

Saint Mary's Orthodox Church

(Protection of the Theotokos)

61 Canada Road Painted Post New York 14870

A Parish of the

American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese of North America, Ecumenical Patriarchate



*Saint
James
Of
Persia*

Parish Information

Services:

Sunday Divine Liturgy:
9:30am

Weekday/Holy Day Liturgy:
9:00am

Saturday/Holy Day Vespers:
5:00pm

Winter Vespers: 4:00pm

Contact:

Rev. Father Daniel Mahler
Presiding Priest
Rectory: 607-962-5285
Father's Cell: 607-377-0587
Canada Road 607-936-0689

Chuck Coons
Parish President/Cantor
Home: 607-962-0904

Church Website:

Saintmarysorthodoxchurchcorn-
ing.org

Follow our Diocese On-Line

Diocesan Website
acrod.org

Camp Nazareth
campnazareth.org

Facebook:
facebook.comacroddiocese

Twitter:
twitter.com/acrodnews

YouTube
youtube.com/archdiocese

SCHEDULE

Sunday December 10, 2017

Divine Liturgy

*Panachida in memory of +William Kerrick offered by sons
Rodney and Ted Kerrick*

Ladies Altar Society Meeting

Saturday December 16, 2017

Great Vespers/Litya Feast of Saint Nicholas

Sunday December 17, 2017

Divine Liturgy Commemorating Feast of Saint Nicholas

*Panachida in memory of +Victims Sandy Hook Elementary
School*

Saint Nicholas Coffee Social

EPISTLE READING

The Reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians 6:10-17

Brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we are not contending against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the powers, against the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand, therefore, having girded you loins with truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the equipment of the gospel of peace; besides all these, taking the shield of faith, with which you can quench all the flaming darts of the evil one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

GOSPEL READING

The Reading is from Luke 13:10-17

Let us attend!

At that time, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And there was a woman who a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. And when Jesus saw her, he called her and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your infirmity." And he laid his hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the sabbath day." Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger and lead it away to water it? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?" As he said this, all his adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by him.

TROPAR: TONE 2

When You submitted to death, O immortal Life, You made death powerless by the radiance of Your Divinity. When You raised the dead from the depths of the earth, all the heavenly powers exclaimed: "O Giver of Life, Christ our God: Glory to You!"

KONDAK: TONE 1

Glory to the Father and the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

You arose from the dead, O Almighty Savior! Death witnessed the miracle and was filled with fear, as the dead arose. All creation beheld it and rejoices in You; even Adam rejoices. The universe exalts You, O my Savior, forever.

Now and ever and for ever. Amen.

O Birthgiver of God, all your mysteries surpass understanding and every glory. For being sealed in purity and perfectly intact in your virginity, you became a real mother by giving birth to God the Word. Intercede with Him for the salvation of our souls.

Possessions and Sacrifice

"Those who reject not only everything they have but everything they hoped to possess truly give up everything"

The fishermen of Galilee found pleasure not only in leaving their ships and nets at the Lord's command, but also in declaring that they had left everything and followed Him. Those who reject not only everything they have but everything they hoped to possess truly give up everything. What they may have desired is only seen by God. What they actually possessed is seen by human eyes. In addition, when we love unimportant, earthly things, somehow we are more firmly married to what we have than to what we want to have. Why did the man who asked the Lord about eternal life go away sorrowful when he heard that he must sell everything and give it to the poor in order to be saved? For it is one thing to avoid gaining what we want, but it is another thing to give away that which has become a part of us. The former action is like declining food, the latter is like cutting off an arm. How great and wonderful is the joy of Christian generosity we obtain when, in obedience to the Gospel of Christ, we cheerfully sacrifice what that rich man grieved over and refused to give up:

Saint Augustine

Christmas Gift

"The quality of mercy is not strained..it is twice blessed. It blesseth him that gives and him that takes." So speaks Portia in the "Merchant of Venice," appealing not to implicit justice but to that quality that has its roots in the heart of man, one of the invisible cords that still tie us to the original divinity of our being, to which Christ calls us to return. Did we not believe in a God who is more merciful than just, what hope would we have? "If Thou shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand?" (Ps.130-3) How would we repay the value of what we have wantonly destroyed: morally, spiritually, physically? Before God's terrible justice, what excuse could we find for our murders, our thefts, our unkind words spoken and never taken back, or even the kind word left unspoken? How? Unless we could trust to the God who chose to die for us, to repay our unpayable debt?

