



Sunday, September 24, 2017

Gospel: St. Luke 5:1-11

Tone 67

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 6:1-10

16th Sunday after Pentecost / Holy Protomartyr & Equal-to-the-Apostles Thecla

Holy Assumption Orthodox Church

OCA - Diocese of the Midwest

Parish Council President: Ronald F. Royhab

Fr. Andrew Bartek, Rector

Liturgical & Events Schedule

Sunday, September 24

9:15 am: Hours

9:30 am: D.L. / Panachida for Peter Rindfleisch & 40 Day remembrances

Noon-4:00pm: Calling hours for Nora Bird

Monday, September 25

10:30: Funeral Mass @ St Joes

Wednesday, September 27

6:00 pm: Village Board Meeting

Saturday, September 30

4:00 pm: Great Vespers

Sunday, October 1

9:15 am: Hours

9:30 am: D.L. / 40 Day for Howard Schutt / Social / Change Altar Linens

3:00 pm: Father to attend clergy event in Cleveland

MONTHLY ATTENDANCE RECORD

Sept. 3:

Attendance: 39 People (24 adults; 4 children; 10 guests, 33 Communicants)

Total Collection: \$765-offerings

Sept 10:

Attendance: 20 People (16 adults; 2 children; 2 guests, 13 Communicants)

Total Collection \$1,815: (\$636 - offerings; \$1,039 - in fundraising; Special Collection for Hurricane Harvey - \$140)

Sept 13: Attendance: 7 people Vespers (Feast Day)

Sept 14: Attendance: 9 people Liturgy (Feast Day)

September 17:

Attendance: 32 People (26 Adults; 3 children; 3 guests; 20 Communicants)

Total Collection \$3,143: \$2,913 offerings; Special Collection for Hurricane Harvey - \$230)

VIGIL LAMP OFFERINGS- September 17

Marguerite Bird: (1) Special Intentions

Laura Kovach: (3) for the Health of Briar & Harry; in Memory of Mary Karniotis; Special Intentions

Stephanie Kowal: (1) in Memory of Mary Kariotis

David & Roddie Mazurik: (4) Special Intentions; safe travel; Health and Blessing for Nora Bird; in Memory of Mary Kariotis

Joe & Valerie Schutt: (3) in Memory of Rose Haburt, Dorothy Czuha, LaVerne Schutt

Janice Timko: (1) in Blessed & loving Memory of my parents, Sophia & Peter Monak.

Natalie Twarek: (4) in Memory of Mary Karniotis; birthday blessings to Wyatt; health & recovery of Nancy & Richie, Pete, Dave, Sue, Morgan, Jake, Ron, Diane, John, Judy, Helen, Janice; Special Intentions.

KEEPING UP WITH OUR ATHLETES

(updated 10-17)

Cooper & Quincy Kowal

Soccer : 1-4-1

Cole Heffernan

Football:1-2

Mary Rentz-Blacford

Soccer: 1-0

Volleyball: 2-2

Good Luck to all of you!

NOTE: Please let Fr. Andrew know of any past week updates by Wednesday.



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padrebartek@gmail.com

Registration opens for 19th AAC vendors

In conjunction with the 19th All-American Council [AAC] of the Orthodox Church in America, slated to convene at the Saint Louis, MO Union Station Hotel July 23-27, 2018, an extensive exhibit hall will be available to vendors wishing to display and market their goods and services.

“The vendor/display areas will be centrally located, thereby offering a great opportunity for maximum exposure to Council participants,” said Archpriest Eric G. Tosi, OCA Secretary. “The area will be opened for extended time periods to maximize contact with delegates and guests.”

Vendors will find an introductory letter, prospectus, contracts, and related information on the AAC web site. The deadline for reserving vendor/display space is May 25, 2018. Space is limited, so early registration is highly encouraged. All fees must be sent to the 19th All-American Council, c/o Melanie Ringa, PO Box 675, Syosset, NY 11791. Final payment for booths is due by June 15, 2018.

For questions and/or additional information, please contact the Local Committee Exhibition Co-chairs, Ken Herman at kryanherman@gmail.com or Paul Reuschhoff at pdRueschhoff@sbcglobal.net.

40 Day Remembrance

- September 24: Terrorist attacks in Spain & the mudslide victims in Sierra Leone
- October 1: Howard Schutt
- October 8: Sacramento deputy killed in line of duty
- October 15: Lois Tuttamore
- October 22: Mary Kamiotis
- October 29: Nora Bird / Those that lost their lives in the Mexico earthquake

Danbury Food Pantry: September → Canned Fruit

Join the other churches in our community & donate canned fruit.. These food items are then distributed on the third Saturday of each month.

SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER
Canned Fruit	Laundry Detergent	Jars of spaghetti sauce

OUR SHUT-INS

Edgewood Manor Nursing Center
1330 Fulton Street
Port Clinton, OH 43452
Anne Kovalik- Room 309

BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY UPDATES

Fr. Andrew would like to update the Birthday and Anniversary lists. Please send him the dates of your family, (children & grandchildren too!) Remember, your families are our families here at Holy Assumption! Email address: padrebartek@gmail.com.

Is a hospital visit in your near future? Or outpatient treatment?

As much as possible, please notify Father Andrew ahead of time so he can bring you the Sacraments and anoint you with Holy Oil.

Please don't hesitate to call Father Andrew **any time, day or night**, for an emergency.

Rectory: 419-798-4591
Cell: 570-212-8747



Memory Eternal

Mary Kamiotis, grandmother to Stephanie & great grandmother to Quicy & Cooper, who fell asleep in the Lord on September 14. Funeral to take place on Saturday September in Detroit. Further details to follow!

Nora Bird, mother of Denny Bird, fell asleep in the Lord on Wednesday September 20. The Funeral arrangements:

Today Sunday September 24: Noon-4:00pm (Wake)
Monday, September 25 @ 10:30 at St. Joe's Catholic Church here in Marblehead.

May their memory be eternal!

September Schedules

Readers

09-04: David
09-10: Wayne
09-17: Tim
09-24: Natalie or Ron

Cleaning

09-04 Laura Kovach
09-11 Sandy Martin
09-18 Roddie Mazurik
09-25 Ron & Bobbie Royab

Prayer List (Updated September 24)

Priests: His Beatitude, Metropolitan Theodosius; His Beatitude, Metropolitan Herman; Ted Bobosh; John Duranko (Father's home pastor); Joseph Gibson; James Gleason (Fathers Spiritual Father); Paul Lazor; Myron Manzuk

Matushkii: Laryssa Hutnyan; Carol Janecek; Pani Patricia Duranko

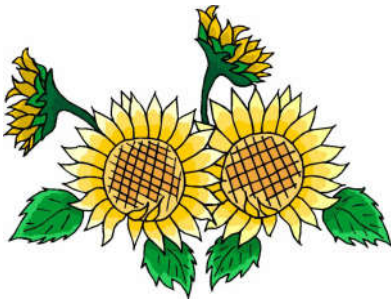
Parishioners / & their Family: Michael Glovinsky (*Nephew to Basil*) Joseph Habegger (*Laura Kovach's brother-in-law*); James Heffernan (*Father-in-law of Jennifer Heffernan*) ; Rich Kokinda (*Cousin of Greg Twarek*); Stephanie Kowal; Anne Kovalik (*former parishioner*); Helen Lis: Stanley Lis; Dave Martin; John Mazurik (*brother of Paul Mazurik*); Judy Mazurik (*sister-in-law of Paul Mazurik*); Karen Milano (*Heidi Golob's sister*); Nancy Pipenur (*sister-in-law of Jean Hileman*) ; William Rentz (*Father of Tamara Rentz Blackford*) ; Nancy Sitzler (*Mother of Amber Twarek*); Diane Tryon, Amber & her newborn baby Hayes (*Natalie's daughter*); Rachel & her unborn baby; Jessica Issler & her unborn baby (*Jean Hileman's daughter*)

Other Requests: Howard Bailey; Brad Biecheler; John Cox (*husband of Pastor Kay Mooney-Cox*); Paul Demkosky (*friend of Father's*); Theodore Geletka (*St. Michael Orthodox Church, Broadview Heights choir director*); Baby Lucas Goodman (*friend of Christi Soski*); Jake Lipstraw (*friend of Natalie Twarek*); Violet Mattingly (*neighbor of Greg Mazur*); Alison Pinckney (*friend of Wayne Golob*); Beth Reinhard (*friend of Diane Tryon*); Cheryl Schell (*Co-worker of Jennifer Heffernan*); Nick Shortridge (*Friend of Christi*); Janice Timko; Mat. Carly Koranda & her unborn baby (*Chicago Deanery*); Nicole & her unborn Baby (*Friends of Fr. Andrew*)

Military: Craig Cassell; Justin Issler

Captives: Metropolitan Paul (*Orthodox Archdiocese of Aleppo*); Archbishop John (*Syriac Archdiocese of Aleppo*); for the UN & IOCC humanitarian aid workers in & around Syria; those suffering persecution in Iraq, Syria, Israel, Egypt, Ukraine and throughout the world; those held captive throughout the world.

