OUR OWN ARCHDEACON
JOHN DEMEIS
RECEIVES
"MAN OF THE YEAR "AWARD
FROM
THE STATEN ISLAND
COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

John's parents migrated to the United States at the turn of the century. His father from the Greek villages of The Abbruzzo, Gran Sasso di Italia seventy miles east of Rome. His mother from the Albanian villages Corleone, Bisaquino and Contessa Entelina, Palermo, Sicily. They Met and married in New York City. Raised a family of ten children.

John was educated in the public school system. P.S.186, Now named for Christa McAuliffe, the woman astronaut killed on her first flight. Then to Shallow Junior High School. Then Brooklyn Technical High School. After several odd jobs, John decided to take entry tests for a city job. He joined the NYC Transit Police Dept. in 1961. Attended in service training via John Jay College of Criminal Justice.

Retiring in 1981 he was advised by his priest to enter Holy Orders. John being of the Eastern Catholic Rite entered a study program of the Melkite Greek Study program Studying with his mentor The late beloved Corbishop Januarious Izzo, OFM,MA,JCD. Ordained to minor orders of Acolyte, Agagnost and Subdeacon by Corbishop Izzo.of eternal memory. Ordained Deacon by the late beloved Bishop Michael Dudick of "eternal memory". For his work with the people of God John was raised to the rank of Archdeacon by the late beloved John Cardinal O'Connor "eternal memory". He served twenty years as a police officer and twenty years a police chaplain and for thirty plus years as President, Secretary, Treasurer, Archivist and Historian of Our Lady of Grace Mission Society. John was 87 this June 16 2017.

Still contributing to the Archdeacons Corner, Question & Answer Column. Of the Mission Newsletter, John is now in retirement enjoying his family, wife Rita, his children, 5 grandchild and 2 great grandchildren.

God be Praised'

More See Page 8
OUR LADY of GRACE GREEK CATHOLIC MISSION
AND SOCIETY

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About Our Mission and Society
Our Lady of Grace Italo-Greek Catholic Mission and Society is a Catholic Religious entity. We are Eastern Catholics in union with Pope Francis the successor of Saint Peter the Apostle.

Our purpose is the re-establishment of the Italo-Greek and Italo-Albanian rite in the United States. It is heir to a parish society of the Italo-Greek to have existed in North America.

Our first pastor was the late Papas Ciro Pinnola who arrived in New York in 1903. Our Lady of Grace Chapel was begun on Pascha Sunday, 1904. The society formed in 1947 a year after Papas Pinnola’s passing. “Memory Eternal.”

The patronal icon of our Mission & Society is Madonna delle Gratzie, the Nursing Madonna chosen by Papas Pinnola.

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Look us up on the web
http://byzcath.org/ourladyofgrace
for information and links to additional Eastern Catholic Websites
Without the East the Church wouldn’t be catholic

Will there be a union between the Catholic and Orthodox Churches? Though not founded on knowledge and it is only my opinion, I vision two possibilities:

Maintain the status quo with respect for each other but no intercommunion far into the future.

Complete unity and intercommunion—what will happen to the Eastern Churches already in communion with Rome?

For some of these, namely the Maronite's and Italo/Greeks who have never separated there isn’t a problem. Others, mainly those that came about through a division within the mother church may have problems being assimilated note the Ukrainian Churches.

Yet I have the feeling that the Eastern Churches in communion are an embarrassment to Rome. They are rarely mentioned and I’ve noted from the blog “Rome Reports”, that articles regarding the Middle East mostly show western priests and nuns or when set in churches or show devotions they are mostly Latin.

But, As Pope Francis has said, ”Who am I to judge?”

Ron

ARCHDEACON’S DOOR

Has anyone noticed the Eucharist in The Lords Prayer?

The Our Father.

Matthew 6:9–13:9

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. (Give us this day our daily bread.) And forgive us our sins, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one.

