

ST. NICHOLAS COMMUNITY NEWS

A Diverse Community Connected by Faith

Published by The Dormition Guild of St. Nicholas Cathedral
Celebrating 40 Years of Autocephaly

March 2012

PROLOGUE

DORMITION GUILD February Activities

120 bags of mulch and 2 bags of Hollytone were placed on St. Nicholas church yard and Annex property in February to prepare for Spring gardening. Mark Pietrzykoski contributed his time for this church beautification project as a responsibility of the Dormition Guild with materials donated by Donya Platoff.

We thank Mrs. Platoff for her continuing support of the Dormition Guild.

On February 8th, the Dormition Guild prepared and served repast for Milena (Pelageya) Tarasyek's funeral. Mrs. Tarasyek (42) died tragically in a car accident the previous Sunday leaving her husband and four sons. May Her Memory Be Eternal

Dormition Guild is seeking men to join their ranks. There is much to be done around the church, especially with spring just around the corner. Remember, giving of your time and talent is just as important as a monetary donation.



Council Notes

Officer Elections and Committees

The Parish Council at its January meeting elected new officers for calendar year 2012.

They are:

Ann Alaoglu, Vice President
Ken Mitchell, Secretary
Michele Smith, Treasurer

We wish them well in their new positions and are grateful for their willingness to serve.

In addition to the officers, the Parish Council hosts a number of committees. Most are chaired or co-chaired by at least one Parish Council member. If you signed up to serve on one of the committees, please contact the chair or the office to remind them of your interest. In some cases you may have already been contacted by the committee chair.

Here are the committees:

Personnel-Ann Alaoglu*
Budget and Finance-Michele Smith
Stewardship-Marina Poutiatine and Irina Panyutin
Legal and By-Laws-Walter Alesevich and Jonathan Russin
History and Archives-Marilyn Swezey and Joel Kalvesmaki
Communications-Irina Burgener
Facilities-Mark Pietrzykoski
Gift Corner-Suzanne Tolstoy
Cemetery-Lana Gerich
Outreach-Claire Nobles and Irina Burgener

*Only personnel committee membership is restricted to parish council members because of privacy issues.

(Council Notes continued)

There are several other committees that are in need of chairpersons. If you are interested in chairing or have been chairing and I am simply not aware of it, please contact the office.

They are:

- Library
- Vestments
- Events
- Candle Counter
- Telephone Tree

Barbara Rhenish, Parish President



On the mend:

Matushka Helen Oleynik, Susanna Novitskaya, (Susanna is Alla's daughter who went to emergency surgery on 01/31 - appendix!!), Sharon Osmolovsky

Homebound

Martha Zewan, Helen Mikhalevsky, Dee Krisa, Nick Yanowsky, Marie Starn, Galina Tolliver, Olga Lyerly, Renee Robinson, Ed Rhenish, Matushka Lydia Malasch, Matushka Helen Oelynik, Lillian Tcherkassky

For contact info to cheer those in need you may email: andrealutov@gmail.com

Passages



Many Years!

Happy Birthday!!

- 03 Paul Patton
- 04 Galina Tolliver
- 05 Donya Platoff
Wayne Paige
- 06 Helen Mikhalevsky
- 07 Eva White
- 09 Colette Kalvesmaki
- 11 Kyra Smerkanich
- 12 Virgil Nemoianu
- 13 Mother Lubov Louthan
- 20 Lana Gerich
Tatjana D'Arcangelo
- 21 Martha Evanoff
- 23 Stan Homa
- 25 Catherine Roman
Stephen Soudakoff
- 27 Natasha Rocheleau
David Lobue
Lisa Lelo



Weddings:

January 28 Valery Selinevich and Yelena Selinevich (nee – Gorbunova)

February 5 Harry (Ignatius) Thompson Green and Amy (Aimilia) Leigh Dowker

Baptisms:

Feb 4 Sophia Dieng

Feb 11 Valerie Pavlenko

Funerals – Memory Eternal!

Milena (Pelagia)

TarasyekVissarion Sesnev

For contact info to cheer those in need you may email: andrealutov@gmail.com

Sick Call

Emilia Barr, Eugene Osolinsky

Why we.....

The Blessing of candles on 2 Feb. comes to us from the Catholics. In fact, the prayers are a Slavonic translation & adaptation of the text from the Roman Missal pre-1970.

The prayers as used by the Catholics are to bless the candles used in procession that precedes the Mass on that day. The procession celebrates the Savior's Entry into the temple and His Meeting w/St. Symeon who proclaims Him as the "Light to lighten the Gentiles." The prayers also indicate that it is a good custom to take the candles home & to burn them as a blessing there. Since we have no such procession, we bless the candles to take them home.

