will make him a great asset for the St Paul Theological School in Medan and the local Church.”**

The McClanahans will become the first missionaries sent by OCMC to Indonesia.

“Before I was Orthodox I did some mission work in the Middle East,” said Dn Philip. “Then I went on a long spiritual quest and entered into Orthodoxy in 2010.

“When I met my wife one of the things we had in common was an interest in missions. We even contacted OCMC prior to coming to seminary. So it’s been a number of years in the making.”

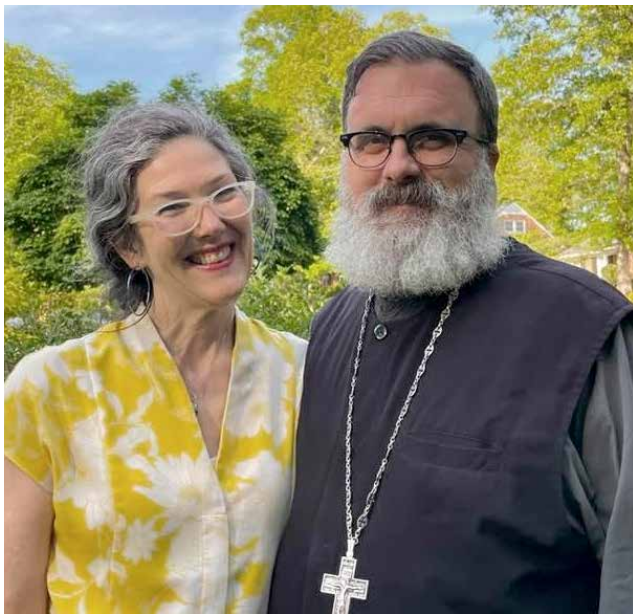
Deacon Philip graduated from St Vladimir’s Seminary with a Master of Divinity degree in 2021. As a seminarian he led the St Innocent Mission Society student interest group. Among other undertakings, he helped organize an effort to assist the Orthodox Diocese of Gulu and Eastern Uganda in 2020.

The McClanahans plan to move to Medan as soon as they’ve raised the support they’ll need for their service. To support and follow their missionary ministry, visit [www.ocmc.org](http://www.ocmc.org).

May God abundantly bless and guide the McClanahans in their ministry, and may he grant them many years!

# Where Seekers Find Rest

## The Ministry of Alumnus Fr Christopher Foley



**Fr Christopher and Matushka Carrie**

The generosity of donors like you has enabled trained priests to bring about transformation in individuals, families, and communities everywhere—including Holy Cross Mission in High Point, NC.

Saint Vladimir's Seminary Alumnus Fr Christopher Foley (class of 2006), the priest at Holy Cross, says the mission parish has recently experienced a great increase of chrismations and baptisms.

*We have people from all walks of life and all stages in their spiritual journey. Many are people who left the church years ago and are now finding Orthodoxy through online Orthodox talks and live streams.*

During the pandemic Fr Christopher's parish, like many others, experienced a drop in attendance at the beginning but is now seeing an influx of seekers coming to the Church.

*Many people have been so miserable in their search for truth over the years, and when they*





*find Orthodoxy, it's like they can finally rest. Our parish is eighty percent converts, so we are especially welcoming and hospitable to these seekers—we all know what it was like going to an Orthodox church for the first time and want to make sure that these people feel welcomed.*

Father Christopher has spent the last fifteen years putting what he learned at St Vladimir's into action. He's developed a six-week inquirer's class for those wanting to learn about Orthodoxy, as well as a twelve-class catechumen course for those who are ready to convert. There is a constant stream of twenty catechumens on average taking this course, and Fr Christopher recently baptized and chrismated fifteen people!

*I rely on SVS Press books like For the Life of the World, The Incarnate God, The Living God, Sweeter than Honey, and many from the Popular Patristics Series. These texts are immensely helpful in teaching seekers, but my time at St Vladimir's has prepared me for things that I could never have learned in a book. Being immersed in the culture of St Vladimir's taught me to have a vision for the beauty of the services, serving well, and working*

*hard to create that same beauty in my parish. My academic classes serve as a lifeline for answering people's deeper theological questions—I may not know the answers but I know where to point people. Most of all, the pastoral care I experienced is what I lean on the most. Many people say that St Vladimir's is where the "academics" go and the "pastors" go elsewhere, but that wasn't true for me. Saint Vladimir's gave me the pastoral tools that I use now through my classes, through confession and one-on-one time with my confessor, the faculty, and the other students. You cannot learn these things in books or just in classes, and certainly not online.*

Your faithful support provides the tools Fr Christopher and other alumni need to grow disciples of the Risen Christ and inspire them to participate as one Body, united. Because of you, St Vladimir's continues to prepare men and women to proclaim the joy of our Savior's resurrection to the world.

**(Images)** Amid an ongoing surge in the number of seekers and catechumens at Holy Cross Mission, Fr Christopher recently baptized and chrismated fifteen people!



## Seminarian Journeys

# St Vladimir's was the Next Step



### Sam Laposky

*Seminarian, M.Div. Program*

From an early age, I remember going everywhere with my dad, The Very Rev. Fr Stephen Laposky, ministering to people through house blessings, sick calls, serving the liturgy. I grew up quite literally in the Church, watching my parents serving and loving people as priest and priest wife—it's what fostered my earliest desires and calling to the priesthood and service to the Church.

**I wasn't exactly sure how my calling to serve would crystallize. In my heart, I knew I wanted to serve. Attending St Vladimir's was the next step in exploring that calling.**

After my first year here, the most important thing I have learned is obedience. You have to be obedient to

the Church and what the Church teaches, and on the meal crew, serving in the chapel, or working in the library, you have to learn how to be obedient both to your classmates and to your professors and the staff. That has never and will never change in the Church—there is always a mutual obedience. You have responsibility to others and they have responsibility to you.

Before I got to St Vladimir's I thought I knew exactly what I was going to learn. But I am learning so much more than I could have imagined, and I could not have learned it anywhere else. Everything at St Vladimir's is formation—the education, the community, the friendships, the mentorships, the services. I am grateful to be here, at a place with such a wonderful history, and I'm grateful for the privilege of learning here.



