

PARISH NEWS

-FROM FATHER'S DESK

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

My dear spiritual children,
Have you partaken from the Sacraments of Holy Confession and Holy Communion yet. These mysteries are of essence to us. Please prepare yourself to the best of your ability and come for the cleansing of your soul (Confession) and for receiving the Body and Blood of Christ (Communion). You must be a baptized Orthodox Christian in order to partake of the Sacraments.

BLESSING OF HOMES

I want to thank everyone for the hospitality extended to me and for understanding and working around my schedule. To date, I have blessed 70 homes.

Evening Liturgies

I will serve evening liturgies (pre-sanctified) on Wednesdays throughout the Great Lent. For those who would like to partake of Holy Communion in this liturgy, there is a general rule to observe: Abstain from eating or drinking 8 hours prior to receiving Holy Communion.

Also, please note that we are trying to have pitch-in dinners after the Pre-sanctified liturgies. If you are able, please bring a Lenten dish.

Cantor Course

I will hold cantor lessons throughout Great Lent on Wednesdays after the Pre-sanctified Liturgies and some Saturdays before vespers. See calendar for specific time and dates.

Also, for our Sunday School children, I will hold short cantor classes on certain Sundays during lent. Our main focus will be to learn the Troparion for Pascha and other Paschal Hymns.

Lenten Vespers & Lectures

This year, as always, the Orthodox Churches in Central Indiana will organize Lenten Vespers with lectures and Lenten dinners. I encourage you to attend as many as possible. Each Vesper Service will begin at 5:00 p.m.

March 7 (homily by Mike Young, parishioner of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church)
At Joy of All Who Sorrow Orthodox Church
1516 N. Delaware Avenue, Indianapolis (317) 637-1897

March 14 (homily by Rev. Joseph Gibson, Pastor of St. John the Forerunner Orthodox Church)
At All Saints Orthodox Church
6004 Fairfax Road, Bloomington (812) 824-3600

March 21 (homily by Rev. Athanasius Wilson, Pastor of All Saints Orthodox Church)
At St. John the Forerunner Orthodox Church
1427 S. Blaine Avenue, Indianapolis (317) 635-7596

March 28 (homily by Rev. Fr. Gregory Allard, Pastor of St. Alexis Orthodox Church)
At our St. Nicholas Serbian Orthodox Church
3626 West 16th Street, Indianapolis (317) 636-1404

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR 2004-05

Our 2004-05 Parish Council consists of:

Rick Suder, President
Milan Milivojevic, 1st Vice President
Mirko Milivojac, 2nd Vice President
Dara Todorovich, Secretary
Jason Pasalich, Ass't Secretary
Vera Schuster, Treasurer
Dorothy Cross, Financial Secretary

Ann Stanjevich Foreman, Ass't Financial Secretary
Milorad Cvetkovich, Head Tutor
Milenko Djukanovic, Ass't Tutor

Members at Large:

Bozidar Djordjevich, Robert Ivancevic, Robert Mandich, Greg Pasalich, Mike Rayman, George Stanjevich, Rudy Tanaskovich

Auditing Board: Judy Gajic, Marija Milivojac, Sveto Arsich

Also included in the Parish Council are:

K.S.S. President, Choir President, S.N.D. President and Sunday School President

The process for becoming a Parish Council Member is as follows:
The faithful at the Annual Meeting select a group of people who are then recommended by the Parish Priest for approval by the Bishop.
Special note: In recent years, we have been electing a president who has been given the authority by the faithful at the Annual meeting to select the rest of the Parish Council.

Let's all pray for and support our parish leaders and thank them for accepting the time-consuming, arduous—and yet eternally rewarding—responsibility of administering our St. Nicholas Church. This is especially true as we prepare to take bold steps into the future by developing our recently paid-off land for the growth of our church.

The swearing-in of the Parish Council will be on April 4th—Palm Sunday.

SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

☉= under 80 ☉=over 80
☉=80 ☉☉= over 110

2/1/04	103 souls	☉
2/8/04	101 souls	☉
2/15/04	143 souls	☉☉☉
2/22/04	58 souls	☉
2/29/04	81 souls	☉

PRAY FOR YOUR CHURCH FAMILY

Please pray for the health of:
Patty Staletovich, Kathryn Ralich, Anna Ralich, and Angeline Yeftich.

NOTE: If you would like to include a name on the list, please call the church office.

BULLETIN SPONSORS

Tom Hanes and family in memory of + Seka.

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

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Children's Summer Camp

Summer Camp at the New Gracarina Monastery will be held, as always, in the month of July. Parents, please mark this on your summer planning calendar. Thus far, we have a couple families interested in going the first week in July. Most definitely, Fr. Dragan will be there the first week of camp.

Sunday School Winter Social

On Sunday, February 22, the children enjoyed a lecture by Fr. Dragan, ate cheese pizza and played board games. Everyone had a good time even though the attendance could have been better. Special thanks to Mike & Dawn Bresich for organizing the event and for donating the pizza.

