

# PARISH NEWS

## FROM FATHER'S DESK

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

Dear spiritual children and friends, when you pray please remember our bishop Longin and me (Fr. Dragan) in your daily prayers. Please know that we need it most.

## “CHRISTMAS GREETING”

“Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate (embodied) of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became man.”

What an amazing event. God became a man. Why? For us and our salvation. We fast during this season in anticipation of this Great Day of His birth. It is awesome. Two thousand years ago the Almighty God took a body of a man and dwelt among us. He was born and He lived a life as we do. Can you imagine a King deciding to be a peasant or even a servant? Can you imagine how the Apostles felt when it was revealed to them that the One who washed their feet was no less than the Incarnate God Himself? Realistically, it is impossible for us to comprehend this kind of love. My dear brethren, considering all this, how can we not love Him and serve Him? How can we not dedicate our whole life unto Christ our God?

Let us rejoice in His birth and follow His commandments.

Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a very fruitful New Year!

**Christ is born! Христос се роди!**

## ST. SAVA CELEBRATION APPROACHING

St. Sava Day is approaching, and I will be mailing a letter and poem to the parents in preparation for this event. Please make sure that your children participate in this program. Thank you.

## CHRISTMAS GIFT TO MY CHURCH

With the angels, shepherds and Magi, we come to the manger in awe to worship and to offer our gifts to the newborn King, O pre-eternal God, have mercy on us!

**John 3:16 “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”**

Giving His only begotten Son was not the only thing God has given to us. He gave before that event and He has been giving from that event, thus please let us give something back.

Included in this mailing is an envelope for your donations. Thank you!

## PRAY FOR YOUR CHURCH FAMILY

Please pray for the health of:

Tomislav, Natasa, Milutin, Diana & Corina Fischetti, Jason, Elena (Milovac), Hadad, Lazar (Prodic), Chester (Tasich), Paul & Tina (Stoyanovich), Kathryn (Ralic), Patty (Staletovich), Milan (Knezevic), and Angeline (Yeftich), Jack (Mertz), Adam...

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

## SERBIAN NEW YEARS EVE CELEBRATION

On January 13<sup>th</sup> (old calendar New Years Eve) we will celebrate at our church the New Years in a traditional Serbian way. Even though it falls on Friday – it is a Free of Fast Friday. Thus prepare yourself for good food, fellowship and music. Make your reservation by calling the church office by January 7<sup>th</sup> & save \$5.00 per person. Begins at 8:00 PM. The entrance fee is \$25.00, which includes all you can eat food, Champaign you can afford and music. Children under 13 are **Free**.

This event is organized by SND therefore please make your checks payable to S.N.D.

**It's almost a costume party:** If you have Traditional Serbian clothes wear them please.

## SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

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

Dec 4: - 55    ⊗    Dec 18: - 176 - ⊙⊙⊙⊙

Dec 11: - 77    ⊗    Dec 25: - 37 - ⊗⊗⊗⊗

## CHOIR NEWS

The Jovan Ducic choir wishes to extend a heartfelt thanks to James Davidson for helping us with printing our new choir books. Hvala

## KOLO NEWS

### Christmas Dinner & Gift Exchange

After canceling the Kolo Christmas Dinner the first time due to a snowstorm, we were able to get together on December 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Lincoln Square Restaurant. We had a wonderful time and a delicious dinner.

### Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Pitch-in

Don't forget to bring Lenten goodies for the Christmas Eve Pitch-in, Christmas however suggested foods are: meats & cheeses & meats & cheeses & some more meats & cheeses & just a little more meats & cheeses. It's already delicious!

# PARISH NEWS

**NOTE:** We still have frozen (uncooked) Cevaps and Cheese Pitas for sale. Great for dinners and get-togethers. Serve the Cevaps in a crock-pot with BBQ sauce for a great appetizer. For more information or to place an order please call the church office 636-1404

## SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

**Sunday School will resume again on February 5<sup>th</sup> 2006**

### Children's Choir

Sunday School Children have been practicing Church songs to sing on Christmas Eve & Christmas. Please bring your children to church by 9:30 am, on the 7<sup>th</sup> for final practice before Divine Liturgy.

**YOUTH (Ages 13-18)** - Please call the church office (636-1404) if you are interested in participating. We are in the process of forming a Pan (All) Orthodox Youth Group of Central IN, which will meet once a month.

**YOUTH:** Mid Winter Dance for the Youth & young adults (ages 18-30). Please call the office for more information

### TAMBURA GROUP -

If interested, please call the church office 636-1404. The Tambura group meets in the Church office after Divine Liturgy.

### FOLKLORE GROUP

If you are interested in joining this fun group call the church office. The Folklore group meets in the largest room in Sunday school after Divine Liturgy.

