

PARISH NEWS

WOULD YOU HELP PAY OFF OUR NEW HOME?

If you have donated already, we thank you and ask that you continue – if you have not – please, please do – we really need it.

FROM FATHER'S DESK

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

My dear spiritual children, Great Lent begins Monday February 19, 2007. Is it going to begin for you as well? Jesus said prayer & fasting. We are not told we have to fast like the monks of Mt. Athos, but we are taught by the church to fast. Please establish this practice in your household and keep it to the best of your ability working your way towards the traditional fasting rule. Believe it or not, it will be of great benefit.

Blessing of Homes

Blessing of homes has begun, Please expect my call & Please make every effort to go along with my schedule. I understand that there will be times when this will not be possible. Please note that I bless homes between 9:00 AM and 9:00 PM. Also, please know that rescheduling disturbs my whole schedule. Thank you for understanding.

Guidelines to observe when the Priest comes to bless your home:

A candle, an icon (or cross) and a bowl of water should all be placed on the table facing east.

All, radios, TVs, stereos, etc., should be turned off.

All who are present in the house should come together at the table.

Those who wish to join in responding to the service are encouraged to do so.

The first names of the members of the household should be clearly printed on a piece of paper.

The doors of all rooms should be opened.

Pets should be restrained.

Note: When transferring the Holy Water to another container, you should first wash the original container over grass or a plant in order that none of the remaining droplets go down the sink.

Tentative Schedule for BLESSING HOMES

--Between the 5th & 10th of February, I'm blessing homes on the South, East, and Northeast of Indianapolis; as well as, New Palestine & Greenfield.

--Between the 12th & 17th of February, I'm blessing homes on the North, West, and Southwest of Indianapolis, as well as, Speedway, Camby, Mooresville, Greenwood, & Martinsville.

--Between the 26th of February & 10th of March, I'm blessing homes in Zionsville, Carmel, Westfield, Noblesville, Fishers, & McCordsville.

--Between the 12th & 17th of March, I'm blessing homes in Danville, Avon, Plainfield, & Roachdale.

*** Brownsburg, Pittsboro & Clermont, I'm blessing homes during bad weather and/or another convenient time since they are close to my home.

*** Out of town homes, I'll be blessing on weekends, I'll call you a week in advance: Lafayette, Bloomington, Anderson, Muncie, Marion, Shelbyville, Pendleton, Terre Haute, Kokomo,, Seymour, & Louisville, KY.

*** Please make special arrangements to accept me into your home when I am in the area & please make every effort NOT to reschedule unless you really have to. Thank you.

***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.

FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

* The next meeting will be scheduled after the election of our new Parish Council and their approval (blessing) by our Bishop Longin.

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

PRAY FOR YOUR CHURCH FAMILY

Please pray for the health of:

George (Mikic), Elizabeth (baby), Jeanette (Hart), Matt, Bob Fries, Jackie (Tasich), Hugh (Scotty Grant), Zoya, Nicholas (Hamilton), Dragica (Kerr), Marie (George), Natasa, Judy (Ivancevich), Tomislav, Jason, Elena (Milovac), Lazar (Prodic), Chester (Tasich), Paul & Tina (Stoyanovich), Kathryn (Ralic), Patty (Staletovich), Angeline (Yeftich), Jack (Mertz), George (Alavanja), Ronny, Draga (Stankovich), Borivoje.

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

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Elizabetha Rybalko born on The Feast of the Mother of God (Jan. 8th, 2007). Parents: Mikhail & Svetlina. **Congratulations!!!**

PURCHASE 7 - DAY CANDLES

You may purchase a 7-day candle that will burn continually on the Altar table. It is a tradition and practice that these are donated in memory of a departed loved one or for the health of a loved one. The candles may be purchased at the candle stand for \$10.00. Ask one of the Tutors (Bogdan or Milo) to take it to the Altar with the name.

SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

☉= under 80

☉=over 80

☉=80

☉☉= over 110

01-06-07: - 250 - 300 ☉☉☉

01-07-07: - 170 - 200 ☉☉☉

01-14-07: - 81 - ☉

01-21-06: - 65 - ☉

01-28-06: - next bulletin

CHRISTMAS / BOZIC

Christmas Eve

-- Between 250 & 300 souls present

-- Coin in the Cesnica was found by Marija Petrovic

PARISH NEWS

Christmas

- Between 170-200 souls present
- First Visitor was Branislav Jordanovic

What a wonderful first Christmas at our New Church Home!
*** Did you know that every year Savo Stojcevic prepares the Badnjaks & Vruca Rakija for our Christmas celebration?

