

CHRIST THE SAVIOR ORTHODOX CHURCH

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BULLETIN OF JULY 14, 2013

A Warm Welcome!

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



St. George's Greek Festival – July 12-14th

This year's festival is from July 12-14 (Friday-Sunday). Help support our brothers and sisters at St. George's by lending a hand, attending, or getting the word out! Fr. John and his family will be going to the festival after coffee hour. Let Fr. John or Matushka Emily know if you are interested in going together. Let's do our best to support our Orthodox brothers and sisters in Ocean City!

Blessing of Automobiles – Sunday, July 21st

It is a custom of Orthodox Christians to have their cars blessed both when newly acquired and on or near the feast of the Prophet Elias (July 20th), as he ascended as if into heaven on a fiery chariot.



Bible Studies

have resumed on Saturday evenings at 5:00pm in the "Quiet Room", and will conclude just before the Vespers at 6:00pm. Everyone is invited to attend. As always: "Bring a Bible and a friend!"



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.



Sync your Smartphone

From orthodoxdelmarva.org, you can now sync the mission's liturgical calendar to your smart-phone, Google calendar, Outlook, iCalendar, etc.. Check it out!



Safety Guidelines

are being developed by the Parish Council. In the meantime, everyone is asked to be particularly attentive, especially in the parking lot and pool. Parents are asked to please stay with their children at all times or leave them in the supervision of another adult. First-aid boxes are available in both bathrooms.

Have a Question About Orthodoxy or Parish Life?

You may reach Fr. John at any time by phone or email: 302-537-6055 or frjohn@orthodoxdelmarva.org.

SUNDAY, JULY 14TH

3rd Sunday of Pentecost

Fathers of the 1st Six Councils

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

SATURDAY, JULY 20TH

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

SUNDAY, JULY 21ST

4th Sunday of Pentecost

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

When you pray to God in time of temptation do not say, 'Take this or that away from me', but pray like this: 'O Jesus Christ, sovereign Master, help me and do not let me sin against Thee.'

Abba Isaiah the Solitary

READER SCHEDULE

Sunday, July 21st

Gabriela Jones

Sunday, July 28th

Bruce Eckerd



Living: Fr. Alexander Atty, Fr. Christian, Mat. Dunia, Hayley, Tyler Pelesh, Wallace & Michelle, John Trax, Karen Nichols, Denise Royal, Jane Koshutko, Nina Gordon, Mirela & Chris, Bruce Eckerd, Stella, Ari, Nedelina, Liliana, Irene Clenney, Katie Hawley, Rob & Jenny Barbarita, George & Ellen, Lorraine, Susan Pappas, Jerry Knode. **Departed:** Fr. Michael Mihalick, Kathryn, Avramia, Frank Pappas.

CASH FLOWS THROUGH 5/31/13					CASH FLOWS IN JULY 2013					FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT		
OPERATING		OTHER		ALL	OPERATING		OTHER		ALL	ASSETS & LIABILITIES – 7/14		
Income	Expense	Income	Expense	Net	Income	Expense	Income	Expense	Net	Checking	Overdue	Due 2/2014
27,450	21,348	23,473	17,245	+12,330	1,833	6,165	550	2,059	-5,841	+997	-2,059	-16,713

CONCERNING AFFLICTIONS

St. Alexis of Senaki

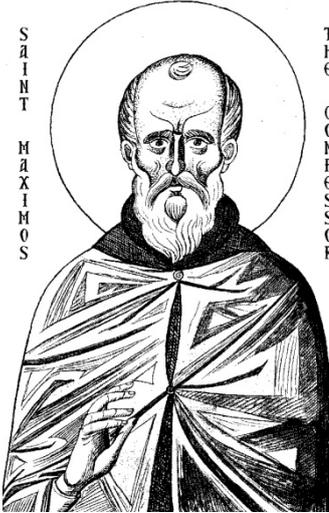
Everyone who loves God, shows himself patient and steadfast in times of suffering. Whoever bears them bravely, becomes strong and obedient to God; and whoever enters the path of following the will of God, conquers his natural weakness. On the other hand, whoever does not recognize his own powerlessness, is proud and not inclined to submit himself to the will of the Lord. Whoever does not submit to it and hopes only in his own power, does not receive the power and help of God; and not having been strengthened in spirit, cannot become patient. Whoever does not endure misfortune and afflictions, has no faith; and whoever does not have faith, does not love God.