## Seminarian Journeys

# From Women's Studies to Monasticism



### Mother Devorah

*Seminarian, M.A. Program*

*(Photo, Right: Andrew Prather)*

As an undergraduate, majoring in women's studies, I felt a strong pull toward the Church. **I had begun to realize that the world's remedy for the identity crisis that mankind is currently facing is horribly flawed, and that the only true remedy is in Christ and his Church.**

During my studies and planning for the future, I also realized that, for me, there was nothing outside of the Church that would be satisfying. I was looking for something that would consume my whole life into the life of the Church—which is what ultimately led me to monasticism.

After seeking guidance from my spiritual father, I decided that I needed a stronger theological foundation, for my own spiritual benefit and in order to serve others better. The knowledge I have gained while at St Vladimir's Seminary has helped in every aspect of my life, first and foremost my spirituality

and my understanding about spiritual truths. I am learning how to better understand the condition of the world and the people of the world—which is preparing me to minister to people and to do the work of the Kingdom of God.

**Just as in the monastery, St Vladimir's has also taught me the importance of being spiritually formed in a community.** I am being molded by this community and learning to find my identity within our Church community at large. The friendships I have made in this community, with people on the same journey and discovering the same things that I am, has been a great source of comfort and joy.

A theological foundation is important for **any** position within Christianity—no matter what that position is. People will always want to ask you things and all believers need to be equipped to answer those questions in a deep and profound way. I am grateful for my time at St Vladimir's where I am building this foundation for my future ministry as a monastic.

## Seminarian Journeys

# No Other Life



**Dn John Black**  
*Seminarian, M.Div. Program*

Our story is more of a slow burn than a sudden spark. My wife and I both knew from the beginning that the priesthood might be our path someday, and we never let go of that feeling over the years.

For twenty years, I worked in the IT industry, and spent most of those same years directing and arranging music for parish choirs. About four years ago, I was ordained a deacon at Holy Trinity Orthodox Church in Pottstown, PA. It was then I realized just how much we needed to live a life of service to the Church; there was no other life we

could possibly live. After Alexandra's career change to become a midwife, and our second oldest finished high school, we knew it was time.

I cannot say enough how difficult it is for an established family to make a leap of faith and come to St Vladimir's, or any seminary. We all pull ourselves out of our former lives by the roots, and pray that there is good soil to be re-planted in. Many families give up half their income to come; others nearly all, making month-to-month budgeting difficult.

Seminary is not just an academic exercise; at St Vladimir's, it is an immersive life meant to shape the people that will serve the faithful in some way. The donations from donors like you are often the lifelines that make it possible to forge ahead and live seminary life fully. Every corner of St Vladimir's is committed to forming the whole person. A successful seminarian strives to hold the discipline of learning, the dedication to the Temple, the care for our loved ones, and the care of oneself, in balance. We are learning how to see the Scriptures as a living icon, and how we might impart that view to the world uniquely as Orthodox Christians.

I cannot think of a single better investment a person can make into the quality of their whole life than to help the formation of those who care for them spiritually. Thank you. Your donations make my formation possible.

**By giving to St Vladimir's on a monthly basis, you are building up a strong foundation of support not just for me and my family, but for the hundreds of souls on this campus**





who are committing their lives to service in the Church—service to you and your families.

The future of the Church begins with YOU. Thank you for your commitment to the future of the Church and to St Vladimir's as we prepare for a new academic year.

May God bless you and keep you.

*The Black Family*

Dn John (Class of 2023), Alexandra, Josh, and Noah

PLEASE CONSIDER A MONTHLY GIFT TO ST VLADIMIR'S



By giving monthly to St Vladimir's you will be added to our unique group of committed donors called the St John Chrysostom Society. Join today at [www.svots.edu/give](http://www.svots.edu/give)

## SVS Press Author Spotlight

# Money & Salvation

Dr Andrew Geleris

The purpose of my upcoming book, *Money & Salvation: An Invitation to the Good Way*, published by SVS Press, is to encourage a restoration of a scriptural and patristic perspective regarding the topic of money within our churches.

Today many Orthodox Christians, including bishops and priests, feel acutely uncomfortable discussing financial issues in church for a variety of valid historical and pastoral reasons. In addition, materialistic greed is such a rampant force in American culture that we fear contaminating the purity of our worship by allowing the topic of “filthy lucre” into our midst. Money is often considered an “unspiritual” topic in contrast to truly “spiritual” topics such as love, forgiveness, obedience, prayer, fasting, and sexual purity.

**In contrast to our extreme reluctance to discuss money in church, the Gospels record Jesus teaching far more frequently and intensely about the “unspiritual” topic of finances than all the “spiritual” topics that dominate our teaching. Why has such a stunning divergence developed between our teaching priorities and those of the gospel?**

It is because we view the topic of money through the lens of a dramatically different spiritual paradigm than Jesus used. On those rare occasions when we do, reluctantly, discuss finances in church this generally occurs in the context of gentle invitations for the faithful to prayerfully consider giving to

various extremely worthy causes such as supporting the annual church budget, acquiring a new icon, repairing a leaky roof, or helping poor people. Since the purpose of such discussions is to raise money for ministry this is “ministry-centric” fundraising.

Jesus, however, never talked about giving money for the sake of ministry, including helping the poor. Instead, every financial discussion that he ever had emphasized the importance of using our money for the sake of achieving the salvation of our souls. This is true always and without exception. Thus, his financial discussions were “soul-centric.”

This book is an effort to describe why restoring a soul-centric scriptural and patristic phronema to the Church is important and what it might look like. It includes discussions of why almsgiving is essential for our salvation, the powerful spiritual mystery that underlies sacrificial giving, the purpose of wealth, the enormous personal spiritual value of tithing, the importance of parish financial priorities, and a soul-centric approach to fundraising. It also discusses non-financial aspects of godly sacrificial living.

Imagine the tsunami of spiritual blessing that would overwhelm the lives of our people and churches if most of our faithful simply started tithing to their local parishes (Malachi 3.10). And imagine the powerful spiritual impact that might occur if parishes used these additional funds for the support of youth ministries, seminaries, Orthodox schools, charities, mission churches, and compassionate outreaches to the needy.



