

October 12, 2008 – 17th Sun. after Pentecost. Tone 8. Fathers of the 7th Ecumenical Council. Martyrs Probus, Tarachus, and Andronicus, at Tarsus in Cilicia (304). St. Cosmas the Hymnographer, Bishop of Majuma (ca. 787). Ven. Amphilokhy, Abbot of Glushetsk (1452). Martyr Dominica of Anazarbus (286). St. Martin the Merciful, Bishop of Tours (ca. 400). The “Jerusalem” Icon of the Most-holy Theotokos (48 A.D.). **Epistle:** 2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1. **Gospel:** Luke 7:11-16.

Next Sunday, October 19 – 18th Sun. after Pentecost. Tone 1. Epistle: 2 Cor. 9:6-11. **Gospel:** Luke 8:5-15.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN’S (October 12, 2008)

TODAY

11:15 AM Church School and Bible Class

TUESDAY:

6:00 PM Vespers
6:30 PM Parish Council

WEDNESDAY

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy: reading from the Prologue

FRIDAY

5:45 PM Stan/Korpan Betrothal and rehearsal

SATURDAY

1:00 PM Kara Stan/Jason Korpan Wedding
6:00 PM Great Vespers & Prayers of Confession

SUNDAY (October 19)

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy: 18th Sun. after Pentecost
11:15 AM Church School & Adult
11:45 AM Christmas Program Practice, lunch, and Youth Farm trip

Please pray for the following: Michael Nicholson (Michelle Thomas’s brother)

*“Let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit,
perfecting holiness in the fear of God.” (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

COMING EVENTS CALENDAR

Oct. 26 Sisterhood Chicken Dinner (following Liturgy and Church Sch.)

Nov. 10-13 All-American Council (Pittsburgh)

Nov. 15 First Day of the Nativity Fast (Advent)

Offerings: 10-05-08: \$2,727.00; Attendance: 10-05-08: 100; Candle Commemorations: 10-12-08: Theotokos: blessed memory of the Beskid family. Altar: blessed memory of Ellen Bundas. Christ: -----.

Path to Salvation Class: the Tuesday evening class begins the study of the *Epistle of St. James* on October 21. All are invited and encouraged to join the class which begins about 6:30 PM following Vespers.



ADULT CLASS AFTER SUNDAY LITURGY: Parents and Adults, come and join us in the Hall following Liturgy for an informative Class in Faith and Practice. For the next month and a half (or so), we'll take up issues of Church and Society: Government, Family (gender roles, parenting, sexual orientation), and Life Issues (abortion, capital punishment, life support/extreme medical measures).



Next Fish Dinner: October 24. All help is needed and welcome. About 25-30 desserts are needed for each Dinner. See Barb McKenzie for more details.

TEEN GROUP – meets again at 5:00 PM on October 26:

All teens of the Parish (those who will be 13 by Dec. 31 to 19 yr.-olds) are invited to join together for dinner, discussion, and plans!!!

NEW BOILER FUND UPDATE: to date, \$8,655 has been given toward the cost of replacing our boiler heating system. The goal was \$10,000 by October 5, so thank you to all who have generously given! We just need a little more to put us over the top. The new boiler system has already been installed and is operational.

Exercise Class here at St. John's - Saturday at 8:30 AM; all interested persons, come and enjoy. Cathy Cyhan will be leading the class.

For the month of October the children will be holding Christmas Stockings at the end of Liturgy, collecting donations for the Christmas Stocking Project of the Orthodox Church in America.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19 YOUTH ACTIVITIES (an action-packed day!)

ON THE 19TH FOLLOWING CHURCH SCHOOL, THE CHILDREN WILL STAY FOR LUNCH AND A SHORT CHRISTMAS PLAY PRACTICE. THEN, WE WILL GO TO AN AREA FARM FOR A CORN MAZE, HAYRIDE, ETC. (location to be announced next week). FAMILIES, COME AND ENJOY SOME TIME TOGETHER.

CHINESE AUCTION – at St. Nicholas Church: Sunday, October 19

- Doors open at 3:00 P.M.; drawing starts at 4:00 P.M.
- Tickets available for several tables; refreshments will be available.

