Parish Council President: Ron Royhab

V. Rev. Archpriest Andrew Bartek, Rector



Saturday, July 18, 2021

Gospel: St. Matthew 8:5-13

4th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST / Fathers of the 1st Six Ecumenical Councils Martyr Emilian of Silistria in Bulgaria / Martyr Hyacinth of Amastridea

JULY Bulletin Sponsor:

From Father Andrew in memory of his deceased relatives in the month of July

Liturgical & Events Schedule

Sunday, July 18

9:05 am: Hours / Divine Liturgy / Mem. Sunday/ Social / Council Meeting

Monday, July 19

4:00 pm Respect Life Meeting

Thursday, July 22

6:00 pm Lions Club Meeting

Saturday, July 24

4:00 pm: Great Vespers

Sunday, July 25

9:10 am Hours / Divine Liturgy / Social

JULY BULLETIN CANDLE SPONSORS

Bulletin: (\$50) Fr. Andrew in memory of his deceased relatives in July

Chandelier: (\$50) From Ed & Irene to the eternal memory of the Archpriest Fr. Sava Chaly in repose for Thirty Years

Altar Candles: (\$50) From Basil in loving memory of his parents Anthony & Mary Martha

Candles on the Tomb: (\$25) Fr. Andrew in memory of Protodeacon John Youhos

Eternal Light & Icon Screen: (\$25) Fr. Andrew

in memory of Alice Sutko

Candles @ the Cross: (\$15) Open

Candles at St Tikhon's: (\$15) For the Health of Sloane, Tim, safety of Nicholas, Tikhon and

Gleice



JULY CHURCH CLEANING **SCHEDULE**



July 18-24: Tina July 25-3: Laura

110 E Main Street, Marblehead, OH 43440 www.holyassumptionmarblehead.org

VIGILS-JUNE 27

Tone 3

Epistle: Romans 6:18-23

Susan Guzy (1) Special intentions

Laura Kovach (4) Safe travel for family; For healing and recovery of Sloane, David, and Hattie; For health of Betty, Ben, Earl, Mary, Bill, Brenda, Andrea, Wendy, Mark, Dana, Bodhi, Molly, and Doug; Memory Eternal to Larry Keller.

Sandy Martin (1) Special intentions

Jim Mazur (1) Special intentions

Royhab (1) For health and healing of our daughter-in-law Stephanie

Twarek (10) Birthday blessings to Carter 6/26; God's blessing for health & recovery of child Sloane; God's blessings & strength to Sarah, Mat and family; Health & recovery of Doug, David, Rebecca & Skye, and Arrianna; Health of Nikki and Stefani and their unborn babies; God's blessings and continued health and recovery to child Ezra; Health and recovery of Ron, Jim, and Laura; Health of Helen Lis and Tina's dad Earl, Matt, Tom, Loren, Joe, Sonya, Jason, Margi & Joe, Betty, MaryAnn & Bob, Judy, Chuck, Bohdi, Diane, Stella, Jake, Cheryl; Special intentions; Special intentions

BUILDING / RESTORATION FUND

Our 125th Anniversary is coming! Fund Purpose: To collect funds to pay for the restoration, repair and beautification of the building and parish room. This will avoid using general funds which are earmarked for budgetary

Please consider contributing generously to the Building/Restoration Fund.

Rectory 419-798-4591 / Cell 570-212-8747 info@holyassumptionmarblehead.org

JUNE: OTHER INCOME

Goal for the month in this category: \$2,670

Sunday, June 6: \$37 candles; \$100 Vigils; \$120 Holy Day Donations; \$50 Bulletin; \$50 Chandelier; \$25 Tomb Candles; \$15 Cross Candles

