

SS Peter & Paul Orthodox Church Newsletter

Volume 23 Issue 7

July 2023

June Council Highlights

- ✘ May's Operating Income was \$13,199.24 and Operating Expenses were \$25,632.38, resulting in Net Operating deficit of **-\$12,433.14** for the month.
- ✘ Warranty dispute with church window installer is ongoing.
- ✘ Firetrol was onsite to service the hall's alarm and sprinkler systems.

Below: SS Peter and Paul Orthodox Church, Winter 1968. Thank you, Joffa Applegate.



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The Holy Prophet Elijah

Of all the Old Testament prophets it was Elijah the Thibite who in a unique way captured the imagination of the Slavic people in Eastern Europe. The prophet, whose name means "strength of the Lord" was a man aflame with the fire of the love of God and was uncompromising in his faithfulness to the one true God. He was a powerful and courageous figure who had been given power over the elements: rain, wind, fire, etc.



Because many of our ancestors were primarily agricultural people and the success of their crops and livestock depended greatly on the elements, it was natural for them to find a suitable patron and protector in Elijah. Since it was Elijah who appeared with Moses at the time of Our Lord's transfiguration on Mount Tabor, we can readily see the connection between this feast and the blessing of fruit and grain on the Feast of Transfiguration.

The profound respect our people had for the Prophet Elijah as one of the major prophets of the Old Testament, and their devotion to him as a patron of the elements, led them to institute the solemn

observance of his feast day. He is also one of the few Old Testament figures who has churches dedicated in his honor.

Elijah lived during the reign of Achab, the seventh king of Israel (875-854 B.C.). The king had married Jezebel, the pagan daughter of the king of Tyre. She brought with her hundreds of pagan prophets (ritual priests) to Samaria and introduced the worship of the Phoenician deity, Melqart, also known under the general name of Baal. Apart from the sacrifices they offered as part of their priestly function, they observed a special ritual dance accompanied by musical instruments. Every spring they had a ceremony of fire to mark the awakening of their god who had slept through the winter. They enkindled a great fire from which the god was supposed to renew his strength. During this time, the priest-prophets of Baal danced and whirled faster and faster in a frenzy, even to wounding themselves with swords and spears on their arms and legs.

Under the influence of Queen Jezebel, the true prophets of Israel were persecuted, and the Israelites became divided

in their loyalty between Baal and Yahweh. They thought they could worship both, the God of their fathers and the pagan god, Baal, whom the Queen favored. Elijah's strong and determined opposition to this divided loyalty earned for him the hatred of the queen.

Chapter eighteen of the Third Book of Kings describes a famous scene on Mount Carmel and how Elijah determined to prove that Yahweh alone is the true God. Elijah approached the people and appealed to them not to straddle between both deities. He addressed them saying: "If the Lord is God, follow Him; if Baal, follow him.... I am the only surviving prophet of the Lord, and there are four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal. Give us two young bulls. Let them choose one, cut it into pieces, and place it on the wood, but start no fire. I shall prepare the other and place it upon the wood but shall start no fire. You shall call on your gods, and I will call on the Lord. The God who answers with fire is God" (3 Kings 18: 21-24). The people agreed.

The prophets of Baal selected a bull and prepared if on an altar and called on their pagan god from morning to noon to start

(Continued on page 4)

Message from Our Rector

Every week on Sunday the Divine Liturgy is served in remembrance of Christ's resurrection. The Divine Liturgy can be served on any day during the week, except for the Great Fast, where it cannot be served on weekdays and is only served on weekends except for the Annunciation. When we come to the Divine Liturgy we are here to worship God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit, so our focus should be totally fixed on them. Every Sunday is a little Pascha, where we celebrate Christ's resurrection, and all the things that He has done for us, and where we are also to ask for His mercy on us. When the Russian Prince Vladimir sent his emissaries to find a true faith they visited the Hagia Sophia in Constantinople, back in the 10th century, and attended the Divine Liturgy, they explained to him: We knew not whether we were in heaven or on earth, for surely there is no such splendor or beauty anywhere on earth. We cannot describe it to you; we only know that God dwells there among men and that their Service surpasses the worship of all other places..." A church is called to be humble, repentant and prayerful, where we show reverence and respect to Christ, the creator of the world, for we are Christ's servants, we are called to serve Him properly and in truth. And the Church has laid out before us how we are to do this proper worship, we don't get to make up our own way of doing things, and change things. I hope it is understood that the Liturgy is not a show that is put on, but an active true worship of Christ. The Liturgy begins with the exclamation: "Blessed is the Kingdom of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages." In other words, may the Kingdom of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit



it be glorified now and always and unto the endless ages. We enter into this mystical realm, we leave this earthly place with all the other Orthodox Churches worldwide, and enter into the eternal presence of the Holy Trinity. This is why we cannot be late, when we are, we fail at entering into His presence. This is what the Divine Liturgy is all about, drawing us closer to God. This is what true worship really is, being on time and being prepared. The Divine Liturgy is celebrated outside of time and space, leading us into a different reality. It leads us directly to God the Father. We mystically are transported to the Kingdom of Heaven. Saint John Chrysostom says, Every time there is performed the liturgy of this awesome sacrifice, which is the clear image of the heavenly realities, we should imagine that we are in heaven. Therefore, we begin this service by blessing and glorifying the Kingdom of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit—the Kingdom of the Holy Trinity. And the Divine Liturgy is the Kingdom of Heaven on earth. We have to be properly prepared to come to the Liturgy as well as being prepared to receive the Holy Eucharist. When we prepare properly we begin to understand the full depth of the Divine Liturgy, knowing that the Liturgy is NOT a show between the priest, deacon and the choir. It is not some passive entertainment during which the people sit back and watch, because when we sit we relax and then our mind wanders, or we start to talk, as if whatever we think about or talk about could be more important than worshipping God. The liturgy is active dialogue where we communicate and connect with the living God, the people say the prayers silently while the priest, deacon and choir say them out loud, we cross ourselves

many times throughout the Liturgy so that we fully immerse ourselves in the proper and true worship of Christ. This is work, and it takes work to stand, to pay attention, to draw closer to Christ. Why? Because we have a God who loves us and wants us all to be in the Kingdom. But we first have to choose to follow Christ and His Commandments, then we have to put our faith and trust in Christ and work at fulfilling His holy will. When we have issues and problems He is there to help us and to heal us, but it takes action on our part. It takes work, like our prayers, our running from sin, our confessing our sins, our attending the services with the proper frame of mind, as we say in the Liturgy "now lay aside all earthly cares. The church is the temple of God, a holy place, a house of prayer, it is the assembly of the people, the Body of Christ. The church is called the Bride of Christ, therefore we must always show the proper reverence and respect to the church because it is the earthly heaven, and Christ is the Bridegroom.

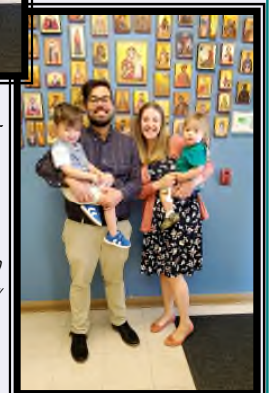
FAREWELL and BEST WISHES

To the Arauz and Hurd families as they each start a new chapter in their lives!



*Strange, isn't it?
Each man's life
touches so many
other lives. When
he isn't around,
he leaves an awful
hole, doesn't he?"*
—Clarence The Angel,
It's a Wonderful Life

*"We all take different paths in life,
but no matter
where we go, we
take a little of each
other everywhere."*
—Tim McGraw



Church Etiquette — Part I

The Holy Orthodox Church is perhaps one of the last social institutions where dignity, protocol, respect, and reverence are maintained. This is primarily because when we come to the church and its services we are entering the Kingdom of God on earth, His habitation, and we choose to honor this sacred place by our attentiveness to what is proper and ordered. We have the opportunity to reflect the image of Christ within us by our actions. "You are a chosen generation, a royal

"We come to the church on time as if to a "Great Banquet," with reverence because we are partaking of the very Body and Blood of Christ, our Savior. "

priesthood, a holy nation" (Peter 2:9). This guide is meant for personal reflection and not as a means of judging others. Keep in mind that there are different traditions even among the Orthodox faithful. We come to church to pray and worship God above all else, and that should be our only focus. While the following references the Divine Liturgy, it should be noted that proper etiquette should be applied to all the Divine Services of the Church.

ENTERING THE CHURCH

The Orthodox Divine Liturgy begins when the priest intones, "Blessed is the Kingdom of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit." We need to arrive early enough to receive this blessing. Arriving later causes a distraction for others who are praying.

