## **Office of Communications**

## Orthodox Church in America Diocese of New York and New Jersey

**RELEASE NUMBER 2011.28.1** 

The following letter to the clergy of the diocese is from the Commission on Liturgical Music:

Dear Brothers in Christ,

24 June 2011

Glory to Jesus Christ!

As we all know, our choirs and their leaders accomplish work of great importance to the meaning of our services. They are with us as we pray on feast days and Sundays, at marriages, baptisms, and funerals, leading the congregation in responses and rendering holy texts in beauty. Their work calls for dedication and technical skill in addition to love of the Church.

On Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Diocese will honor its church musicians with the first annual Choir Recognition Day.

His Grace, Bishop Michael, will acknowledge choir musicians with service of 25 years or more. Parishes are also encouraged to thank and honor their people in ways appropriate to their communities (for example, a prayer service, dinner, or monetary gift).

Please reply by July 15 to <a href="mailto:nynjmusic@aol.com">nynjmusic@aol.com</a> with the names of your church musicians who have served for 25 or more years, providing the following information:

Name:

Role: (e.g., Music Director, Assistant Director, Choir Singer)

<u>Honoree's Contact Information:</u> (Address, Preferred phone number, and Email)

Number of Years of Service:

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated!

The Co-Chairs of the Diocesan Commission on Liturgical Music Father Daniel Skvir ~ Doreen Bartholomew ~ Carol Wetmore