

# PARISH NEWS

## FROM FATHER'S DESK

IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER AND OF THE SON AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

**CHRIST IS BORN! INDEED HE IS BORN!**

May all of us rejoice on the birthday of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The one who came to this earth to teach us, be an example to us and thus lead us into the Kingdom of Heaven. How can we ever thank Him for this sacrifice? Our thanks can only be done by living our lives according to His commandments. May His birth be a new start for all of us. Amen.

### Христос се Роди браћо и сестре!

Нека нам Његово рођење донесе радост. Нека нам Његово рођење улије у разум ту реалност спасења, да је он дошао на овај свет нас ради и нашега ради спасења и да је Он живео међу нама, учио нас и својим примером доказивао како би нас увео у Вечни Живот. Једини начин на који Му се можемо одужити и захвалити је да живимо по Његовим заповестима. Нека Његово рођење буде наш почетак и наша обнова. Амин, Боже дај.

**IMPORTANT-Please offer a gift (Donation) to your Church this Christmas (Envelope enclosed).**

Be like the wise men, give a gift to Jesus Christ – first of all your life.

### Annual Meeting

Whether you are a member or parishioner this should concern you. This year's Annual Meeting will be held at our Church on February 13<sup>th</sup> 2005. Being it a fact that we have bought the land for our new home, paid it off and have the Architectural plans in our hands its time to continue and realize our goal, please make an effort to be there and help out, last chance to be involved. We are all obligated to contribute as much as we can – our presence for this meeting is very important – "The future is built by the present!"

We may choose and wait for someone else to do that for us, but the question is what if everyone feels this way and what if our fathers felt this way many years ago, we wouldn't have a place to gather in today, therefore, we owe it to the future generations and to God and to our selves. Think about it please.

### Pray for your Church Family

**Please pray for the health of**

Diana & Corina Fischetti, Jason, Elena Milovac, Hadad, Lazar Prodic, Chester Tasich, Paul & Tina Stoyanovich, Kathryn Ralic, Anna Ralish, Patty Staletovich, Milan Knezevic, and Angeline Yeftich.

\*If you would like to add or delete a name on the list, please call the Church office.

### SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

⊗= under 80      ⊗=over 80  
⊙=80            ⊙⊙= over 110

November 28	101 souls	⊗
December 5	61 souls	⊗
December 12	90 souls	⊙
December 19	202 souls	⊙⊙⊙⊙

***Please make an effort to take a day off for Christmas (January 7<sup>th</sup>) and come to Church for Divine Liturgy. Last year we had a record-breaking attendance of 120 souls. Can we do better this year?***

### KOLO NEWS

The same officers were elected for this coming year, as corrected from previous bulletin:

President	Dorothy Milivojac
Vice President	Dorothy Cross
Secretary	Marija Milivojac
Recording Sec'y	Millie Arsich
Treasurer	Stana Edwards
Cheer Person	Angie Devitt

### Christmas Dinner & Gift Exchange

This event turned out to be very successful with the largest number ever of sisters attending (42). In addition to this, many compliments were received about the delicious food and a good time was had by all!

**Next Kolo Meeting Date: Wednesday evening, January 12, at 7:00 p.m. at our Church hall. Please try to attend.**

**Special Kolo Project**—During the Advent Fasting Season, our sisters will be preparing Lenten Bean Soup and salad after the Divine Liturgy. All proceeds will be going to the needy of our community.

### Do you need a Lenten Cookbook for this fasting season?

If so, please consider buying one of ours. The cost is \$8.00. Also, they make good gifts.

### CHOIR NEWS

Our visit to the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church on December 5 turned out very successful and our Choir received many nice compliments on our responses. By us singing the responses that day, the Holy Trinity Choir was able to spend their time in the kitchen preparing the meal for that day, proceeds of which went to a charitable organization of their choice. Everyone present enjoyed themselves.