If an occasional problem occurs and you have to come in late, enter the church reverently and quietly. The times in which you must stay in the back of the church, or the narthex, before entering include: when the Little or Great Entrance is taking

place, when the priest is censuring the icons and congregation or giving the homily, and when the Epistle or Gospel is being read. When the priest or Deacon is censuring everyone should stop venerating the icons and stand aside until they are finished censuring and have gone back into the altar. Also, we should not be turning and following the priest/deacon while they cense the whole church, we should always be facing the altar . If you are unsure

when is the best time to enter the church, ask one of the ushers for guidance. We come to the church on time as if to a "Great Banquet," with reverence because we are partaking of the very Body and Blood of Christ, our Savior. Coming to the Hours before the Divine Liturgy will ensure that you will be settled in plenty of time to pray without distraction.

STANDING IN CHURCH

It is the custom of Orthodox Christians to stand throughout the services of the Church. This is because the traditional posture for prayer and worship in the Orthodox Church is standing. If you choose to stand in a church that has pews, please do so near the back or sides so that the view of the altar is not blocked. If you need to sit during the Divine Liturgy, remember to stand at these times: when the Liturgy begins and the priest gives the blessing; during the Little and Great Entrances; when the priest is censuring the icons and the faithful; during the Gospel reading; at the Anaphora; for Holy Communion; and at the final Blessing. Whenever a hierarch is visiting the parish, out of

respect follow his example and stand and sit when he does.

LIGHTING OF CANDLES

It is a pious Orthodox tradition to light candles for personal petitions and intercessions when entering the church and venerating the icons. Most parishes have designated candle stands or holders for these candles. It is not proper to light candles at certain times during the service—generally the same times when you should not enter the church, such as during the Little and Great Entrances, when the priest is censuring the icons and congregation or giving the homily, or during the reading of the Epistle or Gospel.

Candles should be allowed to burn down without being extinguished early, since the burning candle symbolizes our prayers rising to heaven and the light of Christ in our midst. Please do not allow young children to light candles alone, for safety reasons.

VENERATING ICONS

The Orthodox Church teaches that it is proper to venerate, not worship, icons.. The acceptable way to do this is to kiss either the hands or feet of Our Lord or of the saint depicted in the icon, or the scroll, the Gospel book, or the hand cross a saint is holding. Please do not wear lipstick /chapstick when kissing the icons.

ADDITIONAL PIOUS CUSTOMS

CROSSING ONESELF

It is always appropriate to cross oneself at the mention of the Holy Trinity—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; whenever entering or leaving the church; at the beginning of the Liturgy; when passing in front of the altar; when venerating an icon, the Gospel, or the cross; and at times for personal peti-

(Continued on page 4)

Church Etiquette — Part I

(Continued from page 3)

tions. It is not necessary to cross oneself when the priest is giving a blessing or censuring the congregation. Instead, one should bow to receive the blessing.

BOWING

Orthodox Christians bow when the Theotokos and Christ are petitioned. They also bow to the priest at his blessing, and when he asks forgiveness before the Great Entrance and again before Holy Communion. It is traditional for the Orthodox faithful to bow and cross themselves when they enter and leave the church, and when they pray before the icons.

KNEELING

In some Orthodox traditions there are times when kneeling is a pious practice in the Liturgy, the most notable being at the Consecration of the Holy Gifts. However, kneeling is prohibited on Sundays, Great Feast days, and during the Paschal season, from Pascha to Pentecost, in honor of the Resurrection.

The author of this article is Father David Barr, Pastor of Holy Resurrection Church in Tucson, Arizona, a parish of the Antiochian Archdiocese. This article has been reprinted in churches in all Orthodox jurisdictions in America. ✕

LUNCHEON THANK YOU'S The Myrhhbearers Altar Society would like to thank everyone who contributed to the Father's Day luncheon and the SS Peter & Paul day luncheons. It was wonderful to see so many contributions and to celebrate these special days.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR COFFEE HOUR CLEAN-UP We are in need of volunteers to clean-up the church hall on Sunday's after coffee hour. Cleaners clean off the tables, put away/give away leftover food, wash dishes, take out the trash, etc. If you are interested in volunteering for one weekend a month or one weekend every couple of months, please sign up in the hall. If you have questions please speak to Heather Pfeiffer or Marty Gala.

