

IOCC Upcoming Events

More details at www.iocc.org/events.

- July 21, 2012 – Kansas City, KS
3rd Annual Dinner
- Saturday, August 11 – Pittsburgh, PA
One in Spirit Dinner
- September 14, 2012 – Cleveland, OH
Cleveland Indians Game
- September 15, 2012 – Indianapolis, IN
IOCC Reception following Joint Vespers
- September 22 – Pawtucket, RI
Pan Orthodox Dinner
- October 6, 2012 – Cleveland, OH
IOCC Bi-Annual Fashion Show
- November 1, 2012 – Charlotte, NC
IOCC Banquet
- November 4, 2012 – San Francisco, CA
Remembering Home Dinner
- November 11, 2012 – St. Louis, MO
Annual Dinner
- November 18, 2012 – Akron, OH
IOCC Sunday Dinner/Thanksgiving

PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW MAILING ADDRESS FOR DONATIONS:

**IOCC • P.O. Box 17398
Baltimore, MD 21297-0429**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Baltimore, Maryland 21204 • USA

INTERNATIONAL ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHARITIES

110 West Road
Suite 360



Assembling an Emergency Kit filled with clean-up supplies, health & hygiene essentials, or basic baby items can go a long way to help families recover after a disaster.

**HERE'S HOW:
iocc.org/kits**



Volunteer on an IOCC "Orthodox Action Team"

Since the devastating hurricanes in 2005, more than 600 volunteers have committed to helping families rebuild their lives by building new homes. You do not need to be skilled – just energetic! We are recruiting volunteers for one week of active service in Houston or Minneapolis for the following dates:

**July 29 - Aug. 4, 2012 Minneapolis, MN
Aug. 5 - Aug. 11, 2012 Houston, TX**

For more details visit iocc.org/actionteams or call IOCC toll-free at 877-803-4622.



Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice ... to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn." — Isaiah 58: 6-8



INTERNATIONAL ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHARITIES

PRIEST to PRIEST

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST ILLUMINES ALL

VOLUME 13, NO. 2 SUMMER 2012

"International" means "US" as well!

For 20 years, International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) has distinguished itself with humanitarian work all over the world. Scores of foreign countries with various concerns have been served by this fine organization, providing food, clothing, shelter, and, most importantly, hope to those in need.

Since much of IOCC's efforts have focused on nations overseas, we sometimes overlook the admirable domestic work being done by IOCC in the United States. The last few years have found Americans dealing with horrific national disasters. Louisiana, Mississippi, Texas, Alabama and Minnesota are just some of the States that felt the devastation brought about by hurricanes, tornados and floods. Thankfully, IOCC has been able to provide assistance to those affected by these unforeseen tragedies. IOCC has partnered with *Habitat For Humanity* in sending teams of volunteers to help rebuild the Gulf Coast areas – specifically New Orleans and Biloxi – that were so severely damaged by Hurricane Katrina in 2005. Similar "labors of love" will be performed this summer in Houston and Minneapolis by Orthodox Action Team volunteers.

In preparation for this hurricane season, IOCC has prepared a list of safety and emergency planning tips on what to do in the event of a natural disaster. All of



this helpful information can be downloaded on the website of International Orthodox Christian Charities: iocc.org.

As clergy, there are several ways we can assist IOCC with their domestic efforts. We can encourage our faithful to participate in the *Orthodox Team Action* trips. Through the years some 600 volunteers have given of their time and talents to help others get back on their feet after suffering the loss of their homes and properties. From experience, I can tell you that the volunteers *receive* much more than they *give*. When the occasion arises, even our parish children

can do their part by assembling Emergency Health Kits that IOCC distributes to disaster victims. Of course, it goes without saying that our parish communities must be urged to provide financial support to IOCC, for without it, much needed aid cannot be provided.

Let us remember that often the "least of our brethren" are our fellow Americans. We pray that IOCC will always be there to extend a helping hand to them, doing so in the Name of Jesus Christ, Whose "Gospel of Love" we are committed to preach.

Fr. Michael Rosco

Father Michael Rosco

FATHERS: PLEASE DISPLAY THE INSIDE POSTER IN YOUR PARISH

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION FOR ORTHODOX CLERGY

From the clergy of the IOCC Board of Directors:

Very Rev. Michael Ellias, Rev. Luke Palumbis, Very Rev. Michael Rosco, Very Rev. Leonid Kishkovsky

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Join the Growing U.S. Network of Orthodox in Action **BECOME AN IOCC VOLUNTEER**

You can make a difference in the lives of people in your community and in other cities and towns affected by disaster by joining with IOCC to provide assistance to our neighbors in need.

IOCC volunteers have responded to the needs of their neighbors following the attacks of 9-11, hurricanes along the Gulf Coast, tornadoes in America's heartland and to the needs of school children and families in cities across the country.

You can make a difference through IOCC by participating in:



Orthodox Action Teams – Week-long volunteer teams that work to rebuild homes and lives



Emergency kit drives in your parish



Applying to become a part of the IOCC Emergency Response Network

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT IOCC.ORG

By extending your heart and your hand, you help create a fresh start for families who have lost everything.

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@iocc.org • Online: www.iocc.org