We wish to thank the nuns from St. Xenia Metochian Monastery and the family of Fr. John Koen for responding to the Divine Liturgy in the absence of our Choir. We heard they responded beautifully.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

The Religious education for our Sunday School Children will resume again on January 23, 2005.

### Sunday School Events:

#### St. Sava Day Celebration Approaching

St. Sava Day soon will be here. Fr. Dragan will be mailing a letter and a poem for the children in preparation for this event. Parents, please make sure your children participate. Rehearsal dates are on the Monthly Calendar.

The Kumovi for St. Sava Day Celebration are The Ljoljic Family. Ziveli!!!

### WINTER YOUTH RETREAT — WISCONSIN — January 14-16 2005

If you are interested in going, contact the Church office by January 5.

**Altar Server Meeting**—December 26<sup>th</sup> – very important meeting prior to the Christmas Eve service.

### Sunday School Attendance Chart

Please notice this attendance chart, which is posted in the lobby of our Church, so that you can see when your children attended Sunday School.

### BULLETIN SPONSOR – THANK YOU!

In memory of Todor Stanjevich and Catherine Olliges. May God establish their souls where the saints repose and may their memory be eternal.

**Sponsored by the Suder Family**

# PARISH NEWS

**Note:** In order to sponsor a bulletin, we are asking for a donation of \$200.00 or whatever you can afford.

## ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

January 2: Jordan England, Matthew Thomas, Nathaniel Thomas  
January 6<sup>th</sup> (Christmas Eve) All Servers welcome.  
Christmas: ALL ALTAR SERVERS WELCOME  
January 9: Mark Mozina, Marko Adams, George Steiner  
January 16: Djordje Mikic, Petar Hood, Matthew Toth  
January 23: Alex Tanaskovich, Ben Staletoovich, Alec Mandich  
January 30: Milos Mikic, Steven Stankovich, Matthew Vukas  
February 6: Garret Isch, Brian Isch, Riley Isch  
February 13: Sam Bennett, Connor Schumok, Christopher Toth  
February 20: Garret Isch, Brian Isch, Riley Isch  
February 27: David Bresich, Nikola Rajovic, Stefan Arsich

Any Altar server who cannot attend Church the day he is scheduled is to find a replacement and notify Fr. Dragan at 636-1404.

## FAVORITE BIBLE VERSES

"He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. So, let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly, or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver."

II Cor. 9:6-7

## SAYINGS OF THE HOLY FATHERS

"A rich person is not the one who has, but one who gives, for this remains forever." St. John Chrysostom

## Prayer Service for the Sanctity of Life

The Presbyters' Council of Central Indiana invites you to this special prayer service that will be held Friday, January 21, 2005, at 7 PM, at St. John the Forerunner Orthodox Church, 1427 Blaine Avenue, Indianapolis. The guest speaker will be Presbytera Stefanie Yazge, Assistant Professor of Theology, St. Mary-of-the-Woods College. Everyone is welcome!

## ORTHODOX NEWSPAPER

With the approval of the Central Indiana Presbyter Council and the participation of 13 Central Indiana Parishes, a new newspaper **KOINONIA** is designed to:

1. Spread the good news about Christ's resurrection.
2. To unite the Orthodox Community, by informing its members of the activities of its brothers in Christ.
3. To inform both the Orthodox Community members and the public, about the practices, beliefs, and traditions of Orthodoxy.
4. To recognize our distinct ethnic diversities and our homogeneity between ourselves.

The paper will be distributed for free at our 13 Central Indiana Parishes.

KOINONIA will be distributed 6 times a year to follow the Orthodox Liturgical Calendar

## WE ARE REMODELING THE PARISH HOME

Special thanks to the following people who worked on this project: **Milos Cvetinovich** for volunteering his services for painting the entire parish home.

**Mane Bubalo** for volunteering his services for installing light fixtures.

**Stanley Cvetkovich & Nicholas Cross** for all the miscellaneous work accomplished on the parish home thus far.

Following are some of the accomplishments thus far: 3 bedrooms were completely carpeted and glue less laminate flooring was installed in the rest of the rooms. The only other thing to be done

is the Kitchen and that is scheduled to be done by January 5<sup>th</sup> 2005.

