

THREE HIERARCHS



CHRIST THE SAVIOR ORTHODOX CHURCH

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BULLETIN OF JANUARY, 30 2011

Please Remember in Prayer

Melvin Woodell (newly-departed), Charles and Carolyn Hilton, Martha, Don Coughlin, Karen Nichols, Michelle Wilson, Howard Peters, Irene Clenney, Denise Royal, Gabriela Jones, Scott and Maryann, Roman Szvec, Mat. Dunia, Patti Lease, Garrett Cuppels, Bill & Kathy Parrish, Frs Michael & Andrew, Monk Christian, Jane Koshutko, Robert Evanusa, Nicholas & Linda, Nicholas, Anna, Nina Gordon, Mirela & Chris, Jaroslav, Troy, Frank & Mary Miranda, Kathy T., Bruce, Julia Plisko & family, Stella.

Appreciation is Extended!

to all those who attended the 2011 Annual Parish Meeting last Sunday, especially those who prepared reports. If you missed the meeting and would like a packet of handouts, please pick one up in the back of the church. Please note that the auditors' report is forthcoming, as it was unable to be completed on time. After the auditors have completed their work, their report will be posted on the bulletin board.



SUNDAY, JANUARY 30TH

Three Hierarchs

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

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1ST

7:00p.m. Great Vespers

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2ND

Nativity of the Lord

One of the Twelve Great Feasts

8:40a.m. Hours
 9:00a.m. Divine Liturgy
 Blessing of Candles

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5TH

5:00p.m. *No Bible Study*
 6:00p.m. Great Vespers

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6TH

Zacchaeus Sunday

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



Meeting of the Lord in the Temple – February 2nd

On February 2nd, we celebrate the Meeting of the Lord in the Temple. This Twelve Great Feast commemorates the Lord's presentation into His Temple 40 days after His birth in the flesh. This feast concludes the Nativity season. There will be Vespers on Feb. 1st, at 7:00pm and Liturgy with blessing of candles on Feb 2nd, at 9:00am.

Video Library

In the back of the church you will find some of the videos which have been shown during our Movie Nights. These videos are being made available for those who were not able to attend the showing at the church. If you borrow a video, please be sure to return it. Enjoy!



Fr. John will be Away

next weekend, February 5-6. In his absence, Fr. Daniel Hubiak will serve Great Vespers and the Divine Liturgy. There will be no Bible Study on Saturday evening. You can reach Fr. John by email or cell.

The "Souper" Bowl of Caring

is an IOCC sponsored event designed to help local food banks and charities. On Super Bowl Sunday, February 6th, each parishioner is asked to bring a can of food (or more) for our local food pantry, and \$1.00 (or more) for our local pregnancy aid center. A special collection basket has been placed in the back of the church.



Christian Sayings

- ❖ *Seven days with no prayer makes one weak.*
- ❖ *A family altar can alter a family.*

