

PARISH NEWS

FROM FATHER'S DESK

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

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.

Christ is Risen!

Will you come to Church during summer? I hope so, because it is rather lonely without YOU.

Short lectures instead of sermons.

I will hold religious lectures instead of sermons during the months of June, July and possibly August after the Divine Liturgy. They will be short and very educational. Make plans to attend. Most definitely this year the lectures will be on the Canons of the Church.

Church Closed.

Our church will be closed on Sunday, June 19th due to the race activities in town. I encourage you to attend church services at any of the other 7 Orthodox churches in the area.

Blessing of Homes

To date, I have blessed 150 homes. If your home was not blessed this year, please call me. Thank you. The homes in Louisville, Kentucky will be blessed on June 17th and maybe the 18th.

The Condition of our building

I received this note on my desk 2 or 3 weeks ago, from Belinda Scott, our custodian. "Father Dragan, I found another new leak. I put a bowl under heater in your office. It appears to have leaked quite a bit behind pew and in front of cabinets. A shop vacuum for wet would be great to soak up some of the water on the floor. Belinda."

I thought to myself again, we need a new home. What do you do with a car that you keep on fixing and it doesn't become newer or better. Do you keep on fixing it until it dies and you don't have a car to drive, or do you make plans and put in every effort to buy a new one? My dear brethren we have made plans (Architectural plans) now we have to put in every effort (give in time, talent and finances) and do this (build a new home) NOW, not later.

Father Dragan.

Make a Promise Campaign

Have you made a promise to your church yet? If not, please know that our deadline is June 19th (Pentecost) and we are \$45,000.00 short of our goal - counting on you. If not me and you who? Please send in your pledge card.

Note

I hope you don't think that by this statement I'm presenting myself as humble. When you are a priest in the church you are automatically at the service of your spiritual children. This puts you in the situation of almost constantly receiving thanks for what you do or if I was to be completely honest what Christ does through you. Therefore for both the Priest and the Faithful it is much better if they pray for each other than give thanks to each other. I'll be praying for you.

PRAY FOR YOUR CHURCH FAMILY

Please pray for the health of:

Milutin, Mili Salatic, Diana & Corina Fischetti, Jason, Elena Milovac, Hadad, Lazar Prodic, Chester Tasich, Paul & Tina

Stoyanovich, Kathryn Ralic, Anna Ralish, Patty Staletovich, Milan Knezevic, and Angeline Yeftich.

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

SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

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

| | | | |
|----------|---------------------------------|-----------------|--------|
| April 24 | Palm Sunday | 110 souls | ☉☉ |
| April 25 | Great and Holy Monday | 20 souls | |
| April 26 | Great and Holy Tuesday | 16 souls | |
| April 27 | Great and Holy Wednesday | 15 souls | |
| April 28 | Great and Holy Thursday | | |
| | Morning | 17 souls | |
| | Evening | 34 souls | |
| April 29 | Great and Holy Friday | | |
| | Evening 1 st service | 48 souls | |
| | Evening 2 nd service | >70 souls | |
| April 30 | Great and Holy Saturday | | |
| | Morning Service | 33 souls | |
| | Midnight Service | 49 souls | |
| May 1 | Pascha | 250 - 280 souls | ☉☉☉☉☉☉ |
| May 8 | | 92 souls | ☉ |
| May 15 | | 61 souls | ☉ |
| May 22 | | 90 souls | ☉ |

KOLO NEWS

Pascha (Easter) Buffet

Thank you, to all of our church family for bring in so many delicious dishes. We had a wonderful celebration.

K.S.S. Anniversary/Mother's Day Celebration.

We had a wonderful cello player from our parish as entertainment, her name is Biljana Bozinovska she has completed her Master of Performance degree and next year will complete her 2nd master's degree in Theory and Composition. Everyone enjoyed her delightful performance. We had a delicious luncheon. Thank you all for supporting the Kolo.

CHOIR NEWS

Choir Slava was celebrated on May 3rd. Thank you to everyone who came to celebrate with us.

We are thankful to the following individuals who will be directing the choir Thru the summer Angie Devitt, Dorothy Millivojac, and Dylan Jenson .

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

There will be no Sunday school classes until September 18th. We encourage parents to bring their children regularly to church during the summer.