Luke 11:2–4 (NRSV)

Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. (Give us each day our daily bread.) And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial

English from the Latin

Our Father who art in heaven hallowed be thy name Thy kingdom come Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven "Give us this day our daily bread" and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. Amen

Byzantine ending:

For yours is the kingdom of The Father and The Son and The Holly Spirit Now And ever unto the ages of ages Amin

Achdn John
Father Nicholas Daddona, an officer in OLOG Society, was ordained to the priesthood on April 25, 2017, was previously a seminarian with the Franciscans at the Washington Theological Coalition. He then began a career as an educator for over 30 years on the high school and college levels and has been married over 43 years to his wife, Maureen. He has served as a deacon, and most recently, eparchial chancellor.

In addition to his wife, his three children, all successful, were present and with their spouses, they have, in turn, blessed Father Nick and Pan’i Maureen with seven wonderful grandchildren.

Taking turns in accomplishing their personal dreams, Maureen held down the fort while Nick studied and prayed and worked for four years to complete the diaconal program and was ordained a deacon by Bishop +Michael (Dudick). Then he shouldered the majority of duties while Maureen earned a Ph.D. in Neuroendocrinology. She also serves as Victim’s Advocate for the eparchy and is a retired college professor having taught human genetics and the biochemistry of human nutrition for over 30 years.

In the past 29 years, Father Nick has served God at Saint Andrew Byzantine Catholic Church in Westbury, Long Island, NY. He has been deacon, Acting-Administrator of the Parish, Director of Deacons, and Chancellor for the Eparchy of Passaic. In addition to his religious duties, he taught development and remedial reading for grades 7-12 at Carey High School on Long Island, NY. He also was an adjunct professor of remedial studies at Nassau Community College, in Long Island, NY. Father Charles Kohli, who is Father Nick’s present spiritual advisor, married Maureen and Father Nick 43 years ago.

Photos & Copy courtesy Eastern Catholic Life
The Bishop of Lungro Welcomes Metropolitan Anasthasios of Achaia

April 6, 2017 from the Eparchy of Lungro

On Sunday April 2, 2017 His Eminence Anasthasios Metropolitan of Achaia visited the Mother Church of the Eparchy of Lungro, the cathedral of San Nicola di Mira, and received a brotherly reception by Bishop Donato Olivero. The visit follows in the wake of the traditional ecumenical call by the Diocese of Lungro and the Italo/Greek/Albanian community which has over the last few years, through the initiative of their bishop who has welcomed numerous hierarchs of the Orthodox Church including His All Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople.

The welcoming followed the protocol established over the past years of having the Greek and Albanian flags on the balcony of the Bishop’s Curia. Together in the cathedral Metropolitan Anasthasios assisted in the celebration of the Divine Liturgy. The Metropolitan made a very important gesture which was precedence braking by following Bishop Olivero inside the bima during the Little Entrance. An act of enormous spiritual value sought to bear spiritual witness. During his homily Bishop Olivero recounted the fundamental traits of the Abereshe, underlining the historical, never interrupted bonds with the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople and the Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Greece. He stated the Council of Florence is the foundation which permits the Abereshe and Orthodox to be welcomed as brothers and sisters in Latin Southern Italy.

"Our particular church, Italo/Greek/Albanian," Stated Bishop Olivero, "Was founded to coexist in a dual justification: territorial of Rome and the ecclesiastical courts of the Ohrid region which attended to our pastoral needs by ordaining our priests. This singular situation lasted officially until 1564, but in reality, lasted until 1767, the year in which the Patriarch of Constantinople at the request of the sultan abolished the Metropolia of Ohrid, considered the mother church of the Italo/Albanians. We can say that our Church for over 500 years has remained faithful to its own eastern traditions, to its Byzantine rite, to the Greek and Albanian languages, to the memory of Grigorio Kastriotas Skanderbeg and the traditions of their forefathers.

