

PUTTING OUR FAITH INTO PRACTICE *(continued)*

And it does so as one of the most highly respected nonprofit organizations in the entire world. IOCC functions not only as one of the top charities among Orthodox Christians but also as a sterling example for any nonprofit, carefully stewarding every dollar you give in order to have the greatest impact in the lives of the people we desire to serve.

I am honored to contribute to IOCC, and I encourage all Orthodox faithful to consider IOCC as part of their almsgiving. Through IOCC, we accomplish our Lord's work here on earth and will be able to give a good account before the Judgment Seat of our Lord Jesus Christ.

With love in Christ,

Fr. Aaron Warwick
St. Mary Orthodox Christian Church
Wichita, Kansas

If you wish to contribute a reflection to the next Priest to Priest, please email rloumiotis@iocc.org.

IOCC EVENTS & PRESENTATIONS

- **February 1, 2018** – Akron, OH
European Wine Tasting
- **February 3, 2018** – Pittsburgh, PA
International Soup Sampling To Benefit IOCC
- **February 3, 2018** – Milwaukee, WI
Tailgate Celebration To Benefit IOCC
- **March 4, 2018** – Pittsburgh, PA
Syrian Relief Dinner & Prayer Service
- **May 5-6, 2018** – Pittsburgh, PA
Pittsburgh Marathon Weekend

**FATHERS: PLEASE DISPLAY THE POSTER
ON REVERSE IN YOUR PARISH**

PARTNERS IN COMPASSION

**As little as 33¢ a day
can make a difference!**

Join IOCC's Partners in Compassion
monthly giving program and
help ensure that we respond quickly
and effectively to people in need.

iocc.org/monthly



INTERNATIONAL ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHARITIES

PRIEST *to* PRIEST

Winter 2018

PUTTING OUR FAITH INTO PRACTICE

Reverend Father Aaron Warwick is priest in charge at St. Mary Orthodox Christian Church in Wichita, Kansas, where he has served since 2009. A graduate of St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary in Crestwood, New York, Father Aaron and his wife, Gwen, have four young children: Emmelia, Adrian, Dominic and Simone.

"Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? When did

we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me'" (*Matthew 25:37-40*).

We Orthodox Christians hear these words every year before Great Lent on Judgment Sunday. The Church reminds us that at the judgment seat of Christ, He ultimately grades us not on how we make the sign of the Cross; not on whether we fulfill the letter of the law with our fasting; and not on how many divine services we attended. Of course, we should do all of these things to the best of our ability. But they become meaningless ritual unless we put our faith into practice when we leave our church buildings.

I thank God IOCC helps us fulfill Christ's calling. Through our support of IOCC—be it financial or through service opportunities—we feed the hungry children of rural Kosovo, and families struggling economically in Greece. We provide water to the people of the Holy Land, Uganda, and Tanzania. We help clothe Bosnians, supporting families and entrepreneurs through small loans. We visit the sick in Ethiopia, who endure unbearable yet preventable illness and disease. We provide shelter, emergency aid, psychological support, and education to people whose options have been restricted by the conflict in Syria. When natural disasters hit our own homeland, IOCC mobilizes to bring aid to our fellow Americans.

In the Judgment Sunday parable quoted above, Jesus invites us to serve anyone who finds themselves in need. He does not discriminate based on the person's faith or nationality. When a fellow human being—one also created in the image of God—suffers, we serve. IOCC aids people of all faiths and races.

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*Jesus invites us
to serve anyone who
finds themselves
in need.*

SCORE A VICTORY AGAINST HUNGER!

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2018

Help feed the hungry by collecting non-perishables for a local food bank and money to support IOCC's work around the globe. Together we can turn the biggest weekend in football into a super day of giving!

