

PARISH NEWS

-FROM FATHER'S DESK

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!

DON'T COME TO CHURCH DURING SUMMER

Why should we go to Church during summer and spend two hours of our week (which has 168 hours) with God when we could sleep longer, rest well, or enjoy a sunny day with family and friends? Why spend time in church when we could go golfing, picnicking, play games, etc.?

For the past six years I have been asking people not to vacation from church services during the summer; and even though the attendance has increased over the years, our attendance still drops 50% during the months of June, July and August. That is the reason I am changing my plea—hopefully, it will have a contra effect. If we take a vacation from God, that's not that bad—but if God decides, in turn, to take a vacation from us, that is.

CHURCH CLOSED

Our Church will be closed on Sunday, May 30, due to race activities in town. I encourage you to attend church services (especially because its Pentecost) at any of the other seven Orthodox Churches in the area—(but send your donations to our Church ☺).

BLESSING OF HOMES

To date, I have blessed 146 homes. I'm done for this year. If your home was not blessed this year I will leave it up to you to make a call and I will certainly make every effort to respond. Thank you.

SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

⊗= under 80 ☺=over 80
⊕=80 ☺☺= over 110

04/3/04 (Lazarus Sat.) 42 souls ⊗
04/4/04 (Palm Sun.) 100 souls ☺
-Great & Holy Wednesday (Annunciation) 18 souls ⊗
-Great & Holy Thursday morning 16 souls, evening 23 souls ⊗
-Great & Holy Friday morning 7 souls, evening 33 souls for the first service & 50 souls for the second service. ⊗
-Great & Holy Saturday morning 20 souls, midnight 30-40 souls. ⊗
04/11/04 (Pascha) 271+ souls ☺☺☺☺☺☺
04/18/04 103 souls ☺
04/25/04 74 souls ⊗

Special Note: Our Church will be closed on May 30th due to race.

PRAY FOR YOUR CHURCH FAMILY

Please pray for the health of:
Chris Toth, Milan Knezevich, Mira Stankovich, Patty Staletovich, Kathryn Ralich, Anna Ralich, and Angeline Yeftich.

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

BULLETIN SPONSORS

Tom Hanes and family in memory of Seka (Yerich).

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

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Last day of Sunday School-May 16th – Awards- Party!

The last day of Sunday School will be on May 16. Traditionally, the children will be awarded in the Church after the Divine Liturgy. Following, we will have a party. Parents, please bring your children and make sure you continue bringing them to Church during the summer.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS WANTED

We are looking for devoted individuals to teach Sunday School next school year. If you are interested, please call the Church Office.

Children's Summer Camp

Summer Camp at the New Gracanica Monastery will be held, as always, in the month of July. Please note that, starting with this year, children as well as counselors and helpers **must pre-register**. 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. The Church will cover the cost for children who have attended Sunday School in the past year.

SPECIAL NOTE: During the month of May (last month of Sunday School), the children will be learning the New Testament Bible Stories.

YOUTH GROUP

The Youth group meetings have been ceased do to lack of attendance. When we have more interest we will continue.

NEWS: Lock-in!!! Date: April 16th & 17th - Pan-Orthodox Event at the Circle Center mall—WE ONLY HAD 6 YOUTHS FROM OUR CHURCH PRESENT. SPECIAL THANKS TO THOSE PARENTS AND CHILDREN WHO PARTICIPATED. THANK YOU SO MUCH.

ALTAR SERVERS' SCHEDULE

May 2: Milos Milkic, Steven Stankovich, Matthew Vukas

May 9: Sam Bennett, Connor Schmok, Christopher Toth

May 16: Garret Isch, Brian Isch, Riley Isch

May 23: David Breslich, Nikola Rajovic, Stefan Arslch

June 6: Jordan England, Matthew Thomas, Nathaniel Thomas

June 13: Mark Mozina, Marko Adams, George Steiner

June 27 (Pascha) : Djordje Milkic, Peter Hood, Matthew Toth

July 4 Alex Tanaskovich, Ben Staletovich, Alec Mandlich

July 11 Milos Milkic, 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 & find a replacement.

THINGS TO LOOK FORWARD TO THIS YEAR

1. Building of our new home
2. Updated Parish Directory
3. Prayer cards
4. Marriage Enrichment Seminars
5. Open Chapel at our New Property
6. Annual Golf Outing
7. Summer Picnics

KOLO NEWS

K.S.S. Aneversary/Mother's Day Celebration – May 9th

May 9th there will be a Mother's Day Celebration. Please plan to be there with or for your mother. Following the Divine Liturgy we'll have a luncheon buffet and entertainment. The menu will include delicious pork, chicken & lamb with various side items, desserts and coffee—all prepared and served by good sons, husbands and brothers of our St. Nicholas Parish. We're looking forward to having you. Cost: \$15.00 per person or whatever you can afford. Children under the age of 12 eat for free. WELCOME!

