



CHRIST THE SAVIOR ORTHODOX CHURCH

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BULLETIN OF AUGUST 30, 2009

Please Remember in Prayer

Carole Boris (newly-departed), Archpriest Michael, Monk Christian, Nadia, Kathy & Bill Parrish, Marie, Thomas, Judith Kocinski, Jane Koshutko, Robert Evanusa, Nicholas & Linda, Nicholas, Anna, Steven, Yvonne, Katherine, Michael, Gregory, Todd & Olga Leisure, Nina Gordon, Constantina & Christos. Requests? Let Fr. John know.

Welcome to His Beatitude Metropolitan Jonah!

Today it is our joy to warmly welcome Metropolitan Jonah on his first archpastoral visit to our parish! We extend our thanks to His Beatitude and his assistants, Hierodeacon Philip (Majkrzak) and Brother Gregory Stevens, for making the lengthy trip to be with us this weekend. We also extend our hearty welcome to those who are visiting for this special weekend. Thank you for being here with us!

Prayers for Teachers and Students – Today

will be offered for the academic year by Metropolitan Jonah. Teachers and students will be asked to come forward near the conclusion of the Liturgy.



Special Brunch – All Invited!



Following the Divine Liturgy, there will be a festal brunch at the Clarion Hotel in Ocean City. All of you are invited to please come and celebrate with us. If you would like to make a donation to help cover the cost of the meal, please see the ushers at the candle stand. Directions to the Clarion Hotel can also be picked up at the candle stand. Please join us!

A Service of Thanksgiving – Tuesday

will be offered for the beginning of the New Church Year on Tuesday morning at 9:00am. The beautiful Akathist, "Glory to God for All Things" will be sung. Let us gather for this special service, giving thanks to God for the past ecclesiastical year and asking His divine blessing for year before us.



Orthodoxy 101 Coming to Saturday Night



Starting this coming Saturday, September 5th, our Orthodoxy 101 class will be meeting from 5:00-5:45pm before the 6pm Vespers. The class will meet each Saturday at this time. The other classes (Bible Studies, Reading Groups, and Movie Nights) will continue to meet on Monday nights at 7pm.

The Nativity of the Theotokos – September 8th

On September 8th, we celebrate the Birth of the Theotokos. This is one of the 12 Great Feasts of the Church Year – those important feasts which every single Orthodox Christian should celebrate. On Monday (9/7) at 7:00pm there will be Vespers w/ Litiya, and on Tuesday (9/8), the Divine Liturgy at 9:00am. This is the first Great Feast of the new Church year, be sure to start the year right by attending the services.



SUNDAY, AUGUST 30TH

12TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Visitation of Metropolitan Jonah

8:40a.m. Hours
9:00a.m. Divine Liturgy
Prayers: Academic Year
Brunch at Clarion Hotel

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1ST

CHURCH NEW YEAR

9:00a.m. Akathist: "Glory to God"

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH

5:00p.m. Orthodoxy 101
6:00p.m. Great Vespers

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH

13TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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

Met. Jonah On Parish Life

Parish life is not a compromise, a second-class way of being a Christian. Being a Christian in the world is taking the Gospel to the world, and living and witnessing to Christ while participating fully and actively in the culture. This is a very high calling!

READER SCHEDULE

Sunday, September 6th

Jodi McElwee

Sunday, September 13th

Troy Duker





BIOGRAPHY OF HIS BEATITUDE, METROPOLITAN JONAH

From OCA.org



His Beatitude, Metropolitan Jonah was born James Paffhausen on October 20, 1959, 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 the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, but interrupted those studies to spend a year in Russia.

In Moscow, working for Russkiy Palomnik ("The Russian Pilgrim") 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, Sonoma, Chico, Eureka,

Redding, Susanville, and other communities in California, and in Kona, HI.

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.

Metropolitan 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 he had participated in the diocese's annual assembly. Metropolitan 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. On Wednesday, November 12, 2008, he 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, in Pittsburgh, PA.

THE CHURCH AS SPIRITUAL HOSPITAL

An excerpt from an article written by Metropolitan Jonah

The essence of the Orthodox Christian life is the healing of our souls. Specifically, an Orthodox Christian is one who is undergoing purification, illumination, and deification (union with God). The means of this healing of the soul are the liturgical and ascetic disciplines as laid down in the teaching of the Fathers. They are what make Orthodox Christianity not a religion, nor simply a way of coping with our problems through ritual and social interaction, but a way of complete transformation and healing in Christ by the action of the Holy Spirit. This is the tremendous power of the Faith, the grace of repentance. The liturgical and sacramental life is inextricably linked with ascetic discipline, for ascetic discipline enable us to receive and be transformed by the healing power of the Church's mysteries...

All Orthodox Christians share a common goal: the healing of their souls – purification, illumination, and deification. It is only by humility, submission to the Holy Tradition of the Church, and supporting one another in our common mission to build up the Body of Christ, that we may *"all attain to the unity of the faith and knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ"* (Ephesians 4: 13).



