



CHRIST THE SAVIOR ORTHODOX CHURCH

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BULLETIN OF MAY 25, 2008

Please Remember in Prayer

Carol Boris, Nina Gordon, and Jane Koshutko who are recovering from treatment, as well as Constantina and Christos, and Alan and Virginia. If you have a prayer request, let Fr. John know.



Donors Sought: Completion of Icons in the Altar

In the next few months new icons of the Theotokos and St. John the Baptist will be installed in our church. These icons, which will be approximately 5 feet by 3 feet in size, will be placed on the right and left sides of the Icon of Christ behind our altar table. These three icons together are called the 'Deisis' – more information can be found on the second page of this bulletin. If you would like to make a donation towards the cost of these icons, please see Fr. John or Susan Pappas, our treasurer.

SUNDAY, MAY 25TH

SAMARITAN WOMAN SUNDAY

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

SATURDAY, MAY 31ST

6:00p.m. Great Vespers

SUNDAY, JUNE 1ST

SUNDAY OF THE BLIND MAN

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



In Scripture the grace of the Holy Spirit is sometimes called fire, sometimes water, which shows that these words are expressive not of its substance but of its action. The metaphor of fire conveys the lively and sin-consuming property of grace; that of water the cleansing of the Spirit, and the refreshing of the souls who receive Him.

St. John Chrysostom



Volunteers Sought: Parish Video

If you are interested in participating in a parish video for our website, please see Fr. John. We are looking for volunteers to share something about themselves and their lives as Orthodox Christians. It is hoped that the video will make visitors to our website more comfortable actually visiting our parish by introducing them to Orthodoxy and the people of our community. If you have never been in a film, here's your chance!

You're Invited

to an Open House at the Rectory on Sunday, June 29th, following a very brief coffee hour at the church. Hotdogs and hamburgers will be served. Those interested in bringing a covered dish or dessert are asked to please see Matushka Emily. There is a pool directly across the street from the Rectory for the children and those daring enough to bring their swimsuits. A map and driving directions from the church will be provided. Absolutely everyone is invited and asked to please try and save this date!



READER SCHEDULE

Sunday, June 1st

Jodi McElwee

Sunday, June 8th

Jen Alexion





ABOUT THE 'DEISIS' ICON

The word 'Deisis' comes from a Greek word meaning 'prayer' or 'intercession'. In iconography it represents a group of three persons: Christ, seated in majesty in the center, with His Mother to His right and John the Forerunner to His left. The persons are slightly bowed while raising their hands in a gesture of humbly asking. Sometimes this icon is expanded to include many figures: apostles, hierarchs, and other saints. Yet the positions immediately to the right and left of Christ always belong to the Virgin and the Baptist of whom Christ spoke when He said, "to sit on My right hand and on My left is not Mine to give, but to those for whom it has been prepared by My Father."

A PUZZLING SCRIPTURAL VERSE

'He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver.'
Malachi 3:3



This verse puzzled some women in a Bible study and they wondered what this statement meant about the character and nature of God. One of the women offered to find out the process of refining silver and get back to the group at their next Bible Study.

That week, the woman called a silversmith and made an appointment to watch him at work. She didn't mention anything about the reason for her interest beyond her curiosity about the process of refining Silver.

As she watched the silversmith, he held a piece of silver over the fire and let it heat up. He explained that in refining silver, one needed to hold the silver in the middle of the fire where the flames were hottest as to burn away all the impurities. The woman thought about God holding us in such a hot spot; then she thought again about the verse that says: 'He sits as a refiner and purifier of silver.' She asked the silversmith if it was true that he had to sit there in front of the fire the whole time. The man answered that yes, he not only had to sit there holding the silver, but he had to keep his eyes on the silver the entire time it was in the fire. If the silver was left a moment too long in the flames, it would be destroyed. The woman was silent for a moment. Then she asked the silversmith, 'How do you know when the silver is fully refined?' He smiled at her and answered, 'Oh, that's easy -- when I see my image in it.'

If today you are feeling the heat of the fire, remember that God has his eye on you and will keep watching you until He sees His image in you.



A PRAYER FOR THE DEPARTED

From the Memorial Service

O God of spirits, and of all flesh, who hast trampled down death and overthrown the Devil and given life to Thy world: Do Thou, the same Lord, give rest to the soul of Thy departed servant _____, in a place of brightness, a place of refreshment, a place of repose, where all sickness, sighing, and sorrow have fled away. Pardon every transgression which he has committed, whether by word or deed or thought. For Thou art a good God and lovest mankind; because there is no man who lives yet does not sin; for Thou only art without sin; Thy righteousness is to all eternity; and Thy word is truth.

For Thou art the resurrection, the life, and the repose of Thy servant, _____, who is fallen asleep, O Christ our God, and unto Thee we ascribe glory, together with Thy Father, Who is from everlasting, and Thine all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

