

Special points of interest:

- Epistle Reading
2 Corinthians 1:21-2:4
- Gospel Reading: Matthew 22:1-14
- Tone: 5
- Liturgical Color: Gold

September 2, 2018

61 Canada Road

Painted Post, NY 14870

**Schedule for Week*****Sunday, September 2, 2018****9:30am Divine Liturgy**Panachida memory of +Paul Mertus offered by Mertus Family**Coffee Social/Birthdays/Anniversaries**Monday, September 3, 2018****Labor Day****Saturday, September 8, 2018**5:00pm Vespers/Confession**Sunday, September 9, 2018**9:30am Divine Liturgy**Ladies Altar Society Meeting***WELCOME!**

Welcome to all our visitors and guests who participate in our celebration of the Divine Liturgy today. We are glad you are here. While **Holy Communion may only be received by prepared Orthodox Christians**, our guests are welcome to join us in venerating the cross and receiving blessed bread at the conclusion of the Liturgy. We also hope you will join us for the Coffee Social afterward.

Parish Contact Information

Rev. Father Daniel Mahler

Presiding Priest

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Epistle Reading: 2 Corinthians 1:21-2:4

Brethren,

It is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has commissioned us; he has put his seal upon us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.

But I call God to witness against me— it was to spare you that I refrained from coming to Corinth. Not that we lord it over your faith; we work with you for your joy, for you stand firm in your faith. For I made up my mind not to make you another painful visit. For if I cause you pain, who is there to make me glad but the one whom I have pained? And I wrote as I did, so that when I came I might not suffer pain from those who should have made me rejoice, for I felt sure of all of you, that my joy would be the joy of you all. For I wrote you out of much affliction and anguish of heart and with many tears, not to cause you pain but to let you know the abundant love that I have for you.



Gospel Reading: Saint Matthew 22:2-14

Let us attend,

The Lord said this parable, “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a marriage feast for his son, and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the marriage feast; but they would not come. Again he sent other servants, saying ‘Tell those who are invited, Behold, I have made ready my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves are killed, and everything is ready; come to the marriage feast.’ But they made light of it and went off, one to his farm, another her to his business, while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. Then he said to his servants, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore to the thoroughfares, and invite to the marriage feast as many as you find.’ And those servants went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good; so the wedding hall was filed with guest.

But when the king came in to look at the guest, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment?’ And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and cast him into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth.’ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

The Orthodox Church: 455 Questions and Answers

By Stanley S. Harakas

Q: *If you were an atheist, could you resort to religion?*

A: *Religion is understood as the system of beliefs and practices around which we organize our lives. So, atheists, in fact do have religions because they must order their values in some fashion in order to live. We hold, however, that their religions are false ones—because they ignore the true God.*

Nearly all atheists precisely do, in fact, have a religion. We can understand this by noting St. Paul's judgment about "covetousness, which is idolatry" (Colossians 3:5). The covetous person is one who is excessively avaricious and greedy. His or her whole life is focused on material gain. Worldly possessions are central—they have become a god for the covetous person. The pursuit of worldly possessions has become his or her religion. While the Bible teaches us "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and all your soul and all your strength and all you mind," disbelievers in God tend to substitute the central place of God in their lives with some other thing. They have a religion—but it is a false one. That is why Orthodoxy (true belief and true worship) is so important. If we accept the true God, and devote our lives to God, then we function as we ought to. If we reject the true God, we create for ourselves false gods whom we serve. Few people are really atheists. Rather, they believe falsely. They have "exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshipped and served the creature rather than the Creator," says St. Paul (Romans 1:25).

