

# CHRIST THE SAVIOR ORTHODOX CHURCH

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## BULLETIN OF OCTOBER 14, 2012

### Welcome Visitors

It is great to have you with us today! We hope you all consider staying after Liturgy for coffee hour and fellowship!

### The Finance Committee

will meet today, after the coffee hour. The committee consists of Fr. John, Bruce Eckerd, treasurer, Darrell Wilson, and Kathy Parrish.

### Parish Council Meeting

Next Sunday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, there will be a meeting of the Parish Council, following the coffee hour. Everyone is welcome to attend the meeting which will be held in the chapel.

### Prayers for Those in the Healing Ministries

will be offered at the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, Nov. 4<sup>th</sup>, the Sunday following the feast of Ss. Cosmas and Damian, the Wonderworkers and Unmercenary Healers (Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>). Doctors, pharmacists, dentists, nurses, counselors and all those involved in the fields of health and wellness are asked to come forward near the conclusion of the Liturgy for a prayer and blessing.



### New Photos

have been posted to our website showing the process of gold-leafing our icons as well as the recent visit of the Iveron Icon to St. George's in Ocean City. Check them out!

### Parishioners That Are Home Bound

If you or a loved one cannot make it to Church, Fr. John would be more than pleased visit at your home, in the hospital, at a nursing home, or any other place. It is no inconvenience at all. Please be sure to schedule a visit.



### Financial Update

A financial summary covering the first three quarters of 2012 can be found on page four of this bulletin. If you have any questions regarding the summary, please see Fr. John, Bruce Eckerd, our treasurer, or one of the other Parish Council Members.



### Haven't Seen Someone in a While?

Give them a call. See how they are doing. Let them know that you not only miss them but also care enough to see if everything is okay. A kind word can go a long way.



### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14<sup>TH</sup>

#### 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost

#### Holy Fathers of the 7<sup>th</sup> Council

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

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20<sup>TH</sup>

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

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21<sup>ST</sup>

#### 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost

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

*Let everything take second place to our care for our children, our bringing them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord. If from the beginning we teach them to love true wisdom, they will have greater wealth and glory than riches can provide.*

St. John Chrysostom

### READER SCHEDULE

#### Sunday, Oct. 21<sup>st</sup>

Kathy Parrish

#### Sunday, Oct. 28<sup>th</sup>

Gabriela Jones



**Prayer List:** Fr. Michael Mihalick, Fr. Alexander Atty, Fr. Christian, Mat. Dunia, Bill Parrish, Hayley, Tyler Pelesh, Wallace & Michelle, John Trax, Maleah Morsey, Victoria Kokkinos, Karen Nichols, Denise Royal, Jane Koshutko, Nina Gordon, Mirela & Chris, Bruce Eckerd, Stella, Ari, Nedelina, Liliana, Nada and child, Jess and child, Kathryn (newly departed).

OPERATING THRU 9/31/12			OCTOBER OPERATING			RENOVATION TO PARISH CENTER	
Income	Expense	Net	Income	Goal	Difference	Loan Due Feb. 2014	Reimbursement Due
49,582	38,244	+11,338	983	4,858	-3,875	29,970	1,497

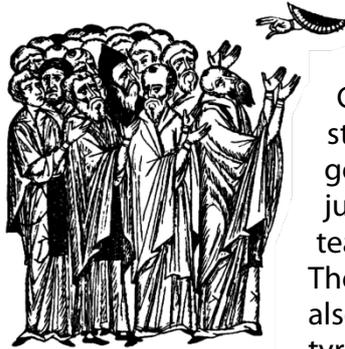


## THE HOLY FATHERS OF THE 7<sup>TH</sup> ECUMENICAL COUNCIL

*From the Prologue of St. Nikolai Velimirovich*



The Seventh Ecumenical Council was held in 787 at Nicaea during the reign of the devout Empress Irene and her son, Constantine, in the time of Patriarch Tarasius. This Council finally confirmed the veneration of icons, justifying it by Holy Scripture, by the witness of the Holy Fathers, and by the undeniable example of miracles manifested through the holy icons. Adding to examples of miracles previously cited, Bishop Constantine of Cyprus recounted this: One day, a certain shepherd from the town of Constantia drove his flock to pasture, and there saw an icon of the Most-holy Theotokos, all decorated with flowers by the faithful. "Why render so



much honor to a rock?" said the shepherd, who had obviously been brought up in iconoclasm. He struck the icon with his iron shepherd's cane, and damaged the right eye of the image of the Mother of God. As soon as he turned away, he stumbled over that same cane and gouged out his own right eye. Thus injured, he returned to the city, crying out tearfully that the punishment of the Theotokos had befallen him. This Council also decreed that the holy relics of a martyr be placed, without fail, in the Antimension. Three hundred and sixty-seven Fathers participated in this Council. May the Lord also have mercy on us and save us by their prayers.