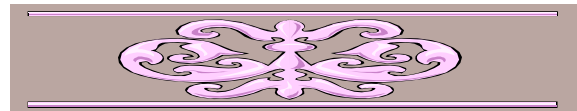
Who Donates the Most

The following is from the New York Times of Sunday, January 29, religious giving as a percent of gross household income, 2004

Mormon	5.6%
Pentecostal/ Assemblies of God	2.9%
Other Protestants	2.6%
Baptist	2.0%
Lutheran	1.5%
Jewish	1.4%
Eastern Orthodox	1.3%
Methodist	1.2%
Episcopalian	1.2%
Presbyterian	1.2%
Catholic	0.7%
Muslim/Buddist	0.6%

Consider donating to the IOCC

IOCC is the official humanitarian and relief organization of the Standing Conference of Canonical Orthodox Bishops in the Americas (SCOBA). With the support of a worldwide network of Orthodox Church leaders, local partners, volunteers and contributors, since 1991, IOCC works each day to provide help and hope to vulnerable people through humanitarian and self-help programs. www.iocc.org



Excerpt letter from our Adopted Seminarian John Askoak

TO: The faithful in Christ at St. Nicholas Cathedral

Grace to you and peace from God Our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Brothers and Sisters: First I would like to express love to all because you have helped a complete stranger! Without your help we would be struggling to get the things we need for our three young children. No words can explain our thankfulness. In closing I leave you with the words of St. Paul: "I thank my God upon every remembrance of you always in every prayer of mine making requests for you all with joy."

With love in Christ, Subdn John, Tatiana, Rose, Katya, and Tikhon.

2012 LENTEN RETREAT

Saturday, March 10, 2012

Orthodox Church of St. Matthew

Please join us for the 2012 Lenten Retreat with Fr. Maximus Urbanowicz founder of Gospel To All Nations (GTAN) to be held on Saturday, March 10, 2012 at the Orthodox Church of St. Matthew. GTAN is an Orthodox evangelistic organization working to fulfill the Great Commission by taking the "Good News" of Jesus Christ and His Church to all the nations of the world. 100% net proceeds from the retreat will be donated to support this life saving ministry.



Don't forget to watch the videos from Bishop Michael! Each "lesson" is only 8 minutes long! I'm confident you will find them enjoyable, educational, and inspiring. To see the videos go to:

http://nynjoca.org/lessons_in_our_faith.html

**Revival of Orthodoxy Exhibition in Moscow**

Check out the link below for a wonderful video clip describing an Orthodox exhibition in Russia.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XddLDufkaig>

Neighborhood Pot Luck Retrospective

On Saturday January 28, about a dozen St Nicholas parishioners convened at the home of George and Ann Nartsissov for the first St Nicholas Neighborhood Pot Luck. The food was delicious, the hospitality delightful, and the conversation stimulating. Before we knew it, it was midnight and the conversation was still lively and interesting. The group was as diverse as St Nicholas itself, including young and "young at heart", married and single, English and Russian speaking, and representing a wide variety of viewpoints and backgrounds. Despite the diversity, we all shared a common love for the Orthodox faith and for our beloved parish, St Nicholas Cathedral. Some important lessons can be learned from this experience. First, showing hospitality by opening one's home helps create much more personal and meaningful relationships within our parish. Second, if we always stay within our "comfort zone" and only interact with people who are like us, we are missing out. Third, those who visit St Nicholas for the first time will be much more likely to stay and become part of our community if they develop personal relationships within the community. Don't wait for an invitation. Consider inviting others into your home, especially people you don't normally socialize with. If you see someone new in the church or at coffee hour, take the initiative to talk to them and consider giving them a personal invitation to your home. Our mission at St Nicholas is to function as an integral body, show the love of Christ, and to make disciples of Christ in our nation's capital, and accomplishing this mission happens one relationship at a time.

Ken Miller
Organizer

Pirozhki workshop

Saturday, March 10, start from 12 PM at Parish Hall and will continue until Vigil.

Everyone agrees – these are the best pirozhki they've had. Come and join the workshop, it's a great way to meet new people and help the church at the same time.

Contact: Irina Panyutin, she'll answer all of your questions
ipanyutin@cc.nih.gov



Delicious and kid approved!

LECTURE

March 15, 5:15pm
Catholic University

Archpriest John Behr, Dean of St. Vladimir Seminary is a renowned scholar of church fathers will deliver a lecture entitled: "The Struggle to Become Human in the Early Church."

To place information in the newsletter please contact Irina Burgener at:
iburgen@gmail.com

Lenten Triad

PRAYER

Attending the Worship Services of the Church
Daily Personal Prayer
Meditation and Reflection
(time for silence of mind & heart)
Study of Scriptures
Reading Lives of the Saints, Writings of the Fathers,
Books/Articles on our Faith

FASTING

Dietary Rules and Discipline
Abstaining from Distracting Activities
Turning down the "noise"
of everyday living
Fasting from Sin while
Striving to Grow in Virtue
Creating "holy" time and
space where we live

CHARITY

Showing Patience, Kindness,
Forgiveness and Love
to those we Live with,
Work with, and
Encounter Daily
(even the "Stranger")
Giving of our Time, Talent,
and Treasure to our Parish,
to those in need. and all who
are in affliction of body,
mind or spirit
Feeding the Hungry,
Clothing the Naked,
Visiting the Lonely,
Seeing the face of Christ on others.