ON LOVE

St. Maximos the Confessor

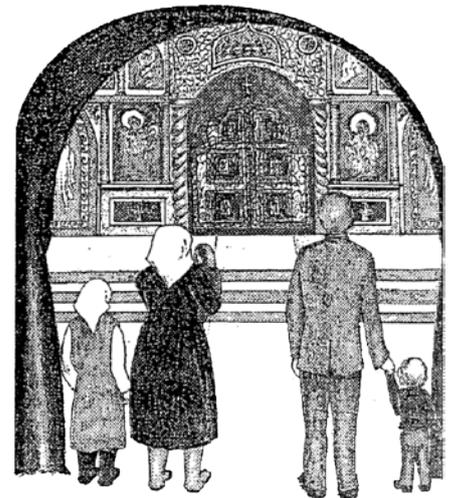
Do not neglect the commandment of love; for through it you will become a son of God, but transgressing it you will become a son of Gehenna. Love between friends is destroyed if you envy or are the object of envy; if you cause or suffer loss; if you revile or suffer revilement; and finally if you feed and keep suspicious thoughts against your brother... Do not be conquered by hatred but conquer it by love... Pray God sincerely about him. Accept his excuses or cure yourself by excusing him, regard yourself as the cause of the trial and resolve to endure until the cloud has passed by. Pay heed to yourself lest it be in you and not in your brother that lurks the evil that cuts you off from him; and hasten to make your peace with him, lest you forsake the commandment of love. Fear keeps the old commandments, but love keeps the life-giving commandments of Christ.



ON MARRIAGE, FAMILY LIFE, AND CHURCH ATTENDANCE

Elder Paisios

- ❖ "Some men tell me, 'I don't agree with my wife; we are complete opposites! How does God allow for such strange matches? Couldn't He provide so that couples would be compatible and live spiritually?' But I tell them, don't you understand that in this very difference of character lies hidden the harmony of God? It is the different characters which create harmony. God forbid that you should be the same in character. Think of what would happen if, for example, both of you had a short fuse; you would tear the house down! Or, if both of you were mild in character, you would fall asleep standing up! If you were both stingy, you might have been suited to each other; but you would both go to hell..."
- ❖ "In the family, one person must be humble before the other; one must imitate the other's virtues and also be patient and endure the other's peculiar idiosyncrasies. To make this possible, it helps to think of how Christ sacrificed Himself for our sins; and that He bears with us all - billions of people - even though He is without sin..."
- ❖ "The Church is like a ship. One person is sleeping, while another is just hanging around. The ship proceeds on its course. Another person is struggling, fighting above with the waves. All together they move forward. It is enough that you are within the Church. For this reason see that you are at the services. Do not be absent."



CHRIST AND THE INVERTED PYRAMID

Elder Sophrony

The empirical cosmic being is like a pyramid: at the top sit the powerful of the earth, who exercise dominion over the nations (cf. Matt. 20:25), and at the bottom stand the masses. But the spirit of man, by nature [unfallen nature as given by God], demands equality, justice and freedom of spirit, and therefore is not satisfied with this "pyramid of being." So, what did the Lord do? He took this pyramid and inverted it, and put Himself at the bottom, becoming its Head. He took upon Himself the weight of sin, the weight of the infirmity of the whole world, and so from that moment on, who can enter into judgment with Him? His justice is above the human mind. So, He revealed His Way to us, and in so doing showed us that no one can be justified but by this way, and so all those who are His must go downwards to be united with Him, the Head of the inverted pyramid, because it is there that the "fragrance" of the Holy Spirit is found; there is the power of divine life. Christ alone holds the pyramid, but His fellows, His Apostles and His saints, come and share this weight with Him. However, even if there were no one else, He could hold the pyramid by Himself, because He is infinitely strong; but He likes to share everything with His fellows. Mindful of this, then, it is essential for man to find the way of going down, the way of humility, which is the Way of the Lord, and to become a fellow of Christ, who is the Author of this path.