K.S.S. Annual Meeting – (To be announced)

CHOIR NEWS

The Jovan Ducic Choir has been holding rehearsals about twice a month. Please try to attend when these dates are announced. Also,

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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 next rehearsal will be announced later.

News: Our Choir members will be celebrating their Slava on May 2nd. Please come and support them.

FISH FRIES

A list of names of the people who have given donations to cover the expense for the fish fries is included in this bulletin. It is mostly because of these families that we did so well financially. We thank you and may God bless you.

E-mail sent by a person who came to one of our Fish Fries:
"To be honest, I expected greasy fried fish as is often the case at such events. I was pleasantly surprised and will definitely be there more often next year."

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. 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: Can we try to pay our dues at the beginning of the year rather than the end of the year, it would help our church in many different ways. Many people are doing this, and we are very grateful. Thank you.

(\$100 per year for individuals, \$150 for a family)

SPECIAL THANKS FOR PASCHAL (EASTER) DONATIONS

Thanks to all of you, our donations for this Pascha season were better than ever. We received around \$8,500.00. It is so wonderful that all of us made an effort to give more. This is what the Church depends upon and needs.

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.

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. Thank you for your understanding.

Parastos/Panahida for Seka (Yerich) Hanes

This will be held on Sunday, May 23rd, immediately following the Divine Liturgy. Lunch will be served in her memory.

God's Miracles

We wish to introduce to you the youngest members of our church family: Neda Krasich, born on April 8, 2004, daughter of Petar and Vivian Krasich. Congratulations!!! Zivela na mnogaja ljeta!

SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT NOTICE:

IF NOT YOU, WHO? IF NOT NOW, WHEN?

For those who take pleasure in giving of their finances and who understand that by doing so will receive much more in return, here are several opportunities for you:

1. For Monastery of Hilendar
2. For the Suffering people and ruined Holy Places in Kosovo
3. For our Building Fund
4. Summer Donations—Unfortunately, during the summer our attendance is usually down and our income is poor—we need your regular support.

Checks should be made out to St. Nicholas Serbian Orthodox Church. When you write a check, please note in the memo space for which project your contribution is to be allocated. All of these projects are of equal importance. Thank you in advance.

GRADUATES

Parents, Relatives, and Friends,
If you have a graduate, please let us know. We traditionally present a gift of congratulations to them. Thanks.

TEMPORARY SEPARATION

Our deepest sympathies to the Family of Phillip Vudis, who passed away last month. May God establish his soul where the saints repose. Memory Eternal.

ST. GEORGE SLAVA – CINCINNATI, OHIO – MAY 2ND

The Serbian Church in Cincinnati will celebrate its Slava on May 2. Everyone is invited to attend.

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

-Milos and Eftimija Cvetinovich for ordering incense from Greece and donating it to our Church.
-Milo and Sofia Cvetkovich for recently donating a whole set of Childrens' Bible Stories on videotape to our Sunday School.

USED CARS (IN GOOD SHAPE) NEEDED

Donate a used car (in good shape, please) to a seminary student. Our seminary students at the St. Sava School of Theology in Libertyville, IL are in the need of many things of which one is a vehicle. If you happen to have one, please call Gregg Pasalich at 317/984-4620.

NEW CHAIRMAN OF FUND-RAISING COMMITTEE

Robert Ivancevich has been appointed as the new Chairman of the Fund-Raising Committee by our Parish Council President. The first project was the paying off of the land and thanks to all of you and our Fund-raising Co-Chairpersons, Marija Milivojac and Bob Djordjevic, the project has been successfully completed. Now we have to build a new house on that property, and Bob Ivancevich has accepted the responsibility and will be asking for help. In addition to this, Rick Suder has asked Milan Milivojevic to look into the financing of this project. We are thankful for having experienced people working on this. Please expect more information on fund-raising and financing in the near future.

PARKING

ATTENTION: Important Notice! DO NOT PARK your cars in the parking lot across from our Church on the northwest corner of 16th Street and Somerset Avenue. Parking there is restricted for the printing company patrons only. Our neighbor advised us that if anyone parks there while at our church, their cars will be towed. Please respect and honor his request.

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.