



Saturday, June 13, 2021

Gospel: St. John 17: 1-13

Tone 6

Epistle: Acts 20:16-18, 28-36

**7th SUNDAY OF PASCHA /
Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council
Afterfeast of Ascension**

JUNE Bulletin Sponsor:

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

Liturgical & Events Schedule

Sunday, June 13

9:05 am: Hours followed by Divine Liturgy /
Church Picnic - Sponsored by Fr. Andrew

Monday- Saturday: Fr. Andrew: in Chicago for
Diocesan Council Meeting

Saturday, June 19

4:00 pm Great Vespers for Pentecost

Sunday, June 20- Father's Day / Pentecost

9:05 am: Hours followed by Divine Liturgy &
Kneeling Prayers

Monday, June 21

4:00 pm Respect Life Meeting

Saturday, June 26

4:00pm Great Vespers

Sunday, June 27

9:05 am Hours / Divine Liturgy / Social

JUNE BULLETIN CANDLE SPONSORS

Bulletin: (\$50) Fr. Andrew in memory of my
deceased relatives in the month of June

Chandelier: (\$50) Fr. Andrew in memory of Fr.
Stephen Shutak

Altar Candles: (\$50) From Basil in loving
memory of his wife Jean 5th Anniversary

Candles on the Tomb: (\$25) In memory of all
my friends in the month of June

Eternal Light & Icon Screen: (\$25) From Jean
Hileman in loving memory of her mother,
Helen Pipenur 100th Birthday Anniversary

Candles @ the Cross: (\$15) Fr. Andrew in
memory of the nun Eleanor Dussling

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

VIGILS- SUNDAY JUNE 6

Susan Guzy (2) Special intentions; Special
intentions

Laura Kovach (4) Birthday blessings to
Stephanie; For healing and recovery of
Sloane, Carol, David, and Hattie; For health
of Betty, Ben, Earl, Mary, Bill, Brenda, And-
rea, Wendy, Mark, Dana, Bodhi, and Molly;
Safe travel for family.

Sandy Martin (1) Special intentions

Jim Mazur (1) Special intentions

Royhab (1) Blessings and return to good health
for Mitch Hagmaier, Bobbie's nephew.

Diane Tryon (4) In loving memory of Aunt Jean
on her anniversary; In loving memory of my
mom on her anniversary (1995); Father's Day
blessings to Mike and Uncle Bill; In loving
memory of my dad and father-in-law Frank on
Father's day

Twarek (9) Birthday blessings to Lily(6/7);
Birthday blessings to Brooks (6/10); God's
blessing for health & recovery of child
Sloane; Health & recovery of Doug, Jill,
Elaine, David, Rebecca & Skye; Health of
Arrianna; Health of Nikki and Stefani and
their unborn babies; God's blessings and con-
tinued 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.

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

JUNE: MONTHLY TITHE ONLY

Goal Pledged per month: \$4,825

Sunday, June 6: \$978

RESTRICTED FUND DONATIONS RECEIVED IN JUNE

Sunday, June 6: \$100 Baby Bottles

JUNE CHURCH CLEANING SCHEDULE



June 14 – 19: Laura

June 21 – 26: Stephanie

June 28 – July 3: Laura

Archbishop Paul's Travel Schedule: June 11-16

St Stephen Church, Crawfordsville, IN,
June 11th to the 13th

Bishop's Council/Diocesan Council, Burbank, IL,
June 17th to 18th

Holy Trinity Cathedral, Chicago, IL,
June 19th to 20th, Feast of Pentecost

Holy Trinity Cathedral, Chicago, IL,
June 25th to June 26th

Ordination of Sub Deacon Paul Garklavs to the
Diaconate

Ss. Peter & Paul, Burr Ridge, IL,
June 26th to 27th

Acts 20:16-18, 28-36 (Epistle)

For Paul had decided to sail past Ephesus, so that he would not have to spend time in Asia; for he was hurrying to be at Jerusalem, if possible, on the Day of Pentecost. From Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called for the elders of the church. And when they had come to him, he said to them: "You know, from the first day that I came to Asia, in what manner I always lived among you, Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood. For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. Therefore watch, and remember that for three years I did not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears. So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I have coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. Yes, you yourselves know that these hands have provided for my necessities, and for those who were with me. I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" And when he had said these things, he knelt down and prayed with them all.