It is evident from our faithful Christians and their priests which make us conscious of our ethnic, cultural and liturgical identity that distinguishes us from our neighbors. In the history of Orthodoxy our church of Lungro represents as single fact as it is structured with its own bishop, clergy, worship and liturgical language within a Latin jurisdiction and outside of the national territories established by the Ecumenical Councils of the Eastern Churches."

World’s Oldest Person Dies at Age 117

Emma Morano was born on November 29, 1899 in the Piedmont region of Italy. She was officially the last person born in the 1800s who was still living. She had attributed her longevity to her genetics and a diet of three eggs a day, two of them raw.

Emma was the oldest of eight siblings of whom she outlived. She died at her home in the northern city of Verbena. Her life not only spanned three centuries but also survived an abusive marriage, the loss of her only son, two world wars and more than 90 Italian Governments.
LETTERS

Dear Deacon John, Rita and members of Our Lady of Grace Society.

Thanks for your gifts, prayers and presence at my ordination.

Good Bless.

Fr Nick Daddona

Some Archdeacons are given the title of Very Reverend, V.Rev. I was awarded this title by the late beloved Cardinal John O'Connor of blessed memory..

Etiquette; for formal occasions (for example, in the heading of a letter or when introducing a speaker), one would politely address or refer to a deacon as "The Rev. Deacon [John Smith]." Deacon is often abbreviated Den.

In informal settings, for example, in normal conversation, it is appropriate to simply refer to a deacon as "Deacon [John]", "Father [John]", or "Father Deacon [John]", depending on the tradition. In the Roman Rite, a deacon is addressed as "The Rev. Mr." Al, Send me your address. I will send you a complimentary copy of our humble Newsletter...

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Rev. Demeis,

Was the Italian Greek Church ever in Communion with Constantinople?

Robert PC

Yes, See Below.

The Italian- Greek-Albanian Catholic Church
Rite: Byzantine

From the earliest periods of Christianity, southern Italy and Sicily had strong connections with Greece and followed the Byzantine tradition. Despite this fact, as part of the Latin patriarchate, the Italian-Greek-Albanian Church has always been in union with Rome. Large numbers of Orthodox Greeks and Albanians fled to this region when their country was conquered by Muslims and interestingly enough in 1553, the Italo-Albanian metropolitan archbishop was confirmed by the patriarch of Constantinople, with papal authorization. Thus, the Italo-Greek-Albanians have never formally broken communion with the Orthodox Church.

Dear Rev John,

I recall you had a large collection of Holy Relics. Are we to believe that these are genuine relics of the saints?

Joseph G. PC.

Yes' If the church says so, and if they have papers of authentication. However in the early church there was a scandal in which local bishops were selling Indulgences and Relics. We cannot know whether they were real or not. The faithful used them in innocent prayer and were not guilty of any sin.

Today you can find some idiots on E-Bay selling empty Tetas ":Reliquaries" With The breath Of God, Archangels Saint Michael, Saint Gabriel And Saint Rafael. All Spiritual saints... There is a genuine relic of St. Michael of the Saints. I believe he was French or Spanish. And so it goes' Reproductions, phonies, Forgeries. Is Anything Sacred anymore?.

Dear Archdeacon John,

What is the way to properly address a deacon?

Al, P. Internet.

Sacramentally; in the Eastern Churches all deacons are equal. However, they are ranked and serve by seniority according to the date of their ordination. Just as with bishops and priests, there are distinctions of administrative rank among deacons. A senior deacon of a cathedral or principal church may be awarded the title proto-deacon and claim precedence when serving with other deacons. The chief deacon who is attached to the person of a bishop is called an archdeacon. A deacon who is also a monastic or brother is called a hierodeacon.
Pope Francis Accepts Resignation of the Greek Melkite Patriarch

(Vatican Radio)

Pope Francis accepted the resignation of the Melkite Greek Patriarch of Antioch His Beatitude Gregory III Laham from his pastoral office. A letter from the Holy Father to the Patriarch-emeritus and all of the Melkite bishops explains that His Beatitude presented his resignation during the course of a special audience with the Holy Father in February, and that the Holy Father has decided to accept the resignation.

