



**CHRIST HEALS THE BLIND MAN**

# CHRIST THE SAVIOR ORTHODOX CHURCH

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**BULLETIN OF JUNE 9, 2013**

## A Warm Welcome!

We warmly welcome all of our visitors! It's good to have you with us!

## Feast of the Ascension – Thursday, June 13<sup>th</sup>

This week we celebrate the Lord's Ascension into Heaven, which occurred 40 days after His Resurrection from the dead. This is one of the 12 Great Feasts of the Church's liturgical year.



## Prayer for Graduates – Sunday, June 16<sup>th</sup>

Please be sure to let Fr. John know if anyone in your family is graduating this year. Thank you!

## Parish Council Meeting – Sunday, June 16<sup>th</sup>

Full reports during this quarterly meeting. Please don't miss it.

## SUNDAY, JUNE 9<sup>TH</sup>

### 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pascha

8:40a.m. Hours  
 9:00a.m. Divine Liturgy  
 Coffee Hr. / Open Pool

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12<sup>TH</sup>

### Leave-taking of Pascha

6:50p.m. Paschal Hours  
 7:00p.m. Great Vespers w/ Litiya

## THURSDAY, JUNE 13<sup>TH</sup>

### Ascension of the Lord

*One of the Twelve Great Feasts*

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

## SATURDAY, JUNE 15<sup>TH</sup>

5:00p.m. Bible Study  
 6:00p.m. Great Vespers

## SUNDAY, JUNE 16<sup>TH</sup>

### 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pascha

8:40a.m. Hours  
 9:00a.m. Divine Liturgy  
 Coffee Hr. / Open Pool



## The Pool is Open

Following the Divine Liturgy until 1:30pm, the pool will be open for swimming. A certified lifeguard will be on duty, but parents should still watch their children. Be safe and enjoy! Questions? Please see Fr. John.



## Marriage of Gregory and Danyella

Congratulations and "Many Years" to Gregory and Danyella Parsells on their marriage, last Sunday! May the Lord bless them with health, strength and salvation!



## Bible Studies

have resumed on Saturday evenings at 5:00pm. We are continuing with the Gospel of St. John. All are encouraged to attend and bring a friend!

## New to our Website

Photos from last Sunday's Egg Hunt, Pool Blessing, and Parsells' Marriage. Additionally, there is a new section for virtual tours, currently featuring a 360 degree view of our chapel. More tours are forthcoming. Check them out!

## Feast of Pentecost – Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>

On Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>, we celebrate the Descent of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost, 50 days after Pascha. As a reminder, on this day we will have Vespers with the Kneeling Prayers immediately following the Liturgy. This is a High Holy Day, which everyone should be present for.



## READER SCHEDULE

### Sunday, June 16<sup>th</sup>

Richard England

### Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>

Gabriela Jones



**Living:** Fr. Alexander Atty, Fr. Christian, Mat. Dunia, Hayley, Tyler Pelesh, Wallace & Michelle, John Trax, Maleah Morsey, Victoria Kokkinos, Karen Nichols, Denise Royal, Jane Koshutko, Nina Gordon, Mirela & Chris, Bruce Eckerd, Stella, Ari, Nedelina, Liliana, Irene Clenney, Katie Hawley, Alice Peters, Jenny Barbarita, George & Ellen. **Departed:** Fr. Michael Mihalick, Kathryn, Avramia.

CASH FLOWS THROUGH 4/30/13					CASH FLOWS IN JUNE 2013					FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT		
OPERATING		OTHER		ALL	OPERATING		OTHER		ALL	ASSETS & LIABILITIES – 6/9		
Income	Expense	Income	Expense	Net	Income	Expense	Income	Expense	Net	Checking	Overdue	Due 2/2014
20,783	20,075	19,277	13,796	+6,199	856	2,963	250	0	-1,857	+2,206	0	-18,233



## THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD INTO HEAVEN

When the day of the Jewish Pentecost drew near, the disciples of Christ returned from Galilee to Jerusalem. On the fortieth day after the resurrection of Jesus Christ they were all together in one house. Jesus Christ appeared to them and spoke with them saying, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to all creation. He who believes and is baptized will be saved, but he who does not believe will be condemned. And these signs shall accompany those who believe: in My name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up serpents, and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover."

Then the Savior said to the disciples that soon the Holy Spirit would come upon them, and until that time He charged them not to depart from Jerusalem. He said, "I send the promise of My Father upon you; but stay in the city, until you are clothed with power from on high; for John baptized with water, but before many days you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

Conversing with the disciples, the Savior led them out of the city as far as Bethany, to the Mount of Olives. The disciples, overjoyed with the words of the Savior, surrounded Him and started to ask, "Lord will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" The Savior said to them, "It is not for you to know the times or seasons which the Father has fixed by His own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth."