Additions or removals from the list? Please notify Fr. Andrew



Sunflowers symbolize adoration, loyalty and longevity. Much of the meaning of sunflowers stems from its namesake, the sun itself. These flowers are unique in that they have the ability to provide energy in the form of nourishment and vibrancy— attributes which mirror the sun and the energy provided by its heat and light.

September Celebrations

BIRTHDAY	ANNIVERSARY	NAME'S DAY
09-02: Julia Guzy 09-03: Mike Mazurik 09-05: Dan Elchisco 09-18: Fr. David Lis 09-19: Cooper Kowal 09-23: Rita Mazur 09-25: Noah Adamcio, Nikki Twarek 09-30: Jaxson Monschein	09-05: Cliff & Kathy Ruggles 09-11: David & Roddie Mazurik, Wayne & Heidi Golob 09-24: Mike & Diane Tryon	09: Archbishop Michael of NY & NJ 30: His Beatitude, Met. Theodosius, retired

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.

Coming Events ~ Save the Date

St. John the Baptist in Campbell, OH will be celebrating their 100th Anniversary the weekend of October 13-15.

Friday, October 13

6:00 pm: Vespers followed by a Service of Thanksgiving (Molieben)

Saturday, October 14

9:30 am: Procession into church, vesting of His Beatitude, and the hours.

10:00 am: Main Centennial Divine Liturgy presided by His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon and His Grace Bishop Paul and visiting clergy

4:00 pm: Panikhida (Memorial Service) for the departed members of the parish.

5:00 pm: Great Vespers

Sunday, October 15

9:30 am: Procession into church, Vesting of His Beatitude, and the hours.

10:00 am: Hierarchal Divine Liturgy presided by His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon and His Grace Bishop Paul

Centennial Banquet

1:30 pm: Cocktails

3:00 pm: Grand Banquet (Palermo Center, Campbell, OH)

Please RSVP to Mrs. JoAnn Sirilla @ 330-881-6775 or by email: josirilla@yahoo.com

Lodging:

Holiday Inn, 7410 South Ave., Boardman, OH
(330-726-1611)

Mention "St John the Baptist Orthodox Church" and rate will be \$105 (Deadline October 1)

45th ANNUAL

"SOMETHING RUSSIAN" FESTIVAL

WHEN: Tuesday & Wednesday October 3
from 10:00am to 9:00pm

WHERE: St. Nicholas Orthodox Church, 755 S Cleveland Ave., Mogadore, OH 44260 (@ Rt 532 & US 224)

Homemade ethnic foods & baked goods; Purchase beautiful & unique Russian imports & religious items; Performances by the St. Nicholas Balalaika Orchestra and Russian Youth Dancers; Sip tea in the cozy "Something Russian Tea Room"; Watch intricate egg decorating demonstrations & more! FREE Admission / FREE Parking.

Proceeds will benefit many outreach programs which include: Portage County Habitat for Humanity, the Rundolph / Suffield Food Shelf and more. Last year St. Nicholas donated over \$30,000 to help others.



ANNUAL MIDWEST DIOCESAN RETREAT FOR 6th-12th GRADERS

Dear Brothers and Fathers,

Christ is in our midst!

His Grace, Bishop Paul has asked me to share with you some updates about the work of our diocesan youth team.

On the evening of Friday, October 28, His Grace will lead our first ever virtual discussion with pre-teens and teens across the diocese. We're starting with four host pilot parishes connecting via tele-conference with His

Grace in Chicago:

- St. Innocent Church, Olmsted Falls, OH
- St. Luke Church, Palos Hills, IL
- Holy Trinity Church, Overland Park, KS
- St. Mary's Cathedral, Minneapolis, MN

Can you please encourage youth in your parishes and deanery who are in grades 6 - 12 to register (<http://bit.ly/mw-oct2017-retreat-registration>) for the overnight retreat at one of the four host parishes?

With your support to make this event a success, our plan is to host similar events in the future where His Grace can connect with youth in more parishes from each deanery.

In related news, the six-question survey (<http://bit.ly/mw-parent-survey2017>) for parents and families to share their thoughts about our diocesan youth programs will be available until Sunday, October 1.

