

Ronald Reagan Presidential Library  
Digital Library Collections

---

This is a PDF of a folder from our textual collections.

---

**Collection:** Chumachenko, Katherine: Files  
**Folder Title:** Russian Americans - I. St. Sergius School  
**Box:** OA 18287

---

To see more digitized collections visit:

<https://reaganlibrary.gov/archives/digital-library>

To see all Ronald Reagan Presidential Library inventories visit:

<https://reaganlibrary.gov/document-collection>

Contact a reference archivist at: [reagan.library@nara.gov](mailto:reagan.library@nara.gov)

Citation Guidelines: <https://reaganlibrary.gov/citing>

National Archives Catalogue: <https://catalog.archives.gov/>



**ST SERGIUS HIGH SCHOOL**

1190 Park Avenue New York, N. Y. 10028

St. Sergius is a private college preparatory High School chartered by the Board of Regents of the New York State Education Department and its curriculum is under the jurisdiction of the Board.

The curriculum is directed toward a high academic education with a strong emphasis on the Russian language and culture. The basic curriculum of subjects required for a New York State diploma is presented in English; the Russian language and related Russian studies are conducted in modern Russian.

This is the only school of its kind in the United States

Pub. for George Nordman Art Studio 881 Tenth Ave., New York, N.Y.

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

*Post Card*

30203-C

dp DEKTER PRESS, INC.  
125 W. 47th St., New York

Telephones: Lhigh 4-1725  
1-961



# St. Sergius High School

1190 Park Avenue  
New York, N. Y. 10128

July 18th, 1984

## 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. SERGIUS HIGH SCHOOL

This coming Sunday, June 24th, at 3 P.M., the Thomas Watson Auditorium of the Brick Presbyterian Church on Park Avenue at 91st Street will witness the twenty fifth annual Commencement Ceremony of an exceptional educational institution. Its close neighbor, indeed, the unique American-Russian dual-lingual St. Sergius High School, situated in the landmark of former George F. Baker Jr. Mansion on Park Avenue and 93rd Street, will hold its Graduation Exercises and celebrate the 25th anniversary of its founding in 1959. At that time, the George F. Baker Jr. Mansion was acquired as the headquarters of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia by its benefactor, banker Serge Semenenko. Upon viewing of the mansion, the principal of the School, Archimandrite Anthony Grabbe, then a young member of the clergy of said Church, noted that the space in the mansion which could be allotted for educational purposes, would not only suffice for a "Sunday School", but could accommodate a full-time college preparatory secondary school.

When he shared this cherished dream of his with others, he met with a torrent of doubts and objections: it was considered totally impracticable, since a private school requires a great deal of money to open and operate. Such money was nowhere in sight. Secondly, there would have to be a sufficient number of families with school-age children able to afford the tuition of a private school within a convenient distance of the school. There was no such concentration of Russian families in the New York area.

But Father Anthony would not be dissuaded. "We must see that school-children of Russian families do not forget their language or lose their culture heritage. We must preserve in the free world a genuine and truthful representation of Russian cultural and spiritual values, to off-set the destorations and defamation which are continually disseminated by Marxists and Marxist sympathizers". "But, think, Father Anthony, the school you are planning can be only a very small one; it will reach only a tiny number even of the Russian families". "The size does not matter. Even one single small candle makes the difference between total darkness and light".

"St. Sergius himself, a 13th century hermit, was alone; yet his hermit's retreat deep in the impenetrable forests of the Russian north became the world-renowned Holy Trinity Monastery of St. Sergius in Zagorsk. He inspired the Russian leaders of his time to stand up and cast off the Mongol yoke which had held Russia in bondage for two hundred years".

"We want our children to treasure their Russian cultural heritage and, at the same time, to become imbued with the high values and ideals which led to the founding of the United States. We want them to assimilate the true American traits of hard work, vision, generosity, reverence, compassion, tolerance, and respect for religion, instead of the disruptive contempt for discipline, authority, sobriety and morality, and infatuation with the drugs that are so widespread today".

Father Anthony's vision and faith impressed the Commissioner of Education at that time - Dr. James Allen and the Secretary to the Board of Regents, Dr. Frederick Morse and others who headed the Department of Education in Albany when he went there to apply for a Charter for his school. He received encouragement and helpful advice. Several wealthy American citizens of Russian origin, such as Prince Serge Beloselsky and his family, Captain and Mrs. Boris Sergievsky, Igor Sikorsky, and others, as well as Mrs. George F. Baker supported the School financially until they passed away.

The School started with the four upper high school grades - the ninth, tenth, eleventh and twelfth. Since then, the school has grown and enrolls from forty to sixty pupils annually, from the third to twelfth grades. Its graduates have all gained admittance to colleges, many to "Ivy League" universities.

Aside from children of Russian descent, it has among its pupils Americans of long established families, black students, hispanics, including children of Cuban and Vietnamese refugee families who have chosen St. Sergius because of its unequivocal opposition to Marxism in all its permutations.

Since the influx of Jewish immigration from the Soviet Union, some recent emigre families have chosen to send their children to St. Sergius, because they maintain that their cultural heritage is that of Russia, and that is what they wish their children to retain.

The father of one of the students has purchased a beautiful van and transports students back and forth from remote sections of Brooklyn and Queens.

Already a number of St. Sergius school's graduates have attained important positions in various branches at international and national relations and trade.

Recognizing the vital importance of the role being fulfilled by St. Sergius inspite of seemingly insurmountable handicaps - a group of public spirited members of the Russian colony in the United States, as well as equally concerned Americans, has formed a committee called "Friends of St. Sergius", whose main objective is to raise funds to assure the continuation and expansion of the school.

The celebration of the 25th anniversary is indeed the celebration of a miracle. For the school from its inception has been founded on idealism and not on a financial basis. It has existed only on the contributions of private individuals, without any subsidies from any source whatsoever.

It owes a debt not only to its benefactors but also to a succession of dedicated members of its faculty and its Principal, Rt. Reverend Archimandrite Anthony Grabbe, who have unsparingly donated many, many hours of overtime to impart to their students the fruits of their life-long experience and learning.

Let, therefore, today's Anniversary be an reassertion of the viability of the St. Sergius school and of its indispensability.

M. Stcherbinine

6/24/84

# ST. SERGIUS HIGH SCHOOL

*human values*  
*scholastic excellence*

A College Preparatory School  
for Boys & Girls

1190 Park Avenue  
New York, New York 10028

St. Sergius High School is a unique school that was built by men dedicated to human values as well as to scholastic excellence; our graduates hold positions of leadership in various parts of the world.

St. Sergius needs your support to continue its balanced program in an unbalanced world...

Archimandrite Anthony Grabbe  
Principal and Founder



This booklet describes St. Sergius High School.

Besides its uniqueness as a secondary school and the high goals it has for its students, St. Sergius also serves a constructive service to the many universities with Russian departments in our area.

These institutions, Columbia University, Barnard College, New York University, Vassar, and others, are in constant communication with us, seeking our advice.

St. Sergius is now undertaking a major fund raising drive to secure its current position and to ensure its future stability and growth.

The case for St. Sergius is set forth in the following pages. Our objectives, students, curriculum, and faculty are presented for your perusal.

Our campaign goal is \$2,500,000 over the next five years.

Your gift to us depends first of all on your belief in our objectives.

Your gift to us will help us maintain and further our belief in human values and scholastic excellence.

## CASE FOR ST. SERGIUS

### *scholastic excellence...*

St. Sergius High School offers a rigorous, challenging course of study.

In addition to receiving a traditional college preparatory education fulfilling all secondary school requirements, the student at St. Sergius receives the most comprehensive Russian program available: language, history, geography, music, art, etc. are taught in Russian, and Russian literature is read in the original.

The St. Sergius student is expected to devote at least four hours to homework assignments daily and is actively encouraged to advance beyond the stated requirements.

Included in the Russian program at St. Sergius is an Honors Course for students of proven ability and promise who have completed three full years of Russian language study. Enrolment in this course is by invitation and recommendation of the Russian Department. At the conclusion of the course, students take the Advanced Placement Examination. The results of these tests are sent to the college where the student has been admitted and usually advanced standing and credit toward a degree are granted to the student.

## CASE FOR ST. SERGIUS

### *human values...*

St. Sergius offers individualized personal attention.

Today when values are being reshuffled and it is difficult to keep a clear perspective, St. Sergius seeks to inspire students in a way of life consistent with the highest moral and ethical standards. This task demands the necessary concentration from the student so that he becomes knowledgeable and learns to act wisely.

St. Sergius stresses the development of its students' individual capabilities, training in self-discipline, the development of civic consciousness and responsibility, and the appreciation and implementation of the ideals of freedom; non-discrimination, compassion, and respect for human rights.

While the danger of the loss of values is great today, St. Sergius is one of the few schools that believes a superior education must also include moral and character development.

To this end, each student at St. Sergius learns to be a gentleman or lady and to cultivate good habits for the concurrent obligations of civility, respect, decency, manners, proper language, and moral behaviour. These are the qualities that mark true friendship.

In the past few years, there has been a growing interest in the work of St. Sergius, due perhaps to more cordial Soviet-American relations and industries' new forays into Russian-American business ventures. In addition, student groups from various colleges, universities, and high schools visit St. Sergius to study our approaches to bilingual education and Russian studies.