Dr Andrew Geleris is a neurologist in Southern California and a member of St Raphael of Brooklyn Antiochian Orthodox Church in Palm Desert. He also serves on the boards of FOCUS North America and the Orthodox Christian Leadership Initiative.

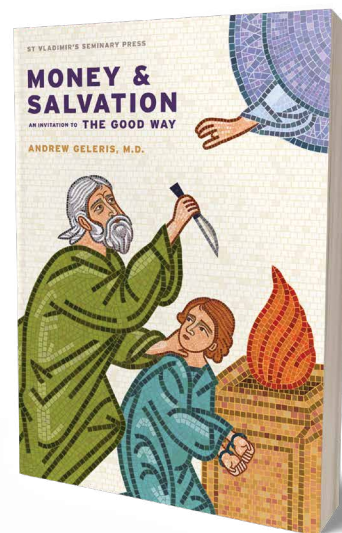
I've chosen to publish this book with SVS Press because of the profound influence the Press has had on my own life. The books they publish can be relied upon to faithfully present the Orthodox scriptural and patristic tradition that makes possible the salvation of the world.

Please accept this *Invitation to the Good Way* (John 14.6) concerning God's teaching about *Money and Salvation*. Glory to God!

“

*I recommend to all parish clergy and lay leaders to prayerfully read Money & Salvation and work to teach and exhort our faithful to give generously as commanded by our Lord—not only for the building up of our churches but for their own salvation.*

—Metropolitan JOSEPH,  
Antiochian Archdiocese



**COMING SPRING 2022**

***Money & Salvation:  
An Invitation to the Good Way***

ANDREW GELERIS

Paperback • 5x7 • 428 pp.  
\$23 • 978-0-88141-690-9



# SVS Press Highlights

## Recent and Upcoming Releases

Founded in 1968, St Vladimir's Seminary Press is one of the largest and most active publishers of Orthodox Christian books in the English language, with more than 500 titles in print. SVS Press has achieved a reputation for permitting a free expression of ideas within the breadth of the Orthodox faith, tradition, and history, while insisting on works of theological excellence.

## SVS Press is joining the world of audiobooks!

Through a generous grant from the Orthodox Vision Foundation, SVS Press launched a new audiobook program in 2022.

### Available Now:

*Great Lent*

by Fr Alexander Schmemmann

*How to be a Sinner*

by Peter Bouteneff

### Coming Soon:

*On the Orthodox Faith*

by St John of Damascus

*For the Life of the World*

by Fr Alexander Schmemmann

Stay tuned for more  
updates about releases!



If you are interested in sponsoring an audiobook of your favorite SVS Press title,  
please contact [media@svots.edu](mailto:media@svots.edu)

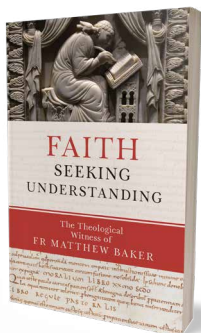
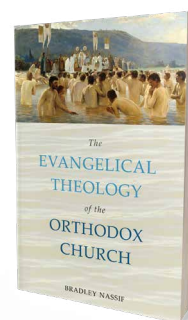
## SVS Press Recent Releases

### The Evangelical Theology of the Orthodox Church

BRADLEY NASSIF

The leading scholar on the relationship between the Orthodox Church and Evangelical Protestantism writes about the centrality of the gospel in the Orthodox Church and the commonalities and differences that exist between Orthodoxy and Evangelicalism.

**\$28 • Paperback • 6x9 • 284 pp. • 978-0-88141-692-3**



### Faith Seeking Understanding: The Theological Witness of Fr Matthew Baker

MATTHEW BAKER

This book offers a collection of the essays, letters, interviews, and correspondence of Fr Matthew Baker, exploring the works of Fr Georges Florovsky and the writings of the Church Fathers. As Fr Matthew exhorts us, "The Fathers are ahead of us, with Jesus—it is we who should be running to catch up to them."

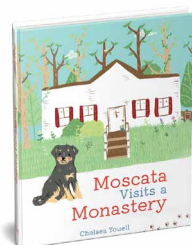
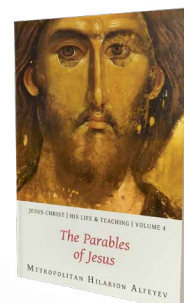
**\$28 • Paperback • 6x9 • 368 pp. • 978-0-88141-688-6**

### Jesus Christ: His Life & Teaching, Vol. 4: The Parables of Jesus

HILARION ALFEYEV

This is the fourth book in Met. Hilarion Alfeyev's multi-volume work, *Jesus Christ: His Life & Teaching*. In this volume, Met. Hilarion explores the most distinct aspect of Jesus' teaching ministry: his parables. The parables are explored from multiple angles, giving due consideration both to modern biblical scholarship and the insights it can give, as well as the ancient tradition of the Church and the extensive commentaries of the Church Fathers.

**\$30 • Paperback • 6x9 • 428 pp. • 978-0-88141-698-5**



### Moscata Visits a Monastery

CHELSEA YUELL

Join Moscata, a friendly and informative dog, who leads readers through an Orthodox women's monastery. Enjoy the beautiful illustrations as you meet the nuns and explore the church, the candle factory, the cemetery, and the grounds. Find out how the nuns work and pray, what they wear, how they serve Christ, and why they have chosen the monastic life.

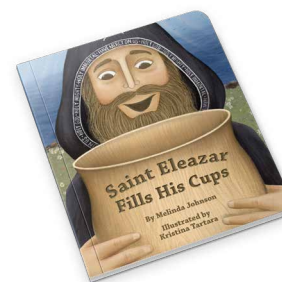
**\$20 • Hardcover • 8x10 • 32 pp. • 978-0-88141-696-1**

### Saint Eleazar Fills His Cups

MELINDA JOHNSON; KRISTINA TARTARA, ILLUSTRATOR

In this book, young readers encounter a Russian hermit who has to solve a problem: he has run out of food. In the end, and with a little help from some friendly fishermen, he manages to fill his cups.

