

VIGILS - 8-23

Laura Kovach (4) God's healing to everyone battling or suffering during the COVID-19 pandemic; God's blessings of peace and healing for our country; For healing or health of Sarah and her unborn baby, Betty, Betty, Julia, Andrea, Mark, Jim, Dana, Bodhi, Chuck, Steve, Jeanne, Mary, Joe, Sonya, Ron and Larry; Safe travel for family

Sandy Martin (1) Special intentions

Jim Mazur(2) In memory family and friends; For health of family and friends

Twarek (8) In loving memory of Aunt Martha, 10th anniversary 8/23; In memory of Betty Woods; For health and recovery of Ron, Mary, JC, Loren, Sonya; Health of David; For the health of Tom, Sarah, Jason, Nancy, Margi & Joe; For health of Betty, MaryAnn & Bob, Judy, Chuck, Steve, Bohdi, Liz, Joe, Julia, Diane, Stella, Jake, Helen; God grace and healing for the people of Beruit; Special

*“Do not be upset if
you do not
immediately receive
what you asked of
God. He wants to give
you greater things
than you have even
thought to ask — to
teach you to
persevere in prayer.”*

~ St. Evagrius of Pontus

1 Corinthians 15:1-11 (*Epistle*)

Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you – unless you believed in vain.

For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve. After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep. After that He was seen by James, then by all the apostles.

Then last of all He was seen by me also, as by one born out of due time. For I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me. Therefore, whether it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

SEPTEMBER CANDLE AND BULLETIN SPONSORS

Bulletin: (\$50) Fr. Fr. Andrew in memory of His Grace Bishop John & His Eminence Archbishop Michael's mother, Anna

Chandelier: (\$50) From Joe and Valerie in memory of Rose Haburt

Altar Candles: (\$50) Fr. Fr. Andrew in memory of my My Grandfather Steve Bartek

Candles on the Tomb: (\$25) From Athanasia in memory of her family

Eternal Light & Icon Screen: (25) From Joe & Valerie in memory of Violet Bargdill & LaVerne Schutt

Note: If something is already taken and you want to sponsor it, please let Fr know. There can be more than one sponsoring family/individual.

Archbishop Paul's Travel Schedule: August 24th to September 21st

Holy Resurrection, Fargo, ND,
August 27th to August 31st (Taking the train)

Nativity of the Virgin Mary, Madison, IL,
September 4th to 6th

Holy Trinity Cathedral, Chicago, IL,
September 7th to 8th, Nativity of the Virgin Mary

- *Ordination of Deacon Phillip Maikkula to the Priesthood*

Christ the Savior, Chicago, IL,
September 12th to 14th,

- *Feast of Exaltation of the Cross*

St. Panteleimon, Summit, IL, September 19th to 20th

OTHER NEWS

During his visit to St. John the Forerunner on August 23rd, Archbishop Paul elevated Fr. Zachariah Trent to the rank of Archpriest. "Axios!" Fr. Zachariah.

Bishop's Council, Monday, October 5th, at 1 PM, central time

Diocesan Council, Monday, October 5th, at 6 PM central time

Diocesan Assembly, Thursday, October 8th, 5 PM via Zoom or Go-to-My-Meeting

Diocesan and Bishop's Councils, November 30th to December 2nd, Burbank, IL

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR DIOCESAN NEWS

If you are holding any special events or celebrating any special services, and would like to share this news with the diocese, contact Fr. Alexander Koranda our communications director to put the event on the diocesan web page. Gather what photos you have and send those to Fr. Alexander along with some bullet points of facts concerning the event. That way he can do a brief write up of the event. Fr. Alex can be reached at: communications@domoca.org

Trust God or Ourselves? by Fr. Demetrios Makoul

In the Old Testament, in the book of Kings, the prophet Elijah was serving God by fighting against the priests of Baal (Canaanite god). Elijah at some point withdrew to the wilderness and God made sure he was fed by ravens who brought him food and there was even a small brook that provided him with water. Eventually however the brook dried up and God sent Elijah to a widow in Zarephath. The widow lived with her only son. When Elijah arrived there he asked the widow for help. At this time there was a famine and the widow responded that she could not for fear that she would not have enough food for her and her son. Elijah told her that God would not allow her supply of flour or oil to run out, saying, "Don't be afraid, this is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: 'The jar of flour will not be used up and the jug of oil will not run dry until the day the Lord gives rain on the land.'" The widow trusted Elijah and God, she offered what she had and sure enough her jar of oil and flour miraculously never ran out. She had more than enough for her, her son, and Elijah.

The message here is clear. There are times in our life when we are asked to give to God, to give a portion of what we have. However we struggle as the widow did. We worry if I give of what I have, will there be enough for me and my family? We find ourselves confronted with a trust issue. If I do what is right, will God do what is right? If I obey, will God come through and provide for me? We often are afraid to help or to give for fear we won't have enough. We hoard our resources and treasure because we don't trust God will provide for us if we offer some back to God.

We clearly see in the encounter between Elijah and the widow that God provides and responds when we give. God was acting through Elijah in fighting the people's belief in a false God. Even today God acts through the church to counter the darkness of the world and to bring the light of Christ to others. Today we have the same opportunity as the widow of Zarephath. We are asked to support the church that it may continue the Lord's ministry in the world, just as the widow was asked to help Elijah in doing God's work. We are confronted by the same fears the widow experienced. She gave unconditionally and without her own conditions and expectations, she trusted God. May we learn from the example of the widow, to not be afraid to give, and to allow God to work miracles through us and our generosity.