The Holy Prophet Elijah

(Continued from page 1)

the fire. But there was no response. They did their ritual dance. Still no response. Elijah then taunted them with the words: "Call louder, for he is a god and may be meditating or may have retired or may be on a journey. Perhaps he is asleep and must be awakened?" They called out even louder, slashed themselves with swords and spears, yet all their efforts ended in failure.

Elijah then took twelve stones to represent the number of tribes of Israel (named after the twelve sons of Jacob) and repaired the altar which had been previously destroyed. He dug a trench around the altar, arranged the wood and placed the young sacrificial bull on the altar. He then ordered the people to pour water over the offering and over the wood. He ordered this done the second and then a third time so that the sacrifice, wood, and altar were all drenched, and the trench filled with water.

The Prophet then prayed: "Lord, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, let it be known this day that You are God in Israel and that I

am your servant and have done these things by your command. Answer me. Lord! Answer me that this people may know that You, Lord, are God and that You have brought them back to their senses." Fire immediately came down and consumed the bull, the wood, stone, and dust and dried up the water in the trenches. When the people saw this miracle, they fell on their faces and cried out: "The Lord is God! The Lord is God!" The prophets of Baal were then, seized and put to death.

When the queen heard this. she became angry and determined to kill Elijah. He, however, escaped by travelling forty days and forty nights to Mount Horeb (Sinai), where he took shelter in a cave and was delivered food, by a raven. It was here that the Lord spoke to him and instructed him in his future prophetic missions to the people of Israel.

After years of zealously fulfilling the Lord's commands, he gave his prophetic mantle to Elisha, his successor. One day, as the Bible describes it, both were walking and conversing and "a flaming chariot and flam-

ing horses came between them, and Elijah was taken up to heaven in a whirlwind."

According to the prophecy of Malachi, Elijah is to come again toward the end of the world. "Lo, I will send you Elijah, the prophet, before the day of the Lord comes, the great and terrible day" (3:23). A tradition gradually formed which held that Elijah would return at the time of the coming of the Messiah (Enoch, 4 Esdras, Eccl. 48: 10). In fact, the angel in announcing the birth of John the Baptist said that John would have the spirit and power of Elijah. Jesus Himself compared John with Elijah twice. The Prophet Elijah's loyalty to God and uncompromising faithfulness is a model for those who are straddling between loyalty to God and to the world.

The qualities of loyalty to God and the fulfillment of His holy will are the qualities needed today. May we live in the spirit and power of Elias and progress to spiritual strength and greatness.

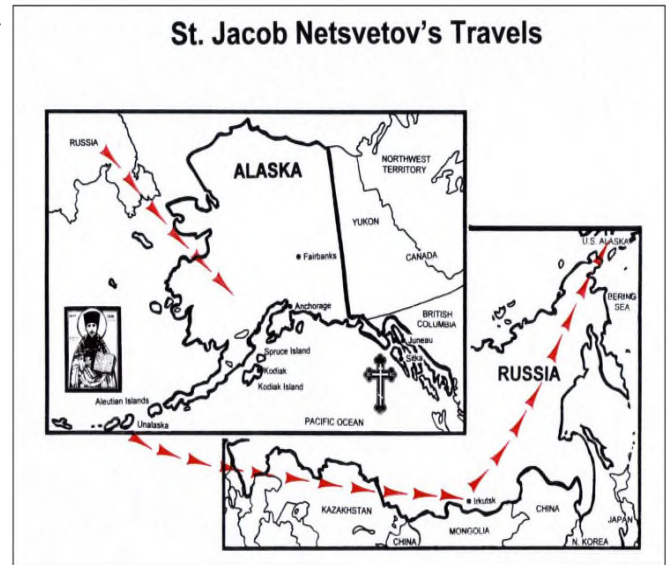
**O Holy, Prophet Elijah,
pray unto God for us!**