**\$10 • Board Book • 5.5x7 • 22 pp. • 978-0-88141-704-3**



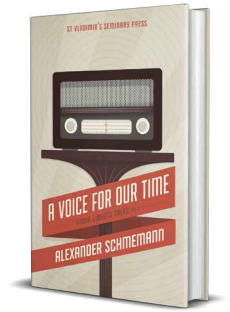
## A Voice for Our Time: Radio Liberty Talks, Vol. 2

ALEXANDER SCHMEMANN

ALEXIS VINOGRADOV & NATHAN WILLIAMS, TRANS.

Father Alexander Schmemmann addressed these radio talks to hearers in the Soviet Union, yet their content remains timeless and timely. They engage the questions that trouble our time, and place everything in light of the gospel.

\$30 • Hardcover • 5.5x8.5 • 387 pp. • 978-0-88141-700-5



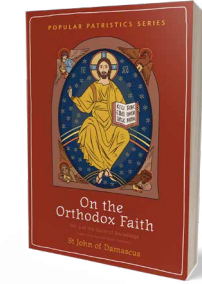
## PPS 62, On the Orthodox Faith (Greek & English)

ST JOHN OF DAMASCUS

NORMAN RUSSELL, TRANS.

Considered by many to be the final and crowning work of the patristic age, *On the Orthodox Faith* addresses all the major areas of Christian belief: Trinitarian theology; Christology; soteriology; the sacraments; the veneration of icons, saints, and relics; and much more. This new translation is presented as a diglot edition, reproducing the Greek text on the facing page, and it includes a helpful introduction discussing the origin and reception of the text.

\$30 • Paperback • 5x7.25 • 567 pp. • 978-0-88141-694-7



## SVS Press Upcoming Releases

Coming Spring 2022

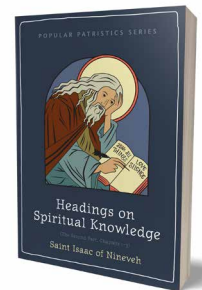
### PPS 63, Headings on Spiritual Knowledge: The Second Part, Chapters 1–3

ST ISAAC OF NINEVEH

SEBASTIAN BROCK, TRANS.

For the first time in English, the world-renowned scholar Sebastian Brock has given us a translation of the first three chapters of the “second part” of St Isaac of Nineveh’s corpus. In them, Isaac recounts the various experiences and stages of the spiritual life.

\$19 • Paperback • 5x7.25 • 252 pp. • 978-0-88141-702-9



Coming Spring 2022

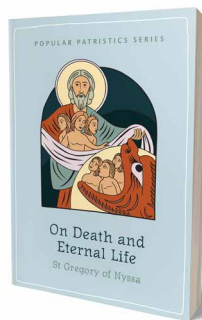
### PPS 64, On Death and Eternal Life (Greek & English)

ST GREGORY OF NYSSA

BRIAN DALEY, TRANS.

The seven works in this volume (some translated for the first time) explore the great human mystery of death and the promise of eternal life. They present— along with *On the Soul and the Resurrection* (PPS 12)—a vision that is consistent, philosophically profound, and characteristic of Gregory’s wider theology. The first three works (*On the Dead*, *On Infants Taken Away before Their Time*, and *On the “Final Subjection” of Christ*) might be termed thematic essays; the fourth is a sermon celebrating Christ’s resurrection (*On the Holy Pascha*); and the remaining three are funeral homilies given for prominent people in Constantinople (Meletius, Pulcheria, and Flacilla). This volume includes the critical Greek text.

\$19 • Paperback • 5x7.25 • 252 pp. • 978-0-88141-702-9





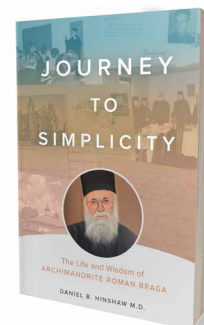
Coming Spring 2022

## Journey to Simplicity: The Life and Wisdom of Archimandrite Roman Braga

DANIEL B. HINSHAW, M.D.

The past century witnessed the greatest persecution of Christians in all of history. But the blood of the martyrs is the seed of the Church, and great heroes of the faith emerged. One such hero is Fr Roman Braga. He suffered the unimaginable cruelty of Romanian Communist prisons, yet through this suffering he was purified and he discovered the kingdom of heaven within himself (Lk 17.21). Dr Daniel Hinshaw traces the story of his life from his early days in the Burning Bush movement, through his imprisonment and suffering, to his later life and his final years here in the United States.

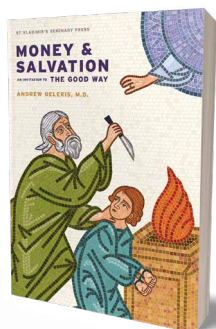
\$TBD • Paperback • 6x9 • TBD • 978-0-88141-709-8



Coming Spring 2022

## Money & Salvation: An Invitation to the Good Way

ANDREW GELERIS



"Too often, we as hierarchs, clergy, and lay leaders speak to our people about giving to meet the needs of the Church or the needs of the poor, and we forget to teach that the true need for each and every one of us is simply to give. God did not recommend that we give only when there is some perceived need or a capital campaign for a project. God commands that we give for our salvation. I recommend to all parish clergy and lay leaders that they prayerfully read *Money & Salvation* and work to teach and exhort our faithful to give generously as commanded by our Lord—not only for the building up of our churches but for their own salvation. With gratitude to Dr Geleris for this well-written and well-researched work, and prayers that it will be for the good of the holy Church and the salvation of her faithful children."