Any donations for this project would be greatly appreciated. Call the Church office, please.

## Note from Fr. Dragan and Popadija Vesna

We would like to thank all of you members and parishioners for remodeling the Parish home for us. It feels like a new home now. We appreciate it very much and the kids love it.

As a sign of gratitude we'd like to invite you to an OPEN HOUSE on February 12<sup>th</sup> 2005 (Saturday) between 10:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. We are also doing this because there are many folks from Church that have never been to our Parish Home. Please, please, please DON'T BRING any gifts. The only ones we need there is you, we would like to express our thanks to you. Thank you for coming.

## HOLIDAY GIVING

As we concentrate on the spirit of giving during the Christmas season, we will have a collection bin for food donations to help some of our church family members and others in our neighborhood during this special time of the year. We will take non-perishable items and/or cash contributions that will be used for hams and turkeys. Every year we receive phone calls from needy people in our neighborhood asking for assistance.

## Ambassadors for Children (AFC)

This is a not-for-profit humanitarian organization in Indianapolis. Ambassadors for Children partners with Her Royal Highness Crown Princess Katherine (of Serbia) Foundation to work with the children at the Center for Infants, Children, and Adolescents in Belgrade. This orphanage houses over 700 children from infants to teenagers. The Serbian Orthodox parishes in the Midwest have been approached by this organization about a trip being planned for volunteers to Belgrade from June 18-25, 2005. Volunteers joining AFC in Serbia will spend their days with the children playing games, working on facilities projects and teaching English. The AFC group will also bring needed donations of hygiene items, school supplies, clothing and shoes. It will be a great opportunity to visit Serbia, experience the culture, and help the children. It may also be arranged for individuals or families to extend their trip to allow time for visiting relatives and friends.

If you are interested in volunteering for this project, contact Rachael Yates, Mission Director, Ambassadors for Children., c/o Ambassador Travel Club, 7337 W. Washington St., Indianapolis, IN 46231. Telephone: 317/248-8102

## PARISH DIRECTORY

The new parish directory has been completed and will be sent out in the mail sometime during the month of January 2005. Special thanks to Stevens Mortuary for covering the cost & Karen Christoff for all the work she did on this project.

## HAND-PAINTED ICONS

Special thanks to Cristina Tanaskovich for the beautiful icons (St. Nicholas & St. George) she personally hand painted. They are located at the entrance of our Sunday School area.

## FLOWERS FOR OUR CHURCH

Bob and Heidi Mandich donated all of the beautiful poinsettia plants that you see in front of the altar in our Church. Special thanks to Bob and Heidi for this wonderful contribution!

## 2005 Pocket Calendars

They are Free -- Just ask for one.

# PARISH NEWS

## Memory Eternal to:

Grozda Mikic (mother of Fr. Mihajlo Mikic). May God establish her soul where the saints repose and let the family strength to endure this temporary separation. VJECNAJA PAMIJAT.

## P. COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR 2005-06

The hope is that all of the Parish Council Members will remain on the Council. In any case, we are always looking for more help. For your information, Parish Council Members are responsible for social and financial issues of our church as well as maintain the Church Property. If you have been a member, in good standing, of our Church for at least one year and are interested in being a part of this wonderful group of volunteers (stewards) for the coming year, please call the Church office: 636-1404. The Parish Council is elected at the Annual Meeting and approved by our bishop. Your talents will be welcomed. Thank you for your consideration.

## Who is a member in good standing?

- A person who is a practicing Orthodox Christian (comes to Church regularly and partakes of the Sacraments of the Church).

- A person who has satisfied his/her financial obligations to the Church &/or is a good steward.

## Year-end Reminders:

- As this year comes to an end, remember not to discard wall calendar icons. If you will not reuse these icons, please bring them to the Church office.

