

# PARISH NEWS

## FROM FATHER'S DESK

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

#### Христос се роди!

Божићни пост је по учењу св. Отаца наше цркве несрећни период Старог завета... Оно време када се ишчекивао долазак Месије-Спаситеља... Време када смо били сирочићи... Тужна реалност наше прошлости на коју се ми из године у годину сећамо кроз Божићни пост. Међутим, овај пост је исто тако и стварно ишчекивање доласка – рођења Христовог. На дан Божића, Христос нам се рађа и просто, у неку руку, нас ослобађа те муке и те жалости. Више нисмо сирочићи, не осећа се више та туга, чекали смо и дочекали – Бог нам се роди, постаде човек и остаде Бог. Рађањем Његовим сви се поново рађамо, цела природа се обнавља, чудо се чуди – Господе слава ти и хвала!!! Нека вам буде срећна и нова година и нека вас Господ благослови до те мере да и ако економска криза буде гора и мука већа у држави нашој и овој – ви то не осетите, но, напротив, у радости, веселју и благодарности живите до краја вашег живота. Бог вас чувао!

#### Christ is born!

St. Ignatius of Antioch talks about this life actually being a State of Death. When you think about it, he is right. We live but we have to die. Thus our life is actually a state of death. This sounds awful and it is BUT thanks be to our God Whose Son was born for us, died for us and resurrected for us, so that now we, through death, are being born to a State of Life – life eternal. Thanks be to the Savior, we are now saved from death. If we are saved from death, which is the most awful reality, what then can be our worry? Some may say my job, my house, my car... Don't worry, the greatest worry is behind us. Have a joyous Christmas season and begin your year with the understanding that this life (state of death) is only to prepare us for the one to come - with our God in His Kingdom. Put the worries aside for "the worry is like a rocking chair, it gives you something to do but it doesn't get you anywhere". Concentrate on the things which you cannot loose or things which cannot be taken away – that's our relationship with God, Family, Friends, neighbors, doing good to those less fortunate and so on. God bless you and keep you always. Rejoice, Rejoice, Rejoice for Christ is Born!!!

#### Patriarch +Pavle

- For 40 days we used the Litany for the departed in the Divine Liturgy to commemorate our Patriarch

Pavle. On the 40 day we had a Parastos for him at the St. Xenia Metochion monastery here in town. We ask that you continue to pray for our blessed Patriarch.

- We also ask that you pray daily for the election of the new patriarch scheduled for January 22, 2010.
- Please note that next to the venerating icon is a box with the picture of the Church of St. Save in Belgrade. This box is to be used for donations (in memory of the Patriarch) towards the completion of that church. These were his wishes, since this church has been worked on for around 200 years. The donations will be sent with our bishop when he goes to the Sabor of bishops in Jan. 2010. The deadline for donations is January 14, 2010. Thank you.

#### BOOKSTORE – All things are Free

Check out new items in our Bookstore – they could make great Christmas presents. Everything is Free, with a handling charge which is the amount put on the item ☺.

#### FOLKLORE – Are you Interested?

We may be starting a Folklore group at our Church. If you are interested call the Church office and let us know. The idea is to get together once or twice a month, 3-5 months each year, learn (for those who are beginners) dancing as well as have fun (for those who already know the dances). Call us if you are interested, 471-8006 or email [stnicholaschurchindy@comcast.net](mailto:stnicholaschurchindy@comcast.net)

#### 2010 TRIP TO SERBIA (6/8 people already interested)

So many people in the past have asked me to organize a trip to Serbia and I never did. Thus, I'm calling on all those interested to once again give me a call, and if we can gather a few folks we'll organize a trip in the summer of 2010. The cost will be between \$1,500.00 - \$1,900.00 per person for 10-14 days. Call me: 317-374-3414.

#### BIBLE VERSE OF THE MONTH

"And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." *Matthew 1:21*

#### SAYING OF THE MONTH

My children avoid criticism -- a very great sin. God is grieved whenever we criticize and loathe people. Let us concern ourselves only with our own faults -- for these let us feel pain; let us criticize ourselves and then we will find mercy and grace from God. REF: Elder Ephraim of Philotheou Mount Athos, "Counsels from the Holy Mountain"

#### CHOIR NEWS

The Jovan Ducic Choir will be having a rehearsal on Sunday, January 3, after the church service. Please try to attend.