—Met. JOSEPH

*Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America,  
Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America*

\$23 • Paperback • 5x7 • 428 pp. • 978-0-88141-690-9

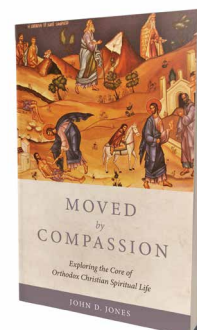
Coming Spring 2022

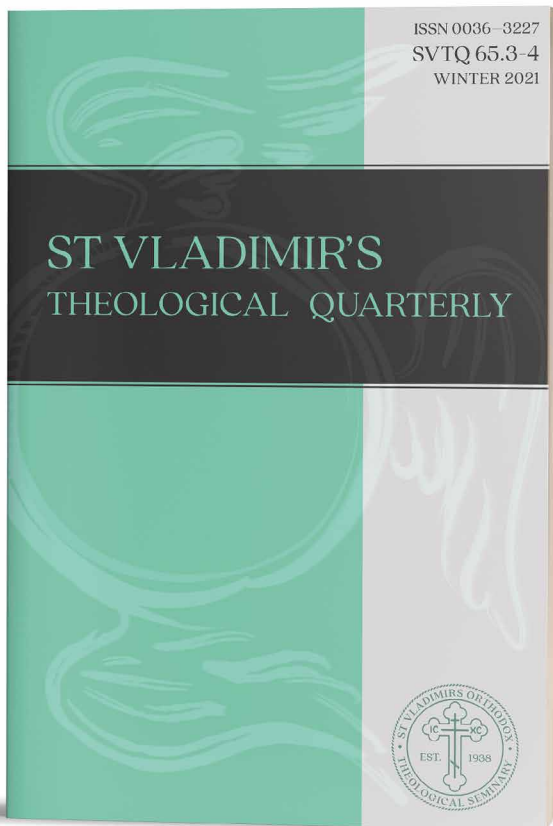
## Moved by Compassion: Exploring the Core of Eastern Orthodox Spiritual Life

JOHN JONES

Though compassion lies at the heart of the gospel, it has been little studied in its own right. This book fills that void, written by an accomplished scholar and drawing upon the broad and ancient tradition of the Orthodox Church, yet accessible to the lay reader.

\$TBD • Paperback • 5.5x8.5 • TBD • 978-0-88141-711-1





### Subscription Rates:

**Individual print subscription** (shipping included):

U.S.—\$120/YR

International—\$160/YR

### Frequency of publication:

Twice yearly, double volume, approx. 500 pp.

### Available formats:

print (paperback) & digital

**SVTQ 65, NOS 3-4**  
**PAGE OF CONTENTS**



**LEARN MORE AND SUBSCRIBE**

**WWW.SVSPRESS.COM/SVTQ**

### Available Now

**St Vladimir's Theological Quarterly**  
**Vol. 65 (2021), Nos. 3-4**

**IONUȚ-ALEXANDRU TUDORIE, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**

St Vladimir's Theological Quarterly (SVTQ)—in continuous publication for nearly seventy years—is led by a new editorial team and has a fresh new look and format.

**\$60 • Paperback • 6x9 SKU: PB-SVTQ65-2**

### CONTENTS

#### Articles

- THEOPHANY AS THE ORIGIN AND FOUNDATION OF THE CHURCH:  
FUNDAMENTAL THEOLOGY FROM AN ORTHODOX PERSPECTIVE  
Dragoș Andrei Giulea ..... 5
- APOPHATIC CHRISTOLOGY, SCRIPTURE, AND MONOTHEISM  
Ethan Smith ..... 39
- THE VISUALITY OF PRIESTLY THOUGHT:  
TABERNACLE AS THAUMA-PNEUMATIC ICON  
Rebecca Hiromi Luft ..... 67
- THE RESURRECTION OF LAZARUS IN JOHN CHRYSOSTOM'S,  
CYRIL OF ALEXANDRIA'S, AND AUGUSTINE'S COMMENTARIES  
ON THE GOSPEL OF JOHN  
Bogdan Tătaru-Cazaban ..... 93
- "YOU ARE GODS": THEOSIS THROUGH A CHRISTIC UNION  
IN THEODORET OF CYRUS  
Charles G. Kim, Jr. .... 125
- THE CONTRIBUTION OF EBNER'S DIALOGICAL PHILOSOPHY  
TO STĂNILOAE'S THEOLOGY OF THE PERSON  
Ciprian Costin Apintiliese ..... 151

#### Theological Essays

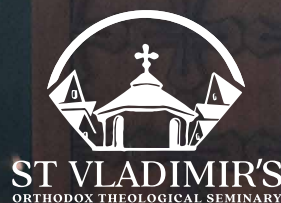
- ORTHODOXY EMBODIED: THE ICON OF A BISHOP AND A CITY  
IN THE LIFE OF SAINT JOHN THE ALMSGIVER  
Gregory Nacsinák ..... 177
- THE PRIORITIES OF JUSTICE AND FREEDOM:  
RE-LEARNING CHRISTIANITY WITH N. STEINHARDT  
Răzvan Porumb ..... 191

- Book Reviews ..... 207
- Notes on Contributors ..... 247





# Who will you entrust your legacy to?



## A simple signature you should not forget.

*If you've ever opened a bank account, set up a retirement plan, or taken out an insurance policy, you may have completed a form to name who will someday inherit the money in those accounts. Then again, sometimes customer service representatives forget to mention such a form.*

But this is too important to forget about or leave unfinished. This is a simple form, done right on the spot, and it keeps your money out of probate—no attorneys, no hassle for your heirs, no extra expenses tacked onto your estate. There is no limit to the amount you can leave someone. And in addition to individuals, you can also name a charity.

As you decide who will inherit your accounts, would you consider including St Vladimir's Seminary along with your loved ones? It's a simple, yet powerful way to provide long-lasting future support for the Seminary's mission. (Plus, it saves your heirs up to 65% on your retirement assets.)

It's your money. Your legacy. You should be the one to choose what happens to it.

All it takes is a simple signature.

More simple ways to make your mark on the future:

- » Make a gift through your will or trust
- » Give life insurance you no longer need
- » Donate appreciated stock and save on taxes
- » Consider a gift of real estate
- » Make a gift that gives you fixed payments for life
- » Make a gift that protects your assets

## Interested?

For more information about this and other planned giving opportunities, visit:

**[www.svots.plannedgiving.org](http://www.svots.plannedgiving.org)**

**Or contact:**

**Theodore Bazil, CFRE**

*Senior Advisor for Planned Gifts*

**ted@svots.edu**

**914-961-8313 x329**



# A Pioneering Orthodox Leader Baptized at Seminary

## Meet Donor & Alumna Hollie Benton

Hollie Benton (SVOTS' class of 1999) has served as executive director of the Orthodox Christian Leadership Initiative (OCLI) since September of 2019. Her time at Seminary was uniquely life-changing—she was baptized at the Seminary's Three Hierarchs Chapel and met her future husband, fellow 1999 graduate Rich Benton, at St Vladimir's!

