



## Orthodox Christian Campus Ministries (OCCM)

OFFICIAL CAMPUS MINISTRY ORGANIZATION OF  
THE COPTIC ORTHODOX DIOCESE OF THE SOUTHERN U.S.

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

August/September

### MONTHLY WEBINAR SERIES



September 21, 2020

*Ties to the Motherland: The Future of Orthodoxy in America*

*His Grace Bishop Youssef*

### CHAPTER CURRICULUM FOR MEETINGS

#### *Ties to the Motherland*

- 1. Future of Orthodoxy in America** (Father Alexander Schmemman, Dean of St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary): <https://missions.hchc.edu/missions/sermons/sermons/the-future-of-orthodoxy-in-america>
  - Q1: Why are we Orthodox? Are we convicted in the faith that we can talk to other people about it?
  - Q2: What are your thoughts on how inclusive the Church is on campus and in the community? What is our role in this?
- 2. Orthodoxy in America Has a Convert Problem** (Father Photius Avant, St. Sava Orthodox Church of America): <https://blogs.ancientfaith.com/orthodoxyandheterodoxy/2017/09/21/orthodoxy-america-convert-problem/>
  - Q1: Are we converts to Orthodoxy? What does conversion mean?
  - Q2: What does being "Orthodox" mean? Is it limited by the things we do or the way we live?



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September/October

### MONTHLY WEBINAR SERIES



October 20, 2020

*Environmental Stewardship: Our Impact on Creation*

*Father Manchilot Guadie*

### CHAPTER CURRICULUM FOR MEETINGS

#### *Environmental Stewardship*

1. **Destroying the Environment** (His Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew, Patriarch of Constantinople, Greek Orthodox):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XhZJJ47byt0&list=PLB12E9542A32C568A&index=9>

- Q1: What are your thoughts on the dominion of creation given to Adam by God?
- Q2: What are some ways the Church negatively impacts Creation?

2. **A Divine Ecology: An Orthodox Christian Vision for the Environment** (Father Andrew Stephen Damick, St. Paul's Antiochian Orthodox Church):

[https://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/aftoday/orthodoxy\\_and\\_the\\_environment](https://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/aftoday/orthodoxy_and_the_environment)

- Q1: Discuss your thoughts on Father Michael's description of humans embodying all parts of Creation and the effect of our salvation on the rest of Creation.
- Q2: What are some environmentally conscious practices we could introduce into the life of the Church?



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October/November

### MONTHLY WEBINAR SERIES



November 17, 2020

***Abortion: The Sanctity of Life***

*Father Asmerom Hagos*

### CHAPTER CURRICULUM FOR MEETINGS

#### ***Abortion***

1. **Abortion** (Very Reverend Father Joseph F. Purpura, Antiochian Orthodox Youth Ministry):

<http://ww1.antiochian.org/abortion>

- Q1: Do babies in the womb recognize God? When did we first recognize God?
- Q2: Why does the Church not believe that abortion is a women's rights issue?

2. **Abortion in the Teachings of the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahido Church** (Translated by Tsegaye Girma and Kassa Nigus, Source from Deacon Zena Birhanu, Ethiopian Orthodox Church): <https://eotcmk.org/e/abortion-in-the-teachings-of-the-ethiopian-orthodox-tewahido-church-2/>

- Q1: As youth, do we have a responsibility for those younger than us?
- Q2: What are other ways in which the Church values the sanctity of life?



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November/December

### MONTHLY WEBINAR SERIES



December 15, 2020

***Sexuality and Society: Defining Love in Modern Times***

*Father Samuel Varghese*

### CHAPTER CURRICULUM FOR MEETINGS

#### ***Sexuality and Society***

- 1. Understanding Homosexuality: An Orthodox Christian Perspective** (Father George Morelli, St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church):  
[http://religiousinstitute.org/denom\\_statements/understanding-homosexuality-an-orthodox-christian-perspective/](http://religiousinstitute.org/denom_statements/understanding-homosexuality-an-orthodox-christian-perspective/)
  - Q1: Is homosexuality different from other sexual sins?
  - Q2: Where should our pride come from?
- 2. Can a Homosexual become an Orthodox Christian?** (Father Ted Stylianopoulos, Professor of at the Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology): <https://stpaulsirvine.org/can-a-homosexual-become-orthodox/>
  - Q1: Do we view homosexuality differently than other struggles?
  - Q2: How can we protect ourselves from sexual temptation in college?



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January/February

### MONTHLY WEBINAR SERIES



January 19, 2021

***Mental Wellness: The Connection Between Mind and Spirit***

*Father Zach Varghese*

### CHAPTER CURRICULUM FOR MEETINGS

#### ***Mental Wellness***

- 1. What do the Fathers say about mental illness?** (Father Athanasios Haros, St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6sCE3dAzNL8>
  - Q1: In what ways do we keep a person in darkness within our group?
  - Q2: How do we promote a culture of confession and openness of struggle within our group?
- 2. Mental Health and Orthodoxy-Worry, Fear, and Anxiety** (Bishop John, Chairman of Mental Health Taskforce for Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops in US; Father David Alexander, Father Isaiah Gillette, Antiochian Chaplains for US Military):  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nKKckO1lfs&list=PL9K25Y6XfAHOSuI477XN89848X7t28HGO&index=4>
  - Q1: How do we define “the fear of God”?
  - Q2: What are some ways that we try to escape psychological pains that may lead us further from God instead of closer to Him in our times of need?



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February/March

### MONTHLY WEBINAR SERIES



February 16, 2021

***Feminism: Power vs. Piety***

*Tesoni Missy Abouelkheir*

### CHAPTER CURRICULUM FOR MEETINGS

#### ***Feminism***

- 1. Feminism and the Role of Women** (His Grace Bishop Angaelos, Coptic Orthodox Archbishop of London): <http://becomeorthodox.org/feminism-and-the-role-of-women/>
  - Q1: Define how the roles in marriage are equal but different.
  - Q2: Do we define women's roles based on what culture deems important or based on His word?
- 2. Apostles to the Apostles-Feminism as it should be Understood** (Father Vasile Tudora, St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church): <https://myocn.net/apostles-apostles-feminism-understood/>
  - Q1: Do we aspire to earthly equality or heavenly equality?
  - Q2: What conditions have to be met for each member of the Church to pursue salvation? Does it require someone else's perfection?



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March/April

### MONTHLY WEBINAR SERIES



March 16, 2021

***Church vs. State: Godly Vote for a Secular Master***

*Father Alexander Kurian*

### CHAPTER CURRICULUM FOR MEETINGS

#### ***Church vs. State***

- 1. Orthodox Christianity and Politics** (George E. Demacopolous, Greek Orthodox Professor of Theology): [https://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/aftoday/orthodox\\_christianity\\_and\\_politics](https://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/aftoday/orthodox_christianity_and_politics)
  - Q1: How can we give to Cesar without taking from God?
  - Q2: Which party does the Church belong to?
- 2. Church and State are not Separate-They are at War** (Very Reverend Father Stephen Freeman, St. Anne Orthodox Church of America):  
<https://blogs.ancientfaith.com/glory2godforallthings/2017/02/02/church-state-not-separate-war/>
  - Q1: How is our current political atmosphere affecting the Church?
  - Q2: Do we vote with our souls in mind?



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April/May

### MONTHLY WEBINAR SERIES



April 20, 2021

***Political Correctness: Truth in Action***

*Father Yeprem Kelegian*

### CHAPTER CURRICULUM FOR MEETINGS

#### ***Political Correctness***

- 1. God Within Us** (Very Reverend Father Stephen Freeman, St. Anne Orthodox Church of America): <https://blogs.ancientfaith.com/glory2godforallthings/2020/07/13/god-within-us/>
  - Q1: What separates those that pursue a life with God and those who do not? Circumstances? Suffering? Actions?
  - Q2: Do we expect God to reward us for “good behavior”? How do we view our relationship with God?
- 2. The Life with God** (His Holiness Pope Shenouda III, Patriarch of Alexandria, Coptic Orthodox): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L2bSRt7qtOo&t=169s>
  - Q1: What are some ways that we quiet the voice of the Holy Spirit?
  - Q2: What kind of peace do we try to spread in the world?