

June 17, 2018

Bulletin

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

Orthodox Church in America

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**The Gospel according to Saint Mark
16: 9-20 (3rd Matins Gospel)**

Now when Jesus rose early on the first day of the week, He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom He had cast seven demons. She went and told those who had been with Him, as they mourned and wept. And when they heard that He was alive and had been seen by her, they did not believe. After that, He appeared in another form to two of them as they walked and went into the country. And they went and told it to the rest, but they did not believe them either. Later He appeared to the eleven as they sat at the table; and He rebuked their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they did not believe those who had seen Him after He had risen. And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover. So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God. And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs. Amen.

SUNDAY, JUNE 17, 2018 3RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - Tone 2. 3rd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 2. All Saints of Britain and Ireland. Martyrs Manuel, Sabel, and Ismael, of Persia (362).

TROPARIA

(Tone 2) When Thou didst descend to death, O Life Immortal, Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead! And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead, all the powers of heaven cried out: O Giver of Life! Christ our God! Glory to Thee!

(Tone 4) In truth you were revealed to your 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) Protection of Christians never failing, Mediatrix before the Creator, ever constant. Do not despise the voice of prayer of sinners, but in your goodness come to help us who faithfully call upon you. Hasten to entreat, hurry to pray, O Theotokos, interceding always for those honor you.

***The Prokeimenon in the Second Tone: The Lord is my strength and my song / He has become my salvation.
v: The Lord has chastened me sorely, but He has not given me over unto death.***

THE READING FROM THE EPISTLE OF THE HOLY APOSTLE PAUL TO THE ROMANS

(5:1-10) Brethren: since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in our hope of sharing the glory of God. More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us. While we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Why, one will hardly die for a righteous man -- though perhaps for a good man one will dare even to die. But God shows his love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we are now justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.

Alleluia, Tone 2

v: May the Lord hear you in the day of trouble! May the Name of the God of Jacob protect you!

v: Save the King, O Lord, and hear us on the day we call!

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SAINT MATTHEW (6:22-33) And Jesus taught the people who had come to Him saying: “The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is sound, your whole body will be full of light; but if your eye is not sound, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness! No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat or what you shall drink, nor about your body, what you shall put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add one cubit to his span of life? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O men of little faith? Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For the Gentiles seek all these things; and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well.”

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

Above all pray without ceasing and thank God for everything that happens to you.

(Rule of Anthony the Great)

Anthony the Great is a realist. His rules or canons aren't some formula he's found and thrown to us. Each of them has something unique concerning the life of the monk and, if one is broken, everything comes crashing down. He says we have to pray without ceasing but at the same time thank God for everything that happens to us. He uses a coordinating conjunction because these two things can't be separated, they go together. We thank God for pleasant things, but even more for something else: in life, matters don't always turn out as we would want them to. We pray, for instance, and it seems that God doesn't listen. We ask for our health, and our illness worsens. We ask God to grant us certain things and He gives us nothing. Everything's back to front.

People who don't learn to thank God for everything, especially for adversity, will never advance even an inch beyond where they were when their mothers bore them. They'll make no progress. And, of course, when their mothers bore them, such people were innocent babes, they had a natural sanctity, whereas we have cruelty, and knowledge that makes us guilty. So we have to learn to thank God. When we have bad thoughts, when our brother says something and we feel hatred within us, we must, at that very time, thank God and smile at our brother. Unless we do so, it's impossible to advance a step, because everything will seem perverse to us. And then, in particular, others and our circumstances will cause us to have bad thoughts, temptations, passions and contrariness.

Ceaseless prayer and gratitude to God for all that happens to us are the necessary conditions for a natural life. If people don't thank God for everything, they can't even pray, nor live in the monastic state. People have to be grateful for whatever happens to them in the monastery, whether that comes from their inner world or from the brotherhood, from enemies or from demons. For instance, a monk has bad thoughts which torment him. He shouldn't be worried, but should rejoice and thank God. He should say to the demon: “Get behind me, Satan” and send him on his way, or, if he refuses to leave, the monk should be able to say: “The bed's big enough for the two of us. Sleep with me. Just turn over onto the other side so that I don't have to put up with your foul breath”. The demon will then leave like lightning.

Unceasing prayer and gratitude for everything are directly connected to our personal rule. In other words, anyone can perform his rule when he learns to pray ceaselessly. And anyone who performs his rule can have unceasing prayer. If he wants to separate his rule from unceasing prayer, both will come tumbling down. This is basic and we must remember it. Miss your rule for two days and you'll see that you'll forget to say “Glory to you, our God” even once a day. That's a law.