Just this past September, Hollie spearheaded another successful National Orthodox Advanced Leadership Conference hosted by OCLI and St Vladimir's, bringing together emerging and seasoned leaders from across North America—clergy and laity, men and women, younger and older—for the fifth year running. Collaboration between OCLI and St Vladimir's again bore fruit this past spring with the development of the Seminary's Master of Arts Degree Concentration in Orthodox Christian Leadership Studies, a hybrid program designed for remote, part-time students.

Hollie took time out of her busy schedule to share her thoughts on what it means to be a servant of Christ, and why she and Rich continue to support St Vladimir's Seminary.

### **What did you take away from your time at SVOTS?**

I experienced this paradigm shift: while I had freedom to choose or reject Christianity, the rite of baptism shows that my choice is insignificant compared to the Lord who chooses to show great mercy and the forgiveness of sins. I can only submit to his will found in his commandments. Everything was reframed for me so that I saw myself as under that authority. What we hear from the world right now is “You be YOU, find YOUR voice, dig down deep into what you want and who you are.” But God provides all that we need through his life-giving Word if we'd only submit. Everyone is a slave to something. If you can name what you are afraid of, what you are

angry at, what you desire, or what keeps you up at night, those are your masters. By contrast, Christ's yoke is easy and his burden is light. So why not serve him rather than be enslaved by our fears and our own egos? At St Vladimir's, I began to learn what it means to function as a servant in God's household laid out clearly in Fr Paul Tarazi's classes.

### **Why do you and Rich give to SVOTS?**

We feel it's our responsibility. We need to raise up men and women who are educated, who take Scripture seriously, and who take their ministry seriously. It's important to support those who are giving of their time and energy to be educated. Why not support that work and carry the burden together?







**From your perspective, what is most needed in the Church today, and what part does SVOTS play in that?**

At St Vladimir's, there is a lot of emphasis on forming leadership. We are all called to be servants of God—not just the priest who is our “stand-in servant.” We have a duty to the greatest commandments—loving God and neighbor. Christian leadership is not about developing personal influence and authority; it's about submitting to the ONE Leader. God the Father is the only true authority and his Word has the only lasting influence. The only kind of Christian leader is one who serves to carry out his Father's will just as the Son of God, Jesus Christ, demonstrates.

And by loving God, we learn what it means to submit to one another in love. Quite intentionally we called one of our OCLI programs DOULOS, which means “slave” or “servant” in Greek. Every time we receive communion, we are reminded that the *doulos tou theou*, or “the servant of God receives the body and blood of Jesus Christ.” In order to submit to God's instruction we need to turn our ears toward it; people need to be encouraged to pay attention to Scripture proclaimed in liturgical services. You go to Scripture so that it can search you and form you. It's back to basics, isn't it? We hear “leadership” and we think of hip motivational speakers and innovation, but really it's all laid out for us already: submission to him and to one another in love. When we allow the Scriptures to search us and form us, it's so powerful. Imperfections bubble up and if we have the humility to acknowledge and confess them we can function properly as the Body of Christ.

**Can you say a word for the value of seminary for those who aren't on the ordination track?**

I can speak for myself, since my undergrad was in philosophy and music and as a woman I wasn't preparing for ordination. For me St Vladimir's was all about the academic rigor, working through difficult texts, learning how to lay out the arguments, and seeking the Lord's instruction. And because of the hectic schedule, it's also a time when you learn how to keep your priorities straight and stay balanced.

When you are formed within the St Vladimir's community you learn to understand people a lot. Somewhat paradoxically, I did well at my corporate job due to my seminary education and I succeeded in corporate management because of my seminary experience. In our years at St Vladimir's, we didn't have the luxury of asking, “what do I feel like doing right now? Who do I feel like loving?” The people skills I picked up at seminary have been invaluable in both my corporate and ministry work.

At St Vladimir's I gained a deep sense of what's important: focus, compassion, worship, Scripture, and love in service to God and neighbor.

Visit [www.orthodoxservantleaders.com](http://www.orthodoxservantleaders.com) to learn more about the Orthodox Christian Leadership Initiative and the 6th Annual National Orthodox Advanced Leadership Conference, to be held September 16–18, 2022 at St Vladimir's Seminary.





Since 2017, the Orthodox Advanced Leadership Conference has been held annually at St Vladimir's Seminary. The event has featured ordained and lay speakers from multiple jurisdictions and organizations, including Steven Christoforou of Y2AM (**top**) in 2021 and Fr Barnabas Powell of Faith Encouraged Ministries (**bottom**) in 2019.



## Ordinations

# Forming Clergy for Service

Twenty-one seminarians and alumni of St Vladimir's Seminary were ordained to holy orders during Academic Year 2021-2022 and the summer preceding it. Additionally, eleven alumni were elevated in rank or received an honorary award.

We keep them all in prayer as they continue in their ministries. AXIOS!