SECOND ARCHPASTORAL VISIT OF METROPOLITAN TIKHON

From orthodoxdelmarva.org

On the weekend of July 6-7th, the faithful welcomed His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon for his second archpastoral visit to Christ the Savior Mission.

On Saturday evening, Met. Tikhon met with parishioners for discussion before the Great Vespers service. On Sunday morning, at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, Met. Tikhon blessed an icon of the Saints of North America, which had been given to the parish by Archpriest David Straut. Afterwards, Met. Tikhon presented Protopresbyter Daniel and Matushka Dunia Hubiak with an award in honor of their 60+ years of service to the Church in various capacities, including as the distinguished founders of the Mission.

Following the divine services, everyone enjoyed fellowship, a barbeque and swimming. Appreciation is extended to His Beatitude as well as Subdeacon Roman, who accompanied him, together with all of the people who helped to make the weekend so enjoyable. Glory and thanks be to God for all things!





I HAVE NO HANDS BUT YOURS

From Parish Publishing, LLC

A soldier in World War II was given the task of gathering up the pieces and fragments of a statue of Christ that was destroyed when the cathedral that housed it was destroyed by bombs and mortar. He found every piece and fragment, and they were turned over to an artist, whose labor of love it was to reconstruct the icon. Even though it took him months, he accomplished the work, and the statue was returned to its pedestal.

One part of the Christ was missing, however. The soldier could not find the hands of Christ. Both the soldier and the artisan considered their work incomplete without the hands. However, one day as the craftsman was viewing the statue with the missing hands, he got a wonderful idea. Instead of Christ's hands being raised in blessing, as they originally were, the craftsman placed an ornate, but simple, sign at the base of the handless replica. These were the words of the sign: "I have no hands, but yours." Will you give your hands – your time and abilities – to your church?

On the Spirit in the Church

What the soul is to the body of man, the Holy Spirit is to the Body of Christ - the Church. As the soul animates the body, so does the Holy Spirit animate the Church.

Saint Augustine

LIFE IS A SERIES OF PROBLEM-SOLVING OPPORTUNITIES

The problems you face will either defeat you or develop you – depending on how you respond to them. Unfortunately, most people fail to see how God wants to use problems for good in their lives. We react foolishly and resent our problems rather than pausing to consider what benefit they might bring.

Here are five ways God wants to use the problems in your life:

1. God uses problems to DIRECT you.

Sometimes God must light a fire under you to get you moving. Problems often point us in a new direction and motivate us to change. Is God trying to get your attention? "Sometimes it takes a painful situation to make us change our ways." Proverbs 20:30

2. God uses problems to INSPECT you.

People are like tea bags 'if you want to know what's inside them, just drop them into hot water!' Has God ever tested your faith with a problem? What do problems reveal about you? "When you have many kinds of troubles, you should be full of joy, because you know that these troubles test your faith, and this will give you patience." James 1:2-3

3. God uses problems to CORRECT you.

Some lessons we learn only through pain and failure. It's likely that as a child your parents told you not to touch a hot stove. But you probably learned by being burned. Sometimes we only learn the value of something (health, money, a relationship) by losing it. "It was the best thing that could have happened to me, for it taught me to pay attention to your laws." Psalm 119-71-72

4. God uses problems to PROTECT you.

A problem can be a blessing in disguise if it prevents you from being harmed by something more serious. Last year a man was fired for refusing to do something unethical that his boss had asked him to do. His unemployment was a problem – but it saved him from being convicted and sent to prison later when management's actions were eventually discovered. "You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good." Genesis 50:20

5. God uses problems to PERFECT you.

Problems, when responded to correctly, are character builders. God is far more interested in your character than your comfort. Your relationship to God and your character are the only two things you're going to take with you into eternity. "We can rejoice when we run into problems; they help us learn to be patient. And patience develops strength of character in us and helps us trust God more each time we use it until finally our hope and faith are strong and steady." Romans 5:3-4

Here's the point: God is at work in your life – even when you do not recognize it or understand it. But it's much easier and profitable when you cooperate with HIM!