### **"PARISH HOSPITALITY: CREATING POSITIVE FIRST-TIME EXPERIENCES FOR ENQUIRERS" TOPIC OF WEBINAR**

*CHICAGO, IL [MW Diocese Communications]*

The fourth in the popular series of one-hour on-line webinars on reaching the unchurched, facilitated by Joseph Kormos, head of the Diocese of the Midwest's Parish Development Ministry, and Archpriest Jonathan Ivanoff, will be held on Wednesday, October 24, 2012, at 8:00 p.m. EDT.

The webinar will serve as a continuation of earlier webinars, in which 70 to 80 individuals representing parishes of the Orthodox Church in America and other jurisdictions participated.

"Understanding the needs of the unchurched, reaching out to the neighborhood, effectively communicating the parish, planning for growth and inviting people to church are all part of the array of efforts for effective Orthodox evangelization in 21st century North America," according to Mr. Kormos. "Eventually those efforts result, God willing, in enquirers arriving at your church. Whether they come for Divine liturgy, Vespers, or a parish event, how they experience your parish is crucial. What can be done to show warm Christian hospitality? What are potential turnoffs? How can we improve the prospects of building a relationship with them? In session four, we will explore these questions and more."

Specific topics will include

- **preparing for a warm welcome**—understanding the visit from the inquirer's perspective.
- **equipping an effective greeters ministry**—good practices for the entire parish to help inquirers feel comfortable – before, during and after.
- **eliminating seeker insensitive behaviors**—one by one!
- **greeting at the conclusion**—overcoming reticence to visit coffee hr.; the bookstore and more.
- **good follow up**—increasing the likelihood of return visits.

"The Evangelization Webinar series presents practical and theoretical aspects of sharing the Gospel—as lived and taught by the Orthodox Church—with America," said Father Jonathan who, in addition to serving as rector of Saint John the Theologian Church, Shirley, NY, has been at the forefront of Orthodox evangelization and Church growth efforts for nearly two decades. "The series seeks to take initial strides to equip and encourage more Orthodox Christians to share the good news of the Gospel—using words when necessary—with those God sends and to whom God sends us."

To register for the webinar—space is limited, so early registration is suggested—log on to <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/121771712>. Registrants will receive a confirmation e-mail with instructions for joining the webinar.





## THE ICON CORNER – THE HEART OF THE FAMILY CHURCH

Every Sunday, feastday and other holy day, when we go into our parish temple, we see the heart of the parish which is the sanctuary, where the Holy Table is. When we go into an Orthodox home, we hope to see the heart of the family, which is the icon corner.

Just like the sanctuary is the heart of the parish church, the icon corner is the heart of the family church. In the parish church, the parish family prays together before the sanctuary and the iconostas; in the family church, the family prays together before the icon corner.

What is an icon corner? An icon corner is a shelf or table or cabinet, where icons are placed and where a lamp is kept burning. Many people have icons of Jesus Christ, the Theotokos and icons of the patron saints of the family members. There are many ways to set up the icons and the important thing is just to do it. The icon corner doesn't have to be a corner, it can be a wall or other place in the house where the family can go to pray. It is best if the icon corner faces the east, to remind us of the second coming of Jesus Christ.

Besides the icons and the lamp, it is traditional for pious Orthodox people to keep a Bible and prayer book, holy water, and blessed bread from church. Many people also have holy oil, the palms or wil-



lows from Palm Sunday, and other holy things from the services of the church year. The icon corner can be very simple or very fancy but the main thing is that the icon corner is not just a decoration

for the house but that it is the heart of the family and that the family uses it. In many pious Orthodox homes, the icon corner is arranged so that it can actually be used for celebrating the Divine Liturgy, if the priest needs to do this. This reminds us of the history of our Orthodox Faith and that we must always be ready for times when the churches suffer from those who are not believers.



