

PARISH NEWS

FROM FATHER'S DESK

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

**CHRIST IS RISEN!!! INDEED HE IS RISEN!!!
XPACTOC BOCKPECE! BOICTIHU BOCKPECE!**

My dear spiritual children,

Summer has come and I am asking all of you **NOT TO VACATION FROM CHURCH SERVICES**. Even when you are on vacation, look for the nearest Orthodox Church so that you may not miss out on participating in the Divine Liturgy.

I take this opportunity to commend all of you. This year's Pascha was the most attended ever. It was wonderful to see the church packed, the vestibule packed and people standing outside in the entry way. I hope & pray that we could have an attendance half that size every Sunday. Special thanks to all those who made this event, beginning with Holy Friday, memorable.

Blessing of Homes

If you did not have your home blessed this year, please call me and I will be more than glad to visit you.

MEMORIAL SATURDAY—JUNE 14

Not long ago, someone once wrote: "I experienced a sporadic but profound sense of melancholy. I first thought it might have to do with having moved to a new job in a new town. But that was not it. The real problem was the dawning realization that some day I will die. Or worse, within a few years after my death only a handful of people will know or care that I was even here."

Unfortunately, when I have Memorial services both at church and at the cemetery, very few people come. Please know that one day we must die too, and it would be nice for our loved ones to remember us first of all through prayer at church and, if possible, visit at the cemetery. If we remember ours, our descendants will remember us.

The memorial service at our church will begin at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, June 14 (Mark your calendar), followed by a visit to the Floral Park Cemetery (where most of our parishioners are). There individual prayers will be held at the grave sites.

SHORT LECTURES INSTEAD OF SERMONS

I will hold religious lectures instead of sermons during the months of June and July (possibly August) after the Divine Liturgy on Sundays. They will be short and very educative, make plans to attend.

BEGINNING OF FAST

Please note that the Apostles Fast is between June 23 and July 12. Come to church for a Pre-Lenten Picnic on Sunday - June 22.

SUPPORT YOUR CHURCH ALWAYS (even during Summer)

Talking with one of our parishioners recently about giving, we concluded that Serbs are good givers when there is a specific project. This is good, but it raises a question and a concern. The question is: How does the church manage when there are no special projects? The concern is: The fact that we are not learning and setting an example for our children as to how to support the church and give to others in need. Think about this and start giving regularly even if it's a dollar a month to cover the cost for the bulletin, which is distributed. Apostle Paul said to the Corinthians, "Give how much you can." Please note that he says how much you can. Each of us knows how much we are able to give. Let giving not be a burden to you but give with joy & please give regularly.

FAST-FREE WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS

During the liturgical year there are few Wednesdays and Fridays that are fast free. They are around special feast days (like Pentacost) and, for that reason, the church allows the fasting to be broken. They will be noted on our monthly calendar.

ATTENDANCE ON HOLY THURSDAY, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

The attendance for:

Holy Thursday Liturgy: 15 souls

Evening Service: 23 souls

Holy Friday Vespers: 23 souls

Matins: 33 souls

Holy Saturday Liturgy: 20 souls

Pascal Matins: 50 souls

This year's attendance was better than last year. However, it is still very poor considering our membership. I don't know why this is so considering the importance of these services. Is it because the services are too long? The truth is they are—very long; but, is it too much to give three days of a year to the Good Lord. How much does He give to us? At these services, I prayed to the crucified Lord for all and a special blessing was received by those present. Please plan to attend next year.

SPECIAL NOTE

From Pascha until Ascension (which is 40 days), we should greet each other with the Paschal greeting "Christ is Risen—Indeed he is Risen." Also, every service during that time begins with the priest singing the Troparion of Resurrection "Christ is Risen" three times.

Prayer for peace: Almighty God and Creator, You are the Father of all people on the earth. Guide, I pray, all the nations and their leaders in the ways of justice and peace...

Grant that we may grow in harmony and friendship as brothers and sisters created in Your Image, to Your honor and praise. Amen

Special Note: If you have anyone who is in the war zone, please call me and give me their names so that I can pray for them & their safe return.

Memory Eternal – Mika Radlovic

Вјечнаја Памјар, Бог душу да јој прости.

The Radlovic family wishes to extend their thanks to all who were there in their time of need.

We would like to thank the Radlovic Family for directing all memorial contributions to our church. May her memory be eternal and may God grant her family comfort & peace.

SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

☺ = under 80 ☺☺ = over 80

☺☺☺ = 80 ☺☺☺☺ = over 110

4/27/03 around 250 souls ☺☺☺☺☺

5/4/03 82 souls ☺

5/11/03 126 souls ☺☺

5/18/03 105 souls ☺

*** Please come to the services during summer.

PRAY FOR YOUR CHURCH FAMILY

Please pray for the health of:

Jackie Balfour, Patty Staletovic, Milan Mandich, Zivko Maric, Jovan Vuinovic, Nikola Marich, Sasa Nedic, Kathryn Ralich and Angeline Yeftich.

