

January 24, 2010

SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE—Tone 8 [Beginning of the Lenten Triodion]

Ven. Xenia of Rome and her two female slaves; St. Gerasim, Bishop of Perm; Martyr John of Kazan; Martyrs Babylas of Sicily and his two disciples: Timothy and Agapius; St. Macedonius the Hermit of Syria; The Translation of the Relics of St. Anastasius the Persian; Ven. Dionysius of Olympus; Ven. Philotheus the Founder of Philotheou Monastery; Blessed Xenia of St. Petersburg

Epistle: 2 Timothy 3:10-15 Gospel: Luke 18:10-14

▼ THE WEEK IN WORSHIP & STUDY ▼

Sat, Jan 30 12:30 p.m. Annual Fr. Alexander Schmemann Memorial Lecture at St. Vladimir's Seminary in Yonkers, NY

5:00 p.m. Confessions 7:00 p.m. Vespers

Sun, Jan 31 34TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—Tone 1—SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON

9:00 a.m. The Newmartyrs and Confessors of Russia; Holy Wonderworkers and Unmercenaries Cyrus and John

Divine Liturgy Epistles: 1 Cor 6:12-20 Gospels: Luke 15:11-32

Rom 8:28-39 (Martyrs) Luke 21:12-19 (Martyrs)

11:00 a.m. *Meet and Greet Session* with our Bishop-elect, Hieromonk Michael Dahulich

Fr. David is attending a conference in Austin, TX this week; he will be returning home on Friday. Accordingly, there will be **NO MATINS** served on Tuesday morning. Fr. Michael Benechnuk from our sister parish "up the hill," St. Euphrosynia Church, will be covering any pastoral emergencies; you can contact him at (732) 257-5007. If you can't reach him, call Starosta at (732) 462-3388.

IN TOUCH WITH THE PARISH №

Church School Classes will meet TODAY following the Liturgy Dismissal.

At the request of His Beatitude, Metropolitan JONAH, a **Special Collection** will be taken **TODAY** during the Liturgy, in response to the mounting human suffering due to the earthquake in Haiti 12 days ago. All offerings received will be sent directly and immediately to the **International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) Emergency Relief Fund**. You are asked to be generous in your contribution so that, in the words of His Beatitude, "we can provide a ray of hope to those who so desperately need it at this time—the 'least of the brethren'" and "we may come to recognize that 'our brother IS our life,' worthy of 'the hope that is in us.'"

There will be a brief **Special Parish Council Meeting** in the church **TODAY** following the Veneration of the Cross; all members are asked to attend.

Choir Rehearsal will be held in the church on Tuesday, January 26, at 7 p.m.

As part of a "Get to Know Us Tour" around the diocese before his consecration in May, our Bishop-elect, **Hieromonk Michael Dahulich**, will be visiting our parish **next Saturday-Sunday**, **January 30-31**. Other than an expanded Coffee Hour after Liturgy, this will be a very low-key event. Fr. Michael is coming to meet with us and to listen to what our desires and concerns are regarding the present and future of this God-protected community as a parish within the *Diocese of New York & New Jersey*. Please make every effort to be a part of this very special weekend.

Join the **Senior R Club** in a **Mardi Gras Bash** to the **Showboat Hotel & Casino** in Atlantic City on **Thursday, February 4**. A bus will be leaving from the main church parking lot at 9 a.m. The cost of the trip will be \$25, but each attendee will receive back \$30 in "slot" cash. For reservations and/or further details, please see or call Janice Meade at (732) 257-8671. (*Early reservations are suggested, as these trips usually sell out.*) Enjoy the sights and sounds of AC one last time before the beginning of Great Lent!

The **Annual Parish Meeting** will be held in the hall on **Sunday, February 7**, following Coffee Hour. Every family in the parish should be represented at this gathering. In preparation for the meeting, the *2009 Annual Report* will be available for distribution **next Sunday, January 31**.

The Altar Society will hold its Annual Blini Batter Sale on Sunday, February 14, during Coffee Hour. The price is \$5/quart. Orders can now be placed with Joan Pisuk at (732) 254-1519. (NOTE TO SOCIETY MEMBERS: Help is needed to pour the batter on Saturday afternoon, February 13; time to be announced.)

