

IOCC AT WORK



LEBANON: IOCC is helping ease childhood hunger in the country's most vulnerable communities. More than 10,000 young Syrian and Iraqi refugees and their Lebanese classmates receive daily snacks at 13 overcrowded schools where classes are conducted in two shifts.

SERBIA: IOCC is helping provide a comfortable night's rest for more than 16,000 people in need -- Syrian refugees, flood victims, children with special needs and the elderly. New bedding and privacy curtains are being distributed to refugee centers, social welfare institutions and hospitals across Serbia.



INTERNATIONAL ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHARITIES
110 West Road
Suite 360
Baltimore, Maryland 21204 • USA

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IOCC EVENTS & PRESENTATIONS

- Thursday, November 3 • Seattle, WA
Reception to Benefit IOCC
- Saturday, November 5 • Palos Heights, IL
St. Spyridon's 8th Annual IOCC Walk
- Saturday, November 5 • Randolph, NJ
Spaghetti Dinner for IOCC
- Sunday, November 6 • Belmont, CA
24th Annual Remembering Home Banquet
- Wednesday, November 9 • Rochester, MN
IOCC Reception

FATHERS: PLEASE DISPLAY THE INSIDE POSTER IN YOUR PARISH

IOCC Sunday: A Day Of Sharing!
Nov. 20, 2016
iocc.org/dayofsharing



INTERNATIONAL ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHARITIES PRIEST to PRIEST

FALL 2016

STRESS AND THE PRIESTHOOD

When a priest encounters stress in parish life, the stress is a motivation to draw closer to God. Stress tests the priest's personal relationship with God. Stress for a priest comes not only in serving the parish but may also come in his personal life. Illness or tragedy affecting a family member will have a deep impact. When tragedy or severe illness hits home, the priest is deeply affected. Self-examination is necessary in dealing with stress. The priest looks within to determine if he has caused problems that arise. He must arrive at the appropriate response. If the priest has contributed to stress in his life, repentance and change in behavior are in order. If the stress is caused externally, great care is necessary in dealing with the persons involved.

Patience, love and great care are always in order in resolving stressful situations. The priest's response to stress is observed by parishioners and family members. They will learn from him.

When a priest is well-grounded in Christ, stress in parish life will be viewed as a challenge. Hope remains strong when Christ is the primary Guide. Christ's Resurrection is the enduring hope in all circumstances.

Stress has varying degrees of intensity. Extreme situations may cause the priest to reach out to brother priests for support and understanding. Immeasurable value exists in priests supporting each other. Excessive stress extended over a period of time can lead to depression and despondency. Personal exhaustion can occur. Extensive prayer and consistent nourishment in Christ are necessary to maintain balance and joy in the priesthood.

Responses to stress can bring out the best in a priest. He can become an example for family members and parishioners demonstrating personal reliance on faith and love in Christ.

Very Reverend Stavrophor Dr. Rodney Torbic
Coordinator of Christian Education, Eastern American Diocese of the Serbian Orthodox Church

Editor's Note: Through participation in IOCC's Frontline, Orthodox priests across the United States help to restore hope for communities dealing with stress in the aftermath of natural or manmade disasters. These volunteers provide spiritual and emotional care to disaster victims and demonstrate their personal reliance on faith and love in Christ to a world in need.



A priest at a Greek Orthodox church in Athens distributes food parcels to jobless parishioners. IOCC, with church partner, Apostoli, is providing food to families impoverished by the country's failing economy.

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION FOR ORTHODOX CLERGY

*From the clergy of the IOCC Board of Directors:
His Eminence Archbishop Nicolae, Very Rev. Fr. Leonid Kishkovsky, Rev. Fr. Luke Palumbis, Very Reverend Fr. Nicholas Triantafilou*

Helping Break The Poverty Cycle

IOCC is working hard to build foundations on which people can help themselves.

It starts with a single person or family, then quickly spreads to a community... and in time leads to the economic growth and prosperity of a country.

BOSNIA and HERZEGOVINA

Microcredit loans to help entrepreneurs create businesses and jobs for families in a post-war economy.



Nikola Culic/IOCC

ETHIOPIA

Vocational training for disabled Ethiopians to boost their job skills and prospects of becoming part of mainstream society.



Jake Lyell/IOCC

GREECE

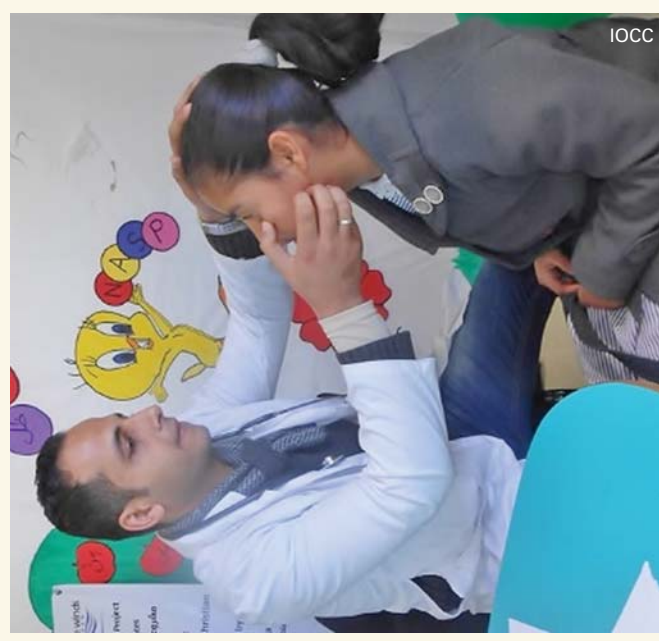
Financial and technical support to help farming and food production co-ops to improve their profitability.



Rada K Tierney/IOCC

GAZA

Pairing unemployed college grads with jobs at local social service agencies serving the needs of families living in isolation.



IOCC



INTERNATIONAL ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHARITIES

Headquarters: 110 West Road, Suite 360 • Baltimore, MD 21204 USA

Tel: (410) 243-9820 • Toll Free: 1-877-803-IOCC (4622) • E-mail: relief@ioccc.org • Online: ioccc.org