- If you have not paid your membership dues for this year, this will be the last reminder in order to maintain your voting privileges for the 2005 Annual Meeting.

## BOOK STORE—WHATS NEW?

**Christ is born!! Indeed he is born!**

The bookstore has several new items, which will supplement or add convenience to your time spent reading the scriptures.

If you are like many of us, you can easily find the Gospel readings in the first four books of the New Testament. Finding the epistle readings in the rest of the New Testament and sometimes in the books of the Old Testament is another story. For your convenience, we have some adhesive tabs, which can be added to any bible for each of the books of the Old and New Testaments. It makes accessing the daily readings we receive from the Church each year (**included in this mailing**) much easier. They come in two sizes. One smaller for smaller Bibles and another larger set for family or large print Bibles. They are inexpensive at \$4.50 and \$5.00.

Many people like to supplement daily reading of the Bible with other inspirational readings. The Bookstore has several options for you in this area also. We have books for daily readings during the Advent and Great Lent fasting days. We have a book of daily readings from the writings of St. John Chrysostom, whose Divine Liturgy we celebrate each Sunday. We have an excellent Orthodox Study Bible, which includes general information about Orthodoxy, Morning and Evening Prayers, as well as, the New Testament, the book of Psalms, and supplemental explanations of many Bible passages.

Maybe, you have some books of inspiration; you would like to recommend to our brothers and sisters. If so, please let us know about them.

Can we help you find something? See Terri Fields, Judy Gajic, Sofia Fields, or Jim Fields.

**Hristos Se Rodi!! Voistinu Se Rodi!**

From, Your brothers and sisters working for you in the Bookstore:

## CHURCH SLAVA

Over 200 souls present. The bishop gave us a nice surprise by being with us on this day even though it was his Slava also. His Grace bishop Longin came for vespers prior to the Feast Day and

staid the next day till after the Slava Banquet. As he entered the Church for Divine Liturgy our Children welcomed him by ringing bells and throwing rose petals before him. At the beginning of the Service we had around a 100 souls present, it was wonderful. The response from our Choir was angelic. The meal, prepared and donated by the Milivojac Family, was delicious. The Kumovi for next year will be Gregg, Kimber & Alec Pasalich. May God bless all!!!!

## GIFT FROM YOUR CHURCH

On Christmas Eve, each person will receive a **Diptych** (two wooden little icons (Christ & Virgin Mary) put together). These Diptychs we recently received from Serbia. We are looking forward to seeing you.

## BLESSING OF THE WHITE RIVER

On the 19<sup>th</sup> of January (Theophany) after the Divine Liturgy our Church will get together with the Joy of All who Sorrow Orthodox Church to bless the White River. The Meeting place will be opposite from the Navel Armory, where 30<sup>th</sup> St. & The White River cross. Plan to be there, its quite an experience. After the blessing of the River please join us for a pitch-in luncheon.

## COVEKOLJUBLJE/IOCC

If you would like to sent your donations to the needy people of Serbia send it to our Diocese:

**Covekoljublje, P.O. Box 371, Grayslake, IL 60046**

If you would like to send a donation to an Orthodox Humanitarian Organization in U.S.A. please do so at: **IOCC, P.O. Box 630225, Baltimore, MD 21298**

## ONE OF THE SHORTEST BUT THE MOST POWERFUL PRAYERS USED IN THE ORTHODOX CHURCH:

*"O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of  
God, have mercy upon me a  
sinner"*

## The Troparion of Christmas

Your nativity, O Christ our God, has shown to the world the light of wisdom, for by it those who worshipped the stars were taught by a star to adore You, the Sun of Righteousness, and to know you the dawn from on high. O Lord, glory to You!

## The Kontakion of Christmas

Today the virgin gives birth to the Transcendent One, and the earth offers a cave to the Unapproachable One. Angels with shepherds glorify Him. The wise men journey with the star, since for our sake the eternal God was born as a little child.