

February 7, 2010 – 34th Sunday after Pentecost – Tone 2. Last Judgment (meat-fare). Afterfeast of the Meeting. St. Parthenius, Bishop of Lampsacus on the Hellespont (4th c.). Ven. Luke of Hellas (ca. 946). The 1,003 Martyrs of Nicomedia (303). New Hieromartyrs Vladimir, Metropolitan of Kiev and Gaelic (1918); Peter, Archbishop of Voronezh (1929); Vasily, Bishop of Prolix (1930); Presbyter Stephan and Martyr Boris (1938). **Epistle:** 1 Cor. 8:8-9:2. **Gospel:** Matt. 25:31-46.

Next Sunday, Feb. 14 – Expulsion of Adam from Paradise; Forgiveness Sunday (cheese-fare) – Tone 3.
Epistle: Rom. 13:11-14:4. **Gospel:** Matt. 6:14-21.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S (Feb. 7, 2010)

TODAY

11:30 AM Sisterhood Sweetheart Dinner
(Today is meat-fare; after today we fast from meat and meat products until Pascha.)

TUESDAY

6:00 PM Vespers
6:30 PM Path to Salvation: Route 321

WEDNESDAY

11:00 AM Reading Group (at Borders Café)
(Note: there is no Liturgy this Wednesday [or Friday] due to the week before Great Lent.)

THURSDAY

6:30 AM Matins
6:30 PM Parish Council

SATURDAY

6:00 PM Great Vespers

SUNDAY (Feb. 14)

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy: Forgiveness Sun.
11:15 AM Church School & Bible Class
5:00 PM Forgiveness Vespers

HOUSE BLESSINGS 2010

Due to scheduling conflicts, some homes have not yet been blessed according to this year's published schedule. If missed, or previously unavailable, and still desirous of having your home blessed, please contact Fr. Jonathan to bless your home before the beginning of Great Lent on February 15.

FISH DINNERS – DESSERTS NEEDED

Please make/donate a dessert if you are able.
[We usually need about 30 per dinner.]

SCHEDULE FOR THIS SEASON:

Feb. 12 & 26; March 12 & 26;
April 23; May 7 & 21

See Denise Higgins, Paul Kapp, or Carol Nicholl for more information or opportunities to serve.

MEAT-FARE, CHEESE-FARE, & FASTING

The Sunday of Last Judgment – called “meat-fare” (or, *carnival*, from the Latin) – signals the start of the Church's fasting season. After today we bid farewell to meats and meat products including the flesh of fish with backbones until Pascha (April 4). After next Sunday, Forgiveness Sunday – called “cheese-fare” – we also bid farewell to cheese and other dairy products until Pascha. Then, for the duration of Great Lent (40 days before Holy Week), the fasting “rule” of the Church bids us to abstain from alcoholic drinks and even olive oil except on specific days such as the Feast of the Annunciation (March 25).

What's the point of this fasting?! The point is to deliberately practice lives of self-control, moderation, and freedom from our dependence on luxury. After all, the very first sin was the breaking of the fast – Adam and Eve ate what they were told not to eat (Gen. 3). We fast not merely to deny, or punish, ourselves, but to *take on* minds free from distraction, to pray and to love as we are able.

The Friend of the Bridegroom

“He Must Increase and I Must Decrease” (John 3:29-30)

St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church Orthodox Church in America

2220 Reeves Road NE Warren, Ohio 44483
Church Phone: 330-372-3895 www.stjohnswarren.com
General Office Hours: 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM (TThF)

Fr. Jonathan H. Cholcher, Rector...330-980-0134 (Cell)
Pastoral Emergencies 10 PM - 7 AM ... 330-469-2907
Judy Reed, Sisterhood/Repasts...Home: 330-793-5145
Cell: 330-519-5730
John Tutoki, Hall Coordinator.....330-469-9531

Saturday: Vespers at 6:00 PM Sunday: Liturgy at 9:30 AM
Feast Day Liturgy - 9:30 AM Sunday School (after Liturgy)

GENERAL INFORMATION

01-31-10: 110 (attendance); **\$2,135.00** (collection).
02-07-10: candle commemorations – Theotokos: blessed memory of George George; **Altar:** blessed memory of Andrew Ferko; **Christ:** blessed memory of Rudy Krafft..