PARISH NEWS

SPECIAL NOTE: During the month of March, the children will be learning about fasting, alms giving, The Lord's Prayer and other prayers.

The **Family Sunday** will be March 14th – NO Sunday School. The Family Sunday is the day when the parents and the children together participate in the entire Divine Liturgy – NO Sunday School that day.

YOUTH GROUP

The purpose of our Youth group is: fellowship, education, worship and service. The meetings are held the second Friday (at 7:00 p.m.) of each month or whatever date is designated on the Monthly Calendar. If anyone between the ages of 13 and 18 is interested in being part of this group, please call the Church office.

NEWS: We will be going to the basketball game on the 19th of March. Pacers and Kings are playing.

ALTAR SERVERS' SCHEDULE

Feb. 29: Milos Mikic, Steven Stankovich, Matthew Vukas

Mar. 7: Sam Bennett, Connor Schmok, Christopher Toth

Mar. 14: Garret Isch, Brian Isch, Riley Isch

Mar. 21: David Bresich, Nikola Rajovic, Stefan Arsic

Mar. 28: Jordan England, Matthew Thomas, Nathaniel Thomas

Apr. 4: Mark Mozina, Marko Adams, George Steiner

Apr. 11 (Pascha): Djordje Mikic, Peter Hood, Matthew Toth

(all others invited).

Apr. 18 Alex Tanaskovich, Ben Staletovich, Alec Mandich

Apr. 25 Milos Mikic, Steven Stankovich, Matthew Vukas

Note: In addition to their schedule, children are always welcome to serve in the altar.

Important: Any altar server who cannot attend church the day he is scheduled is to inform Fr. Dragan at 374-3414.

THINGS TO LOOK FORWARD TO THIS YEAR

1. Building of our new home
2. Updated Parish Directory
3. Prayer cards
4. Marriage Enrichment Seminars

KOLO NEWS

Lenten Cookbook--\$8.00 each

Our Kolo has Lenten cookbooks for sale, which will be very useful during the forthcoming Lenten Season. Featured in the cookbook is an informative article by Fr. Dragan about fasting. If you already have one of these cookbooks, consider buying one as a gift for a friend. Contact Perette Ogrizovich, Angie Devitt or any Kolo member if you are interested in making a purchase. You may also call the Church Office.

CHOIR NEWS

The Jovan Ducic Choir has been holding rehearsals about twice a month. Please try to attend when these dates are announced. Also, we are always looking for new members. Please see Bill Christoff (our director) if you are interested in joining the Church Choir.

All members are urged to attend as many rehearsals as possible since we are in the process of learning new music (in English). The rehearsals in March will be on the 14th and the 21st at 8:30 a.m.

Memory Eternal to:

+Helen Elison, our dearly beloved sister in Christ – she comes from a family who were one of the founders of our Church. We thank her family for forwarding the memorial contributions to our Building Fund.

*May God establish her soul where the just repose.
Let us pray for her.*

FISH FRYS-The first one will be March 5, 2004

It's that time of the year again! Our goal is to do even better, financially, than in past years. Please, you can make this happen. Come and bring friends! Unfortunately, during the past four years, the representation from our parishioners was not so good. Please see calendar for dates. We will be soliciting all members and parishioners for help during this fund-raising project. We need help in the following areas, set-up/clean-up, kitchen—food preparation; Lenten baked goods, servers, refreshment tender, cash donations and ticket sellers. Please see Dorothy Cross or Vera Schuster.

Marriage Enrichment

At the present time, Fr. Dragan is contemplating having gatherings of married couples, by neighborhood, to view a special videotape regarding marriage, followed by a group discussion. One couple in a particular neighborhood would be asked to invite several couples in the neighborhood to their home, with each couple bringing a covered dish. It would be an informative evening, with long-time married couples being able to offer words of wisdom for a happy marriage to younger couples, plus it would be a time to socialize and to become better acquainted with other couples from our parish. This is just in the planning stages, and our married couples will be contacted by Fr. Dragan as soon as this program is finalized. If you should be interested in more information about this, please call Fr. Dragan at the Church Office (636-1404).

From the Financial Secretary

Membership Dues: If we could only try to pay our dues at the beginning of the year, it would help our church in many different ways. Thank you for your understanding.
(\$100 per year for individuals, \$150 for a family)

Important Notice

We especially need to help each other. If there is anyone in the parish who needs a job or is offering a job, or knows people who need employees, please contact the Church Office. We may be able to make a match and in such a way help each other.

Christmas Community Card Contributions

The major part of these contributions was given to the seminarians of St. Sava's Seminary in Libertyville, Illinois. Each student personally received \$50.00, \$300 was given to their Alumni Association, and \$200 was given as an award to one of the students for writing the best thesis. All of the seminarians were pleasantly surprised because this was the first time such rewards were offered to them.

