



Parable of the Good Samaritan

CHRIST THE SAVIOR ORTHODOX CHURCH

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BULLETIN OF NOVEMBER 16, 2008

Please Remember in Prayer

Jane Koshutko (Hopkins in Baltimore, MD) Bill Parrish, Robert Evanusa, Olga Leisure, Valentina, Nina Gordon, Fr. Christian, Carol Boris, Constantina & Christos, Alicia & Susannah. If you have a prayer request, please let Fr. John know.

New Metropolitan Elected



On November 12th, Wednesday, the Holy Synod of Bishops, accepted the vote of the All-American Council and confirmed Bishop Jonah of Fort Worth, Texas - a bishop for only 12 days! - as Archbishop of Washington and New York, Metropolitan of All-America and Canada. Axios! Axios! Axios! ("He Is Worthy!") More information about Metropolitan Jonah can be found on page 2 of this bulletin and OCA.org.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16TH

22ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

ST. MATTHEW THE EVANGELIST

8:40a.m. Hours
9:00a.m. Divine Liturgy
Coffee Hour

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20TH

7:00p.m. Great Vespers w/ Litiya

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21ST

ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS

One of the Twelve Great Feasts

8:40a.m. Hours
9:00a.m. Divine Liturgy

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22ND

6:00p.m. Great Vespers

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23RD

23RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

8:40a.m. Hours
9:00a.m. Divine Liturgy
Coffee Hour
Choir Practice

Pledge Sheets for 2009

are available for pickup in the back of the church. If you make offerings to help support our Mission, please consider filling out a pledge form. Your pledge: 1) will be kept confidential, 2) will help us budget better for next year, and 3) will help our Mission grow. Should you have any questions about pledging, please speak with Fr. John or Susan Pappas, our treasurer.



The Entrance of the Theotokos – November 21st



into the Temple is celebrated each year on November 21st. On this day we remember how the Virgin Mary was given as a young child by her parents Ss. Joakim and Anna to the Temple in dedication to the Lord's service.

Upon entering the temple the Virgin Mary gave herself over to prayer, fasting, the study of the Scriptures, and the fulfillment of charitable deeds. Living such a life of holiness, she unwittingly prepared herself to receive the overshadowing of the Holy Spirit by Whom she would conceive and bear the Son of God in the flesh. We celebrate this feast during the Nativity Fast as a reminder that if we dedicate ourselves to God's service through spiritual work, we too can receive God Himself – not in our womb, but in our hearts.



O LORD JESUS CHRIST SON OF GOD
HAVE MERCY ON ME A SINNER

Bible Study – Monday, Nov. 24th

Next Monday at 7pm, there will be a Bible Study at our church. The topic is the Nativity of the Lord. All are invited! Please bring a Bible.

Our Website has Photos

from this past week's All-American Council.

Next Choir Practice

Sunday, November 23rd, following the Coffee Hour.

Next Parish Council Meeting

Sunday, November 30th, following the Coffee Hour.

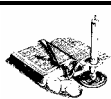
READER SCHEDULE

Sunday, Nov. 23rd

Jen Alexion

Sunday, Nov. 30th

Sandy St. Germain



BISHOP JONAH OF FORT WORTH ELECTED METROPOLITAN OF ALL AMERICA AND CANADA

PITTSBURGH, PA [OCA Communications] -- On Wednesday, November 12, 2008, His Grace, Bishop Jonah of Fort Worth was elected Archbishop of Washington and New York and Metropolitan of All America and Canada at the 15th All-American Council of the Orthodox Church in America.

His Beatitude, Metropolitan Jonah was born James Paffhausen in Chicago, IL, and was baptized into the Episcopal Church. While still a child, his family later settled in La Jolla, CA, near San Diego. He was received into the Orthodox Church in 1978 at Our Lady of Kazan Moscow Patriarchal Church, San Diego, while a student at the University of California, San Diego. Later, he transferred to UC Santa Cruz, where he was instrumental in establishing an Orthodox Christian Fellowship.

After completing studies at UCSC, James attended St. Vladimir's Seminary, graduating with a Master of Divinity degree in 1985 and a Master of Theology in Dogmatics in 1988.

He went on to pursue studies towards a Ph.D. at Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, but interrupted those studies to spend a year in Russia.

In Moscow, working for Russkiy Palomnik at the Publishing Department of the Moscow Patriarchate, he was introduced to life in the Russian church, in particular monastic life. Later that year, he joined Valaam Monastery, having found a spiritual father in the monastery's Abbot, Archimandrite Pankratiy. It was Archimandrite Pankratiy's spiritual father, the Elder Kyrill at Trinity-St. Sergius Lavra, who blessed James to become a priestmonk. He was ordained to the diaconate and priesthood in 1994 and in 1995 was tonsured to monastic rank at St. Tikhon's Monastery, South Canaan, PA, having received the name Jonah.