ATHEIST

Q: *Does the person baptizing a child in the Orthodox Church have to be an Orthodox himself?*

A: *You are speaking of the Godparent or "Sponsor. He or she is known in Greek as the "Anadochos," and more popularly, as the "Koumbaros-Koumbara." The sponsor must be an Orthodox Christian. Further, the sponsor must be a practicing Orthodox Christian in good order with the church. Generally, this means that the potential sponsor should be a member of some Orthodox parish and have no status or condition which prevents him/her from participating in the sacramental life of the church. The most frequent reason people are not permitted to receive Holy Communion is marriage outside the church, though there can be other reasons as well. The rationale for all this is that the role and responsibility of the sponsor is to care for the spiritual upbringing of the person whom they baptize. It is not only participation in the liturgy of baptism, but the moral and spiritual relationship which last for the life-time of both the new Christian and the sponsor. To understand that is to understand why the sponsor at an Orthodox baptism must be an Orthodox Christian in good order with the Church.*

BAPTISM



COFFEE with SISTER VASSA

MISTAKING JESUS FOR A PROPHET

“...King Herod heard of it; for Jesus’ name had become known. Some said, ‘John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; that is why these powers are at work in him.’ But others said, ‘It is Elijah.’ And others said, ‘It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old.’ But when Herod heard of it he said, ‘John, whom I beheaded, has been raised.’ For Herod had sent and seized John, and bound him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip’s wife; because he had married her. For John said to Herod, ‘It is not lawful for you to have your brother’s wife.’” (Mk 6:14-18)

When Herod hears of “Jesus’ name,” the guilt-plagued king thinks it is John, whom he beheaded “for the sake of Herodias,” a woman with whom he was in a “wrong” relationship. It’s an understandable mistake, because John, like Jesus, spoke truth to “wrong” kinds of power, including “wrong” relationships, in God’s Spirit. Herod recognized the voice of God both in John and in Jesus, but he couldn’t make the “right” distinction between the Prophet and the Lord of the Prophet, because his vision was focused on, and hence blinded by, his attachment to this “wrong” relationship. (Thus the Muslims also mistake Jesus for a mere “prophet,” following their “Prophet,” Muhammed, who had a larger number of “wives” than the number

considered “right,” even according to Muslim standards).

But Jesus wasn’t just a prophet, no, He, as the Source of Life, could have liberated Herod from the death-bringing consequences of his “wrong” relationship, as John could not. Christ is not just “the voice crying out in the wilderness.” He is, rather, the Source of that voice, calling each of us, including John the Baptist, to our true vocation(s), and to the “right” relationships we are sent, and which we are to foster, that we might find true life in Him. “Blessed are You, O Lord, teach me Your commandments.”



**MEMORY ETERNAL!
+THOMAS SERDULA**

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the falling asleep of Thomas Serdula beloved brother of Carole Herrlich. Tom fell asleep on the Feast of the Dormition. Funeral services will be held on Thursday, September 6 in North Carolina.

May our Lord God commit the soul of His servant Thomas in place of refreshment where there is no sickness, suffering or pain but life everlasting.

*May his memory be eternal!
Vichnaja I jemu Pamjat!*

CONTACT US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



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COFFEE with SISTER VASSA

THE DAUGHTER OF THE KING

“Hearken, O daughter, and see, and incline your ear; and forget your own people and your father’s house. And the king shall greatly desire your beauty, for he himself is your Lord, and you shall worship him. And him shall the daughters of Tyre worship with gifts; the rich among the people’s shall entreat your countenance. All the glory of the daughter of the king is within, with gold fringed garments is she arrayed, adorned in varied colors...I shall commemorate you name in every generation and generation.”
(Ps44:9-12,16 Septuagint-translation)

Today, as those of us on the Older Calendar celebrate the great feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos, our Church showers praise, gratitude and love upon “the daughter of the king.” She did, indeed, “incline her ear” to God’s call from an early age, growing up not in “her father’s house” but in the Temple, and became “arrayed” with a unique beauty “within.” It wasn’t any bland or one-dimensional kind of beauty, but one “adorned in varied colors.” Thus “in every generation” we entreat her countenance” in the many and varied holy icons of the Mother of God.

Thank you, most-holy Mother of God, for not abandoning us in your Dormition, and blessing us daily with your loving countenance. “You were translated to life, O Mother of Life, and by your prayers, you deliver our souls from death.” (Troparion-hymn of Dormition)

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Glory to Jesus Christ!

Glory forever!