Please Pray for:

Living: Vera (Campbell, at home); **Chariessa** (Stitchik, sister of Mark Malacky); **Charles & Ed** (co-workers of Diane Cholcher); **Kerya** (Brisbine); **Melanie** (Smith, cousin of Vera Campbell); **Aaron** (Meterko); **Helen** (Stan); **Maryann** (Lalli) & **Craig** (Parana, friends of the DiGiacobbes); **Raymond** (Flannery); **Joseph** (Yez, Sr.; at home); **Denise** (Hafely, daughter of Larry and Ev Carr).
Departed: Linda (Keriotis; d. 1/5/10); **Lillian** (Motil; d. 1/25/10; cousin of Pauline Struble); **Margaret** (Quinn; d. 2/2/10).

This Month's Charity – February 2010:

[charity envelope or baskets after Liturgy]

OCA Midwest Diocese Missions

COMING EVENTS SCHEDULE

- Feb. 14 **Forgiveness Sunday Vespers at 5 PM**
- Feb. 15 **Great Lent begins; Sisterhood Luncheon (at Leo's in Howland)**
- Feb. 21 **Sunday of Orthodoxy; Annual Parish Meeting (Orthodoxy Vespers at St. Nicholas Church, 5 PM)**

+ Our **annual Parish Meeting** will take place on Sunday, **February 21**, 2010. At that meeting we will review events of the past year, adopt a fiscal budget for 2010, and consider the work God has placed before us for the coming year and beyond.



SPIRITUAL FORMATION:

1) Church (Sunday) School & Bible Class:

for all ages, following Divine Liturgy – adults are studying the Divine Liturgy.

2) Path to Salvation: Route 321

Tuesdays following Vespers (about 6:30 PM) beginning Feb. 2, specifically designed for newcomers to the Orthodox Tradition;

3) Classic Literature Reading Group:

Wednesdays, 11:00 AM, at Borders Café (near the Eastwood Mall) – currently reading *The Odyssey*, by Homer; engaging the culture with the Faith!

4) St. John's Society (for teens):

most Sundays at 6:00 PM, for fellowship, mutual education, service, and encouragement!

+ **Charity of the month, February, 2010: Missions in our Midwest Diocese of the Orthodox Church in America – please give as you are able this month using your Charity Envelope or the basket collections following Liturgy.**

+ **PROJECT MEXICO TRIP:**

Several of our young adults are interested in going on the trip with the group from St. Nicholas Church in Mentor, OH; but *it ain't cheap!* Please contribute to the trip by participating in upcoming fundraisers and pledging funds as you are able as our Project participants will be soliciting them.

+ **Path to Salvation: Route 321**

- an 8-week class for inquirers, seekers, and newcomers to the Orthodox Tradition;
- Tuesdays at 6:30 PM, following Vespers (concluding March 23);
- designed for newcomers and inquirers into the Faith!

+ **2009 Financial (Giving) statements:** see Carol Bobosh if you have any questions or comments concerning your statement.

+ **Weekly Lenten Worship:**

- a) **First Week** (Feb. 15-18, 6 PM) – **Great Canon of St. Andrew** in four parts; **Presanctified Liturgy** on Wednesday evening;

- b) **Each Week – Presanctified Liturgy** on Wednesday evening at 6 PM (*Lenten potluck supper* afterwards on Feb. 24);
- c) **Each Week on Friday evenings (7 PM) – Service of Supplication (*molieben*) for Our Country.**

+ Our sister in Christ, **Margaret Quinn**, unexpectedly fell asleep in the Lord early Tuesday morning, February 2, in West Virginia. Her funeral was last Thursday in West Virginia. Margaret is the sister of Betty Ann Bednarik and Nicholas Yenchochik. ***May her memory be eternal!***

+ **Holy Resurrection Church** (on North Road) is hosting a ***Valentine's Dinner*** on Sunday, February 14 beginning at 12:15 PM. Menu will include cheese stuffed shells w/spaghetti sauce, mixed vegetables, etc. See the flyer on the bulletin board; all are invited.

+ **NURSERY NEEDS:**

Please consider donating the following items for our nursery at Church:

- a) a crib;
- b) mommy chairs;
- c) a changing table.

See Fr. Jonathan if you would like to contribute these or other items for those with early childhood needs.

"...for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me."
(Matthew 25:25-26)