Yet dependent as we know ourselves to be upon God's mercy, it is sad to see how little of this virtue we have to expend on each other! Generosity, on the whole is not an uncommon trait, especially here in America, where material goods are so plentiful. Generosity is a laudable emotion, a spontaneous desire to share what we have with the less fortunate. This is honorable and good, and arises mostly from real pity and a sense of gratitude for what we have.

But what I would talk of, is of simple human kindness which has no relationship to possessions. Of the kind word in a time of need, the patience to hear out, without interrupting, a tiresome story, the gentle pressure of a comprehending hand, a smile of encouragement to a sad, unknown face in a crowd. These little things that mean so much and cost often a great deal more than money could repay. Kindness engages us to more than simple spontaneous gestures; it demands a sustained effort, endless patience; a daily sacrifice of time and thought; a silent breaking of the heart over the grief of others so as to share fully another's grief or even joy. Kindness, love, charity—all stand for part of the same thing: a relaying of the infinite mercy God has shown us. Without charity (or love) Saint Paul says we are but sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal (1Cor.13) however great our virtues.

We often feel that having given a contribution to a worthy cause we have done our part. Or having given a present, that may represent a real sacrifice, we can make amends for past unkindnesses and brush away a hurtful word. But here we depend on the generosity of the other who is the receiver; has he the kindness to accept and understand and forgive? Here there are two virtues that come into play: contrition on one side and mercy on the other. The giver must be conscious that he is the petitioner and, in truth, on the receiving end of things. The receiver, in his turn, must not so much accept as erase, forgive so utterly that the other's sin is wiped out and so he can confidently look to Christ to erase his sin, for sinners are we all. A kind word, look, or action can wipe out a sea of pain when it comes from the heart.

Now at Christmas time, the great loving season of gift-giving in honor of the Christ Child, let us remember that He received gifts but once in His life, and they were the symbol of pain to come. Nor did He ever give a gift to anyone, not even to His blessed Mother, as far as we know. But He forgave, He restored, He made the crooked straight. He answered every inner need. He satisfied man's hunger for love and kindness by finally redeeming all with His won life, which was Life itself accepting death for love of us.

Above all, He showed us the healing power of kindness, kindness that comes from the heart from which Jesus said issued both the good and bad deeds of man. Of all the Old Testament laws He chose "Love your neighbor as yourself" as the greatest law of all. Could we not this day, on Christmas Day, lay aside our busy hands and lovely parcels, which yes, they too are an expression of our love, but I would have you go deeper and, in stillness, remember whom you

Christmas Gift

left out? Not out of your list of gifts but from the movement of kindness in your heart. However costly the gift, it cannot buy back the unkind word. Christ alone was able to redeem man from his sin, and even He, the Son of God, could do so only by offering His life. Thus, today, remembering the lonely little Family in the Bethlehem stable, let us remember in contrition all those whom we have excluded out of the warmth of our heart, and ask of Him Who is the God of mercy to grant us the supreme gift, which is beyond glory and wisdom, the one King Solomon asked for of God: "Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart" (1 Kings 3:9). May the Good Lord give us also this priceless gift this Christmastide.

