



CHRIST THE SAVIOR ORTHODOX CHURCH

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BULLETIN OF OCTOBER 28, 2012

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28TH
21st Sunday of Pentecost
 8:40a.m. Hours
 9:00a.m. Divine Liturgy
 Coffee Hour

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD
 5:00p.m. Bible Study
 6:00p.m. Great Vespers

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH
22nd Sunday of Pentecost
 8:40a.m. Hours
 9:00a.m. Divine Liturgy
 Coffee Hour

The Jews were constrained to a regular payment of their tithes; Christians, who have liberty, assign all their possessions to the Lord, bestowing freely not the lesser portions of their property, since they have the hope of greater things.

St. Ireneas †202

READER SCHEDULE

Sunday, Nov. 4th
 Bruce Eckerd
Sunday, Nov. 11th
 Jodi McElwee



Welcome Visitors

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

Prayers for Those in the Healing Ministries

will be offered at the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, Nov. 4th, the Sunday following the feast of Ss. Cosmas and Damian, the Wonderworkers and Unmercenary Healers (Nov. 1st). 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.



St. Michael's Party – Sunday, November 4th

On Sunday, Nov. 4th (the Sunday after Halloween and before the Feast of the Archangels – November 8th) we will have a St. Michael's Party for the children. After the Divine Liturgy, the children will get dressed up as Saints and Angels and have a parade during the coffee hour. Questions, please see Mat. Emily



2013 Calendars & Pocket Planners

can be ordered via the order sheet in the back of the church. The calendars are \$5.00 a piece and the pocket planners \$4.00. The order sheet will be in the back of the church for the next month or so.

Many Thanks!

to the donors of our chapel's new chandelier from New World Byzantine Studios, nwbstudios.com. The design in the disk is adapted from a 6th-century communion patten, and the chain ornaments bear 6-bar crosses. May the Lord bless your generosity!



Expanded Financial Summary

At the request of the finance committee, the financial summary found at the bottom of each week's Sunday bulletin has been expanded to offer additional information. If you have any questions regarding the summary, please see Fr. John or Bruce Eckerd, our treasurer.

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

CASH FLOWS									FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT		
OPERATING THRU 9/30			RENOVATION THRU 9/30			OCTOBER OPERATING			ASSETS & LIABILITIES – 10/21/12		
Income	Expense	Net	Income	Expense	Net	Income	Goal	Difference	Checking	Overdue	Due 2/2014
49,582	38,244	+11,338	68,207	88,583	-20,475	4,633	4,858	-225	+2,996	-3,756	-29,960



ASK FATHER: 1 QUESTION / 1 ANSWER

Question: How do prayer and the keeping of the commandments actually affect our daily lives? Don't we say that everything that happens to us is part of God's providence? If so, what's the point? We can't really change our destiny, can we?

Answer: Though the Lord works in mysterious ways, arranging all things according to His Providence, we do actually have a crucial part to play in choosing our own destiny, both in this life and the next.

As the Scriptures teach us, just because God is all-powerful and always desires what is best for us, this does not mean that He will force us to enter into His Kingdom. He respects our free will so much that He even allows us to choose hell, both in this life and the next. Though He desires to shower us with His goodness in an infinite measure, in order not to infringe on our free will, He limits His goodness to us to the measure that we are willing to receive it from Him by working with Him - keeping His commandments, praying to Him, etc..



That's why when we keep the commandments or pray "Lord have mercy" we should remind ourselves that we are not trying to convince the Lord to be merciful to us - how silly would it be to think that we sinners can convince the Lord of infinite goodness, love, and wisdom to be more merciful or

more loving. Prayer and the keeping of the commandments have their power to change our destiny not because we convince God to do something better for us, but because through prayer and the keeping of the commandments we become humbler and more open to His action in our lives - we allow Him to work wonders on our behalf - the greatest wonder being the gift of salvation. In the spiritual life, the simple rule is: the measure in which we change (repent, turn to the Lord, keep the commandments, etc) is the same measure in which we will receive God's mercy. I think that this is really what St. Anthimos of Chios was getting at when he said that "the Goodness of God is so rich in graces, that it seeks a cause to have mercy on a person."

Anyway, it is a daily struggle (for all of us) to put Him first, but the great thing about it is that when we do we are guaranteed that everything will turn out for the best (even if we can't always see it from our human perspective). Hard work in the spiritual life always is worth it.

FINDING GOD

Seek God daily. But seek Him in your heart, not outside it. And when you find Him, stand with fear and trembling, like the Cherubim and the Seraphim, for your heart has become a throne of God. But in order to find God, become humble as dust before the Lord, for the Lord abhors the proud, whereas He visits those that are humble in heart.



St. Nectarios of Aegina (+1920)



A PRAYER FOR ONE'S PARISH PRIEST



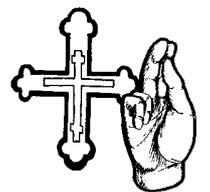
O Lord Jesus Christ, enkindle the heart of Thy priest, _____, with the fire of zealous love for Thee, that he may always seek Thy glory;

Give him strength that he may labor unceasingly in Thine earthly vineyard for the salvation of our souls and the glory of Thine all-honorable and majestic Name: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.



A PRAYER FOR ONE WHO IS ILL

O holy Father, heavenly Physician of our souls and bodies, who hast sent Thine Only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to heal all our ailments and deliver us from death: do Thou visit and heal Thy servant _____, granting him release from pain and restoration to health and vigor, that he may give thanks unto Thee and bless Thy holy Name, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.



TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE ON THE ANGELS

1. Angels? Who in their right mind believes in angels anymore?!?
 - a. those who know that things exist which cannot be seen by the human eye
 - b. those who believe the Word of God in the Old and New Testaments
 - c. those who have even some awareness of the spiritual world, including non-Christians
 - d. those who are possessed by demons
 - e. all of the above

2. True or False: According to the Holy Scriptures, there are 7 ranks of angels and 9 archangels.

3. The word "angel" means:
 - a. spirit
 - b. servant
 - c. messenger
 - d. holy one
 - e. none of the above

4. True or False: Angels can be present in two or more places at the same time because they don't have physical bodies.

5. The word "Satan" literally means:
 - a. father of lies
 - b. prince of the world
 - c. accuser or adversary
 - d. evil one
 - e. all of the above



6. True or False: Angels and demons, by their very nature as super-natural, highly intelligent spirits, not only know everything that has happened in the past, but can also read our thoughts and foretell the future.

7. If an angel came to you and gave you a different teachings from what was already given by Jesus Christ, should you listen to him?

8. True or False: When little children die, in heaven they become angels.

9. True or False: God created Satan as a fallen angel so that man's free will would be tested, having the option to follow God or follow the devil.

10. How many angels are there?

- a. 144,000 angels, plus an unnumbered amount of demons
- b. 99 angels, as indicated by the Lord's parable about the 99 sheep that didn't wander
- c. somewhere between 1,000 and 10,000
- d. innumerable more than the number of people ever created



1. e) all of the above.
2. False) There are 9 ranks of angels and many archangels, seven of which are known by name in Holy Scripture and Tradition
3. c) messenger
4. False. Angels are bound by time and space as are human beings.
5. c) Though all the descriptions apply, "Satan" literally means "accuser" or "adversary".
6. False. Angels do not know everything in the past, cannot read our thoughts, and do not know the future, unless God informs them of this.
7. No. See Galatians 1:8 and the errors of Islam and Mormonism for instance.
8. False. Though they may go to Heaven. Human beings do not become angels, nor angels become human beings.
9. False. Everything God created was made good, including Satan, who was formerly an angel of light and willingly chose to dwell in darkness.
10. d) Though there is no exact figure given in Holy Scripture or Tradition, the Church teaches that there are innumerable more angels than human beings ever created.

TRUE BEAUTY, PASSED BY?

Adapted from an article by Tom Beaton

Washington, DC Metro Station on a cold January morning in 2007. The man with a violin played six Bach pieces for about 45 minutes. During that time approx. 2 thousand people went through the station, most of them on their way to work. After 3 minutes a middle aged man noticed there was a musician playing. He slowed his pace and stopped for a few seconds and then hurried to meet his schedule.



- ❖ 4 minutes later: the violinist received his first dollar: a woman threw the money in the hat and, without stopping, continued to walk.
- ❖ 6 minutes: A young man leaned against the wall to listen to him, then looked at his watch and started to walk again.
- ❖ 10 minutes: A 3-year old boy stopped but his mother tugged him along hurriedly. The kid stopped to look at the violinist again, but the mother pushed hard and the child continued to walk, turning his head all the time. This action was repeated by several other children. Every parent, without exception, forced their children to move on quickly.
- ❖ 45 minutes: The musician played continuously. Only 6 people stopped and listened for a short while. About 20 gave money but continued to walk at their normal pace. The man collected a total of \$32.
- ❖ 1 hour: He finished playing and silence took over. No one noticed. No one applauded, nor was there any recognition.

No one knew this, but the violinist was Joshua Bell, one of the greatest musicians in the world. He played one of the most intricate pieces ever written, with a violin worth \$3.5 million dollars. Two days before Joshua Bell sold out a theater in Boston where the seats averaged \$100.

This is a true story. Joshua Bell playing incognito in the metro station was organized by the Washington Post as part of a social experiment about perception, taste and people's priorities. The questions raised: in a common place environment at an inappropriate hour, do we perceive beauty? Do we stop to appreciate it? Do we recognize talent in an unexpected context?

One possible conclusion reached from this experiment could be this: If we do not have a moment to stop and listen to one of the best musicians in the world, playing some of the finest music ever written, with one of the most beautiful instruments ever made... How many other things are we missing? Are we hurrying past what is most important and truly beautiful in life?

The Lord said to His disciples: "Blessed are the eyes which see the things that you see. For I tell you that many prophets and kings have desired to see what you see, and have not seen them, and to hear what you hear, and have not heard them." In Jesus Christ, the God-Man, we have not only the revelation of Who God is – the Source of all true beauty, wisdom, goodness and love, but we also have the revelation of man is called to be – how we are to live, what our priorities are supposed to be, where we can find true fulfillment. The Lord reveals to us the very meaning of life, both in this age and in the next: "and this is life eternal, that they might know Thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom Thou hast sent."

Life is busy. We each feel ourselves constantly pulled along from one thing to the next. There never seems to be enough time. Yet, unless we are able to slow down a bit, we will miss what is truly beautiful in life, what truly matters, what the Lord calls the "better part", "the one thing truly needful". Take the time, or better yet, make the time, for God and each other. In so doing, you will experience the true beauty of life, you will be granted a taste of the Kingdom to come. Joshua Bell sold out theaters because of his beautiful music but few listened in the busy subway. Jesus Christ offers us the free gift of eternal life, the beauty of the Age to come, but few make the time in this busy world to receive the gift. The question for us is: In a common place environment at an inappropriate hour, do we perceive true beauty? Do we stop to appreciate it?