

A major accomplishment of the Academy has been the publication the Orthodox Study Bible, Old and New Testaments, first published in February of 2008, by the Thomas Nelson Publishing Company. We continue to receive many call and letters expressing both a sincere appreciation for the work accomplished and the inspiration they have received from reading and using the study notes. The publication of the Orthodox Study Bible was the consummation of more than five years of constant work on the part of literally scores of contributors. We are grateful to our Lord, and our Father, for all the help received in its production.

As we do at every occasion possible, we continually offer our deep felt gratitude for the financial help and support from so many people across our Archdiocese, with particular mention of His Eminence Metropolitan PHILIP of thrice blessed memory, our Father and Metropolitan JOSEPH, the Order of St. Ignatius of Antioch, the many members of the Board of Trustees, the many of the faithful of not only of this Archdiocese, and a large number of other Orthodox Christians from across this continent. And not least of all, to Thomas Nelson Publishing.

The Prisoner Education Project of the Academy continues to have remarkable success. New prisoner applications, generated by word-of-mouth alone, are a constant. This particular ministry is distinct from the Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry as our focus concentrates on both the Orthodox faith and the Orthodox Church. There are currently 120 prisoners enrolled in the program with 65 being very active. On average, we grade 90-120 lessons per month. The prisoners have access to fifteen correspondence courses, each consisting of 10 lessons. Each prisoner-student lesson, with its many questions, are dealt with on a personal level by the Academy. We have only one known student to return to prison after their release. The warden of the highest security prison in America, once said of this program, "You have turned demons into angels."

The Academy has also recently made available materials for personal and group Bible Study to accompany the OSB-Orthodox Study Bible. It is designed to be useful to both Clergy and laity, as a home study. The materials focus upon the renowned Fathers of the Church, particularly Saints John Chrysostom, Athanasius, and John of Damascus. The commentaries are extensive with footnotes. We have completed the Gospel of John and the Epistle to the Romans. We are now working on Genesis.

There are several additional projects to be better defined in the near future. A few will complement the Orthodox Study Bible while others will help the Academy carry on its mission to help bring North America home to the Orthodox Church.