By Mother Alexandra Reprinted from Life Transfigured Volume 4 #2

SPECIAL PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

2018 Lots of Luck Calendars

The ACRY 2018 Lots of Luck Calendars are now available. Get yours from Pani Joan during coffee social after Liturgy or call 962-5285 and let her know you want to purchase one or more at \$25.00 each. Each week, played straight on the Pick 3 Pennsylvania Lottery you have a chance to win. Hurry, get yours now as they go fast!

Christmas Family

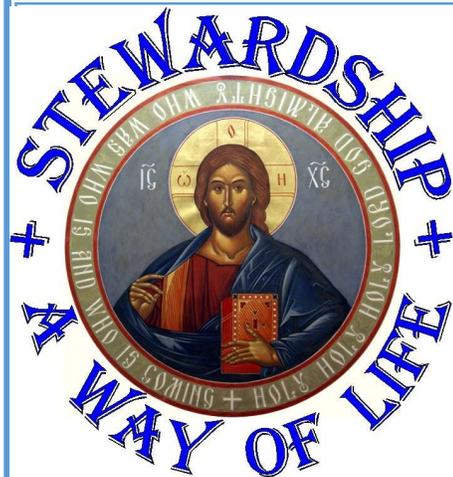
Every year we assist a local family during the Christmas season. This year we will purchase Aldi gift cards with your monetary donations. The cards will be given to a Social Service agency to be distributed to families in need. A donation basket will be in the hall until December 10th, in order to deliver them to the agency by Friday, December 15. Please be generous and contribute to this worthy cause. If you have questions, please see Carole Herrlich.

Bees Wax Tapers:

*Bees Wax Tapers to be lit in memory or honor of a loved one will once again be available beginning today for purchase. They can be purchased for a cost of **\$1.00** per candle. Please see Carole or Rodney.*

UP-COMING EVENTS

Annual Meeting Date: The Annual Meeting: **January 28, 2018**. Please mark your calendar today. Please remember in order to participate you must be in good standing with your Financial and Spiritual obligations.



On Stewardship and the Orthodox Life - Part 128: Family Holidays

“Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.” (Proverbs 22:6 RSV)

Parenting is one of the truly more difficult tasks asked of families. That task ought to include not only guidance in teaching children how to pray, how to read the Holy Scriptures, how to participate in the Divine Liturgy, how to receive Holy Communion – but parenting also includes training in the commandments of God, and in proper behavior both in church and outside of it.

Perhaps unknowingly, parents have often taught their children a rather selfish lesson that has extended to much of the lives of those who have grown up with this teaching. Parents have taught their children that birthdays and holidays are occasions for them to expect to receive gifts. This follows the very customs and bad habits that the world has fallen into.

Birthdays and holidays should be occasions to increase the knowledge of God’s ways, awakening thankfulness for God’s mercy and love for the gift of another year. Yet such occasions are turned into times of self-pleasing and self-gratification. The children have been kept by the hand of God every moment of their lives. How many parents and relatives think of a birthday as a day to say “Thank you” to God for His great mercy and lovingkindness? In fact, is God ever remembered on a child’s birthday?

But it is not only birthdays that are served in the world’s way of self-gratification. The Feast of the Nativity (Christmas) is surely a day that is not about the gifts we receive from each other, but about the great Gift that God has given us.

Some ideas: make a birthday a happy day for a child, but consider making it also a pleasant day for someone in need. Perhaps the day can become a day of service at a local food bank or soup kitchen. Perhaps the gift the child would receive might go to a child in the hospital. Let the day not pass without a prayer of thanksgiving to God. Find a way to make a gift to God that remembers one’s birthday, rather than all gifts to be received by the one whose anniversary of birth it is.

The most memorable Christmas Day I have ever had? Following Divine Liturgy for the Feast, we traveled close to 50 miles to the downtown Orthodox parish where a feast day dinner was being

November Birthdays/Anniversaries

December 1 Luke Mertus

December 9 Tezeru Birbirs

December 11 Anna McKane

December 11 Katherine McKane

December 13 Mary Benyo

December 14 Diane Rodrigues

December 14 Nancy Coons

December 14 Stanley Lewek

December 14 Chase Mackiewicz

December 20 Rodney Kerrick

December 23 Natasha Hartsman

December 29 Myra Svyrydenko



God grant your servants good health, happiness and salvation for many blessed years!