We've gotten a lot of great responses, and now that summer is over, wanted to ask for your help in encouraging more to parents share what they feel is important for the spiritual growth and formation of their children in the Orthodox Faith. Attached is a graphic which can be shared via email or in your parish bulletin.

Thank you for your assistance and may you have a blessed feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos later this week. If you have any questions, please email me at frbentucci@gmail.com.

In Christ,
Father Ben, *Director*
Diocesan Youth Department

The Crucified King of Glory

By Fr. Steven Kostoff

We are in the midst of the post-festal celebration of the Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross — to give the feast its full title. On this feast, we liturgically commemorate and venerate the Cross that is placed in the middle of the church. The feast then continues through a full “octave” of celebration, thus making it an eight-day feast that serves to stress the importance of the Cross in the life of the Church and in our personal lives. To further turn our attention toward the Cross, we recall the Third Sunday of Great Lent—the Adoration of the Cross—and the less well-observed Feast of the Procession of the Cross on August 1. In addition, every Wednesday and Friday is a day of commemoration of the Cross, one of the reasons that we fast on those two days on a weekly basis.

Prominent as the Cross may be for Christians, it is the Apostle Paul who very succinctly and profoundly captured the unbelieving world’s attitude toward the Cross in his well-known text: “For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God” [1 Corinthians 1:23-24]. This leads the Apostle to one of his most astonishing and paradoxical insights: “For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men” [1 Corinthians 1:26].

The “scandal” for the unbelieving Jew would be the claim that the Messiah was crucified. The “folly” for the Greek/Gentile would be the claim that the divine would even enter the realm of flesh and blood and “become” human, let alone suffer death on a cross. Yet God, in and through Christ, transformed what is shameful, weak, lowly and despised — a crucified man — into “our righteousness and sanctification and redemption” [1 Corinthians 1:30]. The entire passage of 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 deserves careful, close and constant study. It remains fascinating, and highly instructive, that even non-Christians who profess to have a great respect for Jesus Christ, struggle terribly with the scandal of the Cross. This is clearly the case with Islam. Jesus is treated with great respect in many passages in the Qur’an, even to the point of acknowledging His virginal conception in a passage that clearly resembles the Annunciation account in the Gospel According to Saint Luke [Qur’an, 3:45-47]! However, the crucifixion is treated in a way that bears no resemblance to the Gospel accounts: “Yet they did not slay him, neither crucify him, only a likeness of that was shown to them” [4:156-159]. The Muslims believe that someone else — a figure unidentified by the Qur’an — was crucified in the place of Christ, but not Jesus Him

self. The Muslim scholar Dr. Maneh Al-Johani wrote, “The Qur’an does not elaborate on this point, nor does it give any answer to this question.” Clearly, the “scandal” of the Cross is too much for Muslim sensibilities, since Jesus is for them a great prophet sent by God. Muslims further believe that Jesus was raised to Heaven, *yet before He died*—clearly an odd teaching that again is meant to completely distance Jesus from His crucifixion. If there is anything that is agreed upon today among New Testament scholars — believers and sceptics alike — it is that Jesus of Nazareth was put to death by crucifixion by order of Pontius Pilate in the early 30s of the Christian era. This lends a certain fantastic quality to these claims of the Qur’an.

There is a close resemblance here with an early Christian heresy known as Docetism—from the Greek word meaning “to appear.” In other words, it only “appeared” that Christ was actually crucified and died on the Cross. Saint Ignatius of Antioch (+c. 110) vehemently rejected this heresy in its initial inception early in the second century: “Be deaf, then, when anyone speaks to you apart from Jesus Christ, Who was of the family of David, Who was of Mary, Who was truly born, ate and drank, was truly persecuted under Pontius Pilate, *was truly crucified and died*.... He was also truly raised from the dead, when His Father raised Him up” [Epistle to the Trallians, 9].

Saint Ignatius very poignantly asks, what is the purpose of suffering martyrdom for the Lord (as he did in the Roman arena) if the sufferings of Christ were an illusion? Should a Christian suffer in the flesh if his Lord did not? As he writes, “But if, as some godless men — that is, unbelievers — say His suffering was only apparent (they are the apparent ones), why am I in bonds, why do I pray to fight wild beasts? Then I die in vain. Then I lie about the Lord” [Epistle to the Trallians, 10].

