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*Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!*

### OCA Continuing Clergy Development (CCD) Program

The Holy Synod of Bishops established the **Department of Continuing Education [DCE]** to provide for the ongoing development of clergy and lay leaders. The DCE website is

[oca.org/about/departments/department-of-continuing-education](http://oca.org/about/departments/department-of-continuing-education)

**The Holy Synod simultaneously mandated  
a continuing education requirement of twenty (20) hours annually  
for all priests and deacons.**

The DCE carries out its mandate primarily through the **Continuing Clergy Development [CCD] Program**. To fulfill requirements, clergy must complete **Continuing Clergy Education [CCE]** as approved for credit by the DCE.

#### **Question: What is Continuing Clergy Development?**

CCD is the pastoral continuing education program of the Orthodox Church in America. As of February 2013, every priest and deacon serving in the Orthodox Church in America **must** fulfill the Continuing Clergy Education requirement adopted by the Holy Synod of Bishops by participating in the CCD program and taking twenty hours of continuing education each year.

#### **Question: Will clergy be required to take all 20 hours from among the offerings of the DCE?**

No. The DCE will offer certain required classes. **In 2013, for instance, 5 hours on Sexual Misconduct are required.** The remaining 15 hours of continuing education may be obtained from other providers: a diocese, a seminary, a professional/community organization, or a local college. In all cases, the hours to be taken must be accredited *in advance* by the DCE.

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#### **MANDATORY:**

##### **5-Hours CCE (Sexual Misconduct)**

In an effort to minimize expenses related to this requirement and make it as convenient and accessible as possible for our clergy, the Diocesan Council, meeting on 1 April 2013, devoted a considerable amount of time and deliberation to formulate a strategy to create a framework within which those goals might be fulfilled. To this end, it was decided by the Diocesan Council and approved by His Grace, Bishop Michael, that our **2013 Diocesan Assembly** will be extended to two days, **12-13 November (the second day for clergy only)**, to fulfill the mandated five-hour course on “*Sexual Misconduct*” presented by the DCE. Costs for the course (\$150 per person) will be subsidized by the diocese from our Diocesan Assembly parish assessments of \$150 per parish. **Please note: this five-hour DCE course is mandatory for clergy.**

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**PARISH COUNCIL CONFERENCE:  
5-Hours CCE (Parish Growth & Evangelization)**

In fulfilling Bishop Michael's vision to strengthen and revitalize the life of parish communities throughout our diocese, and with generous support of Distinguished Diocesan Benefactors, the **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Parish Council Conference** (held regionally by Deanery) has been scheduled. This year's conference is dedicated to the theme of "Parish Growth and Evangelization" and will be facilitated by Very Reverend Constantine Nasr. Detailed information and the agenda are available on our diocesan website in the "Upcoming Events" section.

[nynjoca.org](http://nynjoca.org)

This Conference is pre-approved by the Department of Continuing Education of the Orthodox Church in America for five (5) hours of Clergy Continuing Education for our priests and deacons. Questions and comments should be directed to the respective Deans.

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**CLERGY CONFERENCE:  
7-Hours CCE (Ministry to the Elderly)**

Our **Annual Diocesan Clergy Conference, 5 September 2013**, on the topic of "*Ministry to the Elderly*" will count for seven continuing education hours. The presenter will be Matushka Natalie Stavrevsky BSN, RN, MBA (Senior Director of Nursing & Resident Care Services; Unity Living Center, Rochester NY). All associated course costs will be funded by the diocese.

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**DEANERY SPONSORED: CCE**

Each deanery (New Jersey, New York State, New York City) has been tasked to create and offer additional CCE opportunities for their clergy. Consult with the respective Dean for details.

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**ADDITIONAL CCE OPPORTUNITES**

Continuing education may be obtained from other providers: a diocese, a seminary, a professional/community organization, or a local college. In all cases, the hours to be taken must be accredited *in advance* by the DCE.

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**CONTINUING CLERGY EDUCATION SYMPOSIUM  
Saint Tikhon's Seminary: 18-20 June 2013  
Up to 15-Hours CCE**

Saint Tikhon's Orthodox Theological Seminary is pleased to present the 2013 Continuing Clergy Education Symposium from Tuesday evening, June 18, through lunchtime on Thursday, June 20. Five sessions are available to fulfill Clergy Continuing Education requirements and are pre-approved by Father Ian Pac-Urar (OCA, Department of Continuing Education).



