



ANNUAL REPORT

2022



Orthodox Christian
PRISON MINISTRY

A portrait of Nicholas Petrogeorge, Executive Director, is shown on the left side of the page. He is a man with dark hair, a beard, and a mustache, smiling. The background of the entire page is a solid teal color.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As I reflect on the state of Orthodox prison ministry in the US, I am reminded of the spirit and energy of the early Church. Immediately after Pentecost, Christ's Disciples were full of zeal, spreading the Good News of Christ as wide as they could. The Apostles were so filled with the Holy Spirit that people were physically healed just by stepping into their literal shadows as they walked through the streets! (Acts 5:15)

For the way of the early Church to reach us today, two thousand years later, still giving us that first pulse of the Holy Spirit, the early church leaders had to get organized. There are plenty of saints who exemplify the spirit of creating structure and processes for sustaining the ministry, powerful leaders of the Church like St. James the Brother of Our Lord, St. Ignatius of Antioch, and St. Constantine the Great.

This past year, especially after the falling asleep of our founder, +Fr. Duane Pederson, OCPM has similarly been called to build on the charisma of the early leaders of this ministry, to formalize our methods and programs, setting our sights on those we are serving now and those we will be serving decades from now. In God's mercy, I can gratefully say we are doing just this. We are meeting the needs of those in prison in even more personal ways as we shift to a model of case management and defined programs for parishes to engage at the local level. As the demand for those in prison wanting to connect to the Orthodox Church and the demand for parishes wanting to visit those in prison both continue to grow—we now have new full-time staff to support these needs. Finally, we are gathering a brand new team of OCPM Advocates, parish leaders across the United States committed to connecting their local communities to our incarcerated brothers and sisters.

As in the early days of the Church, I cannot say how wide this ministry will grow—but I can tell you now the energy I feel and witness around OCPM. Only God knows the full extent of what your support is making possible in every day, every year, every precious soul in prison brought into the loving arms of Christ. Thank you for your continued generosity.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in white ink that reads "Nikos Petrogeorge".

Nikos Petrogeorge

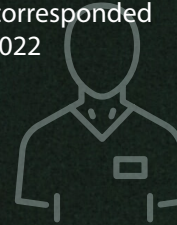
Nicholas Petrogeorge
Executive Director

OUR MISSION

Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry serves those who are incarcerated and their families, and provides resources, training and support to our ministry partners so that lives are transformed and God is glorified.

1090

Prisoners who corresponded with OCPM in 2022



7,205

Personalized letters sent and received in 2022



2,555

Icons were sent to prisoners in 2022



51,188

Bible studies, daily readings, and spiritual reflections sent



5 PILLARS OF ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN PRISON MINISTRY

RELATIONSHIP MANAGEMENT

OCPM develops relationships with people in prison over months, years, or even decades at a time. By leveraging the Correspondence Ministry to maintain relationships with Orthodox and non-Orthodox prisoners as they move from jail to prison, across multiple prison moves, and even after their release, we remain committed to each person's long-term spiritual growth.

RE-ENTRY AND PARISH INTEGRATION

To counter the high recidivism rate in the United States, a result of isolation after their release, OCPM case managers work directly with each returning citizen to help navigate the obstacles of his or her daily life after re-entry. Most importantly, this includes identifying a home church before release, to ensure as smooth a transition as possible back into the community. OCPM works to ensure that re-entry parishes are trained and equipped to welcome returning citizens.

COACHING AND COUNSELING

OCPM collaborates with churches and local service providers to support former prisoners, their families, and their broader communities. OCPM counsels families with loved ones in prison to address their unique situation and coaches Orthodox clergy in how to better navigate the U.S. prison system and meet the needs of the people they are serving.

VISIT-BY-MAIL

OCPM sends thousands of personalized letters known as “visit by mail” that directly address each prisoner's unique situation and spiritual needs. On average, a prisoner will receive correspondence from OCPM 120 times per year—every three days. In addition to letters, OCPM also sends Bibles, spiritual books, icons, pamphlets, and a monthly newsletter of Scripture readings and reflections.

ORTHODOX CATECHISM AND EDUCATION

OCPM freely offers a 12-part course of study in Orthodox Christian theology as an introduction to the Orthodox Faith and preparation for Baptism and Chrismation. Students who are ready to take their education and their faith to the next level can earn a Bachelor's-level degree in Orthodox Theology entirely from prison through our partnership with the St. Athanasius Academy of Orthodox Theology.

I am so grateful

for your kind correspondence with my husband, who is currently in a state prison. Your work has planted a seed in my whole family, as my husband, myself, and our two sons have all been recently baptized into the Orthodox Church. I want you to know that your loving efforts do produce much fruit. What a wonderful harvest our Heavenly Father has received and what a beautiful blessing for each of us.



FINANCIALS

OCPM continues to meet the spiritual needs of imprisoned men and women across the U.S. thanks to the care and generosity of our supporters. With the utmost sincerity, thank you to everyone who makes this ministry possible.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Year Ended December 31, 2022

REVENUE

Contributions without Donor Restrictions	\$591,066
Contributions with Donor Restrictions.....	128,500
Bookstore Revenue.....	2,949
Total Revenue.....	<u>\$722,515</u>

EXPENSES

Total Expenses	\$583,637
Change In Net Assets	\$138,878

NET ASSETS

Beginning	<u>536,035</u>
Ending.....	<u>\$674,913</u>

2022 CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Year Ended December 31, 2022

ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents	\$679,671
Total Assets	<u>\$679,671</u>

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Liabilities	\$4,758
Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions	558,913
Net Assets With Donor Restrictions	116,000
Total Net Assets	<u>\$674,913</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$679,671</u>

OUR LEADERS

HIERARCHICAL LIAISON

*His Eminence,
The Most Reverend Mark
Archbishop of Philadelphia
and Eastern Pennsylvania, OCA*

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Nicholas Petrogeorge

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Eugenia Ordynsky, Esq., *Chairman*
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ASSEMBLY OF CANONICAL
ORTHODOX BISHOPS
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

*Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry is the national prison ministry of the Orthodox Church and
an agency of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America.*

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theocpm.org

347.868.6957

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FOR DONATIONS AND GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

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FOR THOSE IN PRISON WISHING TO CORRESPOND WITH US

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SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS OR PRESS INQUIRIES

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Orthodox Christian PRISON MINISTRY

AN AGENCY OF THE ASSEMBLY OF BISHOPS

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<Address>
<City>, <City>