

Ministry (out of which a Detroit area chapter of the national OCPM has been formed).

- In 2001 he brought in and hosted Fr. Moses Berry and Mother Katherine, as a result of which, the 2006 Annual National Conference of the Brotherhood of St. Moses the Black was held in Detroit.
- He established the COCC Evangelism Committee, which he chaired, in order to host the 2006 St. Moses the Black National Conference, out of which the first local chapter of the National Brotherhood of St. Moses the Black was formed, of which he still serves as Spiritual Advisor, and which also hosted the 2011 Annual Conference.
- In 1989-90, Fr. Roman established the COCC Music Ministry, and its Pan-Orthodox Choir to sing the responses at the COCC annual Sunday evening Lenten Vespers series, which our highly-skilled Orthodox musicians expanded to include choir concerts and recordings. This choir continues today as "The Orthodox Choir of Detroit," which has sung numerous concerts locally, including annual benefit concerts.
- In 1993 he helped to guide the founding of the local Orthodox Christian Women at St. Innocent Church, which is still functioning; he was Spiritual Advisor until recently.
- The COCC was established in 1957 as a Pan-Orthodox Council of clergy and laity, whose By-Laws required that the President and Vice President be priests. In order to tap into the skills of talented lay people to serve the Church through the means of the COCC, in 2007 Fr. Roman guided the COCC to change its By-Laws to allow lay people to serve as president and vice-president. As a result, in 2008 for the first time after 51 years, the COCC has been led by lay people.

ABOUT FR. ROMAN'S LIFE: Fr. Roman was born into an Orthodox family on February 4, 1938. He was given the name Robert, and grew up in Eastern Pennsylvania. His natural talent for music showed itself early, and he sang in his church choir from an early age. After graduating from high school in 1955, he enlisted in the Army in 1956, and was trained as a medical technologist. He enjoyed working in the medical field, and continued this work after his discharge in 1959, specializing in cancer-lab-analysis. He spent much of his life prior to his Ordination in 1964 as a cyto-technologist, except for his 4 years in seminary. From 1964 to 1968, Fr. Roman studied at St. Vladimir's Seminary, during which time he sang first-tenor with 2 of the St. Vladimir's Seminary Octets that toured the country in the summer. During his seminary days, he met Rose Marie Wikowski, and they were married on September 3, 1967. To support his family, he returned to his cyto-technology work for another 16 years. On February 23, 1970 their first child, Elizabeth, was born, and on May 7, 1974 their second child, Gregory, was born. During these years he sang with the Russian Liturgical Singers, the successors to Serge Jaroff's Don Cossack Choir, and also was a local FROC leader (Federated Russian Orthodox Clubs). He completed his Bachelor's degree in sociology, graduating magna cum laude from Bloomfield College, New Jersey. He served as a subdeacon and directed the educational program at Ss. Peter and Paul Catholicon in Passaic, New Jersey. Finally, at the age of 46, Fr. Roman was ordained as a deacon and then as a priest in April of 1984. In July he was assigned to our St. Innocent Church, and a whole new life started for him and his family, and thus enabling us to be blessed by having him as our Spiritual Father for 30 years.

## CELEBRATING FR. ROMAN'S 30 YEARS OF SERVICE



### RT. REV. MITERED ARCHPRIEST ROMAN STAR

*Pastor of St. Innocent of Irkutsk Church &  
Dean of the Central States Deanery*

*30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood,  
30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as Pastor of St. Innocent Church,  
and 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Serving  
Christ's Holy Orthodox Church —  
in Metro-Detroit, Southern Michigan & Mid-West,  
Central States Deanery & Beyond,  
and the Moscow Patriarchal Parishes.*

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26<sup>TH</sup>, 2014  
ST. INNOCENT OF IRKUTSK ORTHODOX CHURCH  
23300 WEST CHICAGO RD., REDFORD, MI 48239**

## PROGRAM

### Singing of Our Father & Blessing of Food

#### Celebration Dinner

Hors d'oeuvres/Appetizers (gift from Archim. Fr. Pachomy & Royal Eagle Restaurant)  
Buffet Dinner  
Desserts (Baklava, gift from Fr. George Shaloub, St. Mary's Antiochian Church, Livonia)

