

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2010 23RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Tone 6. Apostles of the Seventy: Stachys, Amplias, Urban, Narcissus, Apelles, and Aristobulus (1st c.). Hieromartyr Archpriest John Kochurov (1917). Martyr Epimachus of Alexandria (250). Ven. Spyridon and Nicodemus the Prospora-bakers, of the Kiev Caves (Far Caves—12th c.). St. Maura of Constantinople.

TROPARIA

(Tone 6) The angelic powers were at Thy tomb the guards became as dead men. Mary stood by Thy grave, seeking Thy most pure Body. Thou didst capture hell, not being tempted by it. Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life. O Lord who didst rise from the dead: glory to Thee!

(Tone 1) Aflame with love for God, you gave your life as a martyr for Christ and neighbor, for this you received a crown of righteousness from Him. Hieromartyr John, entreat the most Merciful God to preserve the Holy Church in peace and to save our souls.

(Tone 4) In truth you were revealed to you flock as a rule of faith, a model of meekness, and teacher of abstinence, so you won the heights by humility, and riches by poverty, O Holy Father Nicholas, intercede with Christ God to save our souls.

KONTAKION

(Tone 6) Steadfast Protectress of Christians, Constant Advocate before the Creator; despise not the entreating cries of us sinners, but in your goodness come speedily to help us who call on you in faith. Hasten to hear our petition and to intercede for us, O Theotokos, for you always protect those who honor you!

The Prokeimenon in the Sixth Tone: O Lord, save Thy people / and bless Thine inheritance!

v. To Thee, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me!

THE EPISTLE OF THE HOLY APOSTLE PAUL TO THE HEBREWS. (13:7-16)

Brethren: Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God; consider the outcome of their life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever. Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings; for it is well that the heart be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefited their adherents. We have an altar from which those who serve the tent have no right to eat. For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp. So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own

blood. Therefore let us go forth to him outside the camp and bear the abuse he endured. For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city which is to come. Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Alleluia, Tone 6

v: He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the heavenly God.

v: He will say to the Lord: “My Protector and my Refuge; my God, in Whom I trust!”

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SAINT LUKE (16:19-31)

At that time Jesus also said to His disciples: “There was a rich man, who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, full of sores, who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man’s table; moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham’s bosom. The rich man also died and was buried; and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes, and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus in his bosom. And he called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy upon me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in anguish in this flame.’ But Abraham said, ‘Son, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.’ And he said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father’s house, for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.’ But Abraham said, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.’ And he said, ‘No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ He said to him, ‘If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.’”

COMMUNION HYMN Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

WHAT IS PROPORTIONATE GIVING?

The Numbers Approach

One is the Numbers Approach. The parish council sits down and calculates what it will need next year to carry out the work in that parish. For example, let’s suppose in a given parish a 10 percent increase will be

needed next year. The message is communicated that if everyone would just raise his contribution for next year by 10 percent, we will make it fine. There are several things wrong with this approach. First, it puts the emphasis in the wrong place. The Numbers Approach will always put the emphasis on the dollars the church needs rather than on the giving. When you start with a budget, the center of attention remains on the numbers, on the balance sheet. You can talk all you like about giving as responsible Christians, but few will hear what you say because the natural tendency will be to sharpen their mental pencils to go over the budget.

Second, the Numbers Approach is unfair. The basis of the message is that everyone is giving evenly, that family A and family B are already giving conscientiously in relation to their means. But the facts belie the assumption. While some families do give conscientiously, many more give far less than they could, or should. To ask for a percentage increase puts an unfair burden on those who are doing their best to be faithful in their giving, and it allows the token giver to remain exactly where he is. Even if he responds to the percentage increase, he will still be a token giver.

Third, this approach represents a minimum rather than a maximum request. Perhaps it is the fear of asking too much and facing failure that tempts us. But with the Numbers Approach, what we ask as an increase is pretty well educated by what we are fairly certain is attainable. Consequently, it doesn't challenge anyone spiritually. We ask our people to give to the Church, or to a given parish, and the effect is to base our appeal on the people's responsibility for the survival of the parish, on parish loyalties, on interest in parish activities, or even on loyalty to a particular parish priest. To base our appeal on these things is to preclude any serious consideration of giving as a matter of a person's spiritual life, as a serious matter between a Christian and God.

