

## YOUR SUPPORT AT WORK



relief items. Since 2012, IOCC has assisted nearly 800,000 people displaced inside Syria or living as refugees.



**USA:** Members of the **IOCC Frontline**, a team of highly trained and experienced emergency response personnel who assist communities and Orthodox parishioners in times of crisis, were recently dispatched to central Oklahoma to assist survivors of a massive tornado, then later to Arizona, where nineteen firefighters died battling wildfires.



IOCC offers a four-point emergency checklist to help provide for the safety and security of you and your loved ones. Visit [iocc.org/emergency](http://iocc.org/emergency) to learn more.

## IOCC EVENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

- **AUG 24:** Atlanta, GA – 13th Annual 5K Walk
- **AUG 24:** Denver, CO – IOCC 5K
- **SEP 22:** Dix Hills, NY – IOCC Pan-Orthodox Vespers and Reception
- **SEP 28:** Chicago, IL – 6th Annual 5K Run/Walk
- **OCT 12:** Baltimore, MD – 2013 Baltimore Running Festival
- **OCT 20:** Dallas, TX – IOCC Awareness Dinner Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church 13555 Hillcrest Road Dallas TX 75240
- **OCT 26:** Arcadia, CA – IOCC SoCal Step-up 5K Arcadia Park, 405 South Santa Anita Avenue Arcadia, CA 91006

**PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW MAILING ADDRESS FOR DONATIONS:**

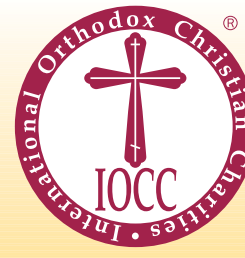
**IOCC • P.O. Box 17398  
Baltimore, MD 21297-0429**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Baltimore, Maryland 21204 • USA

INTERNATIONAL ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHARITIES

110 West Road  
Suite 360



INTERNATIONAL ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHARITIES

# PRIEST to PRIEST

*The Light Of Christ Illumines All*

Summer 2013

## MOVED WITH COMPASSION

I greet you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

True agape requires action. This is the love the Lord requires of all His followers, and it is a self-sacrificing love that is not fulfilled apart from action (1 John 3:18). Consequently, the recent shipment of medical supplies, lifesaving medicines and wheelchairs from IOCC could not have arrived at a more opportune time.

Zimbabwe is a land in great need of all the humanitarian aid it can obtain, especially in these economically depressed times. The IOCC support is thus invaluable in that it has a huge impact on the lives of the downtrodden recipients. The shipments have had an immediate impact in improving the health and quality of life for the average Zimbabwean in dire need of all the available help. In order to be pleasing to God, we must never lose sight of our obligation to the powerless, downtrodden, helpless, and destitute of this world. In fact, where all of us will spend an eternity depends upon a proper understanding on our part of our obligation to the poor (Matthew 25:31-46).

If we are touched by our Lord's compassion and moved by His agape to serve others, we "come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need" (Hebrews 4:16). We must "look out not only for our own interests, but also for the interests of others" (Philippians 2:4). Ultimately, when we are touched by His compassion and moved by His love, we reach out to the weak, the hurting, and the



downtrodden with compassion and love and God will be merciful unto us also.

Since God's love is perfected in us (1 John 4:12), we must all be "moved with compassion" by the many hardships and diverse difficulties we see our neighbors experiencing. I thank you from the bottom of my heart for the compassion you demonstrate at IOCC. I also take this opportunity to thank Archbishop Demetrios, Primate of the Greek Orthodox Church in America and generally the nation of the United States of America for the compassionate stance exhibited. God Bless America!

*With fraternal blessings and agape,  
His Eminence Seraphim Kykkotis  
Archbishop of Zimbabwe and Angola*

**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, Very Rev. Leonid Kishkovsky, Rev. Luke Palumbis, Very Reverend Nicholas Triantafilou*

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# Four million people inside Syria have been displaced by civil war. **MORE THAN HALF OF THEM ARE CHILDREN.**

**From regional offices spread across Syria, IOCC is one of only a few humanitarian agencies able to provide direct relief to families and elderly living in some of the most volatile areas with urgently needed assistance.**

## CRISIS COUNSELING



Many Syrians have witnessed unspeakable violence or endured extreme hardship during the civil war. IOCC is providing counseling to displaced Syrians and children suffering from depression or anxiety brought on by these traumatic experiences.

## SHELTER



As the fighting continues to rage throughout the country, more families are being displaced, often several times. IOCC is responding by repairing and improving shelters or unfinished buildings in Syria to house as many displaced Syrians as possible.

## FOOD



IOCC is distributing lifesaving food parcels to vulnerable families living far from their familiar neighborhoods and struggling to survive.

## HEALTH & HYGIENE



IOCC is distributing kits filled with essential hygiene items to help keep children and their families healthy and protected from exposure to crowded or unsanitary surroundings.

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## INTERNATIONAL ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHARITIES

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