This growing interest in the Russian language and culture, and interest in the school has made St. Sergius aware of its responsibility as the only school of its kind in the United States.

But potential contributors must be made aware of the importance of funding a project such as ours at the secondary level, when the student is more amenable to learning a second language. (Upon graduation, the St. Sergius student has attained a level of accomplishment in the Russian language and culture superior to that of the average college student majoring in Russian.)

Today St. Sergius is undertaking an ambitious fund raising campaign; our goal is \$2,500,000 over the next five years.

It is clear that there must be thousands of individuals and corporations sympathetic to our cause who will contribute amounts from \$500 to \$10,000 and up.

## INSIDE ST. SERGIUS

St. Sergius High School is a coeducational college preparatory school. The academic curriculum is similar to that of other private schools.

In addition, seventh grade students are given basic instruction in Russian grammar, geography and history. Serious concentration in the language begins in the ninth grade and continues throughout the remaining four years.

St. Sergius students also participate in a wide range of extracurricular activities. There is an active student council; a Russian instrumental band; drama, science, fencing, and photography clubs; and the school paper, Gimnazist.

Special events are also plentiful. There are parties, dances, trips to concert halls, museums, and theatres, and field trips, both domestic and international.

SANTA BARBARA  
 SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA, SUNDAY MORNING, JANUARY 21, 1962

## School and College News

### Church School Trains Experts on Russia

St. Sergius High Has Rigorous Program in Language, Religion, Culture

By GLENN PURDY  
 World-Telegram Staff Writer

It's a safe bet that within the next few years many of the nation's top Russian language experts will claim St. Sergius High School, Park Ave. and 93rd St., as their alma mater.

Established in 1959, it is believed to be the only Russian Orthodox secondary school this side of the Iron Curtain. Entrance requirements include three years of Russian language study. And, in the words of its principal, Abbot Anthony Grabbe, "by the time a student is ready for graduation, he will be speaking Russian like a native."

In addition to a firm command of the Russian language, the graduate will have comprehensive knowledge of Russian history, geography and culture. He will have a thorough school record and a name of the Church.

phazized at the school. Last term, the teacher-student ratio was approximately one teacher for every two students.

A non-nonsense study is stressed and the tough program followed for hours.

Anthony Grabbe, principal of the school, said that the school's purpose is "to educate adolescents in accordance with the principles of the Faith."

## A JOURNAL A Visit to a Unique School

St. Sergius High School is First Russian Orthodox Secondary School

by ANNETTE MILKOVICH

When I received the invitation to visit St. Sergius High School, I was more than pleased to accept. My interest had already been aroused by earlier knowledge that this institution was the only Russian Orthodox secondary school in the United States and was located in the Upper East Side of New York City.

The school's brochure is like a gem. The school's purpose is "to educate adolescents in accordance with the principles of the Faith."

Small classes. Honors courses: Math, Science, Language. Select faculty. Beautiful campus. Pool.

Sports. Grades 9-12. P.G. Also Summer. Catalog.

RUSSELL G. GRENON, Ph.D.  
 DIRECTOR  
 186 Stuyvesant St., Box T, Bristol, Conn.

### PRINCIPAL VISITS HERE N.Y. Russian School Sets Stiff Pace

By Cliff Cernick  
 News-Press Staff Writer

Students convinced that the going is too tough in Santa Barbara schools might change their views rather quickly if they were possible for them to see even a single day at St. Sergius High School on Park Ave. in New York City.

Anthony Grabbe, principal of the school, gave a tour during his visit to Santa Barbara the past week.

After only a few words, one knows he is a man with deep dedication to a mission: education and the spread of understanding; that his concern goes far beyond the spiritual realm.

**N.Y. CHURCH**  
 Born in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, the 35-year-old churchman became a monk and was sent by his church to Jordanville, N.Y., where he was graduated from Trinity R.O. Seminary thereafter he was on his unique administrative and educational career. Begun in 1953 as a one-week church school, the average number of students has expanded rapidly to a staff of 23.

Though the church is a sponsor of many programs, the most important is the "Father's Ship" of Father's Day.


Published Every Month by THE FEDERATED RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH  
 Volume 36  
 MAY, 1962  
 Number 1

**ST. SERGIUS HIGH SCHOOL**  
**COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL**  
 CHARTERED BY THE BOARD OF REVENUE  
 Good Institution

Curriculum includes regular high school subjects and also courses in Russian language and culture taught by experienced teachers of Russian extraction. Small classes, high standards. Conducted by lay teachers under supervision of the Russian Orthodox Greek Catholic Church. Pupils of all denominations accepted.

1100 Park Ave., N. Y. 28. LE 4-1725

**Laurel Crest Academy**



Small classes. Honors courses: Math, Science, Language. Select faculty. Beautiful campus. Pool.

Sports. Grades 9-12. P.G. Also Summer. Catalog.

RUSSELL G. GRENON, Ph.D.  
 DIRECTOR  
 186 Stuyvesant St., Box T, Bristol, Conn.

## ΑΤΛΑΝΤΙΣ

ΕΜΠΕΡΙΑ ΒΑΛΚΑΝΙΚΗ ΒΟΗΘΕΙΑ

ΤΟ ΠΛΗΡΕΣ ΡΩΣΣΟΑΜΕΡΙΚΑΝΙΚΟΝ ΓΥΜΝΑΣΙΟΝ ΤΟΥ "ΑΓΙΟΥ ΣΕΡΓΙΟΥ" ΤΗΣ ΝΕΑΣ ΥΟΡΚΗΣ

...εις τὰ πάτρια καὶ τὴν Ὀρθοδοξίαν. — Πανορθόδοξον Πανεπιστήμιον. — συνεργασία μετὰ τῶν

## The New York Times

μετὰ τῶν ἐνταῦθα ἐλληνικῶν σχολείων. Ἰδιαίτερος οἱ ῥώσοι κληρικοί ἐπιθυμοῦν νὰ φοιτοῦν οἱ μαθηταὶ τῶν εἰς τὰ ἐλληνικὰ ἐγμοτικά σχολεία, ὥστε ἀπὸ μικρᾶς ἡλικίας νὰ διδάσκωνται τὴν ὀρθόδοξον πίστιν. Διὰ τῆς τῆς αὐτῆς συνεργασίας καὶ εἰς τὸ γυμνασιακὸν ἐπίπεδον, μέγιστον θὰ εἶναι τὸ φερόμενον ὄφελος.

**RHODES** 7th Grade through High School

...ed school offering some preparation for college... Fully accredited. Outside... for catalog Day and 1... Register Now for... School... School

## INTERNATIONAL

## STUDENTS

St. Sergius has a student body comprised of many diversified ethnic and religious backgrounds. Russians, Armenians, Greeks, Jews, Arabs, Italians, Polish, Japanese, Hispanics, French, Chinese, and Americans jointly pursue their studies with appreciation and respect for their different ethnicities.

The St. Sergius student must be hardworking, industrious, have a certain level of intellectual ability, and an active desire to learn. Each student must give his best in work and effort. The course of study requires the student to develop a sound knowledge in the basic areas of secondary education.

St. Sergius takes pride in the fact that a full 100% \*\* of its students are accepted to the top colleges and universities (some students are accepted in their Junior year), and 66% of the students are awarded merit scholarships.



\*\* There has been a slight drop recently due to first- or second-year emigre students who require additional instruction.



## SCHOLARSHIP AID

Fifteen scholarships are awarded annually on the basis of prior academic achievement, teachers' recommendations, and the results of competitive examinations. Financial need, as determined by standards set by the School Scholarship Service, is an important factor in determining the awarding of scholarships.

Recently the school has found itself deluged with applications from newly-arrived Russian emigres. Most, if not all, of these students attend the school on scholarships, which puts a heavy financial strain on the school.

Annual operating funds cannot support a large scholarship program and endowment funds are sought to allow us to increase our scholarship aid.

A scholarship bearing your name can enable students to benefit from our unique program, and it identifies you with the pursuit of wisdom in the years ahead.