Church people operate on at least three levels of loyalty. We live on the level of denominational loyalty; that is, loyalty to the Orthodox Church. In addition to that, we live on the level of parish loyalty. We have an interest in seeing our parish survive, prosper, and grow. Beyond these loyalties, we also live on the level of a loyalty -a commitment -to God in Jesus Christ. At our best, all three loyalties complement and reinforce each other. However, all too often the first two loyalties are used as a substitute for the third. We can so easily be caught up in a kind of "Churchianity."

Indeed, to be faithful to a parish is a far easier commitment than to be faithful to Christ. And when we deal with our stewardship task on the level of parish commitments, we run the real risk of allowing these to be a substitute for any challenge to grow in relationship and commitment to God. While we may say that our stewardship is a matter of the spirit, when the push really comes, it's the other loyalties on which we are really banking. That's the real message church members will hear.

From *What is Proportionate Giving?* by Father Joseph Hirsch published by the Department of Stewardship, The Orthodox Church in America

October 31, 2010

CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR THE HEALTH & BLESSINGS OF

Good health of Gloria Zelenko.....	Jo Ann Havens & Johnny Kantor
God's blessings for speedy recovery, Gloria Zelenko-We miss you.....	Kara, Eli & Adam
Health & Blessings John & Gloria Zelenko, Diane Todorovsky, Anne Smith.....	Rosemary Vuckovich
Special Intention.....	Dennis & Sharon Jernigan
Health & God's blessings Gloria & John Zelenko, Diane Todorovsky.....	Angelo & Christine Panoff
Happy Birthday & God's blessings Krista Burt, Phil Brown, Elva Paul, Walter Pyatenko, Jeanette Brayan, Happy Anniversary John & Helen Bibilikow.....	Anne Smith
Happy Birthday & God's blessings Helen Bibilikow-Oct. 31.....	Goodman & Neely
Happy Birthday & God's blessings Mira Prusac, Health & God's blessings Bosa Kantar.....	Mary King
Special Intention Diane, Art Zambito & family, Maggie, Nancy & Ken Laycock, Olga Elavich & family, Patricia Miculka, Fred Oginsky, Gloria & John Zelenko, Gladys Edwards, Carol Alden, Anne Smith.....	Anne Smith
Happy 40 th Birthday Debbie Neely-Nov. 3.....	Mom & Dad
Health & Blessings Mary King, Olga Haw & family, Families of Oginsky, Fred & Joe, Miculka, Kuptz, Sick & shut-ins of St. Nicholas.....	Anne Smith
David Tome, Michael Berkey, Anne Smith, Dick Phillips, Walter Sudia, Alex Ruggieri, Flossie Bayoff, Anna Branoff, John & Gloria Zelenko, Ted Weston, Fr. David, Gladys Edwards, My family & friends.....	J. Tome
God's blessings for a Happy Birthday Mira Prusac.....	Sredich Family
Happy Birthday & God's blessings Mira Prusac, Health & God's blessings Bosa Kantar.....	Rosemary Vuckovich
Special Intention.....	J. Tome
Health & Blessings John & Gloria Zelenko, Gladys Edwards, Diane Todorovsky, Anne Smith.....	Mary King

CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR ALL THOSE IN BLESSED REPOSE

Grandmother Anastasia Stublensky 32yrs.....	Jo Ann & Johnny
Blessed Repose-Mildred Reynolds.....	Rosemary Vuckovich
Lewis Elieff-Blessed Repose-Memory Eternal.....	Evanka & Family
Carl Smith & our son, Nick & Helen Polonic, Mary, Joe, Norma & Douglas Oginsky, Andy Marko, Harold & Mary Smith, Ken King.....	Anne Smith
Millie Reynolds.....	Sredich Family
Mitered Archpriest Photios Donahue-29yrs.....	J. Tome
Newly Departed Paul Riker-Memory Eternal.....	Joe & Dorothy Goodman
Blessed Repose-Mildred Reynolds.....	Mary King

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome all of our friends and visitors to St. Nicholas. Please join us for coffee and pastries in the parish hall following the veneration of the cross.

