



CHRIST THE SAVIOR ORTHODOX CHURCH

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BULLETIN OF SEPTEMBER 8, 2019

A Warm Welcome!

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

Exaltation of the Holy Cross – September 14th

This feast commemorates the finding of the True Cross of Christ by St. Helen, the mother of St. Constantine the Great. On this day, the founding priest of our Mission, Fr. Daniel Hubiak was ordained to the Holy Priesthood. We wish him and Mat. Dunia, many blessed years! Come and celebrate the Feast!



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8TH

Nativity of the Virgin

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

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH

7:00p.m. Great Vespers w/ Litiya

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14TH

Exaltation of the Holy Cross One of the Twelve Great Feasts

8:40a.m. Hours
 9:00a.m. Div. Liturgy
 5:00p.m. Bible Study
 6:00p.m. Great Vespers

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15TH

Sunday After the Exaltation

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



Appreciation is Expressed

to those who prepare food for the coffee hour and clean-up the chapel and hall each Sunday morning. Your labors are much appreciated and worthy of emulation!

Did You Know We're on Facebook?

"Like" us to receive our posts, and so that your friends can get to know your church a little. Who knows who else may "Like" us too?
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Christ-the-Savior/202922375995>



Bible Studies

are being held on Saturday evenings at 5:00pm in the "Quiet Room" and will conclude just before the Vespers at 6:00pm. This is a great and enjoyable way to learn together about your Faith. Everyone is invited to attend. Questions are welcome and discussion is lively. Come and see!

"Polar Bear Club" Sunday – September 15th

The final day for swimming during the coffee hour will be Sunday, 9/15. After the Divine Liturgy, the pool will be open for swimming until 1pm. A certified lifeguard will be on duty, but parents should still watch their children. Notes: 1) Swimming will begin after the food is blessed. 2) Toys, food, and garbage should be cleaned up before leaving for home.



Only struggle a little more. Carry your cross without complaining. Don't think you are anything special. Don't justify your sins and weaknesses, but see yourself as you really are. And, especially, love one another.

Fr. Seraphim Rose (†1982)



Safety First

Please be attentive to our children's safety; especially in the parking lot and pool. Parents are asked to please stay with their children at all times or leave them in the supervision of another adult.

The Parish Council

will meet on Sunday, September 22nd for the 3rd quarterly meeting. Full reports will be presented. All are welcome to attend!

Going to the Hospital?

Please let your priest know, so that he can add you to the prayer list (public or private), or, if you like, pay you a visit.



+	OPERATING			EARMARKED			ACCOUNTS		READER SCHEDULE	
	THRU 8/31	THIS MONTH	THIS YEAR	THRU 8/31	THIS MONTH	THIS YEAR	OPERATING			
INCOME	74,492	1,527	76,019	15,110	0	15,110	EARMARKED	8,574	9/8	Gabriela Vlahovici-Jones
EXPENSE	74,088	9,261	83,349	2,885	5,780	8,665	SAVINGS	13,059	9/15	Beth Dunbar
NET	+404	-7,734	-7,330	+12,225	-5,780	+6,445	BUILDING	12,000	9/22	Rdr. Nicholas Borodulia
								5,000	9/29	Megan Wilkinson

THE NATIVITY OF THE VIRGIN MARY

Celebrated on September 8th

The Holy Virgin Mary was born of aged parents, Joachim and Anna. Her father was of the lineage of David, and her mother of the lineage of Aaron. Thus, she was of royal birth by her father, and of priestly birth by her mother. In this, she foreshadowed Him Who would be born of her as King and High Priest. Her parents were quite old and had no children. Because of this they were ashamed before men and humble before God. In their humility they prayed to God with tears, to bring them joy in their old age by giving them a child, as He had once given joy to the aged Abraham and his wife Sarah by giving them Isaac. The Almighty and All-seeing God rewarded them with a joy that surpassed all their expectations and all their most beautiful dreams. For He gave them not just a daughter, but the Mother of God. He illumined them not only with temporal joy, but with eternal joy as well. God gave them just one daughter, and she would later give them just one grandson-but what a daughter and what a Grandson! Mary, Full of grace, Blessed among women, the Temple of the Holy Spirit, the Altar of the Living God, the Table of the Heavenly Bread, the Ark of God's Holiness, the Tree of the Sweetest Fruit, the Glory of the race of man, the Praise of womanhood, the Fount of virginity and purity-this was the daughter given by

God to Joachim and Anna. She was born in Nazareth, and at the age of three, was taken to the Temple in Jerusalem. In her young womanhood she returned again to Nazareth, and shortly thereafter heard the Annunciation of the Holy Archangel Gabriel concerning the birth of the Son of God, the Savior of the world, from her most-pure virgin body.