### Holy Episcopate

- 1 **Bishop GERASIM** (Eliel; M.Div., '12) • Orthodox Church in America (OCA) • Consecrated 29 June 2021 • Bishop of Fort Worth and Auxiliary to His Eminence, Archbishop Alexander and the Diocese of the South

Photo: Victor Lutes

### Holy Priesthood

- 2 **Priest Haroutiun** (Michael) **Sabounjian** (M.Div., '18) • Eastern Diocese of the Armenian Church of America • Ordained 4–5 June 2021 • Pastor, Holy Resurrection Church, New Britain, CT
- 3 **Priest Thomas Miller** (M.Div., '22) • Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America (AOCANA) • Ordained 13 June 2021 • Awaiting parish assignment following graduation from SVOTS





**4 Hieromonk Basil Paul** (M.A., '21) • Malankara Jacobite Syriac Orthodox Church • Ordained 25 June 2021; Received Monastic Tonsure 14 July 2021 • Monk-Priest at the Monastery of Mor Avgin (St Eugene), Arth, Switzerland

**5 Priest Kosmas (Mitchell) Morfas** (M.Div., '21) • Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America (AOCANA) • Ordained 11 July 2021 • Pastor, Holy Ascension Orthodox Church, Norman, OK

**6 Priest Silouan (Blake) Cohen** (M.Div., '22) • Orthodox Church in America (OCA) • Ordained 12 December 2021 • Awaiting parish assignment following graduation from SVOTS

**7 Priest Anthony Machnee** (M.Div., '22) • Orthodox Church in America (OCA) • Ordained 6 January 2022 • SS. Constantine and Helen/Holy Theophany Church, Colorado Springs, Colorado

**8 Priest Joseph Olas** (M.A., '10) • Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America (AOCANA) • Ordained 3 April 2022 • Pastoral Assistant, St George Orthodox Christian Church, Fishers, IN

Photo: St George Orthodox Church

**9 Priest Joseph Wessler** (M.Div., '17) • Orthodox Church in America (OCA) • Ordained 3 April 2022 • Youth Director, St John of the Ladder Church, Greenville, SC





- 10 Priest Zachariah (Jithin) Zachariah** (M.Div., '19) • Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church • Ordained 9 April 2022 • Pastor, St Gregorios Orthodox Church, Kansas City, MO

Photo: Subdn Immanuel Punnoose

## Holy Diaconate

- 11 Deacon Nicholas Fine** (3rd-Year Seminarian, M.Div. Program) • Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America (AOCANA) • Ordained 12 September 2021

Photo: Antiochian.org

- 12 Deacon Vitaly Permiakov** (SVOTS Faculty; M.Div., '04) • Orthodox Church in America (OCA) • Ordained 14 September 2021 • Ecclesiarch and Assistant Professor of Liturgical Theology, St Vladimir's Seminary

- 13 Deacon Anthony (Gaelan) Gilbert** (3rd-Year Seminarian, M.Div. Program) • Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America (AOCANA) • Ordained 24 October 2021

- 14 Deacon Joseph Thornburg** (3rd-Year Seminarian, M.Div. Program) • Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America (AOCANA) • Ordained 31 October 2021

Photo: Antiochian.org

- 15 Deacon Andrew Salvia** (3rd-Year Seminarian, M.Div. Program) • Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America (AOCANA) • Ordained 16 January 2022

Photo: Antiochian.org





**16 Deacon Philip McClanahan** (M.Div., '21) • Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America (AOCANA) • Ordained 27 February 2022

Photo: OCMC

**17 Deacon Basil Puthukkunnathu Mathai** (M.Div., '20) • Malankara Archdiocese of the Syriac Orthodox Church in North America • Ordained 19 March 2022 • Deacon, St Mary's Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church of White Plains, NY; MGSOSA Northeast Regional Clergy Advisor

Photo: Subdn Subin Shaji

**18 Deacon Alexander Earl** (3rd-Year Seminarian, M.Div. Program) • Orthodox Church in America (OCA) • Ordained 25 March 2022

Photo: Andrew Prather

**19 Deacon John Vazquez** (3rd-Year Seminarian, M.Div. Program) • Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America (AOCANA) • Ordained 2 April 2022

**20 Deacon David Galloway** (3rd-Year Seminarian, M.Div. Program) • Orthodox Church in America (OCA) • Ordained 3 April 2022

Photo: St John of the Ladder Orthodox Church, Greenville, SC

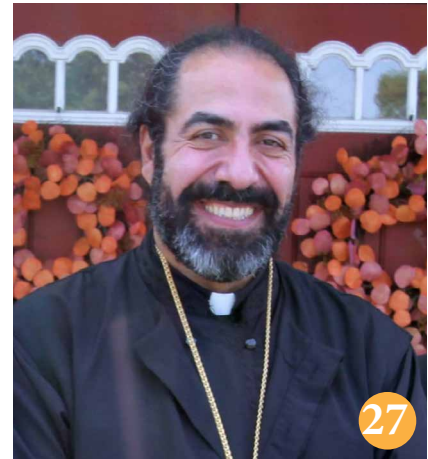
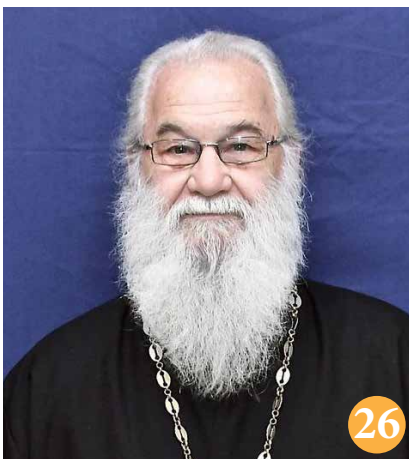
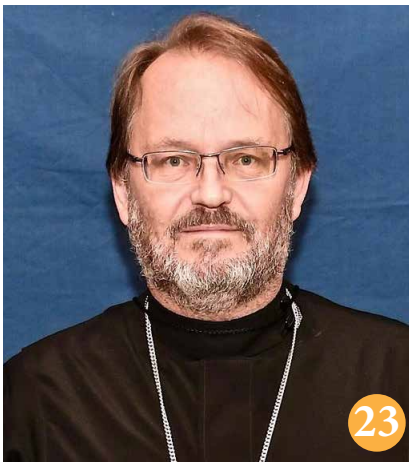
**21 Deacon Aaron Rutz** (M.Div., '20) • Orthodox Church in America (OCA) • Ordained 1 May 2022 • Deacon, Christ the Saviour Orthodox Church, Harrisburg, PA