On Stewardship and the Orthodox Life - Part 128: Family Holidays

provided for the city poor and hungry. Like the magi of old, we carried with us gloves, hats, coats and sox as gifts for those in need of them. We offered gifts to the people of God in thanksgiving for the gift of His only-begotten Son.

A weekly series of brief thoughts on stewardship and Orthodox Life is brought to you by your Diocesan Stewardship Commission

Shut-ins/Away from Home SEND THEM A HOLIDAY CARD!

Mrs Anna Chudanic Room#324 Corning Center 205 East First Street Corning, New York 14830

Mr. John Cowherd Room #117 The Falls Home 111 Schuyler Street Montour Falls, New York 14865

Mrs. Mary Benyo 10 Kahler Road South Elmira, New York 14903-7910

Mrs. Joyce Nissen Apt #332 110 Creekside Drive Painted Post, NY 14870

Miss Anna McKane DX-12, Kendriya Vihar, Sector 56, Gurugram, Haryana 122011, India

FROM FATHER'S DESK....



- If you would like to meet with Father, please call him @607-962-5285 to arrange a time and place which is convenient for you.
- **Emergency Sick Calls:** Father is available for emergencies at any time. Please call him @ 607-962-5285 or on his cell phone @ 607-377-0587.
- **Our Mailing Address is:**
7 Chatfield Place East Painted Post, NY 14870
- **Confessions** are heard after Vespers on Saturday, after any weekday or Lenten service or by calling Father for an appointment.
- **Marriages** are solemnized on Saturdays. Consult Father at least six months in advance and before plans have been made for the wedding reception. Marriages cannot be celebrated during the fasting seasons of the Church.
- **Baptisms** are normally scheduled on Saturday or Sunday. Consult Father for scheduling. Two God-parents are required, at least one of whom must be Orthodox by faith and the other a practicing Christian.
- **Church Funerals** are provided for practicing Orthodox Christians who are current in their Spiritual and Financial obligations to the parish otherwise burial is from the funeral home.
- If you would like to schedule a Panachida for your loved one please call Father at 962-5285

The Church does not permit Cremation.

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS



His Grace, Bishop GREGORY; Protopresbyter Frank Miloro; Protopresbyter John Duranko; Protopresbyter Jim Dutko; Protopresbyter Luke Mihaly; Protopresbyter Lawrence Barriger; Protopresbyter Kenneth Bachofsky; V. Rev. Thomas Kadlek; V. Rev. Michael Kleban; V. Rev. Michael Psenechnuk; Rev. James Gleason; V. Rev. Jason Kappanadze; Father James Worthington and Family Deacon Charles Ellis; Deacon Donald Koch; Mother Ralphaela; Pani Joan; Pani Kathleen Dutko; Pani Patricia Duranko; -Matka Julia Romanchak; Sally Ellis; Judy Koch; Michael Banik; Helen Verno; Eleanor Adzima; Stan Lewek; Michael & Delores Kundrat; Lyudmyla Hayova; Helen Coons; Anna Soraparu; Mary Benyo; Anna Chudanic; Paul Rodrigues; George Officer; Michael Matzkevich; Marlene Wheet; Mae Mary Shonak; Helen Molson; Donna Blazosky; Tom Serdula; Art Gallant; Karen Kluchonic; Nancy Murphy-Teed; Joyce Nissen; Chelsea Roman; Timothy Davis; Mary Dirnberger

To Jonathan Share who is serving in the United States Navy; Tyler Colburn serving in the United States Army; Douglas Linsey serving in the United States Army and to all of our men and women who are serving and protecting our country both at home and abroad.