Diocesan Cathedral Celebrates 129th Anniversary with Restoration Project

June 7 marks the 129 anniversary of the established Chicago's oldest Orthodox community, Holy Trinity Cathedral. In this, the 129 year of bearing witness to the ancient faith, the community of Holy Trinity Cathedral have a lot of projects going on to further preserve their history, while preparing for the future.

St. Vladimir's Church, the predecessor of Holy Trinity Cathedral, was dedicated on June 7, 1892, with the blessing of His Grace Nicholas, Bishop of the Aleutians and Alaska. A Russian Orthodox community in honor of Saint Nicholas the Wonderworker was in existence before that date, and Father Alexis Toth, now a saint of the Orthodox Church, would come from Minneapolis from time to time to conduct services. These were held at the home of Gregory Feciura on Elston **Con't Pg 8**

PRAYER LIST Updated 6-9

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; Snezana Ruzic; Margaret Zabinko

PARISHIONERS & THEIR FAMILIES: John Beadle (Elchisco); Marguerite Bird; 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); 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; Nicole Mihaly & her unborn baby (Father)

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 Wiedenhof (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



CATASTROPHIC RELIEF FUND

Purpose of fund: To provide some small financial assistance to a parishioner, family member or community member who has suffered a catastrophic event.

Funds will be offered at the discretion & blessing of the Rector and the discretion of the Board.

This money can also be used for outreach programs in the parish Thank you and God bless!

For Your Prayers

Diane Tryon
109 Joslyn Street
Arcadia, OH 44804

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 items.

Please consider contributing generously to the *Building/Restoration Fund.*

FAST FREE WEEK

Enjoy the final fast free week of the year from June 20-27

Closing Remarks by Metropolitan Tikhon at Saint Vladimir's Seminary 2021 Commencement

Christ is risen!

Your Eminence and Your Graces, Very Reverend and Reverend Fathers, Father Chad, our Esteemed Seminary President, and Members of the Seminary Administration, Distinguished Faculty and Hard-Working Staff, Venerable Members of the Alumni and Board of Trustees, Beloved Seminarians, Honored Graduates of the Class of 2020 and the Class of 2021,

Together with Your Families and Friends: It is a joy to be gathered together again here at Saint Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary, on this beautiful day on which we celebrate the Commencement Exercises for the Class of 2020 and the Class of 2021. It is a particular joy to congratulate today's graduates and to offer you a word of exhortation on this significant moment in your lives.

In the years that you have spent at St. Vladimir's Seminary, you have been taught, from your very first day on campus, that the most important aspect of seminary is that it is a community. This is indeed true, as you surely know. You have lived as a community, prayed as a community, studied as a community, and eaten as a community. And as individual members of the community, each of you has striven to help the community. Each of you has volunteered time, each one has gone out of his or her way to be kind, each one has cared for the well-being of the rest. Perhaps every once in a while, you have failed a bit at this, but that is what human beings do. Your overall effort — your daily, consistent, faithful effort — is what matters. And indeed, you made it to today, working together as a community.

In looking back at your experience, you may wonder how it was even possible for all of you to live together as a community. This is because living in close quarters with people...is not easy. The newly-glorified Saint Sophrony of Essex said that in order to establish a strong monastic community, you have to shed blood. He spoke this of his own experience. And your experience here at Saint Vladimir's Seminary is perhaps not much different.

But this miracle of community life did blossom, in spite of—or perhaps because of—the various difficulties.

This miracle happened because your community is rooted in Christ, who says: “I am the Vine, and you are the branches” (Jn 15:5). Here, at this seminary, you have been branches of the one Vine, your daily existence rooted in acquiring the knowledge of Him.

Now, as you move forward, as you continue to grow, I urge you all: Be confident that if you remain united to Christ, you will bear fruit. You will bear fruit for the benefit of the world, if you are united to Him.

Our Lord Himself says this with the words that complete the above quotation: “I am the Vine, and you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing” (Jn 15:5).

Apart from communion and unity with Christ, apart from being in community with Him, you can do nothing. On the other hand, if you abide in Christ, you will bear fruit.