Returning to California, Fr. Jonah served a number of missions and was later given the obedience to establish a monastery under the patronage of St. John of Shanghai and San Francisco. The monastery, initially located in Point Reyes Station, CA, recently moved to Manton in Northern California, near Redding. During his time building up the monastic community, Fr. Jonah also worked to establish missions in Merced, Sonora, Chico, Eureka, Redding, Susanville, and



His Grace, Bishop Jonah
Archbishop of Washington and New York
Metropolitan of All America and Canada

other communities in California, as well as in Kona, Hawaii.

In the spring of 2008, the Holy Synod of the Orthodox Church in America elevated Fr. Jonah to the rank of Archimandrite and he was given the obedience to leave the monastery and take on the responsibilities of auxiliary bishop and chancellor for the Diocese of the South.

Bishop Jonah's episcopal election took place on September 4, 2008, at an extraordinary meeting of the Holy Synod of Bishops. Earlier in the summer, his candidacy was endorsed by the Diocese of the South's Diocesan Council, shortly after Bishop Jonah had participated in the diocese's annual assembly.

Bishop Jonah was consecrated Bishop of Fort Worth and Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of the South, at St. Seraphim Cathedral, Dallas, TX, on Saturday, November 1, 2008. Consecrating hierarchs included His Eminence, Archbishop Dmitri of Dallas and the South, Locum tenens of the Metropolitan See; His Grace, Bishop Tikhon of Philadelphia and Eastern Pennsylvania; His Grace, Bishop Benjamin of San Francisco and the West; and His Grace, Bishop Alejo of Mexico City and the Exarchate of Mexico.

Metropolitan Jonah will be installed by the OCA's Holy Synod of Bishops at St. Nicholas Cathedral, Washington, DC, on December 28, 2008.

May the Lord bless His Beatitude, Jonah, newly-elected Metropolitan of All America and Canada with many years of fruitful service in His Holy Vineyard. *Eis polla eti, Despota!* (Many Years, Master!)

GLORY TO YOU, O GOD

Written by the Very Rev. Vladimir Berzonsky

"Glory to You for Your eternity in this fleeting world; Glory to You for Your memories seen and unseen; Glory to You through every sigh of my sorrow; Glory to You for every step of my life's journey; For every moment of glory. Glory to You, O God, from age to age" (Akathist: 'Glory to God for all things' Fr. G. Petrov in GULAG)

If you are like me, you spend so much of your life explaining and describing Orthodox Christianity. Yes, we are Orthodox; no, we're not Jewish. Yes, Christians, but neither Roman Catholic nor Protestant. So we explain through tradition, from 33 A.D. Or we try to tell of the divisions after Constantine into East and West, but we notice a glaze in the other's eyes. We speak of liturgy, spirituality, faith of the desert fathers, and try doctrine - Nicene Creed, God-man Jesus Christ, even the Holy Spirit.

We are ideally glory people - more, those who praise and glorify the Holy Trinity in the correct manner: Ortho = straight and right; doxa = glory. "Ideally," because we do not always rise to the occasion to give God our gratitude for everything. We are weak; we expect the good times to continue without pause; we, like most people, cannot understand why bad things happen to good folks (especially us). To be truly Orthodox Christian is to have the same attitude as the akathist from which the above phrase was lifted.

Imagine Protopresbyter George Petrov imprisoned in the horrid GULAG of the Soviet Union, realizing there was only one way out for him - execution and then the Kingdom of God. It's 1940. He is al-



ready partly dead from malnutrition and abuse. He will be shot in a short while. And yet he is able to spend his last weeks on earth composing this hymn of praise to the Almighty Everlasting King.

The form of devotion is called "akathist," a service of celebration for all the blessings of the Holy Trinity. It can be chanted in church or used as a private devotional. It's always a spirit-lifter because there is little to be identified as negative. The key term is "Glory," that word which is an invitation to recognize and unite with the Holy Spirit within that place of our souls waiting to be called upon to expand and enhance all that is divine within us. Everything that will accompany our souls on the ultimate journey to paradise is exalted in these types of akathists. Here is the only pill you need for an attitude change. You will find that a transformation of emotions has taken place when you come to the conclusion. Again Fr. Petrov:

"The dark storm clouds of life bring no terror in whose hearts Your fire is burning brightly. Outside is the darkness of the whirlwind, the terror and howling of the storm, but in the heart, in the presence of Christ, there is light, peace and silence."