Youth Corner: St. Jacob Netsvetov

ENLIGHTENER OF THE NATIVE PEOPLE OF ALASKA COMMEMORATION DATE: JULY 26

In 1802, on an Aleutian Island in Alaska, Yeager and Maria Netsvetov became the parents of a son named Jacob. He was the oldest of four children. He had a sister Elena and two brothers Osip and Antony. During his young life, his parents moved to Siberia, Russia. His parents were very poor, but worked hard to help their children. Rather than going to the Naval Academy like his brothers, Jacob wanted to learn more about the church, so he went to school at the Irkutsk Theological Seminary. When he was twenty years old, he married a girl named Anna. He was then tonsured a sub-deacon. On March 4, 1828, he received the Sacrament of Ordination from Archbishop Michael, the same Archbishop that ordained St. Innocent. After his ordination, Father Jacob wanted to return to Alaska and teach the people about God. So he began his long journey from Siberia to Alaska with his wife and father. After traveling by land and sea for 13 months and 14 days, he reached Alaska. Father Jacob loved his parishioners so much that neither sickness nor weather would stop him from visiting. He spoke two languages, making it very easy for him to talk to the people he served. Since there was no church building when he arrived, he held all of the services in a tent. Father Jacob would pack up his tent and take it with him on all of his missionary trips. He finally decided it was important to have a church, so he built the church of St. Nicholas. Once the church was completed, he constructed a school for the children. He taught the children to read and write in both Russian and Unagan Aleut, the native language of many people on the island. With the help of St. Innocent, he translated the Holy Scriptures and other important writings into the language of the Native Alaskans.

After his wife and father died, he wanted to be a monastic, but St. Innocent encouraged him to continue his missionary work. Through his work, he converted and baptized both the leader and all of the people in the village. On July 26, 1864, he died in Sitka, Alaska. The glorification services for St. Jacob were held in Anchorage, Alaska on October 15-16, 1994.



Leapfrog Activity

St. Jacob Netsvetov

For this activity, we are going to play leapfrog with letters. For example, you will see $M+2$. The answer will be the letter "O" because we are counting forward two letters. You will have to either count forward or backwards because there is also some subtraction. We have the alphabet below to help you play leapfrog. Once you are finished, you will see the Bible verse.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

P+2 B+3 K-1 R-3 G+2 B+1 I-4

H+1 Q-3 Q+3 J-2 D+1 I+3 N+1 T-2 C+1

B-1 O-1 B+2 D-2 H-3 D+3 H+4 C-2 G-3

S-4 V+3 R-3 X-3

V-4 F+3 E+2 K-3 W-3 C+2 J+5 Y-4 R+1

Epistle Alleluia Verse for the
Feast of All Saints of America taken from the Rubrics.

Youth News

STAR ATHLETES On June 16, 2023, Delilah Arango competed in the Rio Development Swim Team Summer League meet. She placed 2nd in the Breaststroke and achieved a personal best time. Delilah will be competing again on July 22nd in the Grand Canyon State Games at McClintock High School in Freestyle, Backstroke, and Breaststroke.



Team victories. Dylan also was selected to attend the National Select Team Camp in Tennessee in the fall.

Next time you see our talented athletes, be sure to congratulate them on their successes!



Dylan Arango competed in the NGA Nationals in New Orleans, LA., Dylan had a fantastic meet taking home 4 medals. He placed 3rd on parallel bars, 4th on high bar and 5th on rings and All Around. He contributed to his team's First Place and Super



ALL SAINTS CAMP Our youth had an incredible week at All Saints Camp! The laughter, friendships, and unforgettable moments created a bond that will last a lifetime. From spirited games to heartfelt discussions, our youth grew in their Orthodox faith and deepened their connection with God and one another.



Around SS Peter & Paul

JULY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- July 13 Jessie Garcia
- 14 Barbara Harp
Azuriah Merriwether
- 16 John Yavornitzky
- 20 Wesley Holmes
Matushka Mary Balmer
Fr David & Matushka Mary Balmer
Lydia Osolinsky & Michael Davis
- 22 Nadya Moriarty
Jarrod Zaremba
- 23 Nicholas Enoch Sr.
- 24 Mekseb Mebrahtu
- 25 Deacon Rodion Pfeiffer
- 27 Phil O'Brien
Tammy Lynn Horton
Xanath (Xenia) King
- 29 David Homyak
Sarita & Arthur Rhodes
- 31 Sammy Valencia

MANY YEARS!

CONGRATULATIONS and MANY YEARS

to Sarita and Arthur Rhodes on the birth of their son, Judah Chase Williams Rhodes. Judah was born June 13th, a healthy 8lb 10 oz, 20.8in, baby boy. Judah is also welcomed by his brothers, John Henry and Jagger. We join them in giving thanks for this gift of new life. May the Lord bless them all!