In the letter, Pope Francis thanks the 83 year-old Patriarch-emeritus, “a zealous servant of the People of God for the generous service to his Church and for keeping the international community’s attention focused on the tragedy of Syria.”

The Holy Father goes on to write, “I invoke upon you all the intercession of the Holy Mother of God and willingly give the Apostolic Blessing to our dear Greco-Melkite Church as a sign of grace and encouragement for the future of communion and witness of the Gospel.”

Archbishop Jean-Clement Jeabarte, archbishop of Aleppo has been named Administrator of the Melkite Greek Catholic Church until a successor can be elected by the Holy Synod of the Melkite Catholic Church in June of this year.

MEMORY ETERNAL
His Eminent Beatitude Lubomyr Husar

Born in the Polish city of Lwow (now Lviv in Ukraine), Husar fled with his parents in 1944 during World War II. They briefly lived in Salzburg, Austria, then emigrated to the United States in 1949. From 1950 to 1954 he studied at St. Basil College Seminary in Stamford, Connecticut. He studied at The Catholic University of America and Fordham University in the United States, and was ordained a priest on 30 March 1958 for the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Stamford.

From 1958 to 1969, he taught at St. Basil College Seminary and was pastor at Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church in Kentonkson, New York between 1966 and 1969. In 1969, Husar went to Rome, where he spent three years earning a doctorate in theology at the Pontifical Urbaniana University. He then entered the Monastery of the Studites in Castel Gandolfo in Italy, and was named its Superior in 1974.

He was consecrated a bishop in 1976 in the Castel Gandolfo chapel by Major Archbishop Josyf Slipyj without papal permission (apostolic mandate) in an act which caused many irritations in the Roman Curia, as Roman canon law required papal permission for the consecration of a bishop, but at that time Eastern canon law did not.

In December 2000, Pope John Paul II named Husar apostolic administrator of the Ukrainian Greek Major-Archeparchy of Lviv, and in January 2001 the Ukrainian Greek synod elected him Major Archbishop. On 21 February of that year Pope John Paul II created and proclaimed Husar Cardinal-Priest of Santa Sofia a Via Boccea. Cardinal Husar was one of the three Eastern Catholics to participate in the papal conclave, 2005. Also at that conclave, Cardinal Husar was the first Major-Archbishop from the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church ever to participate in a papal conclave as cardinal-elector.

The major archiepiscopal see of Lviv was moved on 21 August 2005, to the city of Kiev, the capital of Ukraine. He is acclaimed by his followers as Patriarch of Kiev-Galicia, a title not recognized by the Holy See. With failing eyesight forcing him to perform the church’s intricate liturgical rites from memory, his early resignation was accepted on 10 February 2011. He died on 31 May 2017 at the age of 84.

from Wikipedia
ARCHDEACON JOHN DEMEIS RECEIVES
“MAN OF THE YEAR “AWARD

Rev. Deacon Paul Kosinski congratulating Archdeacon John

Mgr. Peter Finn greeting Archdeacon John Demeis


Deacon Tom Stadnik and wife Deaconese Jennifer enjoying the occasion

Deacon Tom Stadnik Announcing Christ Is Risen
It is not necessary to cut the renewal form if you keep the newsletters on file.

Just send a check to Our Lady of Grace Society
Our friend and benefactor, Dr. Carnazzo has asked to make our readers aware of the work accomplished by the Institute of Catholic Culture. It is an adult catechetical organization, faithful to the Magisterium of the Catholic Church. To this end, the Institute hosts educational seminars specifically designed to build bridges of understanding, teaching authentic Catholic history, philosophy and theology, reaching out to those who seek knowledge of the Truth.

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