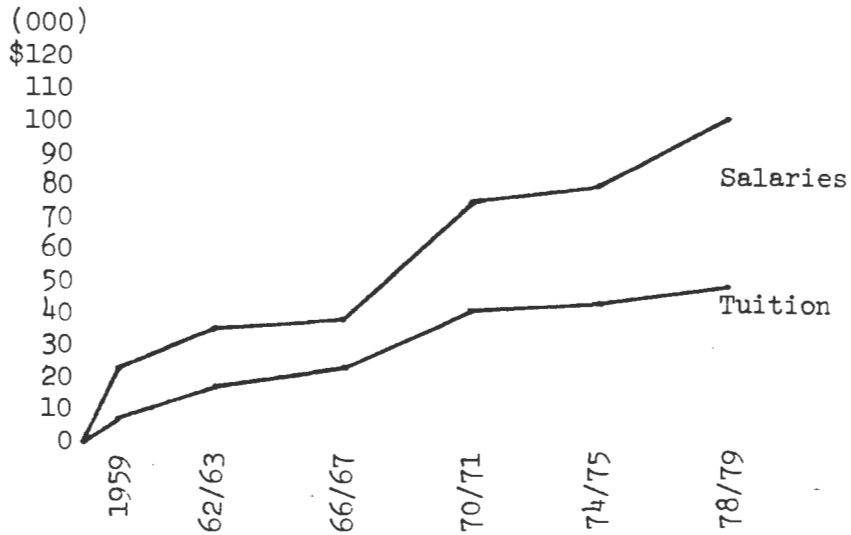
*St. Sergius High School*  
*1190 Park Avenue*  
*New York, New York 10028*  
*534-1961*

1978 - 1979 TUITION

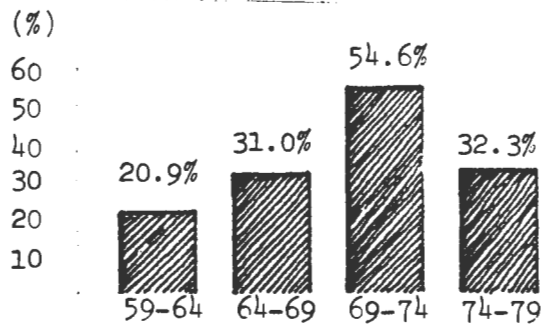
Grade VII	\$1,815
Grade VIII	2,007
Grade IX	2,172
Grade X	2,348
Grade XI	2,557
Grade XII	2,783

Relationship of Income from Tuition  
to Faculty Salaries

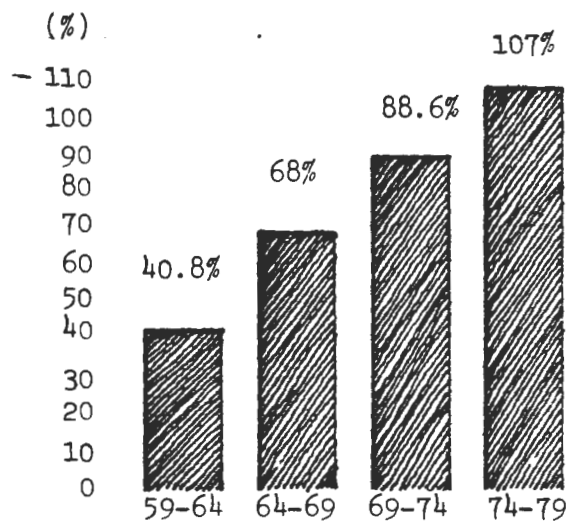
4 Year Trends



% of Costs Covered by Tuition  
over 5 Year Periods



# STUDENT ENROLMENT



# CURRICULUM

The Curriculum of St. Sergius is an ever-evolving one, responsive to new discoveries, and always seeking new methods of introducing material to the student.

Since St. Sergius is a college preparatory school, sound scholarship is a major goal. In its serious academic purpose, the school seeks to maintain high standards of academic achievement (while trying to hold down costs), and students are encouraged to advance in accordance with their abilities, beyond the prescribed requirements.

To continue to meet the demands of a top-notch secondary education, the school wants to introduce a Theatre/Drama Department and a String Orchestra/Choir, in addition to improving the science and language labs, and expanding the library.

St. Sergius also wants to implement an internship program using graduate students/professors in Russian departments as teachers, who can evaluate their own programs in relation to ours, and who will be allowed free time to research and implement new courses of study. The challenge of working with students so well versed in Russian culture and language will greatly benefit the graduate student as well as the St. Sergius student.

These programs and improvements will need funding which annual operating funds cannot support.

## FACULTY

100% of the students at St. Sergius go on to college.

This reflects the hard work and dedication of the faculty and the student body.

The St. Sergius teacher is aware that the teaching of a subject by itself will not achieve its educational goal unless moral education concurs with the intellectual.

The St. Sergius teacher communicates to the student the impetus for achievement; self-education and self-improvement. He seeks to strengthen character and sets an example of self-discipline and thoroughness in the mastery of a subject.

Above all, the St. Sergius teacher is attentive to the needs of the student, and sincere in his efforts to strengthen the student in all areas without overtaxing him.

St. Sergius seeks the means to sustain the faculty through remuneration and improved educational materials and facilities.

# STUDENT LIFE



Published by the Student Body  
of Sergils High School  
1957-1958

## CAMPAIGN GOALS

Faculty Chairs and Curriculum Development	\$1,000,000.
Scholarship Endowment	500,000.
General Endowment	<u>1,000,000.</u>
Total - Endowments	\$2,500,000.



**From:**

## **'AMERICA LEARNS RUSSIAN'**

Excerpts from the book by Professor Albert Parry, Chairman, Dept. of Russian Studies, Colgate University. Syracuse University Press, 1967.

"There is a trend, which only now is becoming clear, toward a recognition that foreign language programs...must offer a kind of tripartite training — in linguistics, in literature, and in the teaching of foreign languages. Foreign language teachers in elementary and secondary schools must be specialists in the third category. Yet it is now more and more widely recognized that they, too, must have basic training in applied linguistics, in literature, and the whole culture of the peoples who speak a particular language." (p. 182)

"Russian is well-established in all major American educational institutions, in all institutions with ambitions to be considered major, and in all the more important minor colleges. No college worthy of the name wishes to be without teachers and scholars in the field of Russian. No longer is mere native knowledge of Russian enough for one to find a position. At the same time, however, there is the real problem of the short supply of teachers with native or near native command of Russian." (p. 180)

"The extensive use of the language laboratory, with courses above the elementary level taught almost entirely in the foreign language, was an early Indiana method. The other ingredients of Indiana's success were...the emphasis upon the broad aspects of Russian culture rather than a narrow insistence on language and literature." (This University approach is similar to that used at St. Sergius High School.) (p. 143)

"This fundamental principle that has guided us...is that a foreign language is learned not so much by intellectual effort and analysis as by intensive practice." (from Layton L. Dawson Instructor's Manual, Modern Russian, New York; Harcourt, Brace & World, Inc., 1964 - page 2; page 177 in Parry's book.)

"The question is not: "How do I say this in Russian, but, rather: how do I recognize and interpret what the Russian author is saying?" (p. 149)

***EDUCATORS'***  
***OPINIONS***

"The objectives you have set forth are of special significance at this time. In seeking to make known "the positive values of the Russian culture" both in its historical perspective and in its present-day representation, you can make a solid contribution to better international understanding.

The large increase in the number of students who are studying Russian and other foreign languages stems in part from our realization that the ability to speak to foreign people in their own language gives us greater insight into their traditions and aspirations and in turn it enables these people to understand us better.

May I extend my best wishes for your success in this exciting enterprise."

James E. Allen, Jr.

Commissioner of Education  
of the State of New York,  
The State Education Department

"We in the United States are handicapped by a serious shortage of people who are fluent in the Russian language and who are conversant in the history, culture, and traditions of the Russian people. This limitation is further aggravated by a shortage of teachers who would be qualified to correct this handicap. Russian, sometimes described as a big language, is difficult to learn with the fluency our need requires, and it is in this area that St. Sergius can be of invaluable help. Students enrolled in St. Sergius learn to write and speak Russian from teachers who are expertly trained native Russians. Their studies at St. Sergius proceed in two languages: English and Russian, with a resulting fluency in both."

Dr. Anthony E. Terino

Chief of the  
Secondary School Supervision  
Bureau of the State Education  
Department of New York

# THE SCHOOL OF BETHANY

A BRANCH OF  
ST. SERGIUS HIGH SCHOOL

CHARTERED BY THE NEW YORK STATE BOARD OF REGENTS

P. O. Box 18238  
JERUSALEM

TEL. 93-7797



A thoughtful bequest by you to St. Sergius High School will help to put its ideas into action; will strengthen the school's performance; and will perpetuate your commitment to things that are worthy, constructive, and enduring.

Archimandrite Anthony Grabbe  
Principal and Founder

Telephones: Lehigh 4-1725  
1601



# St. Sergius High School

1190 Park Avenue  
New York 28, N.Y.

NEWSLETTER



1983-84



TO MARK

# SPECIAL

1959-1984

# ANNIVERSARY

# 25

VOL: 25. #10.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

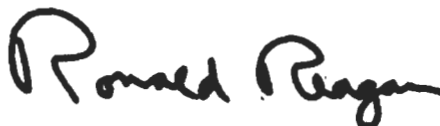
June 27, 1984

To the 1984 Class of St. Sergius High School:

Since its founding, our nation has placed the highest premium on education. In his First Annual Address to the Congress, George Washington reminded us that "knowledge is in every country the surest basis of public happiness," a theme echoed by Thomas Jefferson when he wrote a friend that no other sure foundation could be "devised for the preservation of freedom, and happiness." These are the values that are at stake in the education of every individual, and they offer a prize well worth your labors.

Today you have taken a long stride forward toward the fulfillment of your hopes and dreams, and you can feel great pride in knowing that the spirit of our nation goes with you on your journey.

Congratulations on your graduation. You have my best wishes and prayers for every future success and happiness. God bless you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ronald Reagan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "R" at the beginning.