Week Total: \$397

Sunday June 13: \$25 Candles; \$80 Vigils; \$121.69

Donations; \$100 Chandelier

Week Total: \$326.69

Sunday, June 20: \$73 Candles; \$125 Vigils; \$438

Holy Day

Week Total: \$636

Sunday, June 27: \$32 Candles; \$125 Vigils; \$65 Donations; \$230 Holy Day Donations; \$50 Bulletin; \$25 Eternal Light; \$25 Candles on the tomb

Week Total: \$552 MONTH TOTAL: \$1.911.69

JUNE: MONTHLY TITHE ONLY

Goal Pledged per month: \$4,825

Sunday, June 6:\$ 978Sunday, June 13:\$1,179Sunday, June 20:\$1,098.77Sunday, June 27:\$1,202,43TOTAL:\$,4,458.20

RESTRICTED FUND DONATIONS RECEIVED IN JUNE

Sunday, June 6: \$100 Baby Bottles Sunday, June 13: \$250 Special Collections St Tikhon's Seminary; \$100 Restoration Fund Sunday, June 27: \$100 Catastrophic; \$130 St Tikhons Seminary; \$30; \$100 Restoration Fund

FINAL JUNE FINANCIAL'S

Income: \$6,329.98 Expenses: \$8,116.53

TOTAL FOR MONTH: -\$1,786.55

YTD

Income: \$44,605.60 Expenses \$58, 621.78

TOTAL THRU JUNE 30: -\$14,016.18

Archbishop Paul's Travel Schedule: June 26-July 25

Christ the Savior, Byesville, OH, July 16th to 18th

Fr. Benjamin Johnson to be elevated to rank of Archpriest

St. Luke Orthodox Church, Palos Hills, July 24th to 25th

Ordination of Sub Deacon Steve Hansen to the Diaconate

LITURGICAL ATTENDANCE FOR JUNE / JULY

Sunday May 16: 17 attended Liturgy / 13 Communicants

Sunday, May 23: 23 attended Liturgy including 2 guests; 17 Communicants

Sunday, May 30: 23 attended Liturgy including 5 guests / 11 Communicants

Sunday, June 6: 23 attended Liturgy including 3 guests / 15 communicants

Wednesday June 9: 9 attended Liturgy (Leavetaking of Pascha)

Thursday, June 10: 8 attended Liturgy

Sunday, June 13: 28 attended Liturgy 11 of which were guests / 18 Communicants

Saturday, June 19: 11 attended Vespers of which 2 were guests

Sunday, June 20: 25 attended Liturgy of which 4 were guests / 14 Communicants

Sunday, June 27: 29 people attended Liturgy (10 were visitors) / 14 Communicants

Sunday, July 4: 38 people attended Liturgy (19 were visitors)

Sunday, July 11: 23 attended Liturgy (5 were visitors) / 9 Communicants

For Your Prayers

Diane Tryon

109 Joslyn Street Arcadia, OH 44804

PRAYER LIST- UNDATED JULY 15

HIERARCH'S / CLERGY: His Beatitude, Metropolitan Herman; Archbishop Benjamin from San Fransico / John Duranko (Father's home pastor); James Gleason (Father's Spiritual Father); Moses Barry; Gregory Grivna; Emilian Hutnyan; Joseph Von Klarr; Peter Tutko; John Zabinko / Deacon Paul Gansle

MATUSHKII: Pani Patricia Duranko; Doreen Aasen; Virginia Lecko; Maura McCarntey; Snezanna Ruzic; Margaret Zabinko

PARISHIONERS & THEIR FAMILIES: John Beadle (Elchisco); Kristen (Cassell); Maryann Cook (Twarek); Michael Glovinsky; Shirley Gresh (Glovinsky); Ben Grosik (Hritsko); Joseph Habegger (Kovach); Mitch Hagmaier (Royhab); Ellie Hritsko; Charisee (Hileman); Betty Kovach; Terri Lariccia (Father); David LaValle (Father); Helen Lis; Child Stephanos (Loizos); Scott Lucas (Father); Jim Mazur; David Mazurik; Judy Mazurik; Child Stella Miller (Elchisco); Nancy Naiser (Royhab); Earl Rindfleisch; Helen Jean Rofkar (Elchisco); Joe Rose; Sonya Rose; Ron Royhab; Maryann Royhab; Patricia Schritzinger (Soski); Steven Schirtzinger (Soski); Valerie Schutt; Dacia Snider (Hileman); Doris Toth (Hritsko); Diane Tryon; Greg Tyron; Tom Twarek; Tim; the child Bodhi (Cassell); Elinor Williams (Golob); Nikki Williams & her unborn baby

OTHER REQUESTS: Child Ezra; Mark Britton (Hritsko); Sandy Cafaria (Hileman) Ernest Cornwell (Hritsko); James Crane (Hritsko); Baby Finn (Cassell); Marge Dziama; Ruthe Flewelling; Ben Franklin (Kovach); Theodore Geletka (ABL); Donald Gresh (Glovinsky); Elizabeth Jannakos (ABL); Gabriel Jones (ABL); Andrea Joy (Kovach); Ann Marie Krynock (Timko); Melinda Kuzara (AB List); Jake Lipstraw (Twarek); Mark Ludvik (Guzy); Mark Masica (Kovach); Pauline Meath (Father); Infant Sloane Swanton (Twarek); Janice Timko; George Timko; Loren Welch (Father); Chuck Wiedenhoft (Twarek); Sara (Jake); Amanda & her unborn baby (Father)

MILITARY: Alex, Nathan Brown, Craig Cassell, Jake Ellithorpe, Jordan Fulton, Alena Grabavoy, Nicholas & Tikhon

CAPTIVES: Metropolitan Paul (Orthodox Archdiocese of Aleppo), Archbishop John Syriac Archdiocese of Aleppo, The UN & IOCC humanitarian aid workers in & around Syria; Those suffering persecution in Iraq, Syria, Israel, Egypt, Ukraine and throughout the world

Matthew 8:5-13 (Gospel)

Now when Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to Him, pleading with Him, saying, "Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, dreadfully tormented." And Jesus said to him, "I will come and heal him." The centurion answered and said, "Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof. But only speak a word, and my servant will be healed. For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it." When Jesus heard it, He marveled, and said to those who followed, "Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel! And I say to you that many will come from east and west, and sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven.But the sons of the kingdom will be cast out into outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." Then Jesus said to the centurion, "Go your way; and as you have believed, so let it be done for you." And his servant was healed that same hour.

TENTATIVE READERS

Sunday, July 18: Joe Sunday, July 25: Tim

40 DAY REMEMBRANCE

Aug 1: Victims of building collapse in FLAug. 15: Police officer

from IN

Metropolitan Tikhon presides at the Divine Liturgy at St. Nicholas Russian Cathedral in New York City

On Sunday, July 11, 2021, with the blessing of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill, His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon presided at the Divine Liturgy at New York City's Saint Nicholas Patriarchal Cathedral in conjunction with the visit of His Eminence Hilarion (Alfeyev) Metropolitan of Volokolamsk and Chairman of the Department for External Church Relations of the Moscow Patriarchate.

Concelebrating with the two hierarchs were clergy of the Cathedral and Priest Alessandro Margheritino, Secretary of the Orthodox Church in America.

After the Divine Liturgy, the two hierarchs exchanged warm greetings, expressing joy at the opportunity to again enjoy communion and fellowship together after a hiatus due to the worldwide pandemic.

His Eminence Hilarion shared the brotherly greetings of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill, and presented His Beatitude with a gift from His Holiness. His Eminence pointed out that among the many events and celebrations affected by the pandemic was the 50th anniversary of the granting of autocephaly to the Orthodox Church in America. Metropolitan Hilarion noted how the Church in America is the fruit of missionary work of the Russian Orthodox Church, and in 1970 went from being a daughter Church to a beloved sister.

His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon thanked His Eminence for the warm hospitality and remarked how joyful it was to be at this historic Church built by Saint Tikhon, a beloved saint of both Churches. His Beatitude also noted that the saints of the day, the venerable Sergius and Herman, Wonderworkers of Valaam, are also beloved common saints. From the monastery in Valaam came Saint Herman of Alaska and his companions to plant seeds in America laying the foundations of what later grew into the autocephalous Orthodox Church in America.

The hierarchs were then hosted for lunch at the cathedral. At this time, they had fruitful discussions regarding various matters of mutual interest and concern.

Watch a recording of the Hierarchical Liturgy on the YouTube channel of Saint Nicholas Patriarchal Cathedral.

A photo gallery can viewed on the OCA website and Facebook page. Another photo gallery can be viewed on mospat.ru.

Department of Evangelization Releases 12 More Free Brochures for Download

The Department of Evangelization of the Orthodox Church in America has made 12 more free printable brochures available for download. The newest titles are topics dealing with Evangelism and Great Lent. The remainder of the pamphlets in the series will be updated through Q3 of 2021. A PDF text field has been included on the back section of the pamphlet for parishes and other ministries to include important contact information using the freely available Adobe Acrobat Reader or other PDF program. The original announcement can be read here.

You can support the ongoing projects of the Departments of the OCA by considering a gift to the Stewards of the OCA. Your financial support is crucial to the success of these endeavors! For questions about the work of the Departments, contact Father Thomas Soroka at tsoroka@oca.org.



Romans 6:18-23 (Epistle)

And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness. I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves of righteousness for holiness. For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. What fruit did you have then in the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life. For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

JULY Celebrations		
ANNIVERSARIES	BIRTHDAYS	
10- Matt & Rachel Adamcio	3- Kim Whitham	12- Joe Stokley
16- Peter & Stephanie Kowal	3- Brantley Williams	12- Joey Hileman
07-22-2002: Retired Metropolitan Herman (Elected	4- Stephanie Kowal	12- Ethan Feldman
as Primate)	4-Stephen Holly	12- Aubrey Feldman
24- Frank & Lori Batura	5- Pani Stacey Mihaly	17- Jonah Bremer
27- Greg & Natalie Twarek	5- Bodhi Cassell	20- Alison LaValle
30- Tim & Jennifer Heffernan	8- Ed Vangeloff	25- James Malchisky
	11- David Lavalle	27- Matthew Lariccia
	12- Justin Stokley	
NAMESDAY		
7-31: Archbishop Benjamin of San Francisco		

If there are those names to be added or removed, please contact Fr. Andrew. He would like to list all members of your family Orthodox and non-Orthodox.

Holy, Glorious Prophet Elijah Commemorated on July 20

The Holy Prophet Elijah is one of the greatest of the prophets and the first dedicated to virginity in the Old Testament. He was born in Tishba of Gilead into the Levite tribe 900 years before the Incarnation of the Word of God.

Saint Epiphanius of Cyprus gives the following account about the birth of the Prophet Elijah: "When Elijah was born, his father Sobach saw in a vision angels of God around him. They swaddled him with fire and fed him with flames." The name Elijah (the Lord's strength) given to the infant defined his whole life. From the years of his youth he dedicated himself to the One God, settled in the wilderness and spent his whole life in strict fasting, meditation and prayer. Called to prophetic service, which put him in conflict with the Israelite king Ahab, the prophet became a fiery zealot of true faith and piety.

During this time the Israelite nation had fallen away from the faith of their Fathers, they abandoned the One God and worshipped pagan idols, the worship of which was introduced by the impious king Jereboam. Jezebel, the wife of king Ahab, was devoted to idol worship. She persuaded her husband to build a temple to the pagan god Baal, which led many Israelites away from the worship of the true God. Beholding the ruin of his nation, the Prophet Elijah began to denounce King Ahab for impiety, and exhorted him to repent and turn to the God of Israel. The king would not listen to him. The Prophet Elijah then declared to him, *Con't Next PG*

JULY Reposed		
20- Mitered Archpriest Sava Chaly (1991) Former Pastor		
20- Anna Zavada Bartek (1924)		
21- Anna Mazurik (1973)		
27- Father Vladimir Meschersky (1937) Former Pastor		
29- Sally Franklin (2018)		
29- Robert Zgonc (2018)		
29- Charles Hagmaier (2018		
Triantafilos Lefas (1995)		
Mary Danchisen (1927)		
Michael Wolf (1929)		

Prophet Con't

that as punishment there would be neither rain nor dew upon the ground, and the drought would cease only by his prayer. Indeed, the word of Elijah was a torch (Eccles. 48: 1). The heavens were closed for three and a half years, and there was drought and famine throughout all the land.

During this time of tribulation, the Lord sent him to a cave beyond the Jordan. There he was miraculously fed by ravens. When the stream Horath dried up, the Lord sent the Prophet Elijah to Sarephta to a poor widow, a Sidonian Gentile who suffered together with her children, awaiting death by starvation. At the request of the prophet, she prepared him a bread with the last measure of flour and the remainder of the oil. Through the prayer of the Prophet Elijah, flour and oil were not depleted in the home of the widow for the duration of the famine. By the power of his prayer the prophet also performed another miracle: he raised the dead son of the widow.

After the end of three years of drought the Merciful Lord sent the prophet to appear before King Ahab, and promised to send rain upon the earth. The Prophet Elijah told the king to order all of Israel to gather upon Mount Carmel, and also the priests of Baal. When the nation had gathered, the Prophet Elijah proposed that two sacrificial altars be built: one for the priests of Baal, and the other for the Prophet Elijah who served the True God.

The Prophet Elijah told them to call on their gods to consume the sacrificial animals with fire, and he would call on his. Whichever was first to send fire on the sacrifice would be acknowledged as the true God. The prophets of Baal called out to their idol from morning till evening, but the heavens were silent. Towards evening the holy Prophet Elijah built his sacrificial altar from twelve stones, the number of the tribes of Israel. He placed the sacrifice upon the wood, gave orders to dig a ditch around the altar and commanded that the sacrifice and the wood be soaked with water. When the ditch had filled with water, the prophet turned to God in prayer. Through the prayer of the prophet fire came down from heaven and consumed the sacrifice, the wood, and even the water. The people fell down to the ground, crying out: "Truly, the Lord is God!" Then the Prophet Elijah had all the

pagan-priests of Baal put to death, and he began to pray for rain. Through his prayer the heavens opened and an abundant rain fell, soaking the parched earth.

King Ahab acknowledged his error and repented of his sins, but his wife Jezebel threatened to kill the prophet of God. The Prophet Elijah fled into the Kingdom of Judea and, grieving over his failure to eradicate idol worship, he asked God to let him die. An angel of the Lord came before him, strengthened him with food and commanded him to go upon a long journey. The Prophet Elijah traveled for forty days and nights and, having arrived at Mount Horeb, he settled in a cave.

The Lord told him that the next day Elijah would stand in His presence. There was a strong wind that crushed the rocks of the mountain, then an earthquake, and a fire, but the Lord was not in them. The Lord was in "a gentle breeze" (3 Kings 19: 12). He revealed to the prophet, that He would preserve seven thousand faithful servants who had not worshipped Baal.

Later, the Lord commanded Elijah to anoint Elisha into prophetic service. Because of his fiery zeal for the Glory of God the Prophet Elijah was taken up alive into Heaven in a fiery chariot. The Prophet Elisha received Elijah's mantle, and a double portion of his prophetic spirit.

According to the Tradition of Holy Church, the Prophet Elijah will be the Forerunner of the Dread Second Coming of Christ. He will proclaim the truth of Christ, urge all to repentance, and will be slain by the Antichrist. This will be a sign of the end of the world.

The life of the holy Prophet Elijah is recorded in the Old Testament books (3 Kings; 4 Kings; Sirach/Ecclesiasticus 48: 1-15; 1 Maccabees 2: 58). At the time of the Transfiguration, the Prophet Elijah conversed with the Savior upon Mount Tabor (Mt. 17: 3; Mark 9: 4; Luke. 9: 30).

Orthodox Christians of all times, and in all places, have venerated the Prophet Elijah for centuries. The first church in Russia, built at Kiev under Prince Igor, was named for the Prophet Elijah. After her Baptism Saint Olga (July 11) built a temple of the holy Prophet Elijah in her native region, at the village of Vibuta.

In iconography the Prophet Elijah is depicted ascending to Heaven in a fiery chariot, surrounded with flames, and harnessed to four winged horses. We pray to him for deliverance from drought, and to ask for seasonable weather.

VIGILS-JULY 4

Many Blessed Years to

Newly Illumined

Christian Cleis

Welcome Home!

VIGILS-JULY 11

Basil Glovinsky (1) Health and recovery of Diane

Susan Guzy (1) For the health and recovery of Don Smith

Laura Kovach (4) For healing and recovery of Sloane, David, and Hattie. For health of Betty, Ben, Earl, Mary, Bill, Brenda, Andrea, Wendy, Mark, Dana, Bodhi, Molly, Margi, Joe, and Doug. Birthday blessings to Kathy and Michelle; Special intentions.

Sandy Martin (1) Special intentions

Jim Mazur (1) Special intentions

Payhab (1) For health of any do

Royhab (1) For health of our daughter-in-law Stephanie

Diane Tryon (2) In loving memory of Grandma and Grandpa Glovinsky for their birthdays

Twarek (10) In loving memory of my Godmother Aunt Ella on her birthday 7/12; God's blessing for health & recovery of child Sloane; God's blessings & strength to Sarah, Mat and family; Health & recovery of Doug, David, Rebecca & Skye, and Arrianna; Health of Nikki and Stefani and their unborn babies; God's blessings and continued health and recovery to child Ezra; Health and recovery of Ron, Jim, and Laura; Health of Helen Lis and Tina's dad Earl, Matt, Tom, Loren, Joe, Sonya, Jason, Margi & Joe, Betty, Mary-Ann & Bob, Judy, Chuck, Bohdi, Diane, Stella, Jake, Cheryl; Special intentions; Special intentions

Laura Kovach (4) Safe travel for family; For healing and recovery of Sloane, David, and Hattie; For health of Betty, Ben, Earl, Mary, Bill, Brenda, Andrea, Wendy, Mark, Dana, Bodhi, Molly, and Doug; Special intentions.

Sandy Martin (1) Special intentions

Jim Mazur (1) Special intentions

Twarek (10) Birthday blessings to Brantley 7/3; God's blessing for health & recovery of child Sloane; God's blessings & strength to Sarah, Mat and family; Health & recovery of Doug, David, Rebecca & Skye, and Arrianna; Health of Nikki and Stefani and their unborn babies; God's blessings and continued health and recovery to child Ezra; Health and recovery of Ron, Jim, and Laura; Health of Helen Lis and Tina's dad Earl, Matt, Tom, Loren, Joe, Sonya, Jason, Margi & Joe, Betty, MaryAnn & Bob, Judy, Chuck, Bohdi, Diane, Stella, Jake, Cheryl; Special intentions; Special intentions



Holy Assumption Market Days

110 E. Main St. Marblehead 9:00-2:00 or until sold out

Saturday June 12 June 26 July 10 July 24 FEATURING

Hot Kielbasa and Kraut Sandwiches Spanakopita—Greek

spinach & feta pie
Tiropita—Greek cheese pie

Perohi— potato & cheese with butter and onion (ready to heat and eat) Cinnamon Buns Nut Horns Poppy Seed Rolls Nut Rolls Kolachi Baklava

Giant Cookies

ADVANCE ORDERS CAN BE PLACED PRIOR TO SALE BY EMAIL info@holyassumptionmarblehead.org OR LEAVE A PHONE MESSAGE AT 419-798-4591

Follow us on Facebook at Halupki Festival and on our website at www.holyassumptionmarblehead.org for future events.

HALUPKI FESTIVAL is on SUNDAY 8/15

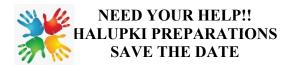
JULY: MONTHLY TITHE ONLY Goal Pledged per month: \$4,825

Sunday, July 4: \$928.66 **Sunday, July 11**: \$920

JULY: OTHER INCOME

Goal for the month in this category: \$2,670

Sunday, July 11: \$25 Candles; \$75 Vigils; \$170.82 Donations; \$50 Altar Candles; 15 Candles @ St. Tikhons Candles



Sunday, July 25- Core the cabbage

Monday, July 26- Steaming the cabbage



Many Years, Your Beatitude!

Today, Friday, July 15, 2021, marks the 55th birthday of His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon.

Metropolitan Tikhon was born in 1966, the eldest of three children born to Francois and Elizabeth Mollard.

The Holy Synod of Bishops, Clergy, Monastics and Faithful of the Orthodox Church in America, offer their love and prayers today and in the many years to come for His Beatitude. May our Lord continue to grant him peace, prosperity, safety, honor, health and length of days "rightly dividing" the word of God's truth.

Eis polla eti, despota! May God grant you many years, Your Beatitude!

Chrysostom and the Wise Stewardship of Our Money

Question

Recently I came across some quotes from St. John Chrysostom concerning wealth which I find disturbing. First, he writes, "our money is the Lord's, however we may have gathered it." Second, God allows us wealth "not for you to waste on prostitutes, drink, fancy food, expensive clothes, and all the other kinds of indolence, but for you to distribute to those in need." He also writes that wealth is theft, not because it was stolen as a means of gaining wealth, but because keeping it is to deprive others of their needs: "To deprive is to take what belongs to another; for it is called deprivation when we take and keep what belongs to others." Chrysostom's words seem to go against the spirit of the Gospel that beckons and knocks, as opposed to bullying people into submission. Also, Orthodoxy teaches not only asceticism but feasting, so I don't understand why he is so condemning of all excess. Chrysostom's words keep me feeling condemned about spending any money on vacation, eating out, etc. I understand not spending money on prostitution, but the rest seems a bit harsh, almost to the point on anti-materialism. Does he really mean we shouldn't ever spend money on anything other than the very basic needs and then "the poor."

Answer

YOU WRITE: Recently I came across some quotes from St. John Chrysostom concerning wealth which I find disturbing. First, he writes, "our money is the Lord's, however we may have gathered it."

RESPONSE: This is the very basis of Christian stewardship. Everything we possess—our time, our talents, and our treasures ["money," material possessions]—are gifts from God and, as such, they ultimately belong to Him. They are given to us by Him; we, in turn, are called to be good stewards of His gifts, as Saint Paul writes. [A "stewards" is a "manager."

Hence, a "Christian steward" wisely manages God's gifts.]

YOU WRITE: Second, God allows us wealth "not for you to waste on prostitutes, drink, fancy food, expensive clothes, and all the other kinds of indolence, but for you to distribute to those in need." Con't Next Page

Stewardship Con't

RESPONSE: If our wealth is a gift from God—a gift we are called to steward or manage wisely—then it would follow that using our wealth to fund our obsessions or passions or carnal pleasures is sinful, wouldn't it?

Does not Scripture call upon us to distribute a portion of our wealth to those in need? And are we not called to overcome our passions and obsessions, our preoccupation with ourselves to the exclusion of others, especially "the least of the brethren?"

YOU WRITE: He also writes that wealth is theft, not because it was stolen as a means of gaining wealth, but because keeping it is to deprive others of their needs: "To deprive is to take what belongs to another; for it is called deprivation when we take and keep what belongs to others."

RESPONSE: In light of the above, if one accumulates wealth for the exclusive purpose of accumulating wealth, is this not theft, inasmuch as one's wealth is not being managed wisely for the good of others, the needy, the poor? Is this not completely consistent with the gospel in which Christ points out the foolishness of the man who builds bigger barns in which to store his harvest, only to die that very night and leave it all behind? And is not what Chrysostom writes here fully consistent with "how does it profit a man to gain the whole world and to lose his soul?"

One aspect of wise stewardship, of the wise management of God's gifts, is to share it with those in need. [Is this not what we are commanded to do by Christ, Who says that we will be judged on how readily we fed the hungry, clothed the naked, gave drink to the thirsty, etc., in response not only to their needs, but also in response to our willingness to acknowledge His very presence in them?] If we have more than we can possibly need or use, and we know of others who have nothing, is not withholding God's gifts to us from them theft?

This does not mean that we must give away everything, leaving ourself in abject poverty. Neither Saint John Chrysostom, nor Christ Himself, teaches us to do this. What it means is that a portion of what we have is to be shared—and not just a "token amount" simply to fulfill an expectation or "the minimum." In the OT, this was the 10% tithe; in the NT, we

discover that we are asked to give the "first portion" that is, to set aside the first portion of our treasures [or, in contemporary terms, our pay check] for the work of God and for the poor, using the remainder for ourselves [but not on prostitutes, booze, and frivolous things that would constitute an unwise use of God's gifts]. All of this applies to every gift with which we have been blessed, and not just to money. For example, our ability to speak is a gift from God, yet is it not possible that we can use this gift unwisely, by gossiping, by slandering others, by taking the Lord's name in vain? Sight is a gift from God, yet is it not possible that we can use this gift unwisely, by viewing pornography or reading less-than-edifying literature or snooping on others? These gifts can also be abused, or improperly managed too.

THE ABOVE IS TAKING FROM OCA WEB-SITE. WE WILL CONTINUE NEXT WEEK WITH IS TOPIC



Your are cordially invited to a potluck meal following Divine Liturgy

Sunday, August 1, 2021

Commemorating Fr. Andrew's 4-Year Anniversary with Holy Assumption O.C.

(August 1 begins the Dormition Fast-meal will be fasting.)

Menu so far:

- Pierogi casserole
- Vegetarian stuffed grape leaves
- Meatless chili
- Tossed salad
- Decorated cake

All are invited (spouse/children too!). RSVP by responding to Laura (kovachjl@gmail.com) or via text/phone at 419-341-2385 with number of attending and what dish you wish to contribute.

If cooking/baking isn't your thing, WINE is always FINE!

Food - Fun - Music

64th Annual

Halupki Festival

Sunday August 15, 2021

Holy Assumption Orthodox Church 110 E. Main Street ~ SR 163 Marblehead, Ohio

Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.



Free Admission
Free shuttle service
Parking nearby

Carpatho-Russian Dinner

Serving begins at 11:30 a.m. 2 Halupki 2 Perohi Kielbasa Baklava

Roll & Butter

Eastern European Ala Carte

Serving begins at 2:00 p.m. Halupki – Perohi – Kielbasa & Kraut Bratwurst– Halushki & Cabbage Spanakopita and more



Historic Church Tours

Live Polka Music *Wooden Dance Floor* Frank Moravcik Orchestra

Ed Klimczak Band

Herman Halupki's Craft Fest



35+ vendors Contact Wayne 419-626-1040

Main Raffle & Hourly 50/50

Rusyn (Pysanky) Easter Egg Art

Face Painting & Balloon Animals with Sillie Tillie

Bounce House

For More Information Call 419-798-4591 FaceBook at 'Halupki Festival' Our website www.holyassumptionmarblehead.org Email info@holyassumptionmarblehead.org