★ CHURCH CHATTER ★

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE Attendance at Liturgy last Sunday was 133.

MINISTRY DUTIES The Epistle will be read next week by **Gregory Chup**. Coffee Hour will be hosted by the **Parish Council**. (*NOTE: The St. Anne's Guild* will be responsible for Coffee Hour during the month of February.)

OUR THANKS to our intern priest, **Fr. Sean Levine**, for serving the funeral of Mary Silva yesterday morning, Vespers last night and Liturgy today while Fr. David is away in Austin, TX. May God grant Fr. Sean and his family many years—Mnogaya Lyeta!

2009 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS will be generated this year **UPON REQUEST ONLY**. If you would like one for income tax purposes, put your name on the sign-up sheet at the Candle Desk. (*NOTE*: Statements are now available in the church vestibule for those who requested them last week.)

2010 CHURCH WALL CALENDARS are still available at the Candle Desk—pick one up today!

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY WISHES are extended to **Joseph & Gloria Basara** who are celebrating 42 years of Holy Matrimony this week. Their love for each other brings such joy to those around them. May they continue to grow in God's grace for many years—Mnogaya Lyeta!

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY for the following parishioners, family members and friends this week, as well as the sick and suffering people of Haiti:

<u>Servicemen</u> Ivan Shidlovsky

Lisa Beard Gregory Nosol

June Buyofsky-Rittman
David T. Floyd
Patrick Lohr
Keith Sudder
Priest Paul Rivers
Andrew Kubik
Jason Vaughn
Patrick Baldwin

Timothy Stepan Michael Gregus

Peter Shaw

Jacqueline Martinez Robert Mahrer

Karen Bonet

David Gambert

Gregg Poole Fred Bush Travis Hartman

<u>Departed</u>
Archbishop JOB (Osacky)
Robert Masarik
Raymond Petruska
Helen Armstrong
Geronimo Carreras
Edward Figueroa
Marie Olsen
Irene Kniel
Mary (Dutka) Silva
Mark Van Houten

Aiden Gowarty
Dorothy Swenticky
Sara Cseh
Olga Smith
Reginald Thomas
Anthony Garito
Ermelinda Faziola
Kirsten Hyland
John Cameron
Vivian Hunkele
Janet Firestone
Adam Krosnowski
Ellie Shipman
Archpriest Sergei Glagolev
Vera Rosenthal
Edna Maletz
Savanna Dore
Dorothy Dabkowski
Joan Roshak
Patricia Campbell
Sarah Hall

Cynthia Denlinger Constantine Romanofsky Linda Martinovich Josephine Tillison Mary Lou Goldy Julia Glazer Sonia Fineberg Joseph Casale Donna Casale Dr. Joseph Pastore Karen Kennedy Randall Cline Joseph Lynch Jean Staples Joan Tita Lasha Giorgi Pozidis

Dotsy Hartman Katherine Tarzewski Paula Hila Joseph Posluszny Nancy Filak Stefan Wilczynski Anna Durovich Kira Gregor Lisa Muhs Denise Yager Martha Drobnak Chrise Murrell Patricia Larkin Archpriest David Vernak Dorothy Sopchak Elaine Boshko William Leggon

Walter Zettlemoyer Jr. Elizabeth Brent Kyle Abbott

If you have a name you would like included in the bulletin, contact Fr. David or Starosta.

IN BLESSED REPOSE The servant of God, **Mark Van Houten**, fell asleep in the Lord on Wednesday, January 20, the Feast of St. Euthymius the Great. As Mark's fellow parishioners, we share in this sorrow with his family and friends. May they find comfort in the promise of eternal life in Christ Jesus. Memory Eternal—Vechnaya Pamyat!

MEMORIAL (SOUL) SATURDAYS are days set aside, throughout the year, for commemoration of the dead. Within the Church, Saturday is a traditional day of prayer for the deceased, because Christ lay dead in the tomb on Saturday. Memorial Saturdays are devoted to remembering departed relatives and others among the faithful who have fallen asleep in the Lord. This year, there are five such Saturdays: February 6 (Pre-Lent), March 6 & 13 (Great Lent), May 22 (Eve of Pentecost) and October 23 (Demetrius Saturday). The Liturgy on each of these days will be preceded by Matins for the Departed on Friday evening. A form to list the names of those you want mentioned at these services was included in last week's bulletin; if you didn't get one, there are extra copies available at the Candle Desk. Once completed, you can either drop it off in church or send it to the rectory. As Orthodox Christians, we should never neglect our responsibility of praying for the dead, for remembering them is a sign of our love for the Church Triumphant. In response to our heartfelt petitions, our Lord will, in turn, show His mercy upon our departed loved ones and us. Attend these services when they are offered and you will be richly blessed!

