



CHRIST THE SAVIOR ORTHODOX CHURCH

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BULLETIN OF FEBRUARY 3, 2018

A Warm Welcome!

We warmly welcome all our visitors! It's good to have you with us!

2019 Annual Meeting of the Parish

Appreciation is expressed to all who prepared reports and attended last Sunday's Annual Parish Meeting. A summary, photos, the reports, and draft minutes will be made available on our website – the latter two will also be available for pickup at the ushers' stand. Once again: thank you! Missed the meeting and/or have any questions? Please just ask!



Thank You For Your Prayers

for Fr. John as he underwent surgery this past week. May the Lord bless!

Budget Fact: Weekly Collection Goal

According to the 2019 budget, our weekly collection goal is \$2,137.19.

No Bible Study

this Saturday, February 9th. Apologies! The Bible Study will resume 2/16.

New Photos

have been posted to our website from the Youth Outing to the Trampoline Park and the Annual Parish Meeting. Enjoy!



Parking Lot Expansion

Only \$1,600 more is needed to finish the 2017 expansion of the parking lot. The funds are required to backfill and grade the areas next to the new parking spaces and exit road. May the Lord bless!

Safely Receiving Holy Communion

Please be sure to close your lips after the priest puts the spoon in your mouth so as to minimize the potential for an accident during the distribution of the Holy Communion. Thank you! Questions, please see Fr. John.

The "Souper" Bowl of Caring – Sunday, Feb. 3rd

is an IOCC sponsored event designed to help local food banks and charities. On Super Bowl Sunday, February 3rd, 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: Grace Center for Maternal & Women's Health.



Women's Outing – Sunday, February 24th

It will be at 1 o'clock at the Nori Sushi Bar and Grill, 11403 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD. Please RSVP to Ellen at ellenk19@gmail.com and indicating if you want sushi or will be ordering from regular lunch menu, which is available on their website: norioc.com. Also, please bring a baby picture of yourself to the luncheon for a game!



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3RD

36th Sunday of Pentecost

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

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH

5:00p.m. No Class
 5:30p.m. Memorial
 6:00p.m. Great Vespers

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH

Zacchaeus Sunday

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



On Quenching Anger

A man who is wrathful with us is a sick man; we must apply a plaster to his heart - love; we must treat him kindly, speak to him gently, lovingly. And if there is not deeply-rooted malice against us within him, but only a temporary fit of anger, you will see how his heart, or his malice, will melt away through your kindness and love - how good will conquer evil. A Christian must always be kind, gracious, and wise in order to conquer evil by good.

St. John of Kronstadt

+	OPERATING			EARMARKED			ACCOUNTS		READER SCHEDULE	
	LAST MONTH	THIS MONTH	LAST YEAR	LAST MONTH	THIS MONTH	LAST YEAR	AS OF 2/3		2/3	
INCOME	7,878	0	107,633	175	0	38,732	OPERATING	3,480	2/10	Megan Wilkinson
EXPENSE	9,261	9,261	106,966	800	0	26,218	EARMARKED	11,924	2/17	Rdr. George Kaloroumakis
NET	-1,383	-9,261	+667	-625	0	12,218	SAVINGS	12,000	2/24	Gabriela Vlahovici-Jones
										Rdr. Nicholas Borodulia

ASK FATHER: 1 QUESTION / 1 ANSWER

Q. In the Parable of the Talents (Matthew 25:14-30), why is the servant who buried his talent condemned when he didn't lose the talent but in fact returned it?

A. The Parable of the Talents was largely about stewardship. Rule #1 in stewardship is "Do what your master wants with his resources."

The steward acknowledged that he knew what he should have done – increase the talent – but chose rather to do what he himself wanted instead – secure the single talent. He had his own motives for this, namely safety and self-preservation. It was safer to bury the talent in the ground because then he wouldn't lose it and at least he could return what was given to him. To most of us this makes good sense, however, it is not a servant's job to go

against his master's wishes – the steward's sole function is to execute his master's will not his own. By burying the talent, the unwise steward disobeyed the Master's increase for his own security. This was an indirect theft of the interest which the Master would have received had the man invested the talent like the other stewards. So the fearful steward was rightly punished for cowardice, self-seeking, disobedience, and theft.

The fact that he buried the talent "in the ground" shows that he considered the earth an appropriate place for investment. Many people often consider earthly investment a "safe" container, delusively promising "security" but in actuality, proving in every case to be untrustworthy, temporary and unable to bring forth lasting fruit of true value. The unwise steward exemplifies the mindset of the worldly, who use the resources the Lord has entrusted to them for His eternal purposes according to their own earthly standards and agendas even when aware that the Master expects something more of them. The Fathers explain that the man should have used the Lord's resources properly by investing them through the Church, which brings forth much increase in the vaults of heaven, "where moth and rust do not destroy nor thieves break in and steal" (Matt 6:20). The parable makes clear that this increase, confidently anticipated by the Master, was not just some potentiality but rather a sure thing in that all the other stewards, the good and faithful ones in the parable, yielded a full and double increase by following the Master's sovereign will.