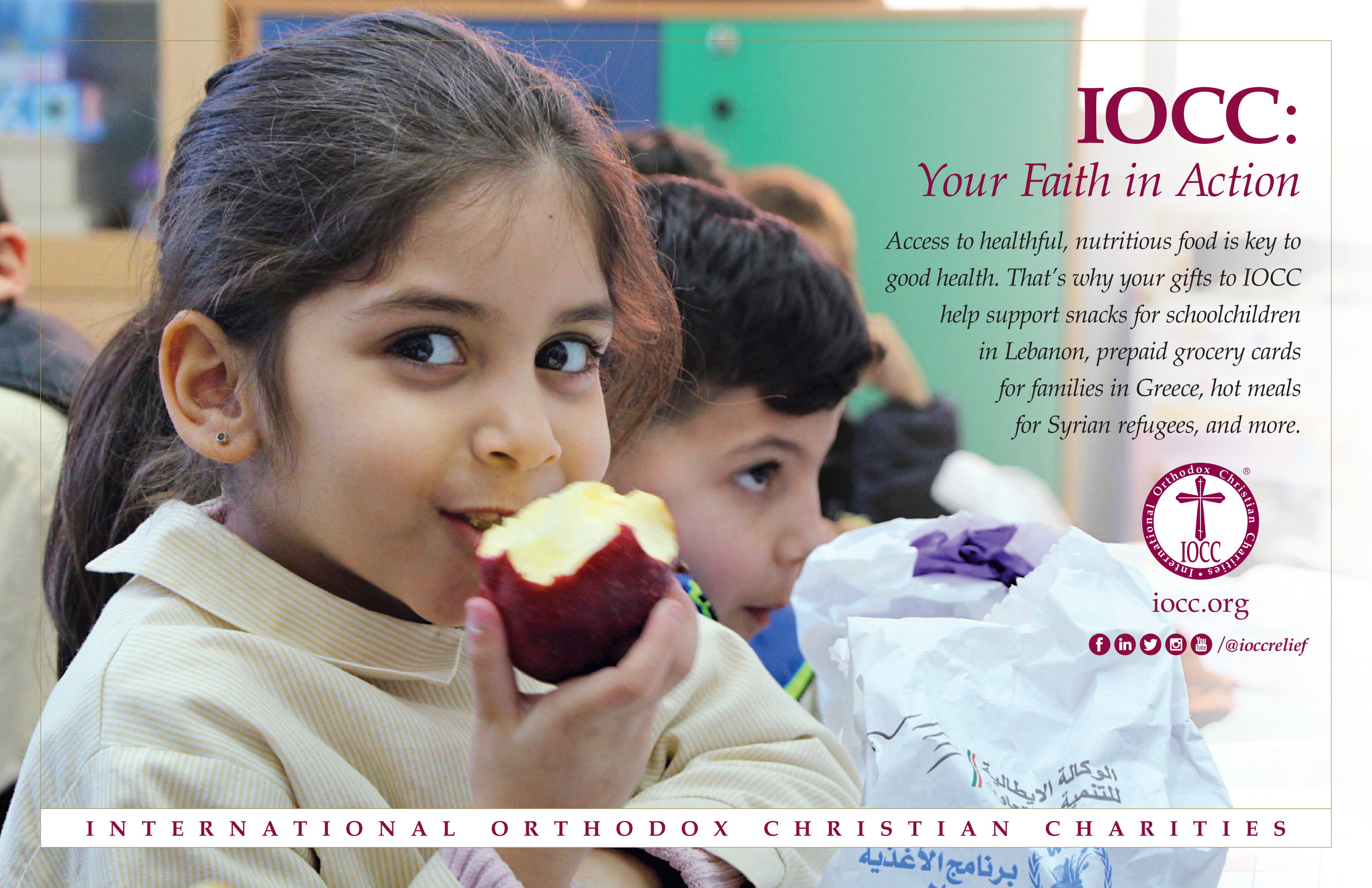
Learn more at iocc.org/souperbowl



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



IOCC: *Your Faith in Action*

Access to healthful, nutritious food is key to good health. That's why your gifts to IOCC help support snacks for schoolchildren in Lebanon, prepaid grocery cards for families in Greece, hot meals for Syrian refugees, and more.



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INTERNATIONAL ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHARITIES

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