

~ PRESS RELEASE ~

BULGARIAN ORTHODOX YOUTH APOSTOLATE

April 20, 2013

Youth Directors Release Resources in the Wake of Recent Tragedies

The National Youth Directors of several different Orthodox Jurisdictions, together with the Orthodox Christian Fellowship have collaborated to offer several resources for Clergy and Lay people to help minister to our youth and young adults in light of the recent public violence in and around Boston.

"We have been working together this week to offer jointly the best resources of each of our Departments and youth ministry efforts. These times of tragedy, grief, and anxiety demand that we reach out to our youth and young adults and witness Christ's love to them so that they can effectively do the same to their peers." [from the joint statement released today]

The resource packet contains a cover letter from several youth directors, three reflections on the attacks by adults, ten tips for speaking to your youth groups and church school classes about public violence, and a ten suggested steps for equipping your youth group or OCF chapter to respond to these tragedies.

In addition to the Bulgarian Eastern Orthodox Diocese of the USA, Canada & Australia, these materials are being provided in collaboration with the Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese of North America, the Ukrainian Church of the USA, and the Orthodox Church in America.

We also refer you to the online study guide [A Christian Response to Terrorism](#)\* originally compiled after the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. This study guide provides prayers, scriptural references, and discussion questions to use with youth and young adults.

\* <http://oca.org/the-hub/make-the-evil-good/o-lord-make-the-evil-be-good-a-discussion-guide-on-the-christian-response-t>