*Telephone: Schhigh 4-1925  
1961*

# *St. Sergius High School*

*1190 Park Avenue  
New York, N. Y. 10128*

## **25TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. SERGIUS HIGH SCHOOL**

This coming Sunday, June 24th, at 3 P.M., the Thomas Watson Auditorium of the Brick Presbyterian Church on Park Avenue at 91st Street will witness the twenty fifth annual Commencement Ceremony of an exceptional educational institution. Its close neighbor, the unique American-Russian dual-lingual St. Sergius High School, situated in the landmark of former George F. Baker Jr. Mansion on Park Avenue and 93rd Street, will hold its Graduation Exercises and celebrate the 25th anniversary of its founding in 1959. At that time, the George F. Baker Jr. Mansion was acquired as the headquarters of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia by its benefactor, banker Serge Semenenko. Upon viewing of the mansion, the principal of the School, Archimandrite Anthony Grabbe, then a young member of the clergy of said Church, noted that the space in the mansion which could be allotted for educational purposes, would not only suffice for a "Sunday School", but could accommodate a full-time college preparatory secondary school.

When he shared this cherished dream of his with others, he met with a torrent of doubts and objections: it was considered totally impracticable, since a private school requires a great deal of money to open and operate. Such money was nowhere in sight. Secondly, there would have to be a sufficient number of families with school-age children able to afford the tuition of a private school within a convenient distance of the school. There was no such concentration of Russian families in the New York area.

But Father Anthony would not be dissuaded. We must see that school-children of Russian families don't forget their language or lose their cultural heritage. We must preserve in the free world a genuine and truthful representation of Russian cultural and spiritual values, to off-set the distortions and defamation which are continually disseminated by Marxists and Marxist sympathizers. "But think, Father Anthony, the school you are planning can be only a very small one; it will reach only a tiny number even of the Russian families." "The size does not matter. Even one single small candle makes the difference between total darkness and light."

"St. Sergius himself, a 13th century hermit, was alone; yet his hermit's call deep in the impenetrable forests of the Russian north became the now world-renowned Holy Trinity Monastery of St. Sergius in Zagorsk. He inspired the Russian leaders of his time to stand up and cast off the Mongol yoke which had held Russia in bondage for two hundred years."

"We want our children to treasure their Russian cultural heritage and, at

the same time, to imbibe the high values and ideals which led to the founding of the United States. We want them to assimilate the true American traits of hard work, vision, generosity, reverence, compassion, tolerance, and respect for religion, instead of disruptive contempt for discipline, authority, sobriety and morality, and infatuation with the drugs that are so widespread today."

Father Anthony's vision and faith impressed the Commissioner of Education at that time - Dr. James Allen and the Secretary to the Board of Regents, Dr. Frederick Morse and others who headed the Department of Education in Albany when he went there to apply for a Charter for his school. He received encouragement and helpful advice. Several wealthy American citizens of Russian origin, such as Prince Serge Belosselsky and his family, Captain and Mrs. Boris Sergievsky, Igor Sikorsky, and others, as well as Mrs. George F. Baker supported the School financially until they passed away.

The School started with the four upper high-school grades - the ninth, tenth, eleventh and twelfth. Since then, the school has grown and enrolls from forty to sixty pupils annually, from the 3rd to twelfth grades. Its graduates have all gained admittance to colleges, many to "Ivy League" universities.

Aside from children of Russian descent, it has among its pupils Americans of long established families, black students, Hispanics, including children of Cuban and Vietnamese refugee families who have chosen St. Sergius because of its unequivocal opposition to Marxism in all its permutations.

Since the influx of Jewish immigration from the Soviet Union, some recent emigre families have chosen to send their children to St. Sergius, because they maintain that their cultural heritage is that of Russia, and that is what they wish their children to retain.

The father of one of the students has purchased a beautiful van and transports students back and forth from remote sections of Brooklyn and Queens.

Already a number of St. Sergius School's graduates have attained important positions in various branches at international and national relations and trade.

Recognizing the vital importance of the role being fulfilled by St. Sergius in spite of seemingly insurmountable handicaps - a group of public spirited members of the Russian colony in the United States, as well as equally concerned Americans, has formed a committee called "Friends of St. Sergius", whose main objective is to raise funds to assure the continuation and expansion of the school.

The celebration of the 25th anniversary is indeed the celebration of a miracle. For the school from its inception has been founded on idealism and not on a financial basis. It has existed only on the contributions of private individuals, without any subsidies from any source whatsoever.

It owes a debt not only to its benefactors but also to a succession of dedicated members of its faculty and its Principal, Rt. Reverend Archimandrite Anthony Grabbe, who have unsparingly donated many, many hours of overtime to impart to their students the fruits of their life-long experience and learning.

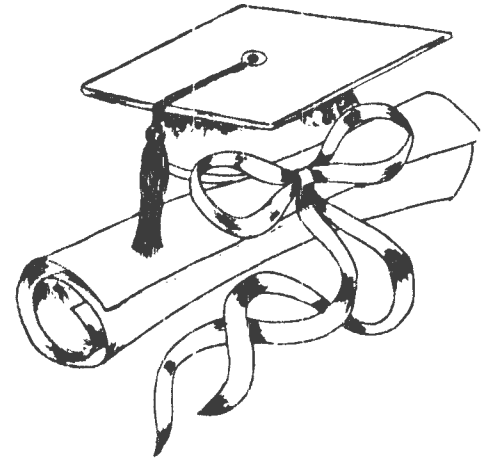
Let, therefore, today's Anniversary be a reassertion of the viability of the St. Sergius School and of its indispensability.

X \_\_\_\_\_ X

Below is a copy of the Commencement Program on the occasion of St. Sergius High School's Twenty-Fifth Anniversary. Commencement exercises were held at Brick Church on June 24, 1984.

## PROGRAM

- I Procession - Students, Faculty and Trustees
- II The National Anthem
- III The Russian Anthem
- IV Prayer - Heavenly King
- V Greetings on behalf of the Board of Trustees by  
George Lukianoff
- VI Address by Rt. Reverend Archimandrite Anthony Grabbe,  
Principal and Founder
- VII Address by Honorable John LeBouteillier
- VIII Commencement Address By  
Dr. Anthony E. Terino, Ph.D., Litt. D.  
School Consultant and Former Director  
Division of Elementary and  
Secondary School Supervision  
New York State Education Department
- IX Diplomas awarded by Dr. Anthony E Terino,  
Rt. Reverend Archimandrite Anthony Grabbe  
and Helen N. Kadesnikoff, Assistant Principal
- X Installation of Graduating Class of 1984 by  
Rt. Reverend Archimandrite Anthony Grabbe
- XI Address to the Graduating Class of 1984 by  
His Eminence Metropolitan Philaret,  
Primate of the Russian Orthodox Church  
Outside of Russia
- XII Awards presented by His Eminence Metropolitan Philaret,  
Rt. Reverend Archimandrite Anthony Grabbe  
and Helen N. Kadesnikoff
- XIII Valedictory Address by Alexander Jarotzky
- XIV Alumni Guest Speaker: Natalia Chestnoy '81
- XV Performance by School Choir
- XVI Benediction - It is meet and right . . .
- XVII Recessional



## SENIORS' BIOGRAPHIES 1984

ALEXANDER JAROTZKY was born on November 21st, 1966 in Buenos Aires, Argentina. For a short time he lived in Argentina, until his parents emigrated to the United States. Since 1973, when his father joined the army, Alexander visited many countries in Europe as well as different States in America. This traveling has allowed him to see how people live in different parts of the world, and has exposed him to various cultures.

Alexander has been going to American schools all his life until his parents found St. Sergius. He came to St. Sergius to become better acquainted with his Russian origin, and since coming here Alex has expanded his knowledge of Russian, Russian Orthodoxy and Russian culture. He is very interested in Russian History, astronomy, chess and woodcarving.

While at St. Sergius, Alex served as President of Student Council, was on First and Second Honor Rolls, Student of the Month, as well as wrote in school newspaper - Amaranth.

On June 11th, Alex was called into the Office of the Borough President of Manhattan - Andrew Stein, and received a Certificate of Excellence.

In the fall Alexander will attend West Point Military Academy.

VADIM LEV was born in Kiev, Russian, on July 12th 1966.

When he was 6½ years old, the family moved to Moscow where he went to school until the sixth grade.

With his family he started to attend St. Sergius high school in 1980. Vadim became interested reading Russian and French classics and historical books. He enjoys art, ballet and different sports. He plays ping pong and collects stamps.

While at St. Sergius he received an award in Russian History and was on the editorial staff of Russian newspaper - Gymnasist.

In the fall Vadim will attend Wagner College pursuing his Russian studies.

VIKTORIA PRANSKEVICHUTE was born on March 29th, 1966 in Samarkand, Soviet Union. When she was ten, the family moved to Vilnius, Lithuania. There she studied at Chiurlionis Institute of the Arts. Besides her studies in that school, she danced in some classical ballets at the Vilnius Academic Opera Company and Ballet Theatre.

The family left The Soviet Union in December 1982, and came to the United States, living in Chicago.

Upon their moving to New York, Viktoria was enrolled at St. Sergius for her Senior year of studies.

While at St. Sergius, Viktoria studied very hard, trying to master English language in order to pass with high grades in all her academic subjects. She also continued her career in ballet - practicing for many hours, after school.

Apart from dancing, Viktoria's hobbies include reading, making different researches in Russian history and literature and listening to classical music.

While at St. Sergius, Viktoria participated in the Russian choir and was on the staff of the Russian newspaper - Gymanasist.