PRAYER LIST

We offer prayers to all of our parishioners who are ill or unable to attend services:

- Sandra Hoff
- Barbara Harp
- Marie Lobb
- Ann Carroll
- Elizabeth Michel
- Walter Booriakin
- Jamie Arango
- Tammy Horton

The suffering people of Ukraine

May Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Physician of our souls and bodies, reach out his healing hand and bless these, His servants.

If you know anyone else in need of our prayers, please contact Fr. Mikel.

Bits and Pieces

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: Archbishop Benjamin will be with us September 9th and 10th.

THE DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY will be in Santa Rosa, Calif. October 24th-26th.

CONGRATULATIONS AND MANY YEARS! to Deacon Rodion Pfeiffer as he celebrates the second anniversary of his ordination to the Holy Diaconate. May the Lord bless him and grant him, Matushka Elizabeth, and their family many blessings as they serve Christ's Holy Church!

THE SCHOOL SUPPLIES PROGRAM is almost done. We thank each and every one of you for your donations. We were able to purchase all the supplies and backpacks for 48 students from Pre-K to 8th grade. We worked to get the best value for the money and I think we have accomplished that.

But we need your help once again. We ask that you give us 15 minutes during the coffee hour to **pack the backpacks**. Get some friends together, choose a grade and put all the supplies in the packs along with labels. Each grade comprises 5 students. We will give you all you need to get this done.

We will be "packing up" on this coming Sunday, July 9 and also Sunday, July 16. So choose a date, choose a grade, and we can get this final part of our program finished in time to deliver to Whittier School around July 20th. Thank you again.

Mary Flynn, David & Sue Bieber

FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION

This feast commemorates our Lord's transfiguration before his disciples on Mt. Tabor. In His Transfiguration He reveals His glory to the disciples. In Him they (and we) now see for themselves the glory of God present in the person of Christ. Vespers for the feast will be Saturday evening, August 5th at 5:00pm and then Sunday, August 6th, Divine Liturgy at 9:00am, followed by the blessing of fruit.



CONFESSIONS are heard after Vespers on Saturday Evening. If you would like your confession to be at a different time, please let Fr. Mikel or Fr. David know. Everyone who goes to Communion is required by the Holy Synod of Bishops of the OCA to have their Confession heard at least once every 4 weeks.

CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD If you are interested in enrolling your 3-6 year old child as a new student in our CGS class for the upcoming school year, please contact Lesley Zaremba at 480.710.7133.

SUNDAY SCHOOL is looking for volunteers to help with our Sunday School program. We are in need of an assistant teacher in our CGS class as well as a teacher and assistant teacher for our high school class. Please contact Stephanie Homyak, 602.432.7473, to volunteer.

"Of all the holy works, the education of children is the most holy."

— St. Theophan the Recluse

MID-YEAR STATEMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS

The office of the treasurer will be sending/emailing out semi-annual contributions statements in July. Please review your statement when you receive it to make sure you are credited correctly. If there is a discrepancy, please contact the treasurer, David Homyak.

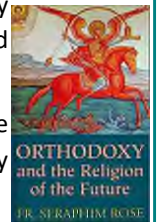
BLESSING OF VEHICLES It is our parish custom to bless vehicles on the Sunday nearest to the Feast of the Holy Prophet Elijah. This year, that commemoration falls on Sunday, July 23rd. Cars and other vehicles will be blessed that day, following the celebration of the Divine Liturgy.

A/C REMINDER When running the hall's A/C remember to keep all doors closed and returning thermostats to their original setting after use.

CHRISTMAS OUTREACH Mary Flynn is seeking volunteers to help with our Christmas Outreach Program to our local school. Please see Mary Flynn or Fr. Mikel if you are able to help.

SUMMER STEWARDSHIP Throughout the summer months, many of our parishioners will be taking vacations, seeking cooler climes, or visiting family and friends throughout the country and world. It is also during the summer, when church attendance decreases because of vacations, and our parish expenses rise due to the greater use and higher cost of electricity in the heat of the summer. However, the life and work of your parish community continues even when you are traveling and away and enjoying your vacation. You are asked to kindly remember this and to maintain—and even increase—your stewardship during the summer months. May the Lord bless your travels and bring you safely home.

BOOKSTORE New titles are arriving weekly to our recently refreshed parish bookstore!



