

2010 KENAI PENINSULA DEANERY REPORT

Your Grace, Diocesan Council members, Reverend Clergy, and members of Diocesan Assembly,

Master Bless.

This report is from the clergy of the Kenai Deanery who are: Archpriest Sergei Active-Nanwalek, Archpriest Michael Trephon-Ninilchik, Priest Thomas Andrew-Kenai, and Priest Alexei Knagin-Cordova. The parishes serviced are: Ss. Sergius and Herman of Valaam Orthodox Church-Nanwalek, St. Herman of Alaska Orthodox Church-Port Graham, and St. Nicholas Orthodox Church-Seldovia served by Fr Sergei; Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church-Ninilchik, and Homer Mission served by Fr Michael Trephon; Holy Assumption Orthodox Church-Kenai served by Fr Thomas Andrew; St. Nicholas Orthodox Church-Cordova, Nativity of the Theotokos Orthodox Church-Chenega, St. Nicholas Orthodox Church-Tatitlek, St. Nicholas Mission-Valdez served by Fr Alexei.

This year, in our deanery, we only had one meeting in April. The Homer Mission was reopened and we had clergy from our deanery serving there at one point, along with Chancellor Fr Michael Oleksa. The clergy in the Kenai Peninsula served there for the Patron Feast of the Mission-St Mary of Egypt.

The St Innocent Academy group came to Nanwalek for a week during the month of July to help us with the old Ss. Sergius and Herman Church which was the second church used for services during the early 1900's, after the first one burnt down. They replaced the old foundation and replace the roof and the floor with rough lumber from the community. We are thankful for their services and also for Bishop Benjamin for giving them blessing to come here.

In the Kachemak Bay parishes I administered:

9 baptisms, 2 funerals in Nanwalek

4 baptisms, 1 marriage, 1 funeral in Port Graham

1 catechumen in Seldovia.

I visit Port Graham twice a month, and occasionally Seldovia. I have made an intention to serve in Seldovia every third week but we have not been able to adhere to that schedule. When I'm not visiting the other parishes we hold regular weekend and feast day services for the community of Nanwalek and we have church school for our children here. This my report as a dean and the following are reports from the clergy of the Deanery:

Holy Transfiguration of Our Lord

Ninilchik, AK

2010 Parish Report

Glory to Jesus Christ!

Had a great year in Ninilchik with regular church services on Saturdays, Sundays and week days for other feast days. The church council still has us living in the Methodist house and gives me a monthly stipend.

We have a small parish but still very active and people from Homer attend services mostly on Sundays. We are beginning to build a parish house which is located in the village. As of today (9/14/2010), we have the foundation and the floor done. We are currently looking for carpenters to start the framing of the house. God willing, we will have the building frame closed in before the snow falls.

We are grateful for Father Deacon Andre and his family for helping this last summer while my family and I were commercial fishing at Bristol Bay. Father Deacon Andre did reader services and tours for the church.

There were also church services at the Homer Mission; other clergy have been making their missionary visits. Archpriest Michael Oleksa has visited the mission several times in hopes of getting the parishioners of Homer a priest. I am very thankful for the Archpriest Michael Oleksa, Archpriest Sergei Active, Priest Thomas Andrew, Priest Alexei Knagin and Father Gerasim for their spiritual guidance given to the Homer mission parishioners.

Throughout the year we've had five funeral services and a wedding service at the Holy Transfiguration in Ninilchik. Russian Christmas and Pascha, I've noticed, was very joyful amongst the people. Slavic brought us from home to home with my immediate family visiting as the Christmas Carolers – it was something that was brought back from the good old days of Ninilchik and this brought joy to the community. Pascha was also joyful because after the Pascha Vesper there was an Easter Egg Hunt for both the adults and children, something that never was in years. Matushka and I have a garden too and hopefully it is fruitful. We're still learning to have a "green thumb" and with time that will come to be.

Thank you for all your prayers,

With Love in Christ,

Archpriest Michael Trefon



Holy Assumption of the Virgin Mary Russian Orthodox Church

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Your Grace, brother priests & deacons, Fr. Dean.

In our Kenai Parish for this year we had:

- 0 Baptisms w/Chrismation
- 1 Chrismation
- 1 Marriage
- 3 Burials

This year our temple is being renovated. On April 10 we had a procession of icons from the church to the Kenai Visitors & Cultural Center (KVCC). This event made it on the front page of the Peninsula Clarion newspaper here in Kenai. This display of church items, icons, etc. is on from April 23 to Oct 31. I coordinated and guided the formation of this exhibition. The exhibit is called "Sacred Space Sacred Time." Acclaimed by visitors and the community to be "the best exhibit ever." I am most thankful to the KVCC staff.

Church attendance has been consistent to remain at about a dozen (to two dozen) on the average throughout the year. All Divine Services are held at Ft. Kenay while the church is closed. All services for every Holy Day are observed. Divine Liturgy on weekdays are usually served at 6:00 am. to allow for those who would like to attend before going to work. Akathists to St. Herman are postponed until we return to the church this fall. The KIT usually hold their education/cultural programs Thursday evenings.

I go to the Kenaitze Indian Tribe (KIT) Elders Lunch Program held every day of the week. I was asked to bless the food. I am the 'designated priest' for this program. During these days I visit with the elders and their families. Holy Communion is brought to two homebound elders every month. Bible Study is provided for the inmates at the Wildwood Correctional Center every Monday night throughout the year. Jail and hospital visits are done on an "on-call" basis. Parish bible studies are done every week on Tuesdays whenever possible. A nanaru usually attend this event.

This summer, I traveled to Philadelphia to attend the OCPM-SCOBA Convocation. This trip was paid for by the Orthodox Prison Ministry. To OCPM I am most thankful.

Humbly submitted September 17, 2010

In Christ our Lord,

Priest Thomas Andrew, Rector

A National Historic Landmark

Fr Alexei Knagin wrote:

Cordova had 3 funerals

Chenega 1 marriage 3 funerals

Tatitlek 1 marriage 5 baptisms 2 funerals.

And these are the reports from the Kenai Peninsula Deanery Clergy.

Humbly submitted September 24, 2010

In Christ,

Archpriest Sergei Active, Dean