In the fall Viktoria will attend Hunter College.

OLEG LAGUTENKO was born in Kiev, on January 22nd, 1966. He lived there for eleven years. In 1977 his parents decided to immigrate to United States. They went first to Austria and then to Italy.

In June 1977 Oleg came to the United States and started to attend different elementary public schools, where he had problems with the English language. When time came to attend high school, his parents enrolled him in St. Sergius where he wanted to be able to preserve his Russian heritage as well as receive an American education.

Oleg's hobbies include reading and listening to classical records. While at St. Sergius he developed an interest in Russian Music and Art, devoting much time in this field. Oleg received an award in Music and Art.

In the fall Oleg will attend Wagner College and plans to continue his education in a University which will offer Slavic and Russian studies.

TIB147(1754)(1-016051C174)PD 06/22/84 1753

ICS IPMMVIF MVN

08491 06-22 0550P CDT MVIE

ICS IPM31TI

1-0237711174002 06/22/84

TWX WHITEHOUSE WSH DLY PD

498 GOVT DLY WHITE HOUSE DC JUN 22

I AM HAPPY TO EXTEND MY WARM CONGRATULATIONS ON THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. SERGIUS HIGH SCHOOL.

AS THE ONLY FULLTIME RUSSIAN-AMERICAN SCHOOL IN THE UNITED STATES AND, IN FACT, THE ONLY RUSSIAN LANGUAGE SCHOOL IN THE FREE WORLD, ST. SERGIUS HAS A PROUD HISTORY OF SERVICE.

OUR GREAT NATION IS BLESSED TO HAVE SO MANY CITIZENS OF RUSSIAN DESCENT WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED IN SO MANY IMPORTANT WAYS TO OUR CULTURE. I RECOGNIZE THE DEEP RELIGIOUS FAITH HELD BY RUSSIAN AMERICANS AND HOPE WITH ALL MY HEART THAT RELIGIOUS FREEDOM WILL RETURN TO THE LAND OF YOUR HERITAGE.

NANCY JOINS ME IN SENDING A SPECIAL NOTE OF CONGRATULATIONS TO FR. ANTHONY GRABBE, WHO FOUNDED ST. SERGIUS AND NOW SERVES AS ITS PRINCIPAL. MAY THIS BE A VERY SPECIAL TIME FOR ALL WHO GATHER TO CELEBRATE THIS IMPORTANT HISTORIC MILESTONE.

SINCERELY,

RONALD REAGAN

1745 EST

NNNN

ALFONSE M. D'AMATO  
NEW YORK

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

June 19, 1984

Saint Sergins High School  
1190 Park Avenue  
New York, New York 10028

Dear Friends,

Your recent invitation to attend the Twenty-Fifth Commencement Exercises on June 24 was received with much appreciation. Thank you for thinking of me.

However, I regret that I am unable to be with you for such an occasion. Although nothing would give me greater pleasure, my schedule restricts me to a previous commitment.

Please convey my personal greetings and best wishes to all those in attendance.

Warmest regards.

Sincerely,



Alfonse M. D'Amato  
United States Senator

AMD/eb

BILL GREEN  
15TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK  
COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEES:  
HUD-INDEPENDENT AGENCIES  
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

WASHINGTON OFFICE:  
1110 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515  
(202) 225-2436

NEW YORK OFFICE:  
GRAND CENTRAL POST OFFICE BUILDING  
110 EAST 45TH STREET  
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10017  
(212) 828-4466

June 24, 1984

Father Anthony Grabbe  
Founder and Principal  
St. Sergius High School  
1190 Park Avenue  
New York, New York 10128

Dear Father Grabbe:

Thank you for your kind invitation to attend the Graduation and Twenty-fifth Commencement Exercises of the St. Sergius High School. I regret that I am unable to be with you today but please accept my heartiest congratulations on this special day as you celebrate St. Sergius' Silver Anniversary.

To the graduates, I wish to say that graduations mark an ending but more importantly they signify an exciting beginning. Equipped with the education you received at St. Sergius, all of you are prepared to pursue your dreams and mold your future into whatever you wish. I extend to all of you my best wishes for the coming years.

As St. Sergius enters its twenty-sixth year, I hope that it will continue to prosper and grow for many years to come.

All the best.

Sincerely,



Bill Green  
Member of Congress

BG/dh

# TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

## Commencement Exercises

BRICK CHURCH HALL

June 24th, 1984

### SPRING END-TERM

### HONOR ROLL

#### FIRST HONOR ROLL

SERGEI BRUSSOVANSKY

ANGELA GUTEVICH

ELENA STARITSKAYA

TERESA TRAN

#### SECOND HONOR ROLL

LEV PARNAS

ALBERT DAVIS

ALEXANDER BRUSSOVANSKY

MAYANDE GOWON

ALEXANDER JAROTZKY

VICTORIA PRANSKEVICH

#### THE SCHOOL PROGRAM

- VII. English, World Geography, Physical Science, Mathematics, Russian, Russian Physical Geography (1/2), Old Testament (1/2), Art (1/2), Music\* (1/2), Physical Education (1/2)
- VIII. English, American History, Earth Science, Mathematics, Russian, Russian History (1/2), New Testament (1/2), Art (1/2), Music\* (1/2), Health Education (1/2), Physical Education (1/2)
- IX. English, Ancient and Medieval History, Fundamentals of Science, Algebra I, Russian, Introduction to Russian History and Geography (1/2), The Gospels (1/2), Art (1/2), Music\* (1/2), Physical Education (1/2)
- X. English, Modern European History, Biology, Plane Geometry, Russian, Russian Economic Geography (1/2), Liturgics (1/2), Music\* (1/2), Physical Education (1/2)
- XI. English, American History, Chemistry, Algebra II and Trigonometry, Russian, Russian History I (1/2), Religious and Moral Philosophy (1/2), Music\* (1/2), Health Education (1/2), Physical Education (1/2)
- XII. English, History Seminar, Physics, Analytic Geometry and Calculus, Russian, Russian History II, Russian Music and Art (1/2), History of Christianity and the Russian Church (1/2), Music\* (1/2), Physical Education (1/2)

\*Elective

#### DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS

Courses	Units
English	4
Health Education	1/2
History	3
Mathematics	3
Russian	4
Russian Geography	1/2
Russian History	1 1/2
Russian Music and Art	1/2
Science	3
Theology	1 1/2
	<hr/>
	21 1/2

(Physical Education is required each year for all students.)



# НОВОЕ РУССКОЕ СЛОВО

PRESIDENT AND EDITOR IN CHIEF  
ANDREI SEDYCH.

В минувшее воскресенье, 24 июня, состоялся торжественный годовой акт в Свято-Сергиевской гимназии. На сей раз он совпал с юбилеем: 25-летием существования гимназии.

Свято-Сергиевская гимназия основана архимандритом Антонием Граббе и является единственной американо-русской общеобразовательной школой (с 3 по 12 класс) в Америке. Это уникальная двуязычная школа, в программу которой, помимо обязательных предметов американской школы, включены курсы по языку, истории, географии и культуре России. Гимназия дает своим ученикам хорошее образование, достаточное, чтобы поступить в любой колледж.

В связи с юбилеем вручение дипломов и похвальных грамот выпускникам и ученикам гимназии на сей раз происходило в особо торжественной обстановке. Акт открылся процессией учеников гимназии и педагогов во главе с директором архимандритом Антонием и ассистентом директора Еленой Кадесниковой, в ней также участвовали бывшие выпускники школы. После исполнения американского и русского гимнов и пения молитвы перед собравшимися выступил Георгий Лукьянов, член совета школы.

Отец Моков прочел поздравительную телеграмму от президента США Роналда Рейгана.

Нина Аловерт

## СЕРЕБРЯНЫЙ ЮБИЛЕЙ

Президент поздравил о. Антония с юбилеем гимназии, отметил вклад русских американцев в культуру США и пожелал от всего сердца, чтобы религиозная свобода вернулась в Россию.

Приветственные телеграммы прислали также сенатор Альфонсо Д'Амато, член Конгресса Билл Грин и мэр Эдвард Коч.

Директор гимназий архимандрит Антоний в актовой речи рассказал о создании гимназии 25 лет назад. В заключение он

обратился к ученикам гимназии: "Все сказанное может служить вам примером, как надо строить, созидать в вашей жизни, если только вы хотите быть полезными членами общества. Сначала ВЕРА в свою идею, НАДЕЖДА на помощь Божию, ТРУД, большой ТРУД, укрепляемый духом ИДЕАЛИЗМА..."

Конгрессмен Ле Бантильо в своей речи выразил надежду, что молодые американцы русского происхождения, которые учатся сейчас в гимназии, помо-

гут американскому народу понять то, что сейчас происходит в Советском Союзе.

С приветствием в адрес школы выступил консультант школы в течение всех 25 лет ее существования д-р Энтони Е. Террино.

Митрополит Филарет, глава Русской Православной Церкви За рубежом, не мог присутствовать, как обычно, на торжественном акте из-за недомогания и прислал приветствие выпускникам.

После поздравительных речей состоялось вручение аттестатов об окончании гимназии выпускникам, одетым в традиционные мантии и шапочки, а также — грамот ученикам, успешно закончившим учебный год.