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

PARISH NEWS

GOD'S MIRACLES

We wish to introduce to you the youngest member of our church family: Dara Milivojac born on May 5th. Parents: Mirko & Marija Milivojac.

Many years to her and her 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. **Please take this seriously and please call, especially if you are offering a job. Thank you.**

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

-Marija Stanjevich for donating the whole library of her late husband, Todor. This was a great contribution to our church library.

-Natalie Ashinin for donating some of the books from her late husband, Bozidar.

-Mr. Swander (father of Paul Swander) who donated an antique hand bell to our church.

-Mr. & Mrs. Milian Milivojevich for buying a set of Menas in English (12 Large Hard bound books, which are used for daily services). Not many churches are privileged to have these books.

KSS ANNIVERSARY/MOTHER'S DAY

The mothers and guests were treated royally on this day by being greeted at the door by hosts dressed in tuxedos. The hall was decorated beautifully; the wonderful entertainment was lively and put everyone in a joyous mood; the buffet table looked great; and the food (prepared by the men of our church under the direction of Chef Bob Mandich) was superb! Those who were unable to attend certainly missed out on a glorious occasion.

The Tuxedo Rentals were compliments of **Top Hat Tuxedo of Camel, Indiana.**

BULLETIN SPONSORS

Should you wish to donate to upcoming bulletins, please call church office or send a donation directly to our church.

Sunday School Update

LAST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL

We had over 35 children in attendance for this event. Certificates were given to all those who attended Sunday School at least once. Special certificates were given to those who attended regularly, and religious books (Donated by Dorothy Milivojac & Kim Suder) with a special note from the teacher were given to those who had perfect attendance. Thanks to the Tanaskovich family, all children received a necklace with a cross. Thanks also to Angie Devitt, the little ones received some miniature toys.

After the presentation of the certificates, the children enjoyed a pizza and ice cream party (donated by the Bresic's & other parents of Sunday school children).

Please continue to bring your children to church during summer.

ATTENTION: We are looking for Sunday School teachers for next year. To qualify, you need to commit to 29 Sundays a year (or half of that if you are sharing a class) to teach, and one day in each of those months to learn. Also, it is very important that you love working with children and that you attend church regularly.

SERBIAN SCHOOL

Popadija Zora Mikic would like to thank and acknowledge the following children who attended Serbian School regularly: Mark & Abby Adams, Mark & Ann Mozina, Katherine & Jordan England, Marija & Kristina Petrovic and Djordje Mikic. Also, she thanks her helper, Tina Mizdalo.

ALTAR BOYS—MEETING/OUTING

On June 18, at 6:00 p.m., the altar boys are asked to attend a 1/2 hour meeting where they will go through a basic training in how to serve in the altar. Then we will have an outing, which will include dinner and fun.

Summer Camp

Every year in July, our Diocese has a summer religious camp for our children. The camp is held on the Monastery grounds at Third Lake, Illinois, for four weeks.

All of our children are invited to attend at any time during July; however, from Sunday July 27 to Saturday, August 2, Father Dragan will be attending camp and supervising the children at that time. Please be assured, Parents, that Father Dragan will take special care of our children and you will be able to reach him at any time during that particular week, if you choose to send your child then.

Also, any parent who wishes to accompany his child to camp as a "helper" will be very welcome to do so.

For registration and/or further information, please contact Father Dragan as soon as possible. Thank you.

*** Transportation will be provided & the camp will be paid for by the Church for those children who have attended Sunday School.

CHOIR SLAVA

Many of our parishioners were on hand to celebrate the Choir's Slava, St. George, with a delicious dinner. The Choir is always in Church on Sundays to respond to the Liturgy, and it was so nice of you who supported them in this celebration.

Pre-Lenten PICNIC AT OUR CHURCH—JUNE 22

For the first time, we will be holding a picnic here at 3626 W. 16th St., following Divine Liturgy on Sunday, June 22. We will have traditional Serbian food, including grilled cevaps and other specialties. There will be something to do for all ages. Please plan to attend.

2003 Building Committee's Next Steps

1. Build a pavilion on the new grounds.
2. Solicit architectural bids (building shell only).
3. Contract architect/engineer and prepare drawings.
4. Solicit subcontract bids.
5. Acquire building permits.
6. Contract sub trades.
7. Commence construction.

YESTERDAY & TODAY

- \$1 placed in church tray in 1970 = \$4.80 in 2003
- Average household salary in 1970: \$11,066
- Average household salary in 2003: \$53,266
- A pledge of 2% of average income in 1970: \$221
- A pledge of 2% of average income in 2003: \$1065

Source: U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics