

**CHANCELLOR'S REPORT
ARCHDIOCESAN ASSEMBLY**

JULY 2007 OTTAWA

GLORY TO JESUS CHRIST!

Three years have passed since our Saskatoon Assembly where we met, prayed, made decisions and fellowshiped. This week in Ottawa, will be the same, what we are doing is looking at what had been decided and has it been fulfilled. Then we begin to look at the new steps that we as an Archdiocese have to take. Well, all has not been fulfilled, we went through a process of trying to obtain an auxiliary bishop and our dreams have not been realized yet, we talked about group insurance for our directors and properties and only after three years is there a glimmer that this may come to be. So yes not all things happen easily in our Archdiocese, yet the church continues and attempts to be what it is called to do " make disciples of all men", a light in the darkness, a solace for the broken hearted.

The Archdiocese of Canada now has a ruling ARCHBISHOP, after 20years of hard labour the Holy Synod of the Orthodox Church in America, has elevated our beloved Vladyka to Archbishop. His faithfulness to this Archdiocese has brought us from near extinction to one of the stronger Orthodox diocese in Canada. For this devotion and dedication we are all grateful and all express our love and concern for His Eminence, Ispola eti despota!

I think it is appropriate at this time for us as an Archdiocese to ask the Holy Synod that always the ruling hierarch of the Archdiocese of Ottawa and of Canada should be always an Archbishop since we are a nation unto ourselves, and an Archdiocese. On June 15, 2007 a moliben and banquet in honour of our Archbishop took place at St. Herman's Sobor in Edmonton, and Divine Liturgy on Saturday June 16. His Eminence was consecrated bishop at St. Herman's Church in Edmonton on June 13, 1987.

The planning committee of this Archdiocesan Assembly has worked hard to organize and plan this time together, we now need to use this time wisely to plan for the future of our church and become those beacons of light coming from this assembly and encouraging our local parish to work at building up the body of Christ.

The Focus Group a new entity in our midst has worked hard to come up with alternative funding sources for the Archdiocese and will be presenting at this assembly, These are not new concept they are only now being given a framework in which this can be realized. Fortunately this group of younger people have taking the effort to do something to build up the church, and this is the strength of our Archdiocese with youth and their vitality.

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St. Arseny Theological Institute: now accredited by the University of Winnipeg has started to bear fruit in ordinations, 3 deacons from this program in the last year. Through the intercession of the Blessed Arseny of Winnipeg this institution has progressed and grown only by a miracle. New missions have started and growing in Cranbrook, BC - St. Aiden, Winnipeg - Living Spring, Toronto - St. Nicholas. St. John the Divine in Windsor has been revived after being dormant for 3 years.

Presently our stats: 3 bishops
69 priests
13 deacons
12 non- cleric monastics
29 theological students

Parishes, Missions, Monastic Communities	- Total 102
Newfoundland	2
Nova Scotia	4
Quebec	12
Ontario	20
Manitoba	8
Saskatchewan	16
Alberta	25
British Columbia	14
Yukon	1

33 churches have regular weekly services.

The Aon Insurance Company working together with Ecclesiarch Insurance has presented us with an offer for group insurance on all our properties as well as coverage for all staff and volunteers. Information has been sent to all our institutions and a presentation will take place at this assembly

Pilgrimage to Russia is planned from August 15 –30 and will visit Moscow and St.Petersburg , with His Eminence leading the group. Later in the summer a group with the Port Arthur Icon from Vladivostok Russia will be traveling to Canada and the USA. And in fall from Lviv Ukraine, Fr. Bohdan Bilas, Social Services Director for the Orthodox Church in Ukraine will be visiting to talk about human trafficking and need for safe houses.

During the past 18 months I have had three surgeries which have given me better health, but also I have needed time to recover and had not always been available to aid our Archbishop. I thank you for your prayers and your understanding. At the time of writing this report I am not sure if I will be at the assembly as I will just had a hip replacement 3 weeks before. Therefore, let us work together in this assembly to continue to build up the body of Christ – His Holy Church.

Archpriest Dennis Pihach, Chancellor