READER SCHEDULE

Sunday, Feb. 6th

Bruce Eckerd

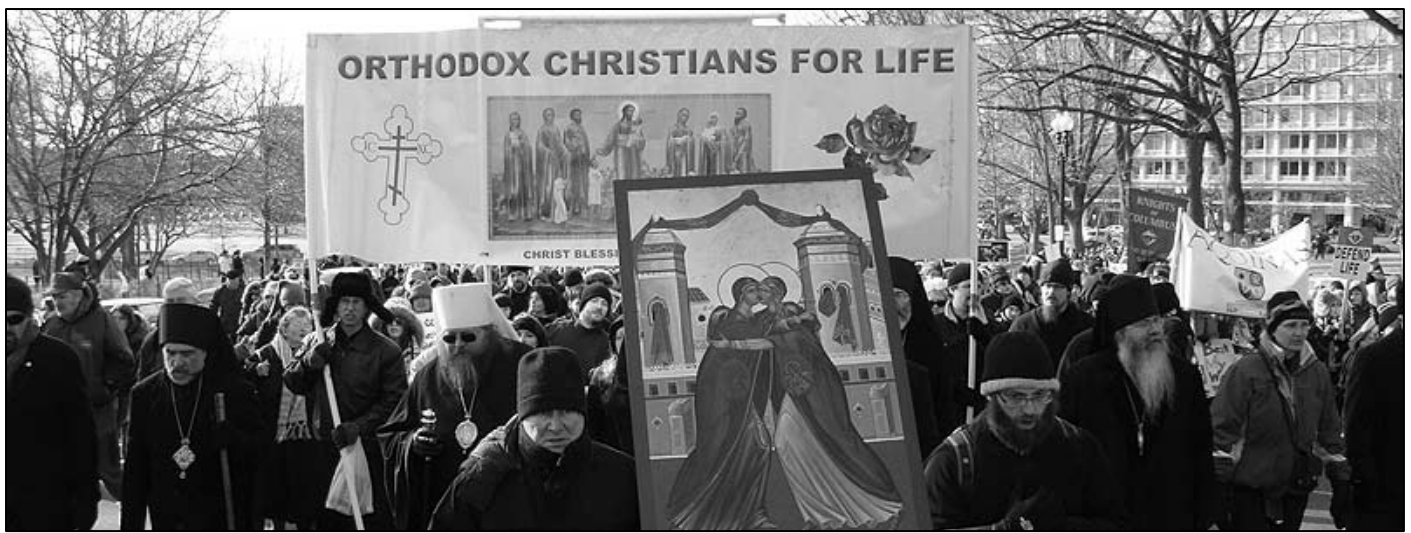
Sunday, Feb. 13th

Jodi McElwee



Website Update

Photos from the 2011 Annual Meeting, as well as Monday's March For Life in Washington DC, are on our site.



EASTERN ORTHODOX BELIEVERS HIT THE STREETS

By Julia Duin

To be on the Mall around noon Monday was to be confronted with a vast crowd of what appeared to be mostly Catholics assembled for the annual Right to Life March. There were students wearing hats and scarves bearing the name of seemingly every Catholic academy on the Eastern seaboard; crowds of nuns clad in all manner of habits and scores of dark-suited priests and seminarians waving banners and signs.

Closer to the stage one could spot several Orthodox Jews and several who appeared to be evangelical Protestants. Then the crowd parted and up on the stage marched a phalanx of black-cassocked Eastern Orthodox clergy led by Metropolitan Jonah, leader of the Orthodox Church in America (OCA). Carrying a bejeweled walking stick and wearing a white crown-shaped miter, the metropolitan and the five bishops lined up beside him provided quite a contrast to the informally dressed crowd.

Talking with these Orthodox afterward, I learned that Jonah had put out word that every bishop who could make it to Washington for the march was expected to be there, along with 80-plus seminarians from two Orthodox seminaries: Saint Tikhon's in Pennsylvania and Saint Vladimir's in New York. The seminarians and their friends stood in a large clump off to the side, waving a large Orthodox Christians for Life banner.

All of the bishops present belonged to the OCA, the second-largest of three major Orthodox bodies in the US. I was told there was no official there from the much larger Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America nor from the third-largest body: the Antiochian Archdiocese of North America.

Unlike evangelical Protestants and Catholics, the Orthodox in this country haven't been known for

The Washington Post

taking to the streets as antiabortion activists. What I did find on the official Greek Orthodox Web site was a statement calling abortion "immoral" and "murder." Likewise, the Antiochians condemn it in this statement on their site, adding that church fathers from apostolic times opposed it as well. They also posted an encouragement to take part in Monday's march. Plus, Frederica Mathewes-Green, one of the best-known antiabortion activists of any denomination, is married to an Antiochian Orthodox priest.

So, why weren't higher-ups from other Orthodox bodies out there braving the 25-degree weather Monday? It might have to do with Metropolitan Jonah making it a priority. Not only did he show up at the march soon after flying back from a visit to Moscow, he also officiated at a Divine Liturgy Monday morning at St. Nicholas Cathedral on Massachusetts Avenue for those involved in the march. Standing in front of the congregation in elaborate gold brocade vestments, he challenged listeners to oppose abortion "whatever the cost." He added, "being a Christian is not about what you do in church on Sunday." One can perform the rituals, he said, "But if you don't live according to the Gospel, that will condemn you to hell."

