



Linda Koshell
(209) 400-3836
Info@occif.org
www.occif.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OCCIF Announces New President

Long time board member Father John Dresko elected as CEO/President

Lodi, CA August 5, 2021 - At the Board of Directors meeting held on July 19, 2021, the OCCIF Board of Directors unanimously elected Archpriest John Dresko to serve as the second President of OCCIF effective August 1, 2021. Fr. John has served on the OCCIF Board since 2016, and as Interim Treasurer for three years. The founding OCCIF President, John Della Monica, has stepped down due to increased demands on his professional life. During Della Monica's tenure, OCCIF developed into a professional financial organization devoted to helping the growth of the Orthodox Church through capital improvement loans. He has agreed to remain on the Board of Directors to guide and mentor the new President.

"Every board member, as well as the many Orthodox parishes and institutions already helped by OCCIF, offer our profound thanks to John," said incoming OCCIF President Fr. John Dresko. "We wish John and his family nothing but the best and continued good health."

In addition to his years of work with OCCIF, Fr. John Dresko brings a thorough knowledge of Orthodox Church finances and administration. Fr. John is currently Rector of St. Paul the Apostle Orthodox Church (OCA) in Las Vegas, Nevada. Ordained to the Holy Priesthood in 1979, he has had a long vocation in parishes and at the administrative levels of the Church. In addition to parish work and administrative positions, he has served on the Diocesan Councils of the Diocese of the Midwest, the Diocese of New England, and currently, the Diocese of the West, where he serves on the Finance Committee. He has also served on the Metropolitan Council of the OCA for sixteen years over the past thirty.

"Over the years Father John has been an invaluable resource on OCCIF's Board of Directors," said Della Monica. "Now as President, Father John will help OCCIF continue to grow as the leading provider of capital improvement loans for the Orthodox Church."

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ABOUT OCCIF:

The Orthodox Church Capital Improvement Fund (OCCIF) was established in 2011 as an outreach of the Mission Board of the Diocese of the West of the Orthodox Church in America. OCCIF is the leading provider of funding for capital improvement projects exclusively for the Orthodox church, with over \$4 million provided to Orthodox missions, monasteries, and institutions.

ABOUT FATHER JOHN DRESKO:

Father John Dresko possesses a BA in History from Iona College, New Rochelle, NY and an MDiv from St. Vladimir Orthodox Theological Seminary, Crestwood, NY. In addition, he is a graduate of the Meyer Institute of Christian Stewardship and The Center for Philanthropy of Indiana University, both in Indianapolis, Indiana. While in the Air Force, he also graduated from Academic Instructors School at Air University, Maxwell AFB, AL with post-graduate credits in education.

In addition to St. Paul's, Father John has served in Rochester Hills, MI; Mentor, OH; and New Britain, CT; and as Director of Stewardship, then Director of Development, for the Orthodox Church in America. He has served on the Metropolitan Council of the OCA for sixteen years over the past thirty. He also served on active duty as an Air Force chaplain at Lackland AFB, TX.

Father John has lectured on Christian Stewardship and giving at various locations throughout North America and authored numerous articles and reflections in numerous publications. He is married since 1977 to his wife, Elizabeth, and they have four children and seven grandchildren.