Coffee and pastries are being donated today in memory of Anastasia Stublensky by her grandchildren Jo Ann Havens and Johnny Kantor.

A special parish meeting was held on Sunday, October 24 with the dual purpose of: 1- amending the parish bylaws to allow for elections in November and the annual meeting in January; 2- the election of two (2) lay delegates to the Diocesan Congress-Sobor. The amendment to the parish bylaws was passed. Johnny Kantor and Julio Vázquez were elected as delegates to our November Congress-Sobor.

There will be a 40day Parastas for the repose of Mildred Bladecki on Wednesday, November 10 at 11am at the Penzien-Steele Funeral Home in Bay City.

DIOCESAN CONGRESS-SOBOR – NOV. 12-13, 2010 AT ST. GEORGE CATHEDRAL, ROSSFORD, OH HOTEL ACCOMODATIONS

Hotel accommodations for **clergy, lay delegates and observers** have been made for the upcoming Special Sobor at St. George Orthodox Cathedral in Rossford, OH on November 12th/13th. A block of rooms for one night has been reserved under the name "Bulgarian Diocese" at: La Quinta Inn 1154 Professional Drive Perrysburg, OH 43551-2579 phone: (419) 872-0000. The cost for the room will be \$40.00 plus tax (single or double occupancy) for the overnight stay. Please make your reservations by calling La Quinta at the above listed number. **The deadline for reservations was Friday, October 29th.**

CONGRESS-SOBOR BRUNCH

For the purposes of the brunch after Liturgy, St. George Cathedral will need to have an idea of how many people need to be fed. They will have a count of the clergy and lay delegates based on the registration information. However they don't know how many observers will be in attendance. If you plan on attending as an observer, please contact the office as soon as possible (no later than November 5) so the proper count can be relayed to the cathedral.

ELECTION OF PARISH COUNCIL, AUDITORS AND NOMINATING COMMITTEE

As of October 16, 2010, the nominees are:

Parish Council Nominees:

- Linda Branoff
- Dennis Goodman
- Marla Houser
- Reggie Jehnsen
- Sharon Jernigan
- Cathy Steiner
- Julio Vázquez

Auditor Nominees: two need to be elected

- Rosemary Vuckovich

Absentee Ballots are available in the parish office

Elections for the parish council and auditors will be held on Sunday, November 7, 2010

Schedule of services for the week of October, 24

Saturday, November 6

4:30 pm

No Vespers

Sunday, November 7

10:00 am

22nd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Typika Service

Church School

Election of parish council and auditors

Sunday Offerings for October 24, 2010

<i>Weekly Income</i>	
<i>Weekly Offering Envelope*</i>	<i>\$ 1,386.00</i>
<i>Children's Envelopes</i>	<i>\$ 3.00</i>
<i>Cemetery Maintenance</i>	<i>\$ 6.00</i>
<i>Charity Envelope</i>	<i>\$ 0.00</i>
<i>Diocesan Support</i>	<i>\$ 11.00</i>
<i>OCA Envelope</i>	<i>\$ 0.00</i>
<i>Candle Fund</i>	<i>\$ 147.90</i>
<i>Kitchen/Coffee</i>	<i>\$ 50.00</i>
<i>Seminarian Fund</i>	<i>\$ 1.00</i>
<i>Loose Offering</i>	<i>\$ 39.00</i>
<i>Kiosk</i>	<i>\$ 0.00</i>
<i>Total Income</i>	<i>\$1,643.90</i>
<i>Avg. Weekly Budget</i>	<i>\$3,743.49</i>
<i>+/- Budget</i>	<i>-\$2,100.49</i>

<i>Income to date</i>	<i>\$156,795.12</i>
<i>Expense to date</i>	<i>\$176,170.12</i>
<i>+/- to date</i>	<i>-\$19,375.00</i>

? people were in attendance.