



# CHRIST THE SAVIOR ORTHODOX CHURCH

30838 Vines Creek Rd.; Dagsboro, DE 19939  
302-537-6055 (church) / 302-988-1138 (rectory)  
orthodoxdelmarva.org / frjohn@orthodoxdelmarva.org

## BULLETIN OF JANUARY 20, 2008

### Congratulations and Many Years!

On this day we congratulate Todd Leasure, Michael McFarland, and Paul St. Germain on their entrance into the Orthodox Church through Holy Chrismation. May the Lord fulfill all their good intentions, bless and keep them!



### You're Invited!

to an open house today at the home of Paul and Sandy St. Germain to celebrate the entrance of Paul, Todd and Michael into the Orthodox Church. For directions or more information please speak with Paul or Sandy.

### Please Remember in Prayer

Carole Boris who is undergoing treatment in Baltimore. Please also continue to pray for Jane Koshutko who is also still undergoing treatment. If you have a prayer request, please let Fr. John know.

### Baptism of Isabella Georgiana

Next Sunday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, Isabella Georgiana, daughter of Gerald and Camelia Milite, will be baptized following the coffee hour. All are encouraged to attend this great event!

### Annual Meeting

The 2008 Annual Meeting of the Parish will be on, Sunday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, following the Coffee Hour. The main task of the Annual Meeting is to pass the 2008 Budget and to elect the 2008 Parish Council. All full-time and part-time members, as well as visitors and contributors to the Mission are encouraged to attend. If you have any questions regarding the meeting, please speak with Fr. John or one of the Council Members.



### Pledge Sheets for 2008

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 March for Life

will be held this year on Tuesday, January 22, 2008. This annual event mourns the legalization of abortion in 1973 and affirms the sanctity of human life at all stages of development. All Orthodox Christians are encouraged to attend. For more details please see Fr. John.



### The 2008 Wall Calendars and Pocket Planners

are available for pickup in the back of the church. If you haven't ordered a calendar or pocket planner, please sign your name to the list and we will order one for you.

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 20<sup>TH</sup> SANCTITY OF LIFE SUNDAY

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

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 26<sup>TH</sup> 6:00p.m. Compline

SUNDAY, JANUARY 27<sup>TH</sup>  
SANCTITY OF LIFE SUNDAY  
8:40a.m. Hours  
9:00a.m. Divine Liturgy  
Coffee Hour  
Baptism of Isabella

Our holy fathers have renounced all other spiritual work and concentrated wholly on this one doing, that is, on guarding the heart, convinced that, through this practice, they would easily attain every other virtue, whereas without it not a single virtue can be firmly established.

St. Symeon the New Theologian

### READER SCHEDULE

**Sunday, Jan. 27<sup>th</sup>**  
Hours: Sandy St. Germain  
Epistle: Sandy St. Germain

**Sunday, Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
Hours: Jen Alexion  
Epistle: Jen Alexion



## GIVING YOUR BEST

By K. Whiting, From Parish Publishing LLC

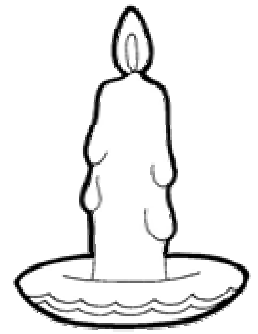
One winter I spent Wednesday evenings teaching art classes to mentally handicapped adults. I planned a variety of art projects these young men and women could make and enjoy. One young man worked each week, but never smiled or spoke. Andy had trouble working with his hands and seemed displeased with everything he made.

One evening I taught candle making. Andy dropped in ice cubes and poured melted wax into the empty milk carton to make his candle. Once it cooled, Andy peeled off the cardboard. I lit the wick and watched Andy's face light up!

He quickly blew it out then cradled his masterpiece. Andy took it and gave it to his counselor. He beamed as he presented his gift. He had so little, but he gave away the best he had made.

I felt so humbled, for when I first learn to make things well, I want to keep them and hoard my workmanship. God gave us His best in giving us His Only-begotten Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. And Jesus Christ gave us his best, in giving His life for us.

God gives us talents not to build ourselves up with pride, but so we will have something we value to share and give to others.



## GUIDELINES FOR PRAYERFUL CONSIDERATION



- ❖ Giving in proportion to what God has done for each of us: Luke 12:48.
- ❖ Giving regularly (weekly, monthly), as encouraged in 1 Corinthians 16:2.
- ❖ Giving "first fruits" (or the promised amount) first: Nehemiah 10:35.
- ❖ Giving sacrificially: 1 Chronicles 21:24.
- ❖ Giving cheerfully and joyfully: 2 Corinthians 9:8.
- ❖ Giving to care for the needs of others: Galatians 6:10.
- ❖ Giving likens us to God: John 3:16.

## A WORD ABOUT PRAYER

*An Instruction of St. Theophan the Recluse (†1894)*

**The essence of evening prayer** is to thank God for the day and for everything that one has met in the course of it, both good and bad. For the wrong which has been done, one must repent and ask for forgiveness, promising to make amends the following day; then one prays to God for protection during sleep.

**The essence of morning prayer** is to thank God for sleep and revitalization, and to ask Him for help to do things throughout the day for His glory.

Say your prayers with all your heart and mind.

Make known to God your vital needs, both spiritual and material, speaking to God like a child: "See, Lord, my infirmities and weakness! Help me and heal me!"

Never read a prayer hurriedly.

Try to learn your prayers by heart. This greatly aids undistracted prayer. A prayer must be learned just like anything else.