ANNUAL MEETING

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS & PARISHIONERS

Our annual meeting is scheduled for February 11, 2007 at our fellowship hall. We look forward to your participation. An official letter announcing the meeting is included in this bulletin.

Special Note: Decisions and/or changes that may never be made by the priest, membership, or the Parish Council are:

1. The teachings of Jesus Christ and his Apostles.
2. Traditions we have received from the Holy Fathers, especially through the Ecumenical and Provincial Councils.

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR 2007-08

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, maintaining 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: 4718006 or Angie Devitt (member of the nominating committee).

The Parish Council is elected at the Annual Meeting and is approved by our bishop. Your talents will be welcomed. Thank you for your consideration.

Duties of and Decisions to be made by the Parish Council throughout the year:

The Parish Council is responsible for the financial and social needs of our St. Nicholas Serbian Orthodox Church, which include:

1. The raising of funds for the needs of our Church and missionary work.
2. The administration of the Church with the Priest.
3. Maintenance of Church properties.
4. Organizing social events to encourage fellowship amongst our parishioners and friends.

MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING

From the Constitution of the American-Canadian Diocese, Article 67: The minimal religious duties of the members of the Church-School Congregation are as follows:

1. To guide themselves in their life and work by the principles of Holy Orthodoxy;
2. To regularly attend the Divine Services;
3. To keep the Fasts prescribed by the Holy Orthodox Church;
4. To partake of Holy Confession & Holy Communion;
5. To have all religious services performed by their own priest;
6. To raise and educate their children in the Orthodox faith and Tradition;
7. To respect their Bishops, Priests, Diocesan and Church School board members and all elected church bodies and organizations;
8. To cooperate in everything that is conducive to the betterment of the Church-School Congregation and the Diocese;

9. To fulfill their financial obligations with respect to the Church-School Congregation and the Diocese.

Note from Fr. Dragan: If, at the present time, you are not fulfilling all of the above, it is important that you are at least working towards them.

*** If you are not an Orthodox Christian or if for some reason you cannot satisfy the above, you are considered a supporting member. We appreciate your support.

Please Note: All decisions by the membership are to be approved by our bishop, the head of our Diocese.

Ask not what your church can do for you... But, what you can do for your church!

Recently, my company announced that it was time for its annual giving campaign. This is where the company gives money to whatever charity you designate-sort of like a united way annual campaign. What I found out, however, was that there was a way to designate the company's matching funds to your own church! So I submitted St. Nicholas's name and tax ID number and now my company matches my annual contribution with a 100% match and it all goes to St. Nicholas! What a way to get some free money for the church! (And I finally get to tithe like I've been wanting to for some time now).

Have you checked with your company to see if their annual giving campaign (and accompanying 100% match), allows you to submit your own church as a recipient of these annual charitable dollars? If not, please consider inquiring about this wonderful company benefit. It's a great way to get extra funds into our church, which as you already know, desperately needs it!

Anonymous by request

PICTURE DIRECTORY - ADDITIONAL SESSIONS

We have been given additional dates to schedule our families who had conflicts or did not get scheduled previously. Please call or email Kim Suder at 844-9624 rsuder44@aol.com. Each family or individual will receive a free 8X10 picture and a free directory. The dates for pictures (at our new Church) are Feb. 16th and 17th. Please, please make the extra effort to include your family's photo in this new parish directory. Thank you.

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Feb 4: David Bresich, Nikola Rajovic, Stefan Arsich
Feb 11: Jordan England, Nicholas Jurich & Stevan Zoric
Feb 18: Alex Tanaskovich, Ben Staletovich, Alec Mandich,
Feb 25: Garret Isch, Brian Isch, Riley Isch
Mar 4: Sam Bennett, Connor Schmok, Christopher Toth
Mar 11: Djordje Mikic, Petar Hood, Matthew Toth

*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 471-8006.*

Alter Servers please remember: When you come into the Altar, bow down to the Altar table & cross yourself 3 times. Also, whenever you hear the name of the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit - rise and cross yourselves. Thank You.

PARISH NEWS

THANK YOU, FOR YOUR PRAYERS AND SUPPORT.