I asked Jonah why he felt it necessary to call out the troops instead of leaving the heavy lifting to the Catholics and evangelicals.

"The church's responsibility is to be the conscience for the culture," he said. "The Orthodox Church in this country is emerging from being an embassy of foreign cultures to being an authentically American church."

And there's nothing much more American than taking part in street protests.

THE MEETING OF THE LORD IN THE TEMPLE

Celebrated February 2nd – From the Prologue of Ochrid

The fortieth day after His birth, the All-Holy Virgin brought her Divine Son into the Temple of Jerusalem, in accordance with the Law, to dedicate Him to God and to purify herself. "Consecrate to me every first-born that opens the womb among the Israelites both of man and beast, for it belongs to me" (Exodus 13:2). "Tell the Israelites: when a woman has conceived and gives birth to a boy, she shall be unclean for seven days, with the same uncleanness as at her menstrual period. On the eighth day, the flesh of the boy's foreskin shall be circumcised, and then she shall spend thirty-three days more in becoming purified of her blood; she shall not touch anything sacred nor enter the sanctuary till the days of her purification are fulfilled. If she gives birth to a girl, for fourteen days she shall be as unclean as at her menstruation, after which she shall spend sixty-six days in becoming purified of her blood. When the days of her purification for a son or for a daughter are fulfilled, she shall bring to the priest at the entrance of the meeting tent a yearling lamb for a holocaust and a pigeon or a turtle-dove for a sin offering. The priest shall offer them up before the Lord to make atonement for her, and thus she will be clean again after her flow of blood. Such is the law for the woman who gives birth to a boy or a girl child" (Leviticus 12:2-7). Even though neither the one nor the other was necessary, nevertheless the Lawgiver did not, in anyway, want to transgress His own Law whom He had given through Moses, His servant and prophet. At that time, the high-priest Zaccharias, the father of John the Forerunner [Precursor], was on duty in the Temple["serving as a priest before God in the order of his division" St. Luke 1:8]. Zaccharias placed the Virgin, not in the temple area reserved for women but rather in the area reserved for virgins. On this occasion, two unusual persons appeared in the Temple: the Elder Simeon and Anna, the daughter of Phanuel. The righteous Simeon took the Messiah in his arms and said: " Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word: For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel." (St. Luke 2: 29-32). Simeon also spoke the following words about the Christ-child: "Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel" (St. Luke 2:34). Then Anna, who from her youth served God in the Temple by fasting and prayers, recognized the Messiah and glorified God and proclaimed to the inhabitants of Jerusalem about the coming of the long-awaited One.



Troparion – tone 1

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos full of grace! From you shone the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, Enlightening those who sat in darkness! Rejoice and be glad O righteous elder, you accepted in your arms the Redeemer of our souls, Who grants us the resurrection!

Kontakion – tone 1

By Thy Nativity Thou didst sanctify the Virgin's womb, and didst bless Simeon's hands, O Christ God. Now Thou hast come and save us through love, grant peace to all Orthodox Christians, O only Lover of men!

The Pharisees present in the Temple, who having seen and heard all, became angry with Zacharias because he placed the Virgin Mary in the area reserved for virgins and reported this to King Herod. Convinced that this is the new king about whom the Magi from the east spoke, Herod immediately sent his soldiers to kill Jesus. In the meantime the Holy Family had already left the city and set out for Egypt under the guidance of an angel of God. The Feast of the Meeting of our Lord in the Temple was celebrated from earliest times but the solemn celebration of this day was established in 544 AD during the reign of Emperor Justinian.

Concerning the Virgin Birth

According to the Law, "Every male child that opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord." Only with Christ did this literally occur. He Himself opened the womb of the Virgin at birth, while all other wombs which have born a child have first been opened by a man.



- Blessed Theophylact