In the end, most tragically, the true loss was not the increase or lack thereof of the material resources. The loss was about much more, and it was two-fold, including both: 1) the increase of people who could have been joined to the Church had the steward invested the Lord's talent properly, and 2) the steward himself, who out of fear and desire for earthly security, buried with his Master's talent his own soul as well.



HOW TO COMMUNICATE

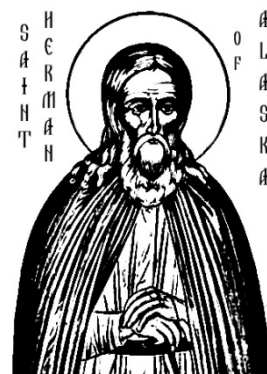
Metropolitan Athanasios of Limassol

"If you want people to understand you, then you must become like them. That's the move which God made: He became human, He spoke our language, He communed with us on all human levels except sin, and that's how He managed to truly communicate with us. So, not only did Christ, Who came and saved us, meet us where we were, but He did something else as well: He surrendered Himself for our life. In other words, He forsook everything which was His and gave Himself up for our sake."

NEVER DESPAIR

St. Herman of Alaska

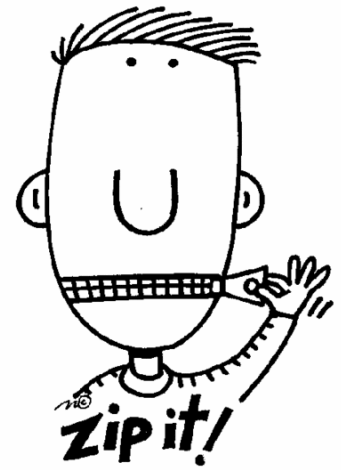
A true Christian is made by faith and love toward Christ. Our sins do not in the least hinder our Christianity, according to the word of the Savior Himself. He deigned to say: not the righteous have I come to call, but sinners to salvation; there is more joy in heaven over one who repents than over ninety righteous ones. Likewise concerning the sinful woman who touched His feet, He deigned to say to the Pharisee Simon: to one who has love, a great debt is forgiven, but from one who has no love, even a small debt will be demanded. From these judgments a Christian should bring himself to hope and joy, and not in the least accept an inflicted despair. Here one needs the shield of faith.



18 BIBLE VERSES TO HELP KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT

From likeateam.com

Sometimes it is best to keep your mouth shut. Talking too much can get anyone into trouble. Here is some simple advice found in the Bible as to when to keep your mouth shut!



1. In the heat of anger. [Proverbs 14:17](#)
2. When you don't have all the facts. [Proverbs 18:13](#)
3. When you haven't verified the story. [Deuteronomy 17:6](#)
4. If your words will offend a weaker brother. [1 Corinthians 8:11](#)
5. When you are tempted to joke about sin. [Proverbs 14:9](#)
6. When you would be ashamed of your words later. [Proverbs 8:8](#)
7. When you're tempted to make light of holy things. [Ecclesiastes 5:2](#)
8. If your words would convey a wrong impression. [Proverbs 17:27](#)
9. If the issue is none of your business. [Proverbs 14:10](#)
10. When you are tempted to tell an outright lie. [Proverbs 4:24](#)
11. If your words will damage someone's reputation. [Proverbs 16:27](#)
12. If your words will destroy a friendship. [Proverbs 25:28](#)
13. When you are feeling critical. [James 3:9](#)
14. When it is time to listen. [Proverbs 13:1](#)
15. If you may have to eat your words later. [Proverbs 18:21](#)
16. If you have already said it more than one time (Then it becomes nagging). [Proverbs 19:13](#)
17. When you are tempted to flatter a wicked person. [Proverbs 24:24](#)
18. When you are supposed to be working instead. [Proverbs 14:23](#)



ON CHRIST THE ARTIST

From the Prologue of Ochrid

An artist is one who, from crude and shapeless stone, carves and shapes forms similar to living creatures. An artist is one who weaves a multi-colored blanket from the wool of sheep. An artist is one who builds a magnificent palace out of earthly bricks. But what kind of artist on earth can be compared to Christ the Artist, who from illiterate men creates

wise men, who from fishermen creates apostles, who from cowards creates heroes, who from the immoral creates saints? But all must be given over to the hand of the artist, in order to be fashioned into that which the artist knows and is capable of doing. All things, in truth, must be given over to the hand of the artist. Even men must give themselves over to the hand of Christ, in order for Him to carve, to weave or to build that which only He knows and is capable of. Nineteen past centuries witness to us, that all of them who did not protest [against Him] but rather gave themselves over to Christ the Artist and from the boorish and the ignorant became angel-seeing children of God.

FEBRUARY CONGRATULATIONS!

Birthdays:

2/6	Andrew Hageman
2/7	Elisea Bendfeldt
2/10	Christopher Morsey
2/14	Alma Linda Hageman Alyssa Mellinger
2/17	Daria Parsells Quentin Mellinger
2/18	Daniel Moss
2/20	Isabella Morsey
2/21	Beth Dunbar
2/23	Natalia Korovina Riley Mellinger
2/25	Constantine Cook
2/26	Londy Kokkinos
2/27	Gary Casserly
2/28	Ana Lucia Hageman