

**DEPARTMENT OF CONVENTIONS AND CONFERENCE PLANNING
REPORT TO THE ARCHDIOCESE CONVENTION
CHICAGO, IL – JULY 2011**

PARISH LIFE CONFERENCES

The department extends its congratulations to the host parishes, pastors and committees for the sacrificial work on the recently completed 2011 Parish Life Conferences. We note that “keynote speakers” and educational content have become prominent elements in most of the conferences.

2011 Parish Life Conferences:

Diocese	Dates	Host Parish	Host Pastor
Ottawa (Can-Am)	June 30-July 3	St. Mary, Mississauga, ON	Fr. Boulos Moussa
Wichita (Southwest)	June 15-18	St. Nicholas, Shreveport, LA	Fr. Daniel Bethancourt
Worcester (New England)	June 15-19	St. John, Dedham, MA	Fr. John Teebagy
Toledo (Midwest)	June 15-19	St. George, Loveland, OH	Fr. Jean Ojaimi
Miami (Southeast)	June 15-19	St. John, Memphis, TN	Fr. John Troy Mashburn
Eagle River/LA (West)	June 29-July 3	St. Mark, Irvine, CA	Fr. Michael Laffoon
		St. Barnabas, Costa Mesa, CA	Fr. E. Wayne Wilson
New York/Charleston/ Oakland (East)	June 29-July 3	St. Mary, Hunt Valley, MD	Fr. Theodoros Daoud

We also congratulate the parishes and pastors chosen to host next year’s conferences and encourage them all to **submit their contracts to the Department and to the Chancellor of the Archdiocese for approval prior to signing.**

2012 Parish Life Conferences:

Diocese	Dates	Host City	Host Pastor
Ottawa (Can-Am)	June 28-July 1	SS Peter and Paul, PEI	Fr. Stephen Allen
Wichita (Southwest)	June 6-9	St. Joseph, Houston, TX	Fr. Joseph Honeycutt
Worcester (New England)	June 21-24	St. George, Norwood, MA	Fr. Joseph Kimmett
Toledo (Midwest)	June 27-July 1	Virgin Mary, Alsip, IL	Fr. Moussa Haddad
Miami (Southeast)	June 13-17	St. Philip, Davie, FL	Fr. Nicholas Ozone
Eagle River/LA (West)	July 4-8	Church Redeemer, Los Altos, CA	Fr. Samer Youssef
New York/Charleston/ Oakland (East)	July 4-8	St. Anthony, Bergenfield, NJ	Fr. Joseph Allen

CONFERENCE AND CONVENTION MANUALS

The edited and reformatted Planning Manuals both for the Archdiocese Convention and the diocesan Parish Life Conferences are available on the archdiocese’s website. The manuals cover all aspects of conference and convention planning from the bidding process to final reporting, but each diocese must apply the manual’s guidelines to its specific circumstances in conjunction with its conference planning coordinator and presiding hierarchy.

CONFERENCE MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE

Through its partnership with the NAC Fellowship of St. John the Divine the department makes available conference and convention planning software to facilitate both management of these events and final reporting. The Fellowship has updated the Conference/Convention Database system through the assistance of a grant from the Archdiocese Board of Trustees. The system now includes online registration and utilizes a web based system (Antiochian Events).

Six Parish Life Conferences utilized the system in 2010 with the result that 49% of attendees registered on-line, and 78% registered before the start of the conferences. Two dioceses had 90% pre-registration. The on-line registration both significantly reduces the amount of onsite registrations to process and improves the efficiency of detailed reporting that assists the host parish, organizations, archdiocese and future conferences. As of July 1, this year's data were not yet available, but based on the initial data it should be comparable to 2010.

After last year's experience we made some improvements, funded by NAC Fellowship, based on the feedback we received from the host parishes. In order to keep this system current and efficient, and in order to consider improvements the host parishes may recommend, we will need to update the system on a regular basis and will require some funding in the range of \$2500-\$5000/year. We would like to take this opportunity to thank **Mr. Hani AbuGhalzeh** and **Mr. Michael Srouf** for their dedication and tireless effort in the development of this system. For more information or to register for a Conference/Convention go to: www.antiochianevents.org

ARCHDIOCESE CONVENTIONS

50th Archdiocese Convention – July 2011 - St. George Church, Cicero, IL
Very Rev. Fr. Nicholas Dahdal, Pastor

51st Archdiocese Convention Bids – July 2013 - St. George Church, Houston, TX
Very Rev. Fr. John Salem, Pastor

52nd Archdiocese Convention Bids – July 2015

St. Mary's Church, Cambridge, MA
Very Rev. Fr. Anthony Hughes, Pastor

CONCLUDING REMARKS

With gratitude to His Eminence Metropolitan PHILIP for his continuous interest in and support of the convention and conference planning process, we remain

Respectfully,

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