Usually Orthodox homes will have an icon\* corner, where a supply of blessed water and palms from Palm Sunday may be kept. The water may be used for blessings at any time.



## THE TIME TO TITHE IS NOW: IT IS A SPIRITUAL ADVENTURE

You will never be in a better position to tithe, or give 10% of your income, than you are today. Whether you can tithe has relatively little to do with the amount of your income or the number of your financial obligations. The person who says, "After I pay all my bills, I can't afford to tithe," is telling the truth. He or she simply has the cart before the horse. None of us could afford to tithe with what's left. Tithing is a matter of putting first things first, taking our tithe out first, and then wisely managing the rest of our income in a way in which we still pay our bills.

### REWARDS OF TITHING

Honor the Lord with the first fruits... then will your plate be filled with food!

As for the rewards of tithing, one thing is certain: As far as MATERIAL needs are concerned, there will be enough; as far as SPIRITUAL needs are concerned there will be more than enough; ABUNDANCE, seven time as much, for if you tithe with the proper motives, you will be less and less attached to material things and your soul will be able to soar to undreamed spiritual heights. For tithing is a way of life and it will affect every area of your spiritual life and influence every facet of your efforts to become a better Christian.

If we part with what we hold dear – our money – then we will soon be able to part with other things we may cling to – things that may prevent us from practicing virtue: selfishness with our time or talent; stubbornness of will, refusal to listen to another's point of view.

In a word, we will overcome selfishness in all its varied forms, and after all, is it not selfishness that prevents our spiritual growth; selfishness prefers one's own will to the will of God.

*From Parish Publishing*

### DID YOU KNOW?

- ❖ One sixth of all of the words of Jesus Christ are concerned with the relationship of a person and his material possessions.
- ❖ One third of Christ's parables are devoted to man's preoccupation with money.

### FOR CONSIDERATION

Christ says in Matthew 6:21, "Where your treasure is there shall your heart be also." What a person does with his money, how he thinks about it, where he spends it, what he will do to earn it, and the things to which he will give it are some of the real clues to who he is inside, to what is essentially important to him, to what is really in his heart.

### SCRIPTURAL REFERENCES

"Let each of you regularly on the first day of the week set aside a proportion as God has prospered him." (1 Cor. 16:2)

"Bring all the tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house. And test Me now with this, says the Lord, to see if I will not open the windows of Heaven for you, and pour out a blessing for you, until there is not enough room." (Mal. 3:11)

### PROPORTIONATE MONTHLY / YEARLY OFFERING GUIDE

Annual Income	10%		8%		6%		4%	
	Year	Month	Year	Month	Year	Month	Year	Month
<b>20,000</b>	2,000	166	1,600	133	1,200	100	800	66
<b>30,000</b>	3,000	250	2,400	200	1,800	150	1,200	100
<b>50,000</b>	5,000	416	4,000	333	3,000	250	2,000	164
<b>75,000</b>	7,500	625	6,000	500	4,500	375	3,000	250
<b>100,000</b>	10,000	833	8,000	667	6,000	500	4,000	333



## **Archpastoral Message of His Beatitude, Metropolitan Herman**

Sanctity of Life Sunday

January 20, 2008

To the Venerable Hierarchy, Clergy, Monastics and Faithful  
of the Orthodox Church in America

Dearly Beloved in Christ:

A most moving example of praise to God for the great gift of life comes from the words of the Akathist "Glory to God for all things." This hymn was the work of Metropolitan Tryphon (Turkestanov)—Prince Boris Petrovich, although it has also been attributed to Protopresbyter Gregory Petrov. Among the verses we read the following.

*O Lord, how lovely it is to be Thy guest. Breeze full of scents; mountains reaching to the skies; waters like boundless mirrors, reflecting the sun's golden rays and the scudding clouds. All nature murmurs mysteriously, breathing the depth of tenderness. Birds and beasts of the forest bear the imprint of Thy love. Blessed are you, mother earth, in your fleeting loveliness, which awakens our yearning for happiness that will last forever, in the land where, amid beauty that grows not old, the cry rings out: Alleluia!*

Through the centuries mankind has beheld the beauty of the world, the sights and sounds and all that the senses take in, with a deep joy and gratitude to be alive. The above words reflect this sentiment in picturesque and poetic language. However, they also remind us that all that we perceive in the world is a reflection of the beauty of the heavenly realm. The beauty in the life that we live today is but a foretaste of the beauty that we will experience in the age to come.

Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd, said that He has come to His sheep: "that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly" (John 10:10). What a blessed gift! But with each gift comes responsibility. As human beings, given the gift of life by God—life in His very image and likeness—we must strive to honor and preserve human life at all times. This is nowhere more crucial than with the lives of those who have little or no voice in our society. We have seen how millions of unborn children, with no possibility to speak out for themselves, have been lost. We fear for the chronically ill, the elderly, and others whose lives are deemed to be without "quality". We must speak out for these people whose lives are no less precious and bear no less ontological "quality" than our own, because all humanity is created for life, by Him who is the Giver-of-Life.

Let us involve ourselves in acts that honor the fundamental sanctity of life. "With one heart and one mind", on this Sanctity of Life Sunday, and every day, we will pray that those who hold the lives of others in their hands might be moved to cherish and protect them rather than take them away. Let us reach out to comfort those who have fallen victim to a culture that regards human life as disposable, offering them a sign of God's mercy and the hope of reconciliation. In this manner let us strive always to be living examples of that joyful life so abundantly given to us—life that, although originating in this world, has as its fulfillment the radiance of God's Kingdom.

With love in Christ,

+ HERMAN

Archbishop of Washington and New York  
Metropolitan of All America and Canada