Renting of our Social Hall

Something which hasn't been properly announced before is that our social hall is not to be rented out during the fasting seasons. Since the fasting season is the time for abstaining from non-lenten food as well as party-like merriment, it wouldn't be proper for church property to be used for such events. This policy is intended for members as well as non-members. We have been following this tradition (rule) and have been blessed because of it.

Visiting Seminary Graduates

Two seminary graduates, Vuk Milisic and Miroslav Boskovic from Herzegovina, have arrived in our Indianapolis parish and will be with us for a period of time. The main purpose for them being here is to learn English and to further their studies at St. Vladimir's Orthodox Seminary in New York. They are being graciously hosted by two of our families—Robert and Susan Ivancevic and Chris and Linda Karras.

PARISH NEWS

An Interesting Comment from one of our parishioners

All of our candles are made from recycled candles. Recently one of our parishioners said that each time he lights a candle, he feels like not only is he lighting the candle for himself and his loved ones but that he is also offering a prayer for the people who previously lit those candles. Then when his candle is recycled, perhaps the people who light that candle will be offering prayers for him. What a nice thought!

Special Note

In the event you should like to submit something for the Parish News, please call the Church office: 636-1404
Your help will be greatly appreciated. Thank you in advance.

Viewing the "The Passion"

If you are interested in seeing this movie with the other Orthodox Christians from the Indianapolis area, please call our Church office. This will take place on Saturday, March 13, 9:50 a.m., at the St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church. A luncheon and discussion will follow.

One year Parastos/Panahida for Mika Radlovic

This will be held on Sunday, April 25 immediately following the Divine Liturgy. Lunch will be served in her memory.

God's Miracles

TWIN GIRLS!!! We wish to introduce to you the youngest members of our church family: Kendrick & Camryn, born on March 1, 2004, daughters of Jayson and Sarah Sterling. Congratulations!!! Zivele na mnogaja ljeta! (The proud grandparents are John & Kathy Vosovic.)

Open Chapel on our Land

On our new land, we have an icon of the Mother of God in mosaic, right under the Legacy (Zapis) Tree. In order to protect the icon, we will make an open chapel over it. This outdoor open chapel will be very simple but at the same time traditional. It will have a roof held by four wooden pillars and a little dome with a cross on it. This will be headed by one of our youths (Steven Stankovich) who will be assisted by his Boy Scout leaders as well as couple of our parishioners. Steven will be selling Lenten Strudels on Sundays to raise dollars for this project.

Also, we are looking forward to restoring this icon and further protecting it.

Annual Meeting Highlights

Fr. Dragan: * Everything is good! We have accomplished things in the past, which were able to be done only by the blessings of God. He has blessed us because we make every effort to obey his commandments. In order to keep this blessing, we must, at all times and under every circumstance, continue to please Him, always keeping in mind that His House is "The House of Prayer." Our Lord tells us that if we love him, we must keep his commandments.

* Something necessary for us to think about for the future of our Church is more staff (meaning a second priest and a part-time secretary). This will be another helpful thing for our prosperity.

* Please don't misunderstand the following. The evil one, who has been around for a long time, sees our prosperity and our efforts to build ourselves a new home for our growth and nourishment and therefore he, as he usually does, will make an effort to disturb our godly efforts. Thus, we must continue asking God's protection and guidance in everything we do. This is why the most important thing (even more important than finances) is to pray to God and observe His commandments.

Parish Council Members: In the past year, we've made an effort to get our people together (through many different events) as many times as possible. Our income for the past year was better than ever. We share our income (your donations) with the poor and needy and the good Lord blesses us for it. Thanks to God and all our supporters for this. At the same time, we are asking for your continued support, especially

while we are in the process of building a new home for us and future generations. Thanks to all for everything.

Building Committee: Professionals at work! The site plan, the floor plan of the new building and the elevation were presented to the members. Comments were taken into consideration and the common mind was to proceed with the project. The Building Committee encouraged all of our members to write down comments and send them in as soon as possible. We thank these wonderful individuals for all their time and efforts.

IMPORTANT NOTE: We thank all of you for your support, especially during this past year. Many things were done in the name of God and for His people. This has been accomplished thanks to all your efforts and financial support. Please know, not only did you greatly help St. Nicholas Serbian Orthodox Church but also many others in need.

K.S.S. Annual Meeting

To be announced! Stay tuned to the announcements made after the Divine Liturgy on Sundays.



MEAT

Homemade Bean Soup -- Salad -- Fish -- French

Fries -- Vegetable -- Dessert -- Coffee

PRICE: \$ 10.00 Full Order
\$ 5.00 Half Order (Under 12)

TAKE OUT ORDERS AVAILABLE.

WATCH FOR ADDITIONAL SEAFOOD ITEMS THAT WILL BE AVAILABLE

All proceeds go to our Church Building Fund