Photo: Christ the Saviour Orthodox Church



## ELEVATIONS & AWARDS

- 22 Archpriest Basil Biberdorf** (M.Div., '05) • Orthodox Church in America (OCA) • Elevated to the dignity of archpriest 29 June 2021 • Priest-in-Charge, St Nektarios Mission Waxahachie, TX  
Photo: St. Nicholas Orthodox Church, Weirton, WV
- 23 Archpriest Marcus Burch** (M.Div., '97) • Orthodox Church in America (OCA) • Awarded the jeweled cross 29 June 2021 • Rector, St John of the Ladder Church, Greenville, SC; Chancellor, Diocese of the South • Photo: OCA.org
- 24 Archpriest John Cox** (M.Div., '11) • Orthodox Church in America (OCA) • Awarded the gold cross 29 June 2021 • Rector, Holy Ascension Church, Mount Pleasant/Charleston, SC; Dean, Carolina Deanery  
Photo: OCA.org
- 25 Archpriest Nikolay Miletkov** (M.Div., '06) • Orthodox Church in America (OCA) • Elevated to the dignity of archpriest 29 June 2021 • Rector, All Saints of North America Church, Albuquerque, NM  
Photo: OCA.org
- 26 Archpriest Thomas Moore** (M.Div. '99) • Orthodox Church in America (OCA) • Awarded the jeweled cross 29 June 2021 • Rector, Holy Apostles Church, West Columbia, SC  
Photo: OCA.org
- 27 Archpriest Christopher Eid** (M.Div., '10) • Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America (AOCANA) • Elevated to the dignity of archpriest 12 September 2021 • Priest, Holy Ascension Antiochian Orthodox Church, West Chester, PA





**28 Archpriest Aaron Warwick** (M.Div., '09) • Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America (AOCANA) • Elevated to the dignity of archpriest 12 September 2021 • Pastor, St Mary Orthodox Christian Church, Wichita, KS  
Photo: St Mary Orthodox Christian Church

**29 Protodeacon Andrei Psarev** (Th.M., '04) • Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia (ROCOR) • Elevated to the dignity of protodeacon 19 December 2021 • Professor of Russian Church History and Canon Law and Director of Undergraduate Studies, Holy Trinity Orthodox Seminary, Jordanville, NY  
Photo: ROCOR Eastern American Diocese

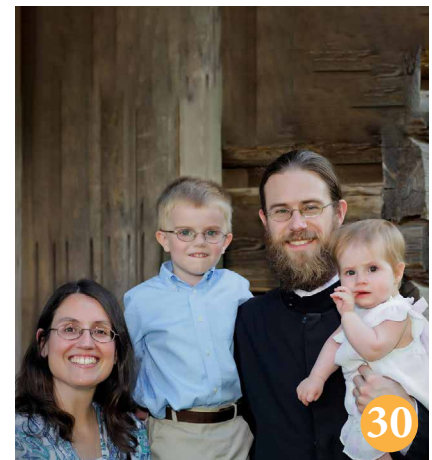
**30 Archpriest Daniel Bethancourt** (M.Div., '07) • Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America (AOCANA) • Elevated to the dignity of arch-

priest 5 December 2021 • Pastor, St Nicholas Orthodox Church, Shreveport, LA

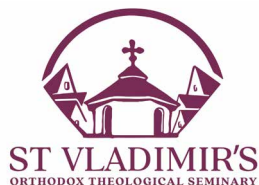
Photo: St Nicholas Orthodox Church

**31 Archpriest Charles Baz** (M.Div., '00) • Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America (AOCANA) • Elevated to the dignity of archpriest 16 January 2022 • Pastor, St John the Baptist Antiochian Orthodox Church, Levittown, NY  
Photo: Antiochian.org

**32 Priest Alessandro Margheritino** (M.Div., '14) • Orthodox Church in America (OCA) • Awarded the gold cross 13 April 2022 • OCA Secretary  
Photo: OCA.org



**APPLY  
TODAY**



575 Scarsdale Rd,  
Yonkers, NY 10707

# Board of Trustees

## EX OFFICIO MEMBERS

### BOARD CHAIRMAN

**His Beatitude, The Most Blessed TIKHON, D.D.,** *Archbishop of Washington, Metropolitan of All America and Canada of the Orthodox Church in America*

**The Very Reverend Chad Hatfield, D.Min., D.D.,**  
*President, St Vladimir's Seminary*

**Ionuț-Alexandru Tudorie, Ph.D.,**  
*Academic Dean, St Vladimir's Seminary*

**The Very Reverend Alexander Rentel, Ph.D.,**  
*Chancellor, Orthodox Church in America*

## APPOINTED HIERARCHS

**His Eminence, The Most Reverend Metropolitan JOSEPH (Al-Zehlaoui), D.D.,** *Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America, Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America*

**His Grace, Metropolitan Zachariah Mar NICHOLOVOS (Poothiyottu),**  
*Metropolitan of the Northeast American Diocese, Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church*

## APPOINTED ALUMNI ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE

**Richard Ajalat,**  
*Chair, St Vladimir's Seminary Alumni Association Board;  
Pastoral Assistant, St. Michael Antiochian Orthodox Church,  
Van Nuys, CA*

## ELECTED MEMBERS

**Deacon Michael Hyatt,**

*Executive Chair*

**Jeffrey D. Hoff,**  
*Treasurer*

**Dan Abraham**

**Frank B. Cerra, M.D.**

**The Honorable Catherine R. Fuller, J.D.**

**David Hicks**

**Ana S. Iltis, Ph.D.**

**John T. Milosovich**

**Donald J. Tamulonis, Jr, M.D., F.A.C.P.**

**Carla Ann Newbern Thomas, M.D.**

**Wesley J. Smith, J.D.**

## EMERITI TRUSTEES

**Michael Bress, J.D.**

**The Reverend Protodeacon Peter M. Danilchick, D.H.L.**

**Brian Gerich, D.H.L.**

**Glenn R. Kubina, M.D.**

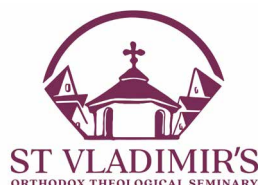
**Leon J. Lysaght, Jr, J.D.**

**Alex Machaskee, D.H.L.**

**Eric S. Namee, J.D.**

**The Very Reverend Paul Shafran**

**Thomas S. Zedlovich**



[www.svots.edu](http://www.svots.edu)  
[www.svspress.com](http://www.svspress.com)  
[www.instituteofsacredarts.com](http://www.instituteofsacredarts.com)



**GIVE  
TODAY**