

Holy Myrrhbearers Antiochian Orthodox Church-Bonnors Ferry, Idaho
17th ANNUAL PASTORAL REPORT...PREPARED NOVEMBER 2023

Dear Beloved Ones in the Lord:

Christ is in our midst! Another blessed year...here is the Annual Pastoral Report for 2023!

2023 VITAL STATISTICS:

"As Many As Have Been Baptized into Christ" (Baptisms and Chrismations): Katherine Duvall...December 11, 2022; Jed (Justin) Sachen...January 7, 2023; Andrea (Anna) Sachen...January 7, 2023; Alex (Andrew) Von Tolmacy...April 1, 2023; Kell (Panteleimon) Charles...May 20, 2023; George Cragle...June 17, 2023; Jacob Wyman...July 12, 2023; Noel (Fevronia) Wyman...July 12, 2023; Luke Wyman...July 12, 2023; Daniel (Nektarios) Miller...July 28, 2023; Kristina (Hermonia) Miller...July 28, 2023; Shoshanna (Fevronia) Miller...July 28, 2023; Thomas (Sisoos) Miller...July 28, 2023; Olivia (Joanna) Miller...July 28, 2023; Enosh (John) Miller...July 28, 2023; Hadassah (Polycarpa) Miller...July 28, 2023; Rodger (George) Miller...July 28, 2023; Antigone (Alexandra) Baker...July 29, 2023; Lloyd (Anthony) St John Ayre...August 5, 2023; Jeremy (Luke) Aal...August 19, 2023; Angelina Adams...August 28, 2023; Kalliopi Horton...September 4, 2023; Andrew Murrill...September 9, 2023; Chloe Murrill...September 9, 2023; Natalya Malchik...September 10, 2023; Grace (Salome) Koehle...September 12, 2023; Xenia Miller...September 30, 2023; Lucy Steele...October 21, 2023; Jacob Leadingham...October 21, 2023; Isla Maeve Hill...October 28, 2023; Gerald (George) Butterworth...October 28, 2023 -- **for a total of THIRTY-ONE.**

"Crown Them, O Lord, with Glory and Honor" (Weddings): Evan Phillips & Caralyn Holmquist...August 27, 2023 -- **for a total of ONE.**

"Grant Rest Eternal in Blessed Repose, O Lord" (Funerals): Gayle Goodsen...March 21, 2023 -- **for a total of ONE.**

CENSUS:

At the end of 2022 we reported **157 members in 68 families.** As of now, we have **176 members in 72 families.** We also currently have **17 seekers and catechumens.** The official numbers represent a **net gain of 19 members...**another large gain (82 in the last 3 years)!

LITURGICAL LIFE:

In addition to Saturday evening and Sunday morning, we celebrate the Paraklesis almost every Wednesday night and often one or two daily and Saturday Liturgies, sometimes more. Many thanks to our two deacons and 3 subdeacons, as well as our 3 readers and 2 choir directors...such blessings. Subdeacon Joseph Green's petition for ordination to the Holy Diaconate is being considered by the Archdiocese as we speak. Thank God for a vibrant liturgical life.

EDUCATION:

We continue to have an active seeker class (currently twice per week). Also, I am so pleased to report that we also have a regular church school for all grades...currently on Sundays. We have also revived the Reading Group and added a monthly study for the men of the parish.

GENERAL:

The new addition is now complete and we can use it fully! The back porch/deck should be completed during the month of December and then we can move on to other things besides building!!!

MISSION, COMMUNITY AND CHARITY:

Thank you for your generosity in all areas of charity work...especially when we have been called upon to assist with natural disasters and destructive wars...our parish has always been good at stepping up to assist those in desperate need. All of My Love in Christ, Fr. Gregory