Со словами благодарности к директору и учителям школы обратился выпускник Александр Яроцкий, а также бывшая выпускница гимназии, одна из самых лучших ее учениц Наталья Честная, сейчас студентка Бернанд колледжа.

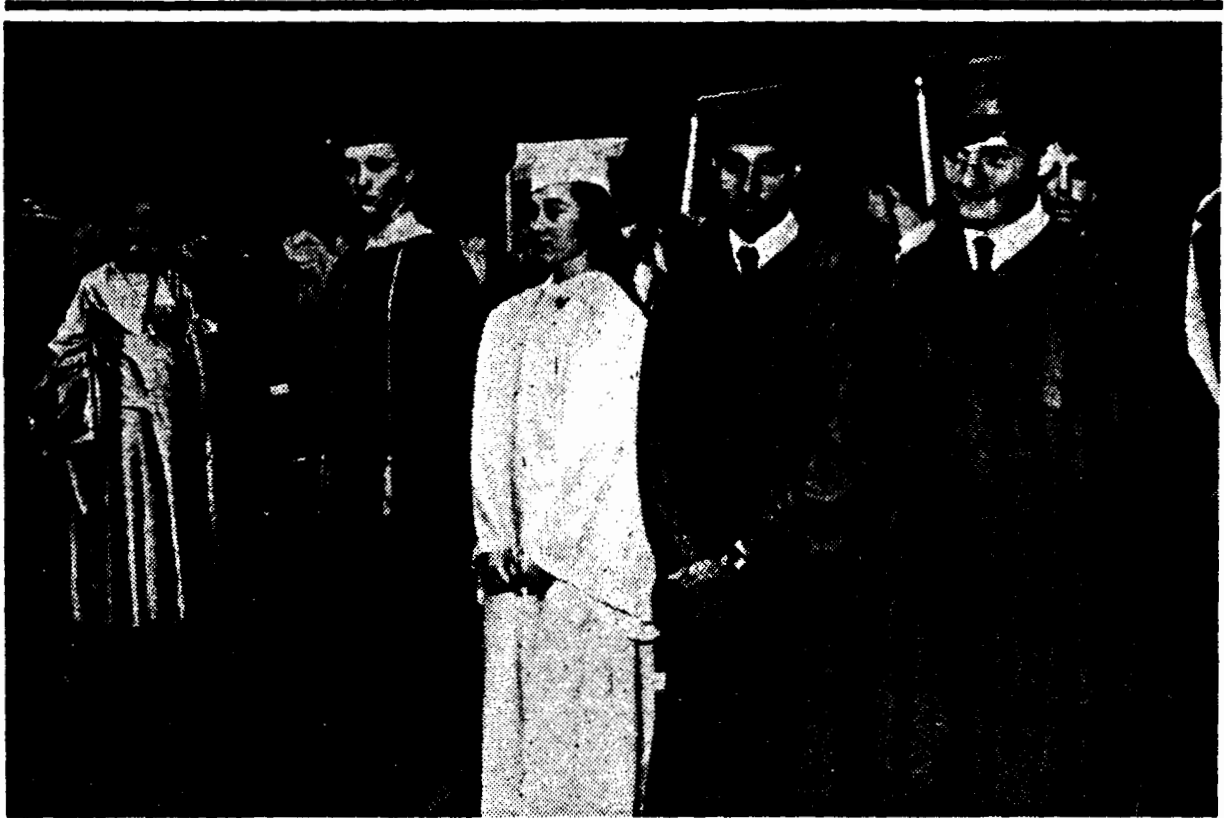
Архимандрит Антоний вручил подарки старейшим педагогам гимназии, ее друзьям и покровителям.

В заключение детский хор исполнил несколько русских песен.

Пением молитвы закончился этот торжественный акт 25-летия Свято-Сергиевской гимназии.



Директор гимназии архимандрит Антоний и выпускники (слева направо): Александр Яроцкий, Виктория Пранскавичиуте, Олег Лагутенко, Вадим Лев



Mike Lima — New York Tribune

The proud St. Sergius High School Class of 1984: From left, they are Alexander Jarotzky, Viktoria Pranskevichiute, Oleg Lagutenko and Vadim Lev. The four-person graduating class comes from a student body of 45.

## Small high school graduates 4, celebrates 25

By Eugene Curtin  
NEW YORK TRIBUNE STAFF

A graduation ceremony more concerned with quality than quantity took place in Upper East Side.

Four students from the 45-member St. Sergius High School, at Park Avenue and 91st Street, received their diplomas. The four graduates have chosen to continue their educations at West Point, Hunter College and Wagner College.

The high school was celebrating its 25th anniversary after being founded in 1959 by a Russian Orthodox priest, Father Anthony Grabbe, still serving as its principal.

St. Sergius believes itself to be "the only Russian-American bi-

lingual school in the free world." Its aim is to preserve in its students a sense of Russian "cultural and spiritual values" while incorporating "the high values and ideals that led to the founding of the United States."

While small in size, the school has many friends. Both Sen. Alfonse D'Amato, R-N.Y., and President Reagan sent the class congratulatory telegrams.

"As the only full-time Russian-American school in the United States and, in fact, the only Russian-language school in the free world, St. Sergius has a proud history of service," Reagan said. "I recognize the deep religious faith held by Russian-Americans, and hope with all my heart that reli-

gious freedom will return to the land of your heritage."

Former Rep. John LeBoutillier, described the graduates as "ambassadors of the Russian people" in his commencement address.

"Though small in number, you will have an important impact in educating people that we have a valued ally in the Soviet people and a common enemy in the Soviet government," LeBoutillier told the graduates.

Graduating were Alexander Jarotzky, 17, who will attend West Point Military Academy; Oleg Lagutenko, 18, who will attend Wagner College; Vadim Lev, 17, who also will attend Wagner College; and Viktoria Pranskevichiute, 18, who will attend Hunter College.



Telephone: Lhigh 4-1725  
1961

# St. Sergius High School

1190 Park Avenue  
New York, N. Y. 10128

## AWARDS

JUNE 24, 1984

MONICA TRAN

outstanding achievement in Russian Fl(7-9)

SERGEI BRUSSOVANSKY

outstanding achievement in Russian Fl(10-12)

ANDREY PORTNOV

outstanding achievement in Russian G(7-9)

VIKTORIA PRANSKEVICH

outstanding achievement in Russian G(10-12)

MAYANDE GOWON

outstanding achievement in Russian History  
(7-10)

VADIM LEV

outstanding achievement in Russian History  
(11-12)

GENNADY KULIK

outstanding achievement in Russian Geography  
(7-10)

VIKTORIA PRANSKEVICH

outstanding achievement in Russian Geography  
(11-12)

MARIA IKHILOVA

outstanding achievement in Religion(7-9)

ELENA STARITSKAYA

outstanding achievement in Religion (10-12)

VIKTORIA PRANSKEVICH

outstanding achievement in Russian Music/Art  
10-11-12

SERGEI BRUSSOVANSKY

outstanding achievement in English (7-10)

TERESA TRAN

outstanding achievement in English 11-12

ALEX KRUTIANSKY

outstanding achievement in History (7-10)

ELENA STARITSKAYA

outstanding achievement in History (11-12)

EUGENE KOLTUNOV

outstanding achievement in Science (7-9)

SERGEI BRUSSOVANSKY

outstanding achievement in Science (10-12)

MONICA TRAN

outstanding achievement in Mathematics (7-9)

SERGEI BRUSSOVANSKY outstanding achievement in Mathematics (10-12)  
SERGEI BRUSSOVANSKY THE HIGHEST ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT IN THE SCHOOL  
MARIA IKHILOVA outstanding achievement in English (as Second Language) (7-9)  
VIKTORIA PRANSKEVICH outstanding achievement in English (as Second Language 10-12)

SERGEI BRUSSOVANSKY  
ALEXANDER BRUSSOVANSKY EXEMPLARY SCHOOL CITIZENSHIP  
MAYANDE GOWON  
ALEXANDER JAROTZKY

TERESA TRAN  
AKSANA BALAGULA DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL SERVICE

BRUSSOVANSKY SERGEI  
BRUSSOVANSKY ALEXANDER PERFECT PUNCTUALITY  
SAADA MEHMET  
ALBERT DAVIS

AKSANA BALAGULA outstanding participation in the activities of CHOIR

SPECIAL AWARDS:

AATSEEL CERTIFICATE:

"	"	TERESA TRAN
"	"	ALEXANDER BRUSSOVANSKY
"	"	SERGEI BRUSSOVANSKY
		MAYANDE GOWON

CAMILLE BROWN outstanding participation in the activities of Student Council

LAURA POBUKOVSKY outstanding achievement in Art

Commencement Exercises

3.