The Summer season of 2018 is fast approaching its end, and a new school year for both our secular and religious schools are about to begin. Teachers are preparing to welcome our young people back to school with enthusiasm and zeal, although I am not sure that teacher nor student are ready to leave behind all the activities and socializing that Summertime allows us to enjoy along with those trips to see family and friends, or to the beach, or the lake or even a ball game.

The Summer months have been a busy time for us at Saint Mary's as well. There was a lot of work has been done in the 'new' rectory making it ready for Pani and I to move into in the coming weeks. The new rectory sports a brand new kitchen (new flooring, new countertops, new appliances and painting, etc.). The complete house, both first and second floor have new carpeting or flooring, painting. It's beautiful and will be a great home for your pastor and pani both now and in the future.

The month of September brings the start of the "NEW" liturgical year which is celebrated on September 1/14 with the first feast on September 21st the Nativity of the Most Holy Mother of God (Theotokos). It is only fitting that the Theotokos begins the liturgical year with the celebration of her birth (Nativity) on September 8/21 and closes out the year with her death (Dormition) which we celebrated this past Tuesday August 28.

Again, just a reminder that schools will be opening in our area this week. Please drive carefully, watching out for our young people who may be walking or exiting buses or cars and may not see you traveling. Remember to STOP for all school buses when 'red' lights are flashing.

For those traveling for the long weekend and the official end to the Summer with cook-outs enjoy yourselves and be SAFE.

In Christ,

Father Dan .

This week's Bulletin and Eternal Light is sponsored by
CAROLE & GARY HERRLICH AND FAMILY

In memory of
+THOMAS SERDULA

May his memory be eternal! Vichnaja I Jemu Pamjat!

September Birthdays/Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS

September

- 1 *Vlad Svyrydenko*
- 2 *Emily Quayenortey*
- 7 *Joyce Merletti*
- 9 *James Mackiewicz*
- 10 *Jill Mertus*
- 18 *Ana Powers*
- 19 *Kris Matusick*
- 27 *Sam Powers*

***O God, grant your servants
celebrating their special
day good health, happiness
for many blessed years!***

ANNIVERSARIES

September

- 3 *Tim & Michele Tostanoski*
- 7 *John & Joanne Albrecht*
- 30 *Fr Dan & Pani Joan*



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; Very Rev. John Baranik; V. Rev. Michael Psenechnuk; Rev. James Gleason; V. Rev. Jason Kappanadze; Rev. Basil Hutsko; Deacon Charles Ellis; Deacon Donald Koch; Mother Alphaela; Pani Joan; Pani Kathleen Dutko; Pani Patricia Duranko; Pani-Matka Julia Romanchak; Sally Ellis; Judy Koch; Michael Banik; Helen Verno; Eleanor Adzima; Stan Lewek; Michael & Delores Kundrat; Vasyl & Lyudmyla Hayova; Helen Coons; Mary Benyo; Anna Chudanic; George Officer; Michael Matzkevich; Marlene Wheet; Mae Mary Shonak; Helen Molson; Donna Blazosky; Art Gallant; Nancy Murphy-Teed; Joyce Nissen; Chelsea Roman; Gloria Ewsuk; Andrew Chudanic; Tammy Pierson; Jeanne Zimmer; Denise Topichak; Linda Sambursky; John Cowherd; Raymond Corbett; Erica Tibeau; Malcolm Clarke; Stephen Brancho

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.

Saint Mary's Orthodox Church September 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:30 Divine Lit Panchida Paul Metus Birthdays	3	4	5	6	7	8 5:00 Vespers
9 9:30 Divine Lit Coffee Social Altar Society	10 5:00 Ves/Lit Behead St. John	11 St Fast Behead St. John NO LIT	12	13	14 NEW LI- TURGICAL YEAR BEGINS	15 5:00 Ves- pers
16 9:30 Divine Lit Potluck/Pantry	17	18	19	20 5:00 Ves/Lit Nat. Theotokos	21 Nat. of Theotokos NO LIT	22 5:00 Vespers
23 9:30 Divine Litur- gy Coffee Soc	24	25	26 5:00 Ves/ Lit Elev. Cross	27 Elev. Of Holy Cross NO LIT	28	29 5:00 Vespers
30 9:30 Divine Litur- gy Coffee Soc						