#### Cutting of the Cake (inscription: "Thank You for Your 30 Years of Service")

#### Program (MC, Deborah Hartz)

MC's Welcome & Comments  
Messages from His Grace, Bishop John & the Chancellor, Fr. George Konyev  
Dr. Jane Hinshaw – presentation of gift & comments  
Archimandrite Fr. Pachomy, Abbot of St. Sabbas Monastery – Comments & gift  
Fr. Daneil Shirak, Assistant Priest at St. Innocent – Comments  
Message from Archimandrite Fr. Gregory, Holy Ghost Church, Sterling Hts.  
Elizabeth Star Hatfield, St. Innocent Church – comments  
Message from Fr. Romey & Psa. Mary Ellen Rosco, Ss. Peter & Paul ROC Drbn. Hts.  
Sister Ioanna, St. Innocent of Alaska Monastic Community – Comments  
Message from Protodeacon Daniel Sudol, New Jersey  
David Adrian, Holy Trinity Church, Detroit – Comments  
Message or Comments from Fr. Lev Kopistiansky, Holy Trinity Church, Detroit  
Sharon Gomulko, Chair, Brotherhood of St. Moses the Black – Comments  
Fr. Laurence Lazar, President, Clergy Brotherhood – Comments  
Presentation of Gift (blue miter), from parishioners  
Presentation of Basket of Cards, Letters and Messages  
Fr. Roman – Comments  
MC's Concluding Comments  
Intone & Sing Many Years, 3x, for Fr. Roman, Matushka, and their Family

#### Socializing until ???

#### Guest Clergy:

Fr. Laurence Lazar	Fr. Romey Rosco	Archimandrite Fr. Pachomy
Fr. Lev Kopistiansky	Fr. Gregory Joyce	Fr. John Fenton
Fr. Dimitrie Vincent	Fr. Michael Butler	Fr. Robert Royer
Fr. Nabil Fino	Dn. Laike Misikir	

Clergy regrets: Archimandrite Fr. Gregory (Valentine) Fr. Timothy Barna  
Fr. Lawrence Bacik Fr. Andrew Yavornitsky Fr. George Shaloub

We also honor, appreciate, and pay special tribute to  
Matushka Rose Marie, who has been at Fr. Roman's side for 47 years.

## A FEW OF FR. ROMAN'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS

AT ST. INNOCENT PARISH: Fr. Roman has provided a stable parish life for 30 years. He has emphasized the Church's worship and liturgical life, education, charitable works, multi-ethnic outreach and openness to non-Orthodox, and established a monastic community. Most visibly obvious, he has transformed the physical church into a small gem and made it into a fitting and beautiful temple of God on earth, by having every wall painted with mostly recently glorified saints of every country and ethnicity. More recently, Fr. Roman has extended the beauty of God's Presence inside His earthly temple onto the exterior landscaping.

#### IN THE MOSCOW PATRIARCHAL PARISHES AND CENTRAL STATES DEANERY:

Fr. Roman's accomplishments extend far beyond our parish and local Detroit community through his work as Dean of the Central States Deanery, member of the Bishop's Council and other activities. He has been able to work effectively with our various bishops, "trouble-shooting" on occasion, and with great wisdom he has been able to guide, revitalize and establish peace and future stability in the parishes for which he is responsible. Again, with wisdom and love, Fr. Roman has established excellent, friendly relations with the bishops and priests in most of the Orthodox jurisdictions throughout the Midwest, and consequently, cemented good relations between them and the Moscow Patriarchal Parishes. He has also been assigned to represent the Moscow Patriarchate as a delegate at several national conferences and functions. His national influence extends further in his work with the National Brotherhood of St. Moses the Black, of which he is a Board Member, and as a member of the Orthodox Prison Ministry.

IN METRO-DETROIT: For 30 years Fr. Roman has sacrificially dedicated himself to promoting Inter-Orthodox unity and good relations among the almost 40 canonical Orthodox churches and their clergy in the Metropolitan-Detroit area and throughout Southern Michigan, through leadership positions as president, vice-president, Spiritual Advisor, and other posts with the COCC and the Clergy Brotherhood, including many years as president of both organizations. He has sought to reach out into the metropolitan community making Orthodoxy more visible, promoting Inter-Orthodox unity, and serving through education, music, mission/evangelism and charity. For many years, he has always been involved in some way with any Metro-Detroit community Inter-Orthodox activity, and served as Spiritual Advisor for many Inter-Orthodox groups.

As President of the COCC and the Clergy Brotherhood, and more recently, as the Spiritual Advisor of the COCC, Fr. Roman has been instrumental in providing opportunities for talented lay people to utilize their talents for the good of the Orthodox Church and its community outreach and service, and he has served as a catalyst for a number of new Orthodox ministries led by lay people. We mention just a few of the most-noted contributions Fr. Roman has accomplished.

- He inaugurated annual Clergy Retreats during Great Lent and November, bringing in various speakers, including the Director of FOCUS North America (out of which a Detroit FOCUS Center has developed), and the Executive Director of the Orthodox Prison