In whatever ministry you are called to, you will have tribulations, temptations, trials, and stumbling blocks, both foreseeable and unforeseeable. But through all of these, you always will have Jesus Christ: He who has overcome death and the world and given us life.

Christ has given us being, existence, and purpose through the Cross, and through sufferings. And He did this not so that we might suffer ourselves, but that through our shared suffering we might have unity. As He prayed to the Father: “The glory which Thou hast given Me I have given to them, that they may be one even as We are one” (Jn 17:22).

Christ desires all mankind to be united. He wants us all to exist as a unity, a communion, a community. The pandemic of the past year has revealed many things to us. But one thing that it has particularly made manifest is how atomized human society is. The unity that Christ desires for us is assailed on all sides and from all quarters. We are increasingly becoming atomized, that is, reduced to individual particles to the point that we are losing what it means to be a human being, what it means to be a family, what it means to create bonds of friendship.

I would encourage you to take a lesson from your experience of seminary life, the blessed experience you have had of living in a Christ-centered community, and take it with you, wherever you go. **Con't Pg 6**

JUNE Celebrations

ANNIVERSARIES	BIRTHDAYS	
6-18-72 His Grace Bishop Matthias Priest ordination 6-21-80- Fr. Dave Lis priestly ordination 25- Fr. Andrew & Pani Yoanna 26- Jim & Laura Kovach 6-27-2009: Archbishop Melchisedek of Pittsburgh	2- Jake Muscaro 5- Peter Adzima 6- Nathan Koren 7- Lily Schlotterer 8- Tanya Koren 10- Brooks Patrick Williams 13- Fr. Nick Mihaly 15- Emily Kusinski	15- Aijire Dardovski 16- James Jerome 19- Emily Sarisky 23- Loreen Welch 24- Matthew Adamcio 26- Carter Twarek 28- Vincent Cavaliere

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.

LITURGICAL ATTENDANCE FOR MAY / JUNE

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

40 DAY REMEMBRANCE

June 6: the 2 deputies killed in N.C.
June 27: Philip Timko / Protodeacon Edwin Aasen

TENTATIVE READERS

Sunday, June 13: Teri
 Sunday, June 20: Joe
 Sunday, June 27: Tim

JUNE Reposed

3 Irene Leso (2002) 4- Alex Sennich (1994) 4- Vicoria Guzy (1965) 5- Mildred Paproski (2018) 6- Fr. Stephen Shutack (2008) 6- Matthew Gould (2020) 7- Martha LaVallee (2005) 8- Mary Hunt (2003) 9- Cristina Rindfleisch (2006) 9- Charles Hagmaier (2018) 9- John Sutko (2020) 14- Fr. Justin Foster (2016) 16- Verona Pich (2010) 16- Fr. Michael Prevas (2018) 17- Archimandrite Luke Sirkun (1956) Former Pastor 17- Mitered Archpriest John Gratson (1965) Former Pastor	18- Fr. Michael Prevas (2018) 18- Eleanor Dussling (2020) 20- Jean Frances Glovinsky (2016) 20- Fr. John Yurcisin (2003) 20- Dan Karens Cousin 2019 21- Mary Elchisco Migala (1983) 21- Ronald Basala (2016) 22- Archpriest Kyrill Hartman (2010) Former Pastor 23- Ruth Benya (1995) 26- George Millie (1974) 27-Anna Ignatenkoo- (1969) 28- Fr. Charles Kovich (2005) 28- Andrew Leso (2000) 29- Stephen Millie (1988) Mike Mazur (1923) Anna Mazur (1923)
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Closing Remarks Con't

It will help you to build new Christ-centered communities and to graft new branches onto the one Vine. It will help you to bear fruit, so that others may bear even greater fruit.

The world will tell you to think big. I would say that it's better to think small.

The world will tell you to be confident. I would say that it's better to be confident in your insecurity.

The world will offer you images of virtual community and fake friendship. But it is better to devote your energy to creating genuine community and true friendship through sacrifice, kindness, and selflessness. For this, you have the example of Christ Himself. May He inspire you in this manner and bless all of you, and keep you in all that you do for the glory of God.

Christ is risen!

Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council Commemorated on June 13

On the seventh Sunday of Pascha, we commemorate the holy God-bearing Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council.