Prepared by Fr. Ken James Stavrevsky
http://www.saintjohnorthodox.org/kit_total_lowres.pdf

Congratulations to Suzanne Tolstoy and Marina Poutiatine on another successful Maslenitsa celebration at the Russian Embassy!

Holy Monastery "Entrance of the Theotokos in the Temple"



Front step of Unionville Property, can you believe it, the cross was there before the nuns moved in!

"Come and Visit!"

9002 Clemsonville Road, Union Bridge, MD 21791 will get you a few hundred yards from the gateway, which is marked 'St. Benedict Way'. Turn left into the Monastery grounds and from then on, keep right. Divine Liturgies Sat & Sun, Pre-Sanctifieds Wed & Fri. We await you!



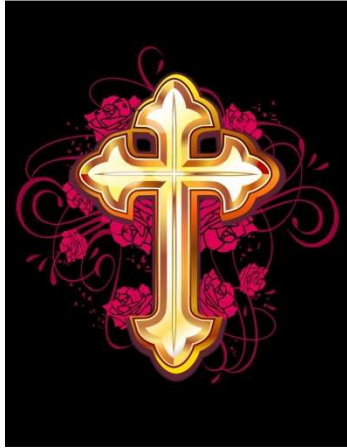
Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 9428

Washington, DC 20016

Website: www.entranceofthetheotokos.org





MARCH SERVICES

Thursday, March 1 7 pm
Great Compline and Canon of St Andrew of Crete (E,S)

Friday, March 2 10am
Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts (S)

Saturday, March 3 10 am
Divine Liturgy (E,S) *Theodore Saturday*
Vigil (E,S) 5pm

Sunday, March 4 9 am
Divine Liturgy (E) *Sunday of Orthodoxy*

Divine Liturgy (S) 10:45am

Pan-Orthodox Vespers at St Sophia Greek Cathedral 5:30pm

Wednesday, March 7 7 pm
Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts (E)

Friday, March 9 10am
Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts (S)

Saturday, March 10 10 am
Divine Liturgy (E,S) *Memorial Saturday*
Vigil (E,S) 5pm

Sunday, March 11 9 am
Divine Liturgy (E) **St Gregory Palama**

Divine Liturgy (S) 10:45am

Wednesday, March 14 7 pm
Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts (E)

Friday, March 16 10 am
Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts (S)

Saturday, March 17 10 am
Divine Liturgy (E,S) *Memorial Saturday*
Vigil (E,S) 5pm

Sunday, March 18 9 am
Divine Liturgy (E) *Veneration of the Cross*
Divine Liturgy (S) 10:45am

Wednesday, March 21 7 pm
Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts (E)

Friday, March 23 10am
Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts (S)

Saturday, March 24 10 am
Divine Liturgy (E,S) *Memorial Saturday*
Vigil (E,S) 5pm

Sunday, March 25 9 am
Divine Liturgy (E) *Annunciation of the Theotokos*

Divine Liturgy (S) 10:45am

Wednesday, March 28 7 pm
Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts (E)

Friday, March 30 10 am
Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts (S)

Matins (E,S) 7pm

Saturday, March 31 10am
Divine Liturgy (E,S)

Vigil (E,S) 5pm

More from last pirozhki workshop
Never too early to learn



They're delicious !!!



Gift Corner



Don't forget to stop by and see all of the beautiful new merchandise that is available.

Reminder, for an upcoming wedding or baptism, candles and crosses should be ordered / purchased in advance of the special event to ensure that you get exactly what you want.

PARISHIONERS:

For a Simple and Convenient Way to Give sign up for electronic giving. St.Nicholas Cathedral relies on the financial support of the congregation, and electronic giving offers an easy way to give on a recurring basis. Don't forget to tell your friends, family and fellow Orthodox about this. Check it out, go to: <http://stnicholasdc.org/>



Russian Children's Festival

Dedicated to the 200th jubilee of Russian America

Saturday, March 10, 2012

1:30pm - 5:00pm

10701 Gainsborough Road Potomac, MD 20854

Attendance is free.

Folk art exhibition (all willing participants are welcome, regardless of the country of origin)
Russian cuisine

Master-class on traditional Russian wood-carving
Master-class on straw-dolls making

Find more information :

<http://www.russiandc.com/events.php?id=3513>



St.Nicholas Hospitality Shown to Visiting Seminararians