*Archimandrite Aimilianos of Simonopetra
Νηπτική ζωή και Ασκητικοί κανόνες
(Nepitcal life and ascetic rules), Indiktos Eds, Athens 2011, pp. 5-6.*

June 17, 2018



CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR THE HEALTH AND BLESSINGS OF

Fr. Tom, Fr. Dimitri, Fr. Anthony, Aaron, Rimi, Allen, Deborah, JoAnn, Luba,
Kosta, Jimmy, Laurie, David, Helen, Walt, Vladimir, Dorothy, Michael, Allison,
Stojan, Mira, Bosa, Jeanette, Christopher, Nicholas, Margaret, Joseph, Greg,
Gladys, my family and friends

Special Intention

Alex & Eleni

My family and myself; Andrew, Stephanie, Rimi, Madeline & Jack

Happy Birthdays Elijah George, Adam George & Helen Ethington

Special Intentions for Fr. Matthew, Protodeacon Kerry, Altar Servers, Sue Tomm &
our beautiful choir

Joe Tome

Joe Tome

Alex & Magda Popoff

Lucy Hogg

Mira & Stojan

Connie Maxim

CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR BLESSED REPOSE

Susan Goodman

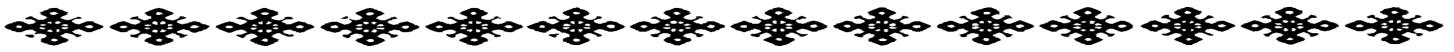
Peter Brayon

Peter Popoff & John Naum

Ben & Michael

The Goodmans

Alex & Magda Popoff



WELCOME to all our friends and visitors. Please join us in our fellowship hall.

Happy Father's Day to all of the fathers, Godfathers, grandfathers and uncles of our parish.



COFFEE & DONUTS are provided today by the Goodman family in memory of Susan Goodman.

COMMEMORATIVE LISTING OF PARISHIONERS This booklet is used at the offering of the bread for the Divine Liturgy by Father where he commemorates all the faithful of our parish, those with us on earth and those fallen asleep. They are available on the table in the narthex. One copy per family, please. You may want to use this in your daily prayers, especially as the fallen asleep are ordered by month, day and year. A limited number of copies are available. More will be printed if needed. Please contact the office for any changes or corrections.

MACEDONIAN OPEN GOLF SCRAMBLE The 38th Macedonian Open Golf Scramble will be held **TOMORROW** at the Flint Elks Golf Club. The Macedonian Open is our biggest fundraiser and we are hoping for an even bigger and better turnout this year. If you have any questions or know of someone who would like to help, please contact Angelo Panoff (angelo.panoff@stifel.com or 810-249-6031), Christine Panoff (capanoff@umflint.edu or 810-232-4868), Linda Branoff (branoff721@aol.com or 810-964-3654), George Branoff (george.branoff27@frontier.com or 810-252-5395) or Chris Nedanis (cned77@gmail.com or 810-877-0889).

HOW CAN I HELP? I DON'T GOLF.

- ❖ Donate money for prizes-any amount you can give would be very much appreciated to offset the cost of buying prizes.
- ❖ Donate a gift card-we are looking for gift cards to give as prizes in the amount of \$20 or \$25 similar to these: Visa gift cards, Meijer, Dunham's, Gas Cards, Restaurant cards, or any establishment you frequent.
- ❖ Donate a prize-donate a prize, whether it's golf related or not; or ask a business you frequent to make a donation (such as a gift card)
- ❖ Join us for dinner

OUR CHARITY MINISTRIES

HOPE IN A BOX is collecting Laundry Soap for the month of June. Place the items in the blue box in the hall. Catholic Charities Community Closet will distribute the items.

FOOD DRIVE Place non-perishable food items in the other blue box in the hall.

RUMMAGE SALE Thank you to all those who volunteered & donated to the rummage sale. The proceeds from the rummage sale are going toward the cost of re-paving the parking lot.

PARKING LOT RE-PAVING The proceeds from last year and this year's Macedonian Open will go towards the re-paving of the entire parking lot which will cost over \$100,000. With capital improvement funds and other funds on hand, that leaves a shortfall of \$35,000. If anyone would like to donate or dedicate a memorial fund or make an anonymous donation, please contact the office. If we do not raise the rest of the funds, we will be required to take a loan in order to complete the project.

GRAND BLANC ARTS COUNCIL is holding auditions June 24th for the holiday concerts. More information is posted on the “community” bulletin board.

Weekly Schedule:

Today Trisagion Susan Goodman (40 days) and Jurgen (Lucius) Grubert, (7 years) following the veneration of the cross

Monday, June 18 Macedonian Open (appetizers at 5 and dinner at around 5:30 pm)

Wednesday, June 20

9:30 am Divine Liturgy
11:15 am Adult Ed class

Thursday, June 21

4 pm-8 pm Visitation at Swartz Funeral Home for Peter Brayan
7 pm Parastas

Friday, June 22

10 am Visitation at St. Nicholas for Peter Brayan
11 am Funeral service followed by burial at Sunset Hills Cemetery

Saturday, June 23

2 pm Wedding of Gabriel Paul & Suzanne Newman
5 pm Vespers

Sunday, June 24 NATIVITY OF SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST

9:30 am Third Hour
10 am Divine Liturgy

Offerings for the week June 10, 2018

<i>Weekly Offerings</i>	\$ 1200.00
<i>Estimated Average Weekly Expenses</i>	\$ 4,034.03
	-\$ 2,834.03

77 people were in attendance on Sunday, June 10.

“Let no one fear death for the death of our Savior has set us free.” *St. John Chrysostom*

