The Department of Christian
Education is comprised of the
Director, Carole Buleza, and the
Administrative Assistant, Rosemary
Shumski, dedicated volunteer
Diocesan Coordinators and
Associates, and talented people
who agree to work on specific projects.
The major event of the Department is
the Orthodox Institute at
Antiochian Village the first weekend
in November. We bring together
renowned speakers on relevant topics for
the continuing education of the
faithful. A CD of all handouts,
outlines and in some cases recordings and
transcripts from the presenters is
sent to each participant for use at the
parish level. This year we will include
discussion questions for
the presentations on the CD.

Diocesan Representatives and
Associates were present at the
National Convention for the purpose of meeting with priests and parish
representatives to plan trainings,
visits, and events for the coming two
school years. The Department works
very closely with the O.C.E.C., the
O.C.A. and the G.O.A. Dr. Anton
Vrame of the G.O.A. and Mat. Myra
Kowalak of the O.C.E.C. assisted us
at this Convention.

Volunteer Staff
Update
After 24 years serving as a Diocesan
Coordinator, Joseph Tershay of the
Diocese of Los Angeles and the West,
submitted his resignation. We thank
him and will miss him. We have
added two associates since the last
national convention. Mrs. Hollie
Benton of Minneapolis works on
curriculum projects and is presently
composing a marriage unit for high
school students and young adults.
The second new associate is Kh. Gigi
Shadid of Houston. Kh. Gigi is writes
the Creative Festival lesson plans and
songs, under the direction of Mrs.
Rosemary Shumski, Creative Fes-
tivals coordinator for the Depart-
ment.

“Blessed Is the Kingdom:
Acts 2:42 and Today”
Metropolitan Savas (Zemblillas) of
Pittsburgh will be the keynote
speaker at the 2013 Orthodox
Institute, “Blessed is the Kingdom.”
The presenters will offer insight into
why the experience of
witnessing, serving, liturgy, and
community were so
vibrant during the early decades of
Christianity. With a focus on the
serving aspect of Church, speakers
will present programs that will
enhance parish life, and will
introduce us to organizations such as
FOCUS N.A.

If the topic of ecclesiology,
“Church”—its beginnings, ways to
enhance parish life and service to the
community—is of interest to you,
mark your calendars for October 31-
November 3, 2013, at Antiochian
Village. Among our esteemed
presenters are Fr. Thomas and Dr.
Kyriaki FitzGerald.

The Holy Land Exhibit
As a part of the 2012 Orthodox
Institute, the exhibit, “Scripture
through the Lens of the Holy Land”
was created. It has traveled since then
to several cities: Tucson, Phoenix,
Coral Gables, Niagara Falls, Syracuse
and Minneapolis. The exhibit
consists of 20 three- and four-foot
retractable banners that extend to a
height of 7 feet. A miniature paper
version is shown below. For hosting
information, see www.
antiochian.org/holylandexhibit.
Holy Land posters continue to be
printed and information is at www.
antiochian.org/holylandposters.
Teachers are encouraged to use these
and the children’s art to surround
them with the reality of Christ.

New Initiatives
Several units for high school are
being developed, and in particular
one to address the challenges that
college brings to one’s faith. The
Department will also begin filming
teaching demonstrations, and other
presentations, for use on the website.

With my high school class, I will pilot
the use of the internet during class.
There is good Orthodox content on
the web which can be used for
education. I also continue to research
my new model for Orthodox
catechesis, based in part on
transformative learning and
experiential education. In that regard
I was a guest of Antiochian Village
camp during training week to
observe the ropes course activities
which greatly influence the campers.

As always, we are grateful to His
Eminence, Metropolitan Philip and
The Order of St. Ignatius for their
continuing generous support of our
efforts.