Jeanette Hart, mother of Terri & Jim Fields asked us to express her appreciation for all the prayers for her and the support of her family during a difficult time.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Sunday School Resumes: February 4th, 2007.

ICON OF ST. NICHOLAS:

150 very special icons of St. Nicholas will be mounted on pieces of wood from our old Iconostas . A \$100 donation for each icon will go towards the needs of our Sunday-School. Please see Alison Jensen or any of the teachers to order your icons.

Please note that due to the fact that the Sunday School area is not yet built, the youngest group will meet in Fr. Dragan's office and the rest will meet in the fellowship hall. Thank you for understanding.

COFFEE HOUR

The Sunday School Staff and children are organizing a lemonade stand and fresh pastries two weeks a month. The Children want to raise funds for Sunday School. If anyone would like to sponsor a Sunday School Coffee Hour, please contact the church office at 471-8006, or talk to any of the Sunday-School staff. A donation of \$20 will cover the expenses for one coffee hour. We thank you in advance. The children are our future, but most of all, they are a gift. We would like to thank Milo & Sofia Cvetkovich, Jim & Terri Fields, Father & Popadija, and Doug & Stana Edwards for sponsoring our February & March Coffee Hours.

PRE-LENTEN CEVAP DINNER - SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH

Come and join us for a delicious Cevap dinner. Dinners will be served beginning at 6:30 p.m. Your dinner will include- cevaps, bread, lots of onions, and coleslaw for a \$8.00 donation for adults. Children's portions will be available for a donation of \$4.00. Pitas and desserts will also be available for a donation of \$1.00 per item.. All proceeds will go towards Sunday-School. Enjoy a great meal, fellowship, and help our Church.

FUNDRAISER FOLLOW-UP CANDY SALE

The Sunday School children net profited over \$1000 from their 1st candy sale. The children decided that they would like to give \$100 to the Giving Tree for our family in need. The remainder of the money will be given to the Church to help pay for the construction of new classrooms. We thank everyone who bought or sold candy. This was a very successful project for the Sunday School.

GIVING TREE

We are very happy to report that over \$475 was donated to the Giving Tree. This money will be presented to our Family in Need. We hope it will be a help to them.

If anyone would like to make additional donations to the Giving Tree, it would be greatly appreciated. We always know of a family and or persons who could use help.

CHILDREN'S SUMMER CAMP

In the month of July, at the Monastery of New Gracanica in Illinois, Please sign your children up for it.

***Remember Children: Good Attendance = Free Camp**

If you attended Sunday school at least 15 times during the Sunday School Year, one week of camp at New Gracanica is Free.

YOUTH (Ages 13-18)- Please come and/or call the church office (471-8006) if you are interested in participating. We have a Pan (All) Orthodox Youth Group of Central IN, which meets once a month.

NEWS: The next meeting will be Feb. 11 from 5-8 PM at an Orthodox Church in Indianapolis. Call the church office for more information.

TAMBURA GROUP

Regular practice: Wednesdays 7:30 pm. (Please note: the schedule changes during Great Lent)

If interested in joining, please call the church office 471-8006.

The director is Dylan Jensen.

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.

BIBLE VERSE OF THE MONTH

KNOW YOU NOT THAT YOU ARE THE TEMPLE OF GOD AND THAT THE SPIRIT OF GOD DWELLS IN YOU?

- 1 Cor. 3:16

SAYING OF THE MONTH

ORTHODOXY IS LIFE: ONE CAN NOT TALK ABOUT IT, ONE MUST LIVE IT.

-St.Nektary of Optina

BLESSING OF THE WHITE RIVER

This Theophany, God blessed us with a sunny but cold day. Through this day of prayer and fellowship, we asked God to bless the water to its original pure state. 30 people were present, with a pitch-in luncheon afterward at our church. Pictures in the Vestibule.

SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY VESPERS

February 25, 2007 at 5:00 PM

St. George Orthodox Church - 4020 N. Sherman Dr. (Indpls) (317) 547-9356

Homilist: Bishop Mark (Antiochian)

The combined choir of Central Indiana under the direction of Prezbytera Stephanie Yazgy will lead responses.

A reception will follow the Vespers Service.