We do not “worship” the Cross. We worship the One Who, for our salvation, was crucified upon the Cross. Indeed, with the Apostle Paul we call Him the “Lord of glory” [1 Corinthians 2:8]. Jesus Christ was not merely a prophet in a chain of prophets sent by God. He is the fulfilment of the prophetic testimony to His coming, as He is the fulfilment of the Law [Matthew 5:17]. There are no prophets to follow Him with any further additions to the Christian revelation. We believe, as we chant in the Second Antiphon of the Liturgy, that He is the “Only-begotten Son and immortal Word of God... Who without change didst become man and was crucified.” The Cross remains “an unconquerable token of victory” and “an invincible shield.” In fact, it is for this reason that in our practice, we “kiss with joy the Wood of salvation, on which was stretched Christ the Redeemer” [Small Vespers].

Christianity does not exist because of what it holds in common with other great world religions, **Con’t Page 6**

Fr Steven Con't

but because of what is unique and distinctive about it—primarily the Incarnation, redemptive Death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is because of our love for Christ that beginning on the personal level, we must promote and practice mutual respect, tolerance and peaceful coexistence with sincerely believing people of other religions. I see no other way for those who claim to follow the crucified Lord of glory. However, this should in no way undermine our sense of Christian distinctiveness — “And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved” [Acts 4:12] — but actually demonstrate our loyalty to Christ, Who never compels but invites, with outstretched arms upon the Cross.

Patronal Feast of Chancery's St. Sergius Chapel to be celebrated Saturday, September 23

His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon and the staff of the Chancery of the Orthodox Church in America warmly invite the clergy and faithful to celebrate the patronal feast day of the Metropolitan's Chapel of Saint Sergius of Radonezh at the Chancery, 6850 North Hempstead Turnpike, Syosset, NY on Saturday, September 23, 2017.

According to Archpriest Eric G. Tosi, OCA Secretary, the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy will be concelebrated by Metropolitan Tikhon; His Grace, Bishop Irinej [Dobrijevic] of the Serbian Orthodox Diocese of Eastern America; and His Grace, Bishop John of Naro-Fominsk, Administrator of the Patriarchal Parishes in the United States, of the Moscow Patriarchate in the Chancery's walled garden [weather permitting] at 10:00 a.m. Local OCA clergy and clergy from other jurisdictions also will serve. A festive complimentary luncheon will follow on the Chancery grounds.

CONGRATULATIONS

Natalie's daughter Nikki got engaged this past week to Sean Williams.

MAY GOD GRANT THEM MANY YEARS!



Fall Session of Metropolitan Council opens with annual retreat

His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon opened the Fall Session of the Metropolitan Council of the Orthodox Church in America at Immaculate Conception Seminary here on Tuesday morning, September 19, 2017.

Metropolitan Tikhon is chairing the four-day session, at which the members of the Standing Synod of Bishops—His Eminence, Archbishop Benjamin; His Eminence, Archbishop Michael; and His Grace, Bishop Paul—are also in attendance.

According to Archpriest Eric G. Tosi, OCA Secretary, the session will open with the Metropolitan Council's annual retreat. The retreat theme will focus on the 50th anniversary of the granting of autocephaly to the OCA, slated to be celebrated in 2020. OCA Archivist Alexis Liberovsky will present an overview of the history of the OCA. Also speaking will be members of the original delegation who traveled to Moscow in 1970 to receive the Tomos of Autocephaly—Protopresbyter Daniel Hubiak, Archpriest John Nehrebecki and Dr. Constantine Kalluar. A working session will be held in the afternoon to discuss initial plans for the 2020 celebration.

“Among the highlights of this Metropolitan Council session will be the approval of the budget for 2018, a review of the plans for the 19th All-American Council, to be held in July 2018, and reports from His Beatitude, the OCA officers, and the Metropolitan Council's various committees and departments,” Father Eric added. “Per the cycle of department reports, Priest John Parker will update Council members on the work of the Department of Evangelization, while Archpriest Ian Pac-Urar will present a report on the work of the Department of Continuing Education.”

Metropolitan Council members also will participate in the Saint Sergius Day celebration on Saturday, September 23.

The Metropolitan Council is the permanent executive body of the Church Administration which exists for the purpose of implementing the decisions of the All-American Council and continuing its work between sessions. Members include the Metropolitan, who serves as Chair; the Chancellor, the Secretary, and the Treasurer; one priest and one layperson elected by each diocese; and three priests and an equal number of laypersons elected by the All-American Council.