DANIELLE PRUSSAKOV

Exemplary Neatness

JUNIOR AWARDS: (grades 1 - 7)

ANGELA GUTEVICH

outstanding achievement in English (3-7)

TAMIKA MOLLISON

outstanding achievement in Russian Fl (1-7)

DANIELLE PRUSSAKOV

outstanding achievement in Russian G(3-7)

HELEN FAKTOROVICH

outstanding achievement in Religion (3-7)

VICTOR VEDMED

outstanding achievement in Science(3-7)

ANGELA GUTEVICH

outstanding achievement in Math (3-7)

ANGELA GUTEVICH

outstanding achievement in Russian History (3-7)

ANGELA GUTEVICH

outstanding achievement in Social Studies (3-7)

---

VICTOR VEDMED

outstanding participation in Russian Newspaper  
GYMNASIST

TERESA TRAN

outstanding participation in American Newspaper  
AMARANTH

---

OLEG LAGUTENKO

American Society for the  
Preservation of Russian Monuments and Culture

6/24/84



# St. Sergius High School

1190 Park Avenue  
New York, N. Y. 10128

June 22nd, 1984

VALEDICTORY ADDRESS by ALEXANDER JAROTZKY '84

Your Eminence, our dear Father Anthony,  
Dr. Terino, Congressman LeBouteillier,  
Members of the Board, Faculty, Parents, Students  
and my Fellow Seniors,

Today we witness the commencement exercises of the 25th year of St. Sergius. I have gone to this school for only one year, but this one year has opened new insights on life for me and has been one of the most fruitful school years for me. This year I made some very special friends and met some very interesting people. I will fondly remember them many years from now, and I hope that they will remember me as well.

Starting now, a part of my life, and the lives of my fellow seniors has ended. Our last link to childhood has been broken by this diploma. Now we must follow the steps of our predecessors and make our own paths in the world. I know that the education we received here at St. Sergius will help us, as it helped the graduates of past years, to succeed in life. This school provides a

high standard of education which is not available in many other schools. The students who have the privilege of going to this school can be proud, and can be assured that the quality of their education is high.

St.Sergius gives the Russian born students the ability to preserve and to practise their language and their culture. The school also gives the opportunity to the more recent arrivals from the USSR to become better acquainted with the English language, and with the Western, or more specifically, the American way of life. For the non-Russian Students this school lets them observe and learn about Russian culture and the Russian language, which is so vital in today's world.

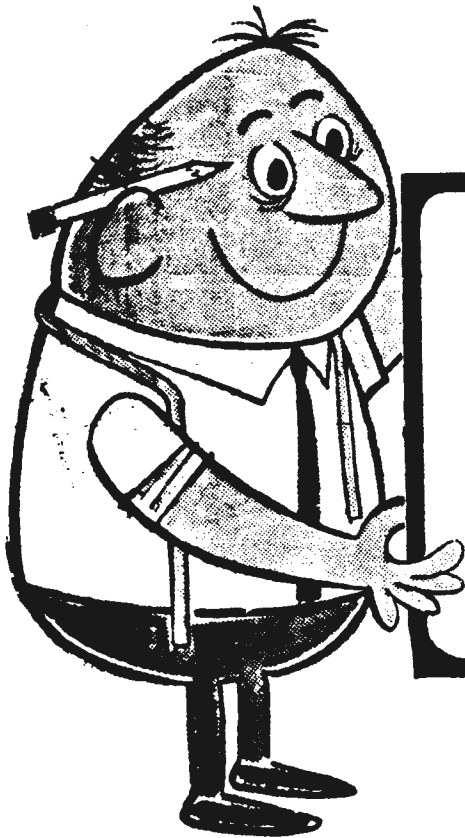
Some policies of St.Sergius may seem harsh or unnecessary to the students, especially the younger ones. But they will come to realize, as I did, that firmness and strictness teach self-discipline, which is a very important trait that seems to be lacking in many people of the present generation. In this school I saw that students and teachers have closer relations than in other schools. This closeness allows true respect to be given by the students that would not be present in larger schools.

To day, as we the members of the class of 1984 receive our diplomas, it is a time to review our accomplishments and to plan for the future. Although this piece of paper may seem to be a small gain for all our years of study, our real gains cannot be seen, they are in our minds and in our hearts. Our future may seem hard and unclear, but I believe that with the knowledge we have gained here

at St.Sergius, and with the grace of God, we will succeed in life and we will be an example for the other students behind us to follow.

Also, I would like to thank not only from me but from all seniors of 1984--His Eminence Metropolitan Philaret, our Principal, Father Anthony, Assistant Principal Helen N. Kadesnikoff, Director of Studies, Karis Hall, and all the faculty-- for giving us such great care and opportunities.

THANK YOU



TEACHER OF THE YEAR

LONNY LOCKWOOD



# The Sounds of Three Russians

By EDWARD SCHNEIDER

**P**rokofiev, Rachmaninoff and Shostakovich: three Russian composers whose lives followed three different courses after the upheavals of World War I and the 1917 revolution. Sergei Prokofiev left Russia during the war and lived in Paris from 1922 to the early Thirties, when he returned home to become an important figure in Soviet music. Sergei Rachmaninoff departed in the year of the revolution and spent the remainder of his life in the West, dying in Beverly Hills, Calif., in 1943. Dmitri Shostakovich stayed through all the artistic vicissitudes of the Soviet era, inevitably affected by them but maintaining his own, impressive musical voice.

While in Paris, Prokofiev had composed several scores for Serge Diaghilev's Ballets Russes (his "The Prodigal Son" came, appropriately enough, only a few years before his return to Mother Russia's ample bosom); among his Soviet compositions too, ballets are important. "Romeo and Juliet" and "Cinderella" are certainly among the most rewarding of Prokofiev's works; as much for their effect in the theater as for their intrinsic musical value.

While "Cinderella" is performed often by major ballet companies, complete recordings have lately been unavailable. Now there are two digital versions in the catalogue, one from EMI/Angel (DSB 3044) and one from London (410 102-1LH2—each two disks). The first is performed by the London Symphony Orchestra under André Previn and the second by the Cleveland Orchestra led by Vladimir Ashkenazy, who is doing more and more conducting nowadays. The contest is a close one. Ideally, in fact, one would like to choose individual movements from each set, but in balance Previn's is the more satisfying version; his beautifully expressive shaping and the LSO's splendid playing win the day over the relatively low-key reading by Ashkenazy and the Cleveland.

Quite different from the romantic lyricism of "Cinderella" is the defiant brashness of the piano works of Prokofiev's student days: "Visions fugitives," Op. 22, comprises 20 brief sketches (some of them less than a minute long) written over a period of several years. Some are funny, some dreamily evocative—all sound

Edward Schneider writes frequently about recorded music.



Sergei Rachmaninoff

rather French. Along with another student work, "Sarcasms," and the simpler, less appealing "Pensées," Op. 62, they have been very nicely recorded (on Musical Heritage Society MHS 4791A) by Sedmara Zakarian who captures every nuance of this varied collection.

Prokofiev's piano works include several on a larger scale, among them five piano concertos (not all of them available on disk at present). The third, in G major, is given a pleasant reading by Cécile Ousset and the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra under Rudolf Barshai on EMI/Angel ASD-1077851, which, however, lacks some of the sparkle and magic called for by this work (on side two is Poulenc's melodious Piano Concerto).

When we talk of pianist/composers, of course, we cannot omit Rachmaninoff. He too wrote five piano concertos, one of which remains unpublished, and three of them have been newly, gorgeously recorded: the first and fourth by Zoltán Kocsis with the San Francisco Symphony under Edo de Waart (Philips digital 6514 377) and the third by Jorge Bolet with the LSO under Ivan Fischer (London digital LDR-71106).

These are all "typical" Rachmaninoff, sharing an almost overwhelming romantic élan and an irresistible flow of lyricism and lush instrumentation, rooted in the same Russian melodic tradition (so hard to define, but so easy to recognize) as virtually all the other works mentioned here.

Both Bolet and Kocsis easily meet the substantial demands placed upon them, playing with all the requisite fire and brilliance, and both recordings are very clear and well balanced. The Philips release, however, is more likely to fill a gap in your collection: there are something like 16 other readings available of the third concerto, but recordings of the first and fourth are comparatively sparse.

Also charming, if a little less stupendous, is Rachmaninoff's Symphony No. 4, which joins modal, Gypsy, Russian Orthodox and Roman Catholic melodic elements in a colorful, emotional, and well-constructed work. It is given a fine, suitably turbulent performance by Amsterdam's Concertgebouw Orchestra under Vladimir Ashkenazy (London digital LDR 71103).

The same composer's "Trio élégiaque," written on the death of Tchaikovsky, is cast in a different mold altogether. It is a muted, nearly Brahmsian work—it is Rachmaninoff for people who don't like Rachmaninoff—and the Eastman Trio does it full justice on a Turnabout release (TVC 37019), the only available recording of the piece.

The suites for two pianos are not as far off the beaten track, but they are not terribly well known. The first suite ("Pictures," Op. 5) consists of four short pieces, each based on a poem. There is a bit of tone painting (sightingales twittering over rippling evening breezes, and church bells you will recognize from "Boris Godunov") and there are some pretty textures, as there are in the second suite (Op. 17), with its spooky tarantella. The playing by the sisters Göher and Söher Pekinel is crisp and delicate, with impeccable ensemble (on DG 2531 345).

Shostakovich, the one who stayed, wrote two cello concertos, both for Mstislav Rostropovich (who left). The first of them, in E flat major, was recently recorded—along with Samuel Barber's cello concerto—by Raphael Wallfisch and the English Chamber Orchestra conducted by Geoffrey Simon (Chandos digital ABRD 1065). The outer movements are marked by incisive rhythms—they share a sharp four-note motive, for instance—and ingeniously devised orchestral sounds, and the work is of interest and beauty. Wallfisch does a lovely job in the more intense lyrical passages, but there are intermittent pitch problems and a lack of warmth in the biting first movement. The recording quality is high, with natural balances, a wide dynamic range and clean surfaces.