Such a devout Christian sees good in everything, even in those who die daily in the camp:

"How often have I seen the reflection of Your glory in the faces of the dead; how resplendent they were, with beauty and heavenly joy; how ethereal, how translucent their faces; how triumphant over suffering and death, their felicity and peace."

The problem in praying through such hymns of joy in a fractured world is the contemplation returning to us - how far I am from such triumphant joy! How great is the distance between the Christ in such a man and the Spirit within me. How long will it be until I can pray in such a state of euphoria and optimism? Such persons can truly be called Orthodox Christians. When does my admiration become imitation?

OCA FINANCES DISCUSSED AT ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

PITTSBURGH, PA [OCA Communications] -- Following the election of His Beatitude, Metropolitan Jonah, at a special session of the Orthodox Church in America's 15th All-American Council on the morning of Wednesday, November 12, Council participants spent the afternoon hearing reports on the financial state of the Church.

Copies of the financial reports discussed on Wednesday afternoon will be posted on the OCA.org web site shortly. Audio files from these sessions may be heard on Ancient Faith Radio.

Wednesday's All-American Council events concluded with a formal dinner for Council participants, guests, and faithful from local OCA parishes. Special guests at the dinner included His Grace, Bishop Mark of Toledo and the Midwest of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America, who was present at the Council throughout the day, including at the election of Metropolitan Jonah. Another special guest was Archpriest Alexander Lebedev who was representing His Eminence, Metropolitan Hilarion, First Hierarch of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia, who conveyed greetings from Metropolitan Hilarion at the opening session of the Council on Monday, November 10.

The keynote speaker for the dinner was OCA chancellor, Archpriest Alexander Garklavs. Fr. Alexander stated that conflicts are not new to the Church. He said that the scandal the OCA faced was "a sign of our coming of age." It represented the part of the maturation process of the Church. Acknowledging that there will be continuing challenges in Church life, he stated that the faithful will persevere to a large extent through the legacy of Orthodoxy's living Tradition. Fr. Alexander then went on to speak directly to the clergy, stating that although very difficult at times, service in the priesthood was the most noble of vocations. He concluded by expressing his gratitude to the local Committee involved in planning the 15th All-American Council,

together with the volunteer staff who assisted them. He also thanked the clergy of the Church and the Holy Synod of Bishops. Referring to the election of Metropolitan Jonah, Fr. Alexander stated that although there are complaints that the bishops do not speak out enough, this day they spoke out clearly without even saying a word.

Other presenters during the dinner were Mr. Nick Chakos of International Orthodox Christian Charities [IOCC] and Priest David Rucker of the Orthodox Christian Mission Center [OCMC], both of whom spoke about the work of their respective organizations. Both presentations made it clear that ministry, such as that in which IOCC and OCMC are involved, is the core work of the Church.

The final speaker of the evening was His Beatitude, Metropolitan Jonah. Beginning by stating that Christian leadership was grounded not in power but in service, Metropolitan Jonah shared with those present his vision of the work that lies ahead for the OCA. He stressed that ministries, such as campus ministry, together with evangelization, are the core work to which the OCA must commit itself in order to provide a safe haven and a place for healing for people in a society filled with pain and disillusionment. He also identified inter-Church relations as an important priority for the OCA; in order to be respected and affirmed by other Churches, His Beatitude said, it is essential that the OCA respect and affirm them as well. The most important thing that each believer can do, he stressed, is to live out the Orthodox faith and life, making a new commitment to spiritual discipline and sacramental life. His Beatitude stated that making this commitment bears much fruit in one's personal life and allows the initiatives that the Church takes on are filled with grace.



THE RUSSIAN CHURCH STANDS FOR A NEW FEAST: THE DAY OF PREGNANT WOMEN

Interfax News, Moscow, November 12, 2008 – The Day of Pregnant Women should be included in the calendar of Russian feasts, the Synodal Youth Department of the Russian Orthodox Church believes. "Such a step can have a positive resonance. We can offer people to take special care of the pregnant women at least once a year," Hieromonk Dimitry, head of informational and publishing administration of the Youth Department. Fr. Dimitry suggests celebrating the new feast on the Day of the Feodorovskaya Icon of the Mother of God as people traditionally pray for pregnancy health and labor before this icon or on the Day of the Intercession of the Mother of God. "Our informational task is to change people's mind, their attitude to abortions, labor and child-bearing. The new feast can help introduce another theme of traditional family values," Fr. Dimitry hopes.