The month's spotlight is on the classic book by Fr. Seraphim Rose "Orthodoxy and the Religion of the Future":

What is the ancient Christian understanding of today's UFO sightings? What is behind the Charismatic Movement? What phenomena are assaulting Christianity in our modern world? How can Christians avoid being caught up in the Apostasy?

ORTHODOXY AND THE RELIGION OF THE FUTURE examines in eight chapters these and similar questions facing Christians in the contemporary world. The religious phenomena of today are symptoms of a "new religious consciousness" that is preparing the world religion of the future. Phenomena such as Yoga, Zen, Tantra, Transcendental Meditation, Maharaj-ji, Hare Krishna, UFOs, the Charismatic Movement and Jonestown are presented in contrast to the Orthodox Patristic standard of spiritual life, without the understanding of which, in the coming time of antichrist, it will scarcely be possible for Christians to be saved.

July 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <p>FOCA Wishing everyone born in July a very Happy Birthday and may God grant you many years!</p>						<p>1 Wonderworkers Cosmas & Damian</p> <p>5:00pm Vespers</p>
<p>2 8:40am Hours 9:00am Divine Liturgy</p> <p>SS PETER & PAUL FEAST DAY POT LUCK LUNCHEON</p>	<p>3</p> <p>MBAS Will NOT meet in July. See you in August!</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 Ven. Athanasius of Mt. Athos Relics Ven. Sergius of Radonezh</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8 Kazan, Sitka-Kazan Icons and other Kazan Icons</p> <p>5:00pm Vespers</p>
<p>9 8:40am Hours 9:00am Divine Liturgy</p>	<p>10 Ven. Anthony of the Kiev Caves</p>	<p>11 Greatmartyr Euphemia</p> <p>6:00pm Parish Council Meeting</p>	<p>12</p>  <p>St. Elijah—Blessing of Cars Vehicles will be blessed immediately following Divine Liturgy on Sunday, July 23, 2023</p>		<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>15 Great Prince Vladimir Equal-to-the-Apostles</p> <p>8:40am Hours 9:00am Divine Liturgy</p> <p>5:00pm Vespers</p>
<p>16 8:40am Hours 9:00am Divine Liturgy</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>6:00pm Vespers</p>	<p>19 Relics Ven. Seraphim of Sarov</p> <p>8:40am Hours 9:00am Divine Liturgy</p> <p>6:00pm Bible Study</p>	<p>20 Holy Prophet Elijah</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 Myrrhbearer and Equal-to-the-Apostles Mary Magdalene</p> <p>10:00am Baptisms</p> <p>5:00pm Vespers</p>
<p>23 Pochaev & Joy of All Who Sorrow Icons</p> <p>8:40am Hours 9:00am Divine Liturgy</p> <p>BLESSING OF CARS</p>	<p>24 Martyrs & Passion bearers Boris & Gleb Martyr Christina of Tyre</p>	<p>25 Dormition of Righteous Anna, Mother of the Theotokos</p> <p>6:00pm Vespers</p>	<p>26 Repose of St. Jacob Netsvetov of Alaska</p> <p>8:40am Hours 9:00am Divine Liturgy</p> <p>6:00pm Bible Study</p>	<p>27 Greatmartyr & Healer Panteleimon</p>	<p>28 Smolensk- Hodigitria Icon</p>	<p>29</p> <p>5:00pm Vespers</p>
<p>30 8:40am Hours 9:00am Divine Liturgy</p>	<p>31 Forefeast Procession of the Lifegiving Cross</p> <p>6:00pm Vespers</p>	<p>1 Beginning of Dormition Fast Procession of the Lifegiving Cross</p> <p>8:40am Hours 9:00am Divine Liturgy</p>	<p>2</p> <p>We welcome all of our guests and visitors. Please join us in the Cultural Center for Fellowship Hour following Divine Liturgy each Sunday.</p>		<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>5 Forefeast Transfiguration</p> <p>5:00pm Vespers</p>
<p>6 TRANSFIGURATION</p> <p>8:40am Hours 9:00am Divine Liturgy</p> <p><i>Blessing of Fruit</i></p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>6:00pm Vespers</p>	<p>9 Ven Herman of Alaska</p> <p>8:40am Hours 9:00am Divine Liturgy</p> <p>6:00pm Bible Study</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p>5:00pm Vespers</p>