When He had said this, Jesus Christ lifted up His hands and blessed His disciples. While He blessed them, He parted from them and He was lifted up to Heaven, and soon a cloud took Him out of their sight. Thus our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ ascended in His physical body to Heaven and sat down at the right Hand of God the Father. His human soul and body took on the indivisible glory

with His divinity. In His divinity, He always is and will be in Heaven and everywhere.

The disciples worshipped the ascended Lord and for a long time continued to stand and gaze into Heaven after Him. Then two angels in white robes appeared before them and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into Heaven? This Jesus, Who was taken up from you into Heaven, will come to earth in the same way (that is, in the flesh), as you saw Him go into heaven."

After this the disciples of Jesus Christ returned to Jerusalem with great joy and stayed there together, awaiting the descent of the Holy Spirit. All of them, together in soul, spent the time in prayer and were continually in the Temple of God, praising and thanking God. With them were several women and Mary, the Most-holy Mother of the Lord Jesus Christ, with their relatives. In those days the apostles, prayerfully, by casting lots, chose from among the other disciples of Christ the twelfth apostle, Matthias, to take the place of Judas the betrayer, who perished.

Ascended into Heaven, Jesus Christ, according to His own promise, invisibly always comes to earth among those who believe in Him and will come again to earth in visible form to judge the living and the dead, who will then rise from the dead. After this will begin the life of the next age, another, eternal life which for true believers and pious people will be completely blessed, but for disbelievers and sinners will be a time of great torment.

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### Troparion

Thou hast ascended in glory, O Christ our God, granting joy to Thy disciples by the promise of the Holy Spirit. Through the blessing they were assured that Thou art the Son of God, the Redeemer of the world!

### Kontakion

When Thou didst fulfill the dispensation for our sake and unite earth to heaven, Thou didst ascend in glory, O Christ our God, not being parted from those who love Thee, but remaining with them and crying, "I am with you and no one will be against you!"

## ASK FATHER: 4 QUESTIONS / 4 ANSWERS

### Question: Is there a dress code in the Orthodox Church, and if so, why?

**Answer:** First, it should be said, that it is a recent phenomenon in some Roman Catholic and Protestant churches to advertise “casual”, “relaxed” or even no dress code at all for worship and fellowship. This answer will not directly critique this practice other than to say that this has never been part of and is a clear departure from Orthodox Christian tradition.

Both the Old and New Testaments are full of calls to modesty and respectfulness not only in inward spirit but also in outward appearance as the one is connected to and influences the other. Since the time of Adam and Eve, who covered themselves with clothing after the Fall, the way in which one dressed has been directly connected to the way in which one relates to God and one’s neighbor. Cleanliness, simplicity, appropriateness, humility, etc., are not only virtues of the soul but also virtues of the body, which, St. Paul tells us, is the temple of the Holy Spirit.

### Question: What’s the dress code?

**Answer:** The Scriptures offer us a dress code, with not only calls to the aforementioned virtuous principles, but also specific details in relation to: cross-dressing (Deut. 22:5), body markings (Deut. 14:1, Lev. 19:28), braided hair and gold or pearls or costly attire (1 Tim. 2:9, 1 Pet. 3:3-4), and head coverings (1 Cor. 11) to name a few.

Now to be sure each of these references has nuances related to culture and epoch; for example men wear kilts in Scotland. Yet, just as it would be incorrect to overlook these nuances, so too would be incorrect to be dismissive of the teaching itself. Therefore, throughout the Orthodox world, the Scriptural teaching remains the ideal or standard, yet the application remains pastorally flexible in order to bring about spiritual growth and progress in the faithful. For this reason, one will observe both strict adherence to the dress code such as in monasteries or parishes whose faithful are from traditionally Orthodox cultures, as well as appropriate flexibility in churches who pastorally care for and missionize non-Orthodox societies. In general, it is a good idea to be aware of the dress code, and not only refrain from being critical of it but also to respectfully follow it because it has salvific import for us and others.

### Question: What is the dress code at our Christ the Savior Mission?

**Answer:** There are four basic categories: 1) men, 2) women, 3) children, and 4) everyone.

- 1) Men should not wear hats, bandanas, shorts, sleeveless shirts, or casual footwear like sneakers.
- 2) Women should not wear miniskirts, spandex-tight clothing, low-cut or revealing tops (unless covered with a sweater or other garment), or casual footwear like sneakers.
- 3) Children should be given a little more flexibility but should still wear “church clothes” so that they know they are somewhere that is special and holy.
- 4) Everyone should refrain from clothing that is immodest, ostentatious, a fashion-statement, or otherwise distracting from the prayerful and sacred space of the Lord’s House. Clothing or bodily

adornments with images, symbols, or writing should not be worn or at least covered up, so that the holy icons and Word of God do not have to compete with the logo of our favorite sport team, the name of a music band, or the slogan of our political party.

