



Annapolis College Ministry

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*"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you..."
(St. Matthew 28:19-20).*

Annunciation Sunday, 2012

Greetings from the Annapolis Pan-Orthodox College Ministry (ACM)!

It's with great joy that I write this newsletter update so that I may share with you the wonderful ways in which our Lord God has been working in the lives of our students through this ministry that you help make possible through your faithful prayers and support. I look forward to sharing with you about our mission trip to an orphanage in Romania and news of our latest students to come to Christ and His holy Church through Holy Baptism and Chrismation, *and much more....*

Two baptisms and chrismations:

Sunday, January 22, Brian Merriweather, who has taken the name Azariah (after one of the three holy youths in the fiery furnace in Babylon), and Maggie More, who has taken the name, Marina, were brought to holy illumination through the Sacraments of Baptism and Chrismation. Azariah is our first graduate student from St. John's to journey to Christ and the Church. Marina is from a Jewish background and has found her way to the new Israel, the Church of Christ. We rejoice and wish them many years!



3: Michael enters the Catechumenate

Additionally, we have another two students who have entered the Catechumenate, Michael and Nathaniel. Please keep them in your prayers.



2: Marina and Azariah's Baptisms

Real Break Romania:

March 9-17 I led a group of 8 students on the **OCF Real Break to Valea Ploului, Romania and the Orthodox Pro Vita orphanage.**



5: Heathryn loving a child

Real break gives college students the opportunity to do something worthwhile with their Spring break that will help them serve and grow in their faith in Christ. The Pro Vita ministry, which runs the orphanage we visited, provides a home life for orphans, street children and those abused. Pro Vita never turns anyone down, but makes space for those who show up on their door step. They say that God always provides!

We ministered to the children, prayed night-time prayers with them, played with them after school, encouraged them in their faith, and did maintenance work projects for Pro Vita. It was a tremendous opportunity to share the love of Christ with those who have so little and are yet so grateful. As much as we managed to give, we received much more in return. The hospitality and love shown to us by the smiling children and staff was a great blessing for us.



4: Fr. Robert and part of OCF group in Romania

6: Sorting donated clothes for the orphanage



1: Fr. Robert with students and orphans in Romania

An unforgettable moment for me was the night before our departure when one of the children yelled out to me after one last visit, “You’ve been like a father to us!” I will never forget these children and hope to return before too long.



7: Fr. Robert gives a homily in Romania

I’m also very proud of our college students, who took their Spring break to tromp through the mud in Romania and forego the warmth of the beach to love “the least of these,” who are, no doubt, among the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven.

Worship on Campus:

In addition to Tuesday night Compline at the USNA, we offer weekly **Presanctified Liturgy** on the St. John’s campus during Lent in close proximity to the USNA so the midshipmen can join us as well. Weekends, Vigil/Great Vespers and the Divine Liturgy is served at our rented space in town. Many students avail themselves of these opportunities to worship, to sing, and to serve.



8: Choir for Presanctified Liturgy on campus

New Campus Outreach

In addition to our outreach at St. John’s College and the U.S. Naval Academy, plans are underway to begin a new outreach at **Anne Arundel Community College (AACC)**. AACC is home to an additional 15,000 students who have never been reached with the Gospel and Orthodox Faith on their campus.

ACM’s financial update...



9: Akathist to St. Nicholas at USNA

Your prayers and financial support makes this ministry possible. **We are 95% funded by faithful Christians like you.** As a missionary priest, I count on your faithful support and prayers to keep this ministry going and growing so that I can support my family and continue this work of teaching, mentoring, and pastoring our college students in the Annapolis area. Over 25 students and midshipmen have come to Christ and His Church through this ministry. Those already Orthodox have found opportunity to grow in their faith and apply it to their daily lives.

I want to thank you for your continuing faithful and generous support. Like many ministries in this economy, ours is suffering. *We ask everyone to give what they can and are grateful to God for all gifts—great and small. At the same time, if you are able to give a little more on a monthly basis, or if you have not yet become one of our monthly supporters, please consider doing so now.* If you can help spread the word about Annapolis Pan-Orthodox College ministry (ACM) among fellow parishioners and friends, please help us get out the word.

Budget Needs: \$11,600 Actual: roughly \$9,000

In Christ’s love and wishing you every blessing for Holy Week and Pascha,

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11: Clearing ice off building supplies in Romania



10: Blessing College Creek on Theophany