



**Епархія Чикагская и Средне-Американская  
Русская Православная Церковь Заграницей**

**Diocese of Chicago & Mid-America  
Russian Orthodox Church Abroad**

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8/21 September, 2009  
Nativity of the Mother of God

*I will give you pastors according to Mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding. (Jeremiah 3:15)*

Candidates for ordination in the Diocese of Chicago & Mid-America are encouraged to attend Holy Trinity Seminary in Jordanville, NY. However, we understand that this may not always be possible due to candidates' inability to leave the diocese for a period of four to five years or due to an inability of candidates to speak Russian fluently. Therefore, we have established our Diocesan Pastoral School to educate candidates for ordination using the English language. The program of studies of the Pastoral School was approved by the Synod of Bishops of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia at their September 2008 meeting.

In addition to educating future clergymen, our Pastoral School offers opportunities for those not seeking ordination, both men and women, who would like to learn more about their faith. We strongly urge Church School teachers, catechists, and others for whom such theological education would be useful to participate in the Pastoral School courses.

We call down God's blessings upon the faculty and students of the Diocesan Pastoral School and entreat the Lord that He aid them in their laudable task of the spiritual formation the future clergymen and lay workers of the Holy Church.

With Love in our Lord Jesus Christ,

+ Bishop Peter

+Bishop Peter  
Bishop of Cleveland  
Administrator of the Diocese of Chicago & Mid-America