If you do not have an icon corner, ask your priest to help you start one in your home. Members of the family can use it at any time. If you are not able to read the prayers from the prayer book because there is not enough time, then, at least go to the icon corner and ask for God's blessing before beginning whatever it is that you are doing.

Try to begin each day by going to the icon corner and reading the prayers from the prayer book for the morning, take some, holy bread and holy water. In this way, you are getting God's blessing for the new day. If you cannot read the prayers for some reason, still go to the icon corner, make the sign of the cross and take the holy bread and holy water, still asking God to bless the new day.

You will see that the icon corner makes a big difference in your home. When you see the lamp burning, you will remember that God is always near and that the saints are always praying for your family. When you use the icon corner every day, you will see that God is kept close to your heart and mind and this will help you to be closer to Him and His Orthodox Faith.

## REVERENCE FOR LIFE IS GIVEN TO US

Time spent on meaningful pursuits such as developing our talents and increasing our knowledge are worthy goals. However, the noblest use of time that will give meaning to our lives is practicing reverence for life by personal involvement with those who need our help desperately. True greatness lies in qualities of the heart, in charity and in love. Have you noticed that our happiest times are those in which we forget ourselves, usually in being kind to someone else?



## FINANCIAL SUMMARY – 1<sup>ST</sup> THREE QUARTERS OF 2012

<b>ORDINARY INCOME</b>		
<b>Category</b>	<b>Jan – Sep 12</b>	<b>Budget</b>
Stewardship	41,197	35,250
Candles	2,249	2,625
Bookstore	59	375
Charity	2,189	1,931

<b>ORDINARY INCOME / EXPENSES</b>		
<b>Category</b>	<b>Jan – Sep 12</b>	<b>Budget</b>
Income	49,582	44,250
Expense	38,244	44,207
Net Income	+11,338	+43

<b>BUILDING FUND</b>		
<b>Category</b>	<b>Jan – Sep 12</b>	<b>Budget</b>
Income	68,207	n/a
Expense	88,583	n/a
Net Income	-20,475	n/a

### **About the Financial Summary**

The **ordinary income and expenses** figures shown in the chart on the left designates those funds which are being used towards our operating budget.

Our net operating income/expenditure is \$11,338, yet this surplus has been needed to pay renovation expenses and in the future will be need to pay assessments.

The **building fund** figures shown at the bottom of the chart on the left indicate those funds which were donated and expended for renovation work to our chapel, hall and grounds.

It is important to note that these figures do not show the more than \$20,000 which has been given to the church by donors who purchased items directly (doors, windows, tile, HVAC, etc). This total will be offered in the year-end report. Full financial reports are given at every council meeting.

**Questions? Please see Bruce Eckerd.**

### **ON ORTHODOX LAITY AND POLITICS**

*From the Social Concept of the Russian Orthodox Church*

Nothing can prevent Orthodox laity from participating in the work of legislative, executive and judicial bodies and political organizations. This involvement has taken place under various political systems, such as autocracy, constitutional monarchy and various forms of the republic system. The participation of Orthodox laity in secular and political processes was difficult only in the contexts of non-Christian rule and the regime of state atheism.

In participating in political processes, Orthodox laity are called to base their work on the norms of the Gospel's morality: the unity of justice and mercy (Ps. 85:10); the concern for the spiritual and material welfare of people; the love of the homeland; and the desire to transform the surrounding world according to the Word of Christ.

The Christian who works in the sphere of civic and political building is called to seek the gift of special self-sacrifice and special self-denial. He needs to be utterly attentive to his own spiritual condition, so that his civic or political work may not turn from service into an end in itself that nourishes pride, greed, and other vices. It should be remembered that "principalities or powers, all things were created by Him, and for Him... and by Him all things stand" (Col. 1:16-17). St. Gregory the Theologian, addressing the rulers of his time, wrote: "It is with Christ that you command, with Christ that you govern, for Him that you have received your power." St. John Chrysostom says, "A true king is he who conquers anger and jealousy and lust and subjects everything to the laws of God and does not allow the passion for pleasure to prevail in his soul. I would like to see such a man in command of the people, the throne, the cities the provinces, and the troops, because he who has subjected the physical passions to reason would easily govern people also according to the divine laws... But he who appears to command people but in fact accommodates himself to wrath and ambition and pleasure... will not know how to dispose of power."