The Commemoration of the First Ecumenical Council has been celebrated by the Church of Christ from ancient times. The Lord Jesus Christ left the Church a great promise, "I will build My Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" (Mt. 16:18). Although the Church of Christ on earth will pass through difficult struggles with the Enemy of salvation, it will emerge victorious. The holy martyrs bore witness to the truth of the Savior's words, enduring suffering and death for confessing Christ, but the persecutor's sword is shattered by the Cross of Christ.

Persecution of Christians ceased during the fourth century, but heresies arose within the Church itself. One of the most pernicious of these heresies was Arianism. Arius, a priest of Alexandria, was a man of immense pride and ambition. In denying the divine nature of Jesus Christ and His equality

with God the Father, Arius falsely taught that the Savior is not consubstantial with the Father, but is only a created being.

A local Council, convened with Patriarch Alexander of Alexandria presiding, condemned the false teachings of Arius. However, Arius would not submit to the authority of the Church. He wrote to many bishops, denouncing the decrees of the local Council. He spread his false teaching throughout the East, receiving support from certain Eastern bishops.

Investigating these dissensions, the holy emperor Constantine (May 21) consulted Bishop Hosius of Cordova (Aug. 27), who assured him that the heresy of Arius was directed against the most fundamental dogma of Christ's Church, and so he decided to convene an Ecumenical Council. In the year 325, 318 bishops representing Christian Churches from various lands gathered together at Nicea.

Among the assembled bishops were many confessors who had suffered during the persecutions, and who bore the marks of torture upon their bodies. Also participating in the Council were several great luminaries of the Church: Saint Nicholas, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia (December 6 and May 9), Saint Spyridon, Bishop of Tremithos (December 12), and others venerated by the Church as holy Fathers.

With Patriarch Alexander of Alexandria came his deacon, Athanasius [who later became Patriarch of Alexandria (May 2 and January 18)]. He is called "the Great," for he was a zealous champion for the purity of Orthodoxy. In the Sixth Ode of the Canon for today's Feast, he is referred to as "the thirteenth Apostle."

The emperor Constantine presided over the sessions of the Council. In his speech, responding to the welcome by Bishop Eusebius of Caesarea, he said, "God has helped me cast down the impious might of the persecutors, but more distressful for me than any blood spilled in battle is for a soldier, is the internal strife in the Church of God, for it is more ruinous."

Arius, with seventeen bishops among his supporters, remained arrogant, but his teaching was repudiated and he was excommunicated from the Church. In his speech, the holy deacon Athanasius conclusively refuted the blasphemous opinions of Arius. The heresiarch Arius is depicted in iconography sitting on Satan's knees, or in the mouth of the Beast of the Deep (Rev. 13). *Con't Pg 7*

Holy Father's Con't

The Fathers of the Council declined to accept a Symbol of Faith (Creed) proposed by the Arians. Instead, they affirmed the Orthodox Symbol of Faith. Saint Constantine asked the Council to insert into the text of the Symbol of Faith the word “consubstantial,” which he had heard in the speeches of the bishops. The Fathers of the Council unanimously accepted this suggestion.

In the Nicene Creed, the holy Fathers set forth and confirmed the Apostolic teachings about Christ's divine nature. The heresy of Arius was exposed and repudiated as an error of haughty reason. After resolving this chief dogmatic question, the Council also issued Twelve Canons on questions of churchly administration and discipline. Also decided was the date for the celebration of Holy Pascha. By decision of the Council, Holy Pascha should not be celebrated by Christians on the same day with the Jewish Passover, but on the first Sunday after the first full moon of the vernal equinox (which occurred on March 22 in 325).

The First Ecumenical Council is also commemorated on May 29.

The Paradox of Being Confined

But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's fetters were unfastened. When the jailer woke and saw that the prison doors were open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul cried with a loud voice, “Do not harm yourself, for we are all here.” (Acts 16:25-28)

This is one of several accounts from Acts that finds St. Paul and his companion Silas imprisoned, because St. Paul expelled an evil spirit from a woman who was being used by owners to make a profit from predictions she would make. St. Paul and Silas sing hymns while shackled. We hear about the earthquake, which led to the prison doors

John 17:1-13 (Gospel)

Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: “Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him. And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do. And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was. I have manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me out of the world. They were Yours, You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word. Now they have known that all things which You have given Me are from You. For I have given to them the words which You have given Me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came forth from You; and they have believed that You sent Me. I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours. And all Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine, and I am glorified in them. Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as We are. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in Your name. Those whom You gave Me I have kept; and none of them is lost except the son of perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. But now I come to You, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves.

being opened, and anyone who was shackled being set free. Yet, Paul and Silas stayed where they were at; free to leave, but remaining. The jailer thought all were gone. He was about to kill himself when St. Paul replied, “We are all here!”