AT YOUR TIME OF LOSS With heartfelt sympathy, we extend our deepest condolences to **Patricia Larkin** on the falling asleep of her aunt, **Irene Kniel**, on Wednesday, January 13. May God comfort and uphold her with His unfailing love.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY GREETINGS go out this week to **Joseph Hartman**, **Patricia Larkin** and **Natalie Siemienczuk**. May their lives continue to be blessed for many years—Mnogaya Lyeta!

L'AFFAIRE EXTRAORDINAIRE As is implied in its name, last Saturday's fundraiser to benefit *St. Andrew's Camp* in Jewell, NY was, indeed, extraordinary. The cuisine was fabulous, the entertainment enjoyable and the fellowship pleasurable. The **Planning Committee** is to be highly commended on organizing such a successful event, as well as the *Pancake Breakfast* offered after Liturgy last Sunday. This affair could not have worked so well if not for the selfless support of the **Parish Volunteers** who sold raffle tickets, decorated the hall, served the five-course meal and cleaned up afterwards; the **Sponsors** who donated gift baskets and prizes; and the **Chefs** who shared their special culinary talents. We don't have room to name everyone, but you know who are and we are truly grateful. Last, but certainly not least, huge thanks go out to **all those who attended** this event; your generosity will go a long way in enabling *St. Andrew's* to continue its ministry of providing Orthodox youth with the opportunity to grow spiritually and emotionally in a natural environment. May God bless everyone involved with good health and long life for many years—Mnogaya Lyeta!

MEMORY ETERNAL The handmaid of God, **Mary (Dutka) Silva**, fell asleep in the Lord on January 17, the Sunday of Zacchaeus and the Feast of St. Anthony the Great. We offer our sympathy to her family and friends. May God's precious love strengthen them in the days ahead—Vechnaya Pamyat!

SERVING ON PARISH COUNCIL A representative from this year's *Nominating Committee*, either **Sonja Harris** or **Jay Pelleriti**, may approach you about serving as a member of Parish Council this year. Please respond favorably; the donation of your time and talent in this capacity is a way to return the gifts that God has given to you.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS for next week's edition must be submitted by **Thursday evening** to Fr. David or our Starosta/Bulletin Editor, James Kornafel. You can reach Father at the rectory or contact Jim by telephone (732-462-3388), fax (732-845-3515) or E-mail (immyk@optonline.net). Please note that all submissions may be edited for brevity or clarity.

CS CS CS CS

The week following the Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee is **FAST-FREE**. The Pharisee prided himself on his twice-weekly fasting. In contrast to his hypocritical and proud act of abstinence and to guard against the danger of comparing ourselves to others, the Church says to us: "Don't fast." Instead, on this coming Wednesday and Friday, recall today's Gospel and the humility of the Publican, remembering that fasting not done in the right spirit is actually injurious to our souls.

S S S S S

Today is **Sanctity of Life Sunday**, the day recognized by the Orthodox Church in America (OCA) to reaffirm that all human life—be it the unborn, the elderly, the disabled and the terminally ill—is sacred because God made it.

As Orthodox Christians, we must never overlook those who have challenges in this life. Jesus showed special concern for the lame, the blind, the woman with the issue of blood and the lepers. He placed great value on those whom society had shuffled aside and we, in our day, should continue to do the same. All human life, in whatever form and at whatever age, is valuable because God creates and sustains it in His own image and for His sacred purpose. We are in no position to determine when someone's life is no longer "useful" enough or of sufficient "quality" to be allowed to continue.

The Lord is the Creator and Author of Life. May we, as His creation, continue to know, love and serve Him by living in fellowship and communion with all humanity and remembering the beautiful words of David the Psalmist: "It is He Who made us and not we ourselves..." (Psalm 100)

GLORY TO JESUS CHRIST!

GLORY FOREVER!