

Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry

Convocation 2009 -- Denver, Colorado

July 28-30, 2009

Convocation presenters include:

Archimandrite Duane Pederson (*Father Duane*) is the Founding Director of **Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry** and is a priest in the Antiochian Archdiocese. For more than forty-six years, Father Duane has served as a missionary to the poor and prisoners. Over the years, Father Duane has listened to and prayed with young prisoners in Juvenile Hall; walked on Death Row one cell at a time; written thousands of letters to prisoners; and embraced the homeless with the loving message of God's great compassion and mercy.

Chaplain Patrick Tutella (*Chaplain Patrick*) is the newly appointed Executive Director of **Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry**. Chaplain Patrick has served as a volunteer and Supervising Chaplain in state and local prisons since 1977. One of his personal passions and concerns is ministering to prison wardens, administrators and staff in addition to caring for the spiritual needs of the prisoners. Chaplain Patrick serves as the official chaplain to the Pennsylvania County Corrections Association. He and his wife Cheryl reside in Pennsylvania with their five children and are members of St. Matthew Greek Orthodox Church in Blandon, PA.

Dennis Dunn is a Certified Offender Workforce Development Specialist through the National Institute of Corrections and has been assisting ex-offenders for 15 years in job placement. Employment in re-entry has been his area of expertise as a contractor with the Georgia Department of Corrections. He is a consultant for the Georgia Department of Labor Vocational Rehabilitation and the Alabama Department of Corrections. Having embraced Orthodox Christianity nine years ago, he and his wife Karen are members of the Orthodox Church of America.

Very Rev. Fr. John Kowalczyk (*Father John*) is Chaplain at SCI Waymart (Forensic Unit) in Pennsylvania for the past 20 years and the pastor of St. Michael's Orthodox Church in Jermyn, PA in since 1985. He has served as Director of Field Education Studies at St. Tikhon's Orthodox Theological Seminary since 1987. Seminarians from St. Tikhon's complete an internship at the prison in their second year of Theology.

Fr. Emmanuel Mantzouris (*Father Manny*) has been an Orthodox priest since November 1982. Father Manny has served as the Greek Orthodox Chaplain with the New York State Department of Correctional Services since January 1990. He has also been assigned to St. Basil's Greek Orthodox Church in Troy, NY since November 1983.

Fr. Stephen Powley (*Father Stephen*) has been a prison Chaplain since January 1985 and has served in every security level from minimum to maximum. He is a priest in the Antiochian Archdiocese and serves the Orthodox Churches of Southern Colorado as needed. He is married to Ashley and they have four children who are all attending different universities.

Dr. Carla Thomas, MD (*Dr. Carla*) has been a prison physician since 1985. She has served in city, county, state and federal levels of prison health care in Alabama. She is a member of St. Luke's Orthodox Church in Anniston, AL (OCA) as well as director of the Abba Moses Project. The Abba Moses Project is a prison ministry of the Brotherhood of St. Moses the Black.

Chris Finger, OCPM Board Member is serving as our **Convocation On-site Coordinator**.

Chris and his wife, Barb, live locally in the Denver area. Chris has cared for the Convocation hotel and on-site arrangements. Any questions you may have about area eating places, local attractions of interest or concerns with the hotel, Chris will be happy to assist you.

Attendee Schedule

Tuesday, July 28

12 noon-5 PM **Arrive and register**

5 PM **Vespers**, with Fr. Stephen serving and a homily by Fr. Duane

6 PM **Dinner** (included with your registration)

Kory Warr, Chairman of the OCPM Board, will be our MC during the meal and will introduce Board members and ask attendees to briefly introduce themselves. (Name, city, ministry only; opportunities to tell of your ministry will be given later.)

Eric Namee, OCPM Board Member, will give OCPM history and how we got to where we are.

Chaplain Patrick Tutella, OCPM Executive Director, will share his personal story and passion for prison ministry, and offer an overview of the Convocation.

Finally, **Kory Warr** will share about his personal involvement with OCPM and **Fr. Stephen Powley**, Chaplain, Federal Bureau of Prisons will share from his experiences "***Prison Ministry: Being Open to the God of the Impossible Doing the Impossible!***" and then Kory and Fr. Stephen will lead our first "***Getting to know you***" session, inviting attendees to briefly tell of their ministry.

9 PM **Close**

Evening prayers with **Fr. John Kowalczyk** and a meditation with **Dr. Carla Thomas**

Wednesday, July 29 (Meals on your own today)

7:30 AM **Morning Prayers** with **Fr. Emmanuel Mantzouris** serving and a homily by **Fr. John Kowalczyk**

9 AM **Morning Session**

Dr. Carla Thomas will share from her experiences on "***Ministering to the Prisoner's Body and Soul***" and **Fr. John Kowalczyk** will share from his experience on the "***Spiritual Care of the Mentally Disabled Prisoner***" and then together Dr. Carla and Fr. John will lead our second "***Getting to know you***" session.

11:00 AM **Class Photo**

11:30 AM **Lunch break**

2 PM **Afternoon Session**

Fr. Emmanuel Mantzouris will share about *“State Prison Chaplaincy Opportunities”* and **Dennis Dunn** will share about from his experience in counseling released prisoners *“After Prison – ‘Making It’ on the Outside”* and together Fr. Manny and Dennis will lead our third *“Getting to know you”* session.

4 PM **Break**

4:30 PM **Vespers** with **Fr. John Kowalczyk** serving and a homily by **Fr. Stephen Powley**

5:15 PM **Dinner break**

6:30 PM **Evening Session**

Fr. Duane will share about the books and materials published by OCPM which are available for you to use within your ministry.

Eric Grant and **Eric Namee** will lead our fourth *“Getting to know you”* session.

7:30 PM **Evening prayer** and meditation with **Fr. Emmanuel Mantzouris**

Fellowship Evening (Snacks and refreshments available)

Thursday, July 30 (Feast Day of the Holy Apostle Silas)

7:30 AM **Liturgy**

Clergy TBA, and a homily following the liturgy by **Fr. Duane**

9 AM **Brunch** (included with your registration) and **Closing Session**

Panel Discussion – Including: Chaplain Patrick, Kory Warr, Fr. Duane, Fr. Stephen, Fr. Manny, Fr. John, Dr. Carla, Dennis Dunn, Chris Finger, Eric Namee, Eric Grant

OCPM is here to help you do your ministry

Where OCPM goes from here

You are important to OCPM – How you can be involved

Books, Icons, Materials which are needed

11:30 AM **Closing prayer** of blessing for each of the ministries represented