# Star Vega May Have Solar-Like Comet Cloud

By George Alexander  
Los Angeles Times Service

LOS ANGELES — The solid material discovered by a heat-sensitive astronomy satellite last year around the star Vega may be a cloud of comets similar to the one girdling the fringes of the solar system, a planetary astronomer at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California, says.

There are also hints of an asteroid belt and an indeterminate number of planets closer to the star, according to the astronomer, Paul R. Weissman.

Mr. Weissman's analysis, described by other astronomers as "reasonable" and "consistent," suggests that Vega and the sun may be similar systems that formed in much the same way from an initial cloud of dust and gas. Vega, however, is only about 100 million years old, whereas the solar system is 4.5 billion years old.

If so, then perhaps Vega also has several planets encircling it. Such a finding would renew the longstanding debate about the possibility of life elsewhere in the universe.

Writing in the June 1 issue of the journal Science, Mr. Weissman said the shell, or ring of particles that the Infrared Astronomy Satellite discovered around the star, 26 light

years from the solar system, is approximately minus 152 degrees centigrade (minus 306 degrees Fahrenheit) and the ring of particles itself is almost 8 billion miles (12.94 billion kilometers) away from the star. This is so cold and at such a distance from the star that it can only consist of icy objects, he said.

These are properties that most astronomers associate with comets. Mr. Weissman believes the objects are "cometary nuclei" very similar to the comets in the so-called "Oort Cloud" surrounding the solar system. Named after the Dutch astronomer Jan Oort, now in his 80s, the cloud contains 200 billion to 2 trillion comets thought to be the frozen matter left from the formation of the solar system.

What the satellite's telescope saw during its 10-month lifetime in space in 1983 was the faint warmth coming from extremely tiny grains of dust and ice around Vega. Everything above a temperature of absolute zero has some heat and emits that energy as infrared radiation.

The Vega particles are so small that the wind streaming off that star should have long since blown them all away. The fact that there is anything at all there to radiate means that something is continuously replacing the lost grains with new ones.

Mr. Weissman believes these grains are from the cometary nuclei that every now and then collide with one another and produce a shower of pulverized debris. Although these larger parent bodies, too big to be blown away, could not be seen with the crude resolution of the Infrared Astronomy Satellite telescope, the scientist has calculated that they range in size from about five to 75 miles in diameter. That would make them about the same size as those in the Oort Cloud.

A California Institute of Technology astronomer and member of the satellite science team, Professor B. Thomas Soffel, said: "We know that the Oort Cloud surrounding our own solar system is spherical in shape, although everything else — the planets and the asteroid belt — lies in a flattened disk."

He added that "the satellite data shows the dust around Vega to have roughly the same dimension in two directions. That implies sphericity and lends support to [Mr. Weissman's] hypothesis that the material around Vega is like a cometary cloud."

Mr. Weissman also said there appears to be an "edge of sorts" on the inner part of the Vega cloud, suggesting an absence of tiny grains nearer the star perhaps because of objects sweeping up the grains there.

JORDAN TIMES, SATURDAY MAY 26, 1984

## PEANUTS



## Archaeologists

### discover 1,500-year-old tomb

GUATEMALA CITY (R) — Archaeologists have discovered a 1,500-year-old painted Maya Tomb in a remote jungle area in northeastern Guatemala, the leader of the expedition said Wednesday. Archaeologist Richard Adams of the University of Texas told reporters the tomb, untouched by looters, contained a skeleton and several pieces of ceramics. It dated back to between 420 to 470 A.D., the early classical period of Maya culture. The Mayas were an agricultural people who built ceremonial centres in cities in Mexico and Central America from about 300 to 900 A.D. but relatively little is known about their culture, archaeologists said. Adams' expedition, partly financed by the National Geographic Society, began exploring the site in the eastern province of Peten last year, uncovering several tombs that had been robbed by looters. Mayan artefacts fetched large sums in the United States and Europe. Adams said 15 pieces of pottery were discovered with the skeleton, which he said was probably that of a male relative of a local ruler buried in a pyramid nearby.

**PRESS**

**RELEASE**

THE RUSSIAN ECCLESIASTICAL MISSION  
IN JERUSALEM  
DABBAGHA STREET 25  
JERUSALEM

June 15, 1984

**ATTACK ON JERICHO ROAD**

On Friday, 15 June at 10:45 a.m. Archimandrite Anthony Grabbe, Chief of the Russian Ecclesiastical Mission, was returning from Amman when about 15 minutes after leaving Jericho his car was stopped by 2 men in IDF uniforms, waving machine guns. They had set up a partial road block with a large stop sign and when the car slowed down they waved it over to the side of the road and made Father Anthony, the Mission's accountant, and the chauffer get out. They forced them into an army car ( which the police say is stolen) and drove into the surrounding hills.

Threatening them with the machine guns, they made them lie down on the floor of the car, fired their guns at the tires so that the car could not be used and ran back to the highway where they took the Mission's car and drove off.

The accountant and chauffeur were unhurt but Father Anthony was struck on the head, with the butt of a Machine gun, received a gash and suffered loss of blood and a minor concussion, He was also struck in the leg and about the body.

Police are now investigating the matter most carefully. Many officials have called to express their concern.

# THE JERUSALEM POST

Vol. LII, No. 15634 Monday, June 18, 1964 • Sivan 18, 5744 • Ramadhan 18, 1404 IS120

## Two men attack, rob church official

By HAIM SHAPIRO  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Police yesterday continued their hunt for two men who on Friday attacked and robbed Archimandrite Anthony Grabbe, head of the White Russian Ecclesiastical Mission, as he was returning from Amman on the Jericho-Jerusalem road.

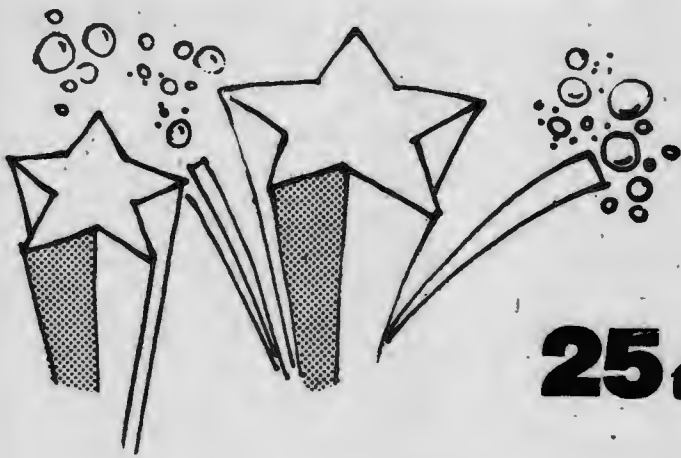


Archimandrite Grabbe (Barzilay)

The robbery took place as Grabbe was making his way to Jerusalem in the mission's large black limousine, accompanied by his chauffeur and accountant. Two men, dressed in Israel Defence Forces uniforms, set up a road block and ordered the passengers out at gunpoint, police reported.

Police said the two men forced the three into a stolen IDF vehicle, made them lie down on the floor of the car, and then drove into the hills where they fired into the tires. The robbers then returned to the limousine, in which they made their getaway.

The archimandrite, who suffered a gash and a minor concussion, was taken to Hadassah Hospital, Ein Kerem, for out-patient treatment. The other two passengers were not injured.



**25**th ANNIVERSARY

## ST. SERGIUS HIGH SCHOOL

1190 Park Avenue  
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10028

Archimandrite Anthony Grabbe, *Principal*

St. Sergius High School, accredited by the New York State Board of Regents, is the only bi-lingual high school in the country offering six years of Russian, plus courses in Russian History, Geography and Art.

The School, which was founded in 1959 by Right Reverend Archimandrite Anthony Grabbe, also offers an accredited program of College Preparatory subjects.

St. Sergius, located on Park Avenue in the middle of Manhattan, caters to a small, select student body in Grades 3-12.

The building unit contains a chapel, classrooms, science and language laboratories, a library, an assembly hall, and offices. The playing fields and athletic facilities of nearby Central Park are used for physical education.

The ratio of Faculty members to students is approximately 1 to 7.

Admissions are made in Grades 3-12 to students of all ethnic and religious backgrounds. Financial aid is available to a limited number of qualified candidates each year.

Most graduates plan careers in teaching, government, or diplomatic service; all have been admitted to leading colleges and universities, including Georgetown, Columbia, Barnard, Vassar, Fordham, Hunter, Indiana, Syracuse, and New York University.

Intra-mural sports and a program of extra-curricular activities is also available for all students.

A Student Council meets regularly with a faculty advisor and acts as liaison between students and faculty. Student organizations include a Russian instrumental band, a choir, a drama club, a fencing club, a newspaper club, and a science club.

The School also sponsors a chapter of the National Junior Honor Society and a chapter of the National Honor Society.



# ST. SERGIUS HIGH SCHOOL

*a college preparatory*

*day school*

*for boys and girls*