THE CHURCH NEW YEAR – SEPTEMBER 1ST

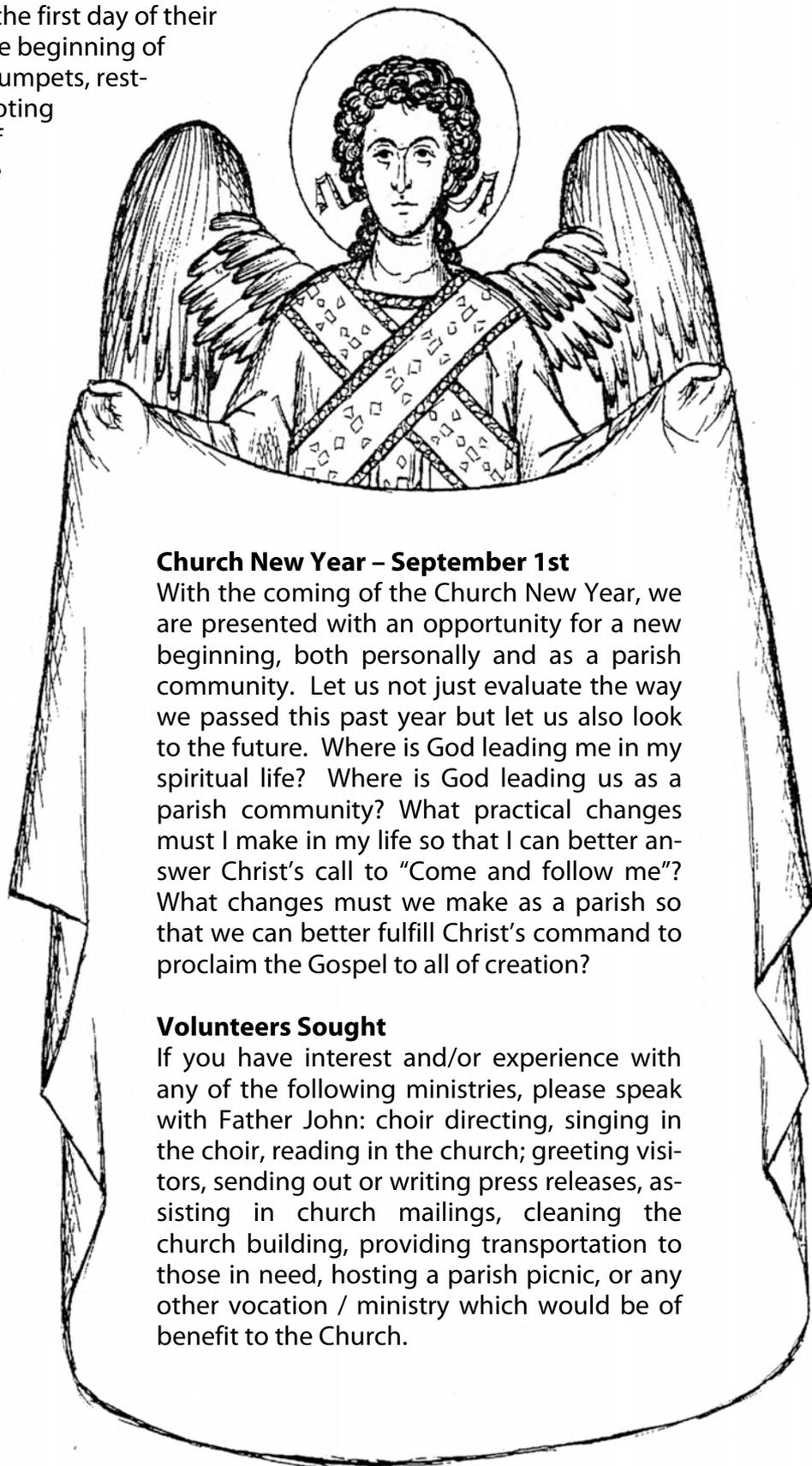
On this day the Church of Christ observes the Indiction or proclamation of the beginning of the ecclesiastical year. The term derives from the practice of the Roman Emperors, who used to impose a tax every year at this time for the maintenance of the army. The rate of this annual levy was fixed by proclamation for fifteen years. This is why each cycle of fifteen years starting from the reign of Caesar Augustus, three years before the birth of Christ, is called an Indiction.

Besides, September is the time for harvesting the fruits of the earth and for making ready for a new round of growth, so it is proper to honor the beginning of the agricultural cycle by giving thanks to God for His loving-kindness towards His creation. This is already what the Jews did under the old Law. On the first day of their seventh month (corresponding to the beginning of September) they kept the Feast of Trumpets, resting from every kind of work and devoting themselves entirely to the offering of sacrifices of a sweet savor, and to the praise of God (Lev. 23:24-25).

Christ, the Son and Word of God, Creator of time and space, pre-eternal King of all the ages, who took flesh to restore all things to unity and to reconcile the whole of humanity, Jews and Gentiles, in one only Church, has also wished to gather to Himself the things subject to the laws of nature and what He ordained in the written Law. This is why, on this day, when nature is about to unfold anew the course of the seasons, we commemorate the occasion when the Lord Jesus Christ entered the Synagogue and, opening the book of Isaiah, read the passage where the Prophet says in His name: The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to preach the good news to the poor...to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord (Lk 4:18-19).

And so on September 1st all the Churches, gathered together in oneness of mind, praise with one voice Him who is single in His nature and threefold in His Persons, who dwells in bliss everlasting, hold all things in being, and showers blessings upon the works of His hands at all times. It is Christ Himself who opens to us the gates of the year and who calls us to follow Him, so as to share in His eternity.

- From the Synaxarion



Church New Year – September 1st

With the coming of the Church New Year, we are presented with an opportunity for a new beginning, both personally and as a parish community. Let us not just evaluate the way we passed this past year but let us also look to the future. Where is God leading me in my spiritual life? Where is God leading us as a parish community? What practical changes must I make in my life so that I can better answer Christ's call to "Come and follow me"? What changes must we make as a parish so that we can better fulfill Christ's command to proclaim the Gospel to all of creation?

Volunteers Sought

If you have interest and/or experience with any of the following ministries, please speak with Father John: choir directing, singing in the choir, reading in the church; greeting visitors, sending out or writing press releases, assisting in church mailings, cleaning the church building, providing transportation to those in need, hosting a parish picnic, or any other vocation / ministry which would be of benefit to the Church.