Troparion – tone 4

Your Nativity, O Virgin, has proclaimed joy to the whole universe! The Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, has shone from you, O Theotokos! By annulling the curse, He bestowed a blessing. By destroying death, He has granted us eternal life.

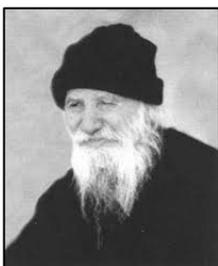
Kontakion – tone 4

By your Nativity, O Most-Pure Virgin, Joachim and Anna are freed from barrenness; Adam and Eve, from the corruption of death. And we, your people, freed from the guilt of sin, celebrate and sing to you: The barren woman gives birth to the Theotokos, the Nourisher of our Life.

FROM THE DESERT FATHERS

A brother questioned Abba Poemen saying, "If I see my brother committing a sin, is it right to conceal it?" The old man said to him, "At the very moment when we hide our brother's fault, God hides our own and at the moment when we reveal our brother's fault, God reveals ours too."

Another brother questioned him in these words, "What does, 'See that none of you repays evil for evil' mean?" (1 Thess. 5:15) The old man said to him, "Passions work in four stages – first, in the heart; secondly, in the face; thirdly, in words; and fourthly, through deeds. If you can purify your heart, passion will not come into your expression; but if it comes into your face, take care not to speak; but if you do speak, cut the conversation short in case you render evil for evil."



ON THE CORRECTION OF EVIL

By Elder Porphyrios

Our purpose is not to condemn evil, but to correct it. With condemnation people can get lost, with understanding and assistance they will be saved. Evil begins from bad thoughts. When you are bitter and indignant, even just with your thoughts, you spoil a spiritual atmosphere. You prevent the Holy Spirit from acting and allow the devil to increase the evil. You should always pray, love and forgive, driving out of yourself every evil thought.



THE EXALTATION OF THE PRECIOUS CROSS

Celebrated on September 14th

Saint Helen, the mother of Saint Constantine the Great, when she was already advanced in years, undertook, in her great piety, the hardships of a journey to Jerusalem in search of the cross, about the year 325. A temple to Aphrodite had been raised up by the Emperor Hadrian upon Golgotha, to defile and cover with oblivion the place where the saving Passion had been suffered. The venerable Helen had the statue of Aphrodite destroyed, and the earth removed, revealing the Tomb of our Lord, and three crosses. Of these, it was believed that one must be that of our Lord, the other two of the thieves crucified with Him; but Saint Helen was at a loss which one might be the Wood of our salvation. At the inspiration of Saint Macarius, Archbishop of Jerusalem, a lady of Jerusalem, who was already at the point of death from a certain disease, was brought to touch the crosses, and as soon as she came near to the Cross of our Lord, she was made perfectly whole. Consequently, the precious Cross was lifted on high by Archbishop

Macarius of Jerusalem; as he stood on the ambo, and when the people beheld it, they cried out, "Lord have mercy." It should be noted that after its discovery, a portion of the venerable Cross was taken to Constantinople as a blessing. The rest was left in Jerusalem in the magnificent church built by Saint Helen, until the year 614. At that time, the Persians plundered Palestine and took the Cross to their own country (see Jan. 22, Saint Anastasius the Persian). Late, in the year 628, Emperor Heraclius set out on a military campaign, retrieved the Cross, and after bringing it to Constantinople, himself escorted it back to Jerusalem, where he restored it to its place.

ON OUR CHOICE

By St. Theophan the Recluse

God does not desire the death of a sinner, but He does present a choice, and only he who chooses salvation will be saved. If our consent were not required, God could save everyone in a single instant, for He wants everyone to be saved. In that case, no one at all would perish. But our free will does not always act wisely; it becomes stubborn and does not obey even God. That is how we perish.