Classic Literature Reading Group

Current Book: *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, by Harriet Beecher Stowe
at Borders Café (Hwy. 46 near the Eastwood Mall)
every Wednesday from 11:00 AM to Noon
The group is facilitated by Fr. Jonathan.

WHAT IS AN "ANTIMENSION"?

An *antimension* is a cloth upon which the gifts for Holy Communion are prepared and sanctified to become the Body and Blood of Christ for reception by the faithful. Typically, as at St. John's, the *antimension* is kept folded under the Gospel Book on the Altar. Then, in the Divine Liturgy, the *antimension* is unfolded during the Litanies following the Gospel and Sermon; the Gifts (bread and wine), are transferred during the Great Entrance (Cherubic Hymn) from the Table of Preparation to the Altar and placed on the *antimension*.

A Priest cannot serve a Liturgy without the *antimension* because it is signed by the Orthodox Bishop and contains relics of saints sewn into it (see the handout in the bulletin). As such, the *antimension* is the pledge of unity within the one, Catholic, and Orthodox Church, bearing witness to the parish's organic connection with the true Episcopal authority of the Church and its living saints and martyrs. To serve the Liturgy apart from the Bishop and saints (that is, the entire, historic Church) is divisive and self-willed.

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(bulletin insert)

The Relics in the Antimension at St. John's
+ Oct.12: Holy Martyrs Tarachus, Probus, and Andronicus +

Tarachus was born in Syrian Claudiopolis, Probus in Pamphylian Side, and Andronicus was the son of an eminent citizen of Ephesus. They were all martyred together by the procounsul Hymerius Maximus, in the time of the Emperor Diocletian (284-305).

Tarachus was martyred when 65 years old. When asked three times for his name, he replied, "I am a Christian." Probus was urged by Hymerius to deny Christ and befriend the emperor; he said, "I neither desire imperial honors nor seek your friendship." Subjected to harsh physical torture, young Andronicus declared, "My body is before you; do with it what you will."

After long and drawn-out torture in various places, these three holy martyrs were thrown to the wild beasts in the Roman theater. Despite tearing other persons to pieces, the beasts would not touch the saints. The bear and lioness became as tamed pets around them. Seeing this, many people believed in Christ the Lord and cried out against the proconsul. But the proconsul was enraged and commanded the soldiers to cut the martyrs to pieces and mingle their bodies with the others who were slain. Three Christians, Macarius, Felix, and Verianus, returned later that night to take their bodies

for burial, and after praying to God, identified their remains as three lights appeared above the bodies of the saints.

[Relics of the Holy Martyrs Tarachus, Probus, and Andronicus are sewn into the *antimension* on the Altar at St. John's. Their relics, or mortal remains, bear the deifying grace of the Holy Spirit even in death, for these Martyrs, souls and bodies, continue to witness to the power of the Resurrection of Christ, as do all the saints (see 4[2] Kgs. 13:20-21; Acts 19:11-12).]

*47th Midwest Diocesan Assembly
October 6-7, 2008*

This past Monday and Tuesday, Fr. Jonathan and Clyde McKenzie attended the Diocesan Assembly in Chicago, IL. About 55 Priests and 50 lay-persons were present, along with about 10 Deacons and observers.

NOTABLE BUSINESS

The Assembly was marked by lack of direction and leadership concerning the future of our Church. For instance, Archbishop Job remarked that "drastic changes" were needed, and that in general leadership is wanting in the Orthodox Church in America; yet, when questioned as to a solution, none was offered. We did not have a serious discussion concerning who might be the new Metropolitan.

Our own Diocesan finances are fraught with difficulties. Auditing recommendations have been left undone for two years. Credit cards have been used with missing receipts. Check registers contain inaccurate dates and names. The May 2008 balance sheet income statement contains a \$197,000(!) error. The Assembly agreed to provide better software and training to eliminate these problems. The 2009 budget was passed balanced by borrowing \$23,000 from a "Special Visit Reserve Fund."

RESOLUTIONS PASSED

Three resolutions were passed on the second day, summarized here:

- 1) To petition the All-American Council to fix the national assessment at \$50 per person;
- 2) To petition the Metropolitan Council to demand an audit of records and assets in the Diocese of Alaska; and
- 3) To petition the All-American Council to demand the return of any and all reports held by the Proskauer and Rose law firm (which initially investigated the scandal).