**** Please bring an icon from your home to the event.**

BULLETIN SPONSOR- THANK YOU

Phillip & Tracey Michaels

In memory of mom and for the health and prosperity of our children

Note: In order to sponsor a bulletin, we are asking for a donation of \$200.00 or what ever you can afford. We could also use donated copy paper.

PARISH NEWS

PLEDGE PAYMENTS BY CREDIT CARD

Our Church is now capable of receiving Building Fund donations by credit card. If interested please see or call Jim Fields. Good Credit, Bad Credit, No Credit we'll accept your money no questions asked ☺. Thank you, thank you, thank you.
We truly do need all the donations we can get.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

Even though this is an uncomfortable subject to mention, please give some consideration to the following: **PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR CHURCH IN YOUR WILL.**

LOST AND FOUND

*** **

A wedding ring set was found in the ladies restroom following the December 17th Liturgy and Slava. Please call the Church office if these may be yours 317-471-8006

WE HAVE A CUSTODIAN

Catechumen Richard Gentry has volunteered to care for our church building as custodian. Our parish council was pleased to have someone with Richard's talents volunteer in support of the church. The parish council agreed it was proper to compensate Richard the modest amount paid for the cleaning of our old church for increased expenses he will have for traveling etc. Please read Richard's greeting to us. If you have not already done so, please introduce yourself and welcome him to our community. He will be at the church on Mondays, Thursdays, and Saturdays from 9am to 4pm.

From Richard:

Hello, my name is Richard Gentry. The Lord has blessed me with the opportunity to serve; as well as, be a part of this parish. I am 54 years old and blessed to have 4 children and 4 grandchildren. I am retired from General Motors of 30 years. The Lord and music are my passions. Photography and Art are my hobbies. Thank you, for accepting me into your community.

CHIOR NEWS

Every year before Sunday of Orthodoxy (this year Sunday of Orthodoxy is on February 25th) Choir members of all Orthodox Churches come together and practice music, which they sing at the Pan-Orthodox Sunday of Orthodoxy service. Following is the rehearsal schedule for this year 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM:

February 04 - Ss. Constantine & Elena
3237 W. 16th St.

February 11 - Joy of All Who Sorrow
1516 N. Delaware St. (Downtown)

Mission Trip to Eklutna, Alaska

Scheduled for July 7 - 17, 2007. Sponsored by PCCIOCC (Orthodox Churches of Central Indiana). If you are interested, please call our church ASAP 471-8006. Alaska is considered an Orthodox Christian country and the bishop of Alaska is of Serbian descent. Applications & clergy referral must be submitted by February 4, 2007 or ASAP. Fr. Dragan may be going.

WHEELER MISSION

After most of our big fellowship events, we've been making an effort to share our meal with the hungry in our community. Thus, one of our parishioners loads up the car and takes the

food to the Wheeler Mission. If you are interested in being this person, please call the church office at 471-8006, we really need you.

KOLO NEWS

*Please plan to attend a meeting February 18, 2007 immediately following Divine Liturgy.

*Don't forget we have Lenten Cookbooks for sale at Church; over 200 recipes from our sisters for only \$8.00. Prepare for Lent.

NEW INFORMATION:

St. Nicholas Serbian Orthodox Church
7855 MARSH RD, INDPLS. IN 46278

Our New Phone #'s are:

(Church Office) 317-471-8006 (Fax #) 317-471-8004

Email addresses:

Church office- stnicholaschurchindy@comcast.net

Father's (not confidential)

stnicholaschurchpriest@comcast.net

Father's (confidential email) st.nicholas.indy@att.net

- **Due to the move into our New Home, many things are delayed (LATE). Please forgive us, have patience with us and help us through the process. Thank you.**

Wish list of items useful to the church:

Larger (more expensive) Items:

1. Sunday School Space (Cost: \$15,000.00)
2. Sound system for the church.
3. Playground for the children.
4. Church Bells
5. Crosses for Exterior Church Building
6. Permanent Church Sign at front of property.

If you can help in this regard, please call the church office.

ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH - A NON-SMOKING BLDG.

PLEASE USE THE SIDEWALK AREA DESIGNATED FOR SMOKING - OUTSIDE THE SOUTH ENTRANCE OF OUR FELLOWSHIP HALL.

ALSO, PLEASE
DO NOT SMOKE AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE CHURCH.
THANK YOU.

**** The Church office will be closed the first and last weeks of Great Lent. Also, Father Dragan will be available only for emergencies during these weeks.**