Most of us would have run from the prison when the option was there to escape. Yet Paul and Silas used this opportunity to preach the gospel to the jailer, who then took the both of them home to care for them. The jailer and his family were baptized that same evening. St. Paul's shackles resulted in freedom, but they did not seek to escape their confinement.

Sometimes being confined can be for *Con't Next Page*

Being Confined Con't

our salvation and welfare. For example, when children are put in a time out for discipline, there is a learning experience that takes place. Children are instructed to think about why they were put in time out and what they did wrong. They are encouraged to think about how to behave differently the next time. Once children do this work with their parents, they are released from the time out. May we all come to better understand how confinement in many cases can lead to good things and not bad.

A blessed Feast of Ascension to you,

With love in Christ,

Archbishop Paul

New Assistant to the Archbishop Appointed

The Diocese of the Midwest is pleased to announce that Mr. Justinian Tatoes has been appointed the new assistant to His Eminence Archbishop Paul. As the Keleinik, he will accompany the Archbishop on pastoral visits, and hold regular hours in the office completing various tasks at the Chancery.

Mr. Tatoes, a parishioner of St. Luke Orthodox Church, will be replacing Mr. Mason Baker, who recently relocated out of Chicagoland. He will hold this position through August.

The Diocese of the Midwest is grateful for the service of Mr. Baker for his several years of dedication to the diocese. May God grant him many blessings and assistance in the next phase of his life.

Those who are interested in applying for this position at the end of the summer are asked to email the Chancery at chancery@domoca.org. Applicants should be at least 18 years of age, well versed in liturgics, and a dedicated servant of the Church.

Cathedral Con't

Street in Chicago. The congregation consisted of Russians, Greeks, Serbs, Bulgarians, and other Orthodox people.

The first "permanent" priest assigned to St. Vladimir's Church was Father Nicholas Grinkevich, who served

from October 9, 1892, through December 12 of that year. He was followed by Hieromonk Ambrose Vretta, who remained at his post until 1895. The venerable Hieromartyr John Kochurov served first at St. Vladimir's then at Holy Trinity from 1895 to 1907. These priests, and those who followed them through the 1950s, were Russians. Most of them were trained in Russia and assigned to Holy Trinity by Russian Orthodox bishops.

During this 129 anniversary year, and in anticipation of the community's 130 anniversary, the faithful of Holy Trinity Cathedral have commenced the restoration of the historical exterior of both the cathedral and rectory buildings. Work on the restoration of the cathedral began in the mid-2000's with the exterior dome and bell tower being completed in 2009. In the last several years, there has been a renewed commitment to complete the exterior of the cathedral, as well as the exterior of the rectory.

Earlier this year, Holy Trinity Cathedral was awarded a \$250,000 "Adopt A Landmark" grant from the Landmarks Department of the City of Chicago for their restoration project. The "Adopt A Landmark" is a competitive grant which is aimed to assist the landmarks in Chicago.

"This grant was a major blessing and helped advance our project timeline another 5 years," said Priest Alexander Koranda, Cathedral Dean. "We have been blessed with this grant, but also with many donors both within and outside of the community. Our temple is very important to the fabric of Orthodoxy in this country and it is important that we take care of our holy sites."

The current restoration project is addressing the metal work that adorns the edges of the windows and gutters, along with removing the cracks in the stucco and repainting both buildings. The price to complete this project is roughly \$600,000. "The work that is being completed is very necessary, and when completed, will serve as another beautiful chapter in the history of this sacred treasure," added Fr. Alexander.

Financial assistance is need and those who are interested in supporting the restoration project are asked to [click here](#). Select "Building and Restoration Fund." All contributions are tax deductible and go directly to preserving this sacred and historical site.