

**ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA  
DIOCESE OF THE MIDWEST 46<sup>TH</sup> DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY  
OCTOBER 1-3, 2007  
CLEVELAND, OHIO**

**MONASTERY OF ST JOHN THE THEOLOGIAN  
ARCHIMANDRITE ALEXANDER (CUTLER)**

This year marks the 26th anniversary of St. John's Monastery as a monastic community. The community is made up of Archimandrite Alexander (Cutler), who has lived at the monastery for 26 years; Monk Daniel (Kidd), who has lived at the monastery for 25 years. Fr. Alexander is Abbot. Fr. Daniel is the treasurer. Fr. Peter Pawlack is the acting secretary and is canonically attached to St. John's Monastery. This year St. John's is celebrating its 25th anniversary as a monastery. The annual pilgrimage was the occasion for celebrating this event.

The "upgrade" plans for the church created a new foundation for an enlarged entrance with a porch as well as a passage way into the church through an arch opened into the north wall of the solea. New, outer doors were installed at this roadside entrance to the monastery and at the main entrance to the church. New doors were installed for both the interior entrance to the chapel and the altar area. Insulation will be blown into the walls and attic of the chapel before winter. The interior of the church and iconostas have been painted. A new floor covering has also been installed.

During the past winter, four old and malfunctioning windows on the second floor were replaced with new ones. Five new windows were replaced in the "solarium" in the spring. Two more windows on the first floor and two more windows on the second floor were replaced in the summer. A new sign by the driveway to the church has been installed. The inside and outside chimney pipes for our church's wood store were all replaced. The domes of the bell towers as well as the icons over the porch and entrance to the church have been spotlighted. Other lights around the buildings have been made either darkness or motion activated for increased security. A new sidewalk has been placed from the main entrance of the church to the new porch on the north side of the church. An antique, Russian icon of the monastery's patron, St. John, has been purchased for veneration in the main church. Two new bells have been added to the main bell tower. A new color brochure about the monastery has been printed for distribution. Our monastery continues to support itself by selling beeswax candies, incense, charcoal and wine to parishes. As a service to local clergy and parishes our monastery sells liturgical and religious items imported from Russia, Greece, and Romania at reasonable prices. We are also supported by donations. Pilgrims and guests are welcome to visit the monastery and store. We welcome youth groups and tour groups. Since our community works in order to support the monastery, prior arrangements to visit or shop should be made ahead of time by phone. Reservations for the guest house need to be made well in advance. There are days and periods of time during the year when the monastery is closed to visitors.

Fr. Alexander continues to serve as confessor for the nuns at Holy Transfiguration Monastery in Ellwood City, Pennsylvania, as well as for local clergy.