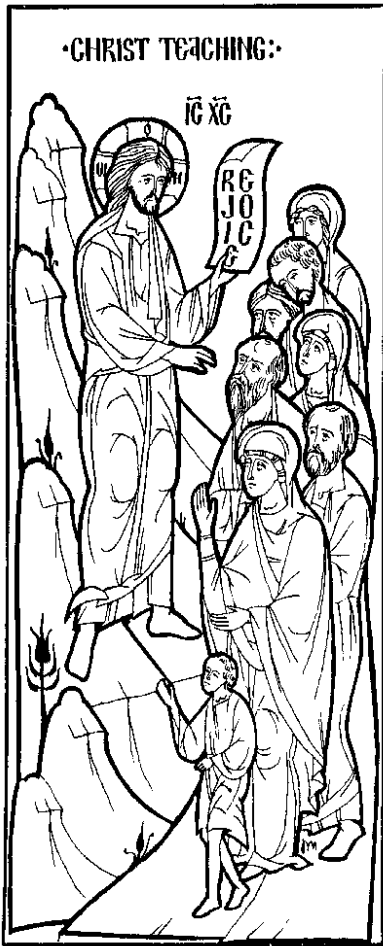
This being said, we should not take it upon ourselves to enforce the dress code upon anyone else, especially visitors to the Mission. As people become familiar with Orthodox Christianity, they will

slowly start to adapt themselves to the ways of the Church, naturally growing in Christ with that which pertains to both soul and body. If you have questions or concerns, please speak with Fr. John.

### Question: What about the church’s pool?

**Answer:** The same basic principles apply with regard to modesty and respect for the Lord and our brothers and sisters in Christ. What we wear in the church’s pool should be a step above what is acceptable at the beach (or perhaps a few steps!). Although, we do have an exceedingly strict “no bikinis or speedos” policy :, there is no need to buy a new berka-style bathing suit; one can simply wear a T-shirt or shorts over what should be covered. This is actually what the Apostle Peter did when swimming in the Lord’s presence at the Sea of Galilee (see John 21:7). And so, enjoy swimming in the pool, the fellowship with each other, the presence of the Lord, and His blessing for your modesty and respectfulness!





## TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

- 1) We are Christ's disciples if we:
  - A. Keep His commandments.
  - B. Love one another.
  - C. Take up our crosses and follow Him.
  - D. All of the above.
- 2) The first bird Noah sent forth from the ark.
  - A. dove
  - B. raven
  - C. nuthatch
  - D. eagle
- 3) Moses received the Ten Commandments 50 days after Passover.
  - A. True
  - B. False
- 4) What happened 50 days after Christ rose from the dead?
  - A. Christ ascended into Heaven.
  - B. The Christians received the Holy Spirit.
  - C. St. Matthias replaced the Judas among the Twelve.
  - D. St. Stephen, the first martyr, was stoned to death.
- 5) To "speak in tongues" means to use words no one can understand.
  - A. True
  - B. False

**For answers to these questions, please consult your Bible or below.**

## ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

1. D, all of the above.
2. B, raven. Genesis 8:7 The raven is an unclean bird, Leviticus 11:15 and Deuteronomy 14:14 The second bird Noah sent forth from the ark was a dove which is a clean bird, Deuteronomy 14:11-20. This prefigured the gift of the Holy Spirit (in the form of a dove) which would come when the old man, subject to sin, was drowned in the waters of Holy Baptism.
3. A, true. This prefigured the Christians receiving the Law of God written on the fleshy tablets of the heart, rather than cold and hard stony tablets.
4. B, the Christians received the Holy Spirit on Pentecost.
5. B, false. The gift of speaking in tongues meant precisely the opposite. The Book of Acts records how the Apostles were able to proclaim the wonderful works of God to every person in Jerusalem, not in gibberish but to each in their own language.



## DON'T BE A FISH OUT OF WATER

St. John Chrysostom, the superb homilist who was called the "Golden-mouthed", was especially concerned for the spiritual and moral development of his flock and, as a result, he was especially interested in teaching them how to pray. As trees cannot live without water, so man's soul cannot live without prayerful contact with God, he taught. If you deprive yourself of prayer, you will become like a fish out of water because as water is life for a fish, so is prayer for you.