### Note:

If a child belongs to our church & is under the age of 13 he/she should be an active part of Sunday school in order to be part of Tambura/Folklore group. Special dispensation may apply.

## ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

**Jan 1:** Sam Bennett, Connor Schmok, Christopher Toth

**\*\*\* Jan 6 & 7 All Altar servers welcome**

**Jan 8:** Djordje Mikic, Petar Hood, Matthew Toth

**Jan 15:** David Bresich, Nikola Rajovic, Stefan Arsich

**Jan 22:** Jordan England, Matthew Thomas, Nathaniel Thomas

**Jan 29:** Mark Mozina, Marko Adams, George Steiner

**Feb 5:** Alex Tanaskovich, Ben Staletovich, Alec Mandich

**Feb 12:** Milos Mikic, Steven Stankovich, Matthew Vukas

**Feb 19:** Garret Isch, Brian Isch, Riley Isch

**\*Next meeting: To be announced.**

\*Any Altar server who cannot attend Church the day he is scheduled is to find a replacement and notify the church office at 636-1404.

## BIBLE VERSE OF THE MONTH

They shall name him Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." *Matthew 1:23B*

Please send us your favorite Bible Verses.

## SAYING OF THE MONTH

If the kingdom of God is within us, and the actual kingdom of God is righteousness and peace and joy, then the man who abides in these is most certainly in the kingdom of God.  
St. John Cassian

## PRAYER SERVICE FOR THE SANCTITY OF LIFE

The Presbyterian's Council of Central Indiana invites you to this special prayer service that will be held Sunday, January 22, 2006, at 7PM, at St. Stephen Bulgarian Orthodox church 1435 N. Medford Ave., Indianapolis

## 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.
- Membership dues for this year as well as for 2006-07

## WOULD YOU HELP BUILD OUR NEW HOME

If you would like to help with the building of our new home please call the church office and let us know what type of work you would be interested in doing. We have started a volunteer list. Please, call the church office and include your name on the list.

## FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

### A GIFT FOR THOSE PARTICIPATING IN THE "MAKE A PROMISE CAMPAIGN"

If your family made a pledge to the "Make a Promise Campaign" please be sure to pick up a token of appreciation from our church. Located outside the Church in the hall. Thank you.

**Notice:** The next Parish Council meeting is scheduled for January 10<sup>th</sup> 6:30 pm.

**\*\*\*** For a copy of the minutes from the meeting, please call the church office and we will send it right to you.

# PARISH NEWS

## BULLETIN SPONSOR- THANK YOU

**The Fields Family. In memory of Don and Mary Fields and Tom Hart. May their memory be eternal.**

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

## BUMPER STICKER OF THE MONTH

Unto us a Son is given  
He has come from God's own Heaven!

## BOOKSTORE NEWS

New item in the bookstore: Gift Baskets - for all occasions

## ORTHODOX YOUNG ADULTS

Orthodox Young Adults of Indiana is just forming. Its hope is to unite all Orthodox young adults (ages 18-30) in Indiana together for learning, spiritual growth and fellowship.

**Mid Winter Dance for the Youth & young adults (ages 18-30). Please call the office for more information**

For more information you can also call Hanna at:

317-750-7951.

## GIFT FROM YOUR CHURCH

On Christmas Eve, each person will receive a pendant of Mary & Christ (cloisonné type). 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, it is quite an experience. After the blessing of the River please join us for a pitch-in luncheon.

## COVEKOLJUBLJE/IOCC

If you would like to send 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"**

## Memory Eternal

+ John Moyer, husband of Vera (Garcev) Moyer

+ Mr. Andrews, father of James Andrews

-May God establish their souls where the saints repose & give the family strength to endure this temporary separation.

*VJECNAJA PAMJAT*

## CHURCH SLAVA

Over 180 souls present. The bishop gave us a nice surprise by being with us on this day. His Grace bishop Longin came for vespers prior to the Feast Day and stayed the next day till after the Slava Banquet. As he entered the Church for Divine Liturgy our Children welcomed him by ringing bells, It was wonderful. The response from our Choir was angelic. The meal, donated by Gregg, Kimber and Alec Pasalich and prepared by members of our Kolo was delicious. The Kumovi for next year will be Doug, Stana, Sam and Sara Edwards. May god bless all!!!

## BIBLE CARD

Included in this bulletin. To help you read the Bible regularly.

## DIRTY CAR?

It's that time of year when it is so hard to keep our cars clean. We have Mike's car wash coupons for sale. You pay the same \$7.00 that you would pay at Mike's Car Wash...But when you buy them from us, the church gets to keep half the money!!! If you have any questions or would like to purchase some coupons please please call the church office 636-1404.