ON SIN AND THE WILL OF GOD

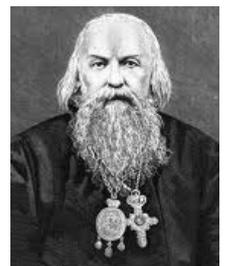
By St. Anthony the Great

Things that are done according to nature aren't sins, but those done by choice; it's not a sin to eat, so that the body will be properly maintained in life without any evil thought, but it is to eat without gratitude and improperly and without restraint; neither is it a sin to look with chastity, but it is a sin to look with envy, pride and desire; it is not a sin to listen quietly, but it is with anger. It's not a sin to let the tongue be unrestrained in thanksgiving and prayer, but it is to speak evil; to not let your hands do acts of mercy, but to commit murder and theft. So each of our members sins if it does evil instead of good, doing things its own way and not according to the will of God.

ON THE KEEPING OF THE GOSPEL COMMANDMENTS

By St. Ignatius Brianchaninov

The Lord's commandments are Spirit and life. They save the doer of them. They restore a dead soul to life. They make a carnal and worldly person spiritual. On the other hand a person who neglects the commandments ruins himself and remains in a carnal and worldly state, in a fallen condition, and develops the fall in himself. This animal man does not receive the gifts of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him.





ON OBEDIENCE AS A SHIELD AGAINST PRIDE

By St. Nikolai Velimirovich

He who desires to be saved must be absolutely obedient to spiritual authority. Without this obedience, a man can perish even with the greatest desire for salvation. The great saints, who prescribed obedience as the condition for salvation, also fulfilled the act of obedience to perfection. When St. Simeon chose the pillar for his asceticism, it struck the other ascetics as some kind of novelty. Because they did not know if this form of asceticism was of the Spirit of God or of the spirit of pride, the desert fathers sent spiritual men to determine the answer. The monks were to command Simeon in their name to come down from the pillar. If he did not want to come down, it would have meant that his elevation on the pillar was from the spirit of pride. But if he obeyed the command and began to descend, they were to leave him as he was, for his readiness to obey would show that his asceticism was from the Holy Spirit. When those sent arrived and told Simeon that the council of the holy fathers of the desert commanded him to descend from the pillar, Simeon immediately began to climb down the ladder. Seeing his obedience, they cried out to him rejoicing: "Do not come down, holy Father, but remain where you are. We see now that your asceticism is of God."

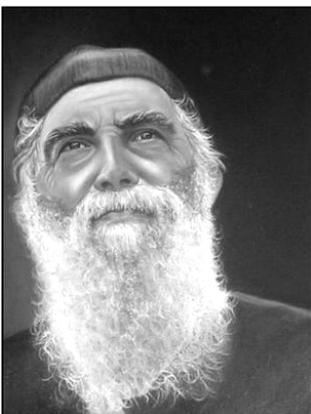
'A HEAVY LOAD'

Two traveling monks reached a town and saw a young woman waiting to step out of her sedan chair. There were deep, muddy puddles and she couldn't step across without spoiling her fancy robes. She impatiently scolded her attendants, who were burdened with heavy packages, so they could not help her across.

The younger monk walked by the young woman without speaking. But the older monk stopped and picked her up on his back, carried her across the mud and set her down on the other side. She did not thank the monk, she just shoved him out of her way and scurried by him haughtily.

As the two monks continued on their way, the younger monk was brooding and preoccupied. After a long time, unable to hold his silence, he finally spoke out. "That woman back there was very selfish and rude but you picked her up and carried her! She didn't even thank you."

"I set the woman down hours ago," the older monk replied. "Why are you still carrying her?"



THE IMPORTANCE OF SPIRITUAL HELP FOR YOUNG CHILDREN

By Elder Paisios the Athonite

Parents have to help their children spiritually when they are little; because then, even their faults are little and they can easily be corrected. It's like a fresh potato; if you scratch it a little, it's peeled. If, however, it gets older and staler, you will need a sharp knife to clean it; and if it has some dark spots, you'll need to dig deeper. If the children are filled with Christ from an early age, they will always remain close to Him. And even if they should stray a little when they grow up, either because of a phase of rebellion they're going through or because of bad influences, they are sure to return to their senses. This is because the fear of God and the devotion that watered their hearts - when they were young - cannot ever be eradicated.