Last day of Sunday School

After Divine Liturgy we had the awards presentation and a bowling outing that was enjoyed by all. Dorothy Millivojac retired from full time teaching, Father Dragan presented her with a beautiful Icon of Christ and the children. God Bless all our Teachers.

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. Requirements: This person needs to be fully active in church life.

Altar Server Meeting - To be announced

PARISH NEWS

Children's Summer Camp

Summer Camp at the New Gracanica 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 few families interested in going. Fr. Dragan will be there between July 10th and July 16th.

Please call the Church office for more information.

Please note that children as well as counselors and helpers must pre-register. Camp registration deadline is June 15, 2005.

YOUTH – Summer Plans to be announced.

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

June 5: Alex Tanaskovich, Ben Stalevovich, Alec Mandich
June 12: Milos Mikic, Steven Stankovich, Matthew Vukas
June 26: Garret Isch, Brian Isch, Riley Isch
July 3: Sam Bennett, Connor Schmok, Christopher Toth
July 10: Garret Isch, Brian Isch, Riley Isch
July 17: Djordje Milkic, Petar Hood, Matthew Toth
July 24: David Bresich, Nikola Rajovic, Stefan Arsic
July 31: Jordan England, Matthew Thomas, Nathaniel Thomas
August 7: Mark Mozina, Marko Adams, George Steiner

Any Altar server who cannot attend Church the day he is scheduled is to find a replacement and notify Fr. Dragan at 636-1404.

FAVORITE BIBLE VERSE

Matt. 6:25-27. "Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature?"

* Please send us your favorite Bible Verses.

FAVORITE SAYINGS

The best way to cheer yourself is to try to cheer somebody else up. – Mark Twain

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

Matching Gifts

There are corporations that will match, double or even triple donations made to non-profits like the church. Is your company one of those, and have you perhaps neglected to take advantage of this method of stretching your stewardship and other donations to your parish? Please see the appropriate person at your workplace TODAY and see whether YOUR gift to your parish can be multiplied!

MISSION TRIPS THIS YEAR

- Father Dragan, Cheryl Babic, Ivana Radovanovic, Jadranka Vukovic from our parish are going on a trip to Guatemala to help out in an orphanage.

- Ljoljic family, Schmok family, Madich family from our parish are going to Serbia to help out in an orphanage.

Let us all pray for them.

Also, Donations towards these trips would be greatly appreciated.

Special Note: June 26th Rev. John Schmidt will be serving Divine Liturgy at our church. After church Rev. Schmidt along with Mike

Young will be giving a slide presentation on the Guatemala trip in our Social Hall.

Make a Promise Campaign

A Letter from Our Fundraising Committee

Chairman:

Pentecost is Less Than Two Weeks Away. Even a Small Pledge Helps us Build HIS House

Dear Friends and Fellow Parishioners,
Several weeks ago, at the onset of Great Lent, and with the blessing of Father Dragan and in cooperation without Building Committee, I sent you a letter asking that you look deep into your heart and help St. Nicholas Church by making a five-year promise to our building fund. I am truly humbled at the response. As I write this letter, we are less than \$45,000 away from achieving our goal. In my wildest dreams and prayers, I would never have expected such a wonderful response to a letter from me, a relative newcomer to our church. Our Parish Council has met and in response to our success so far, has agreed to move forward on planning our new church. But, we have some way to go to reach our goal by Pentecost. I believe that with this great start we will definitely make it. But, my biggest prayer is that when the cornerstone is laid at 79th and Marsh Road, we can do so knowing that the largest number of our church family have participated in making it so. Please, if you have not promised yet to make a pledge

To St. Nicholas, I hope you do so by June 19. Even if your pledge is small, He will know that all of us have helped build His house.

Thank you. With humility,

NOTE: Those that are making pledges need to mark on your checks or on the envelope if cash "Make a promise campaign." More information on how to go about making your pledge or gift will be announced.

HOW MUCH ARE FAMILIES GIVING TO BUILD OUR NEW HOME

| | Families |
|-----------|----------|
| \$5,000. | = 12 |
| \$1,000. | = 11 |
| \$10,000. | = 7 |
| \$6,000. | = 6 |
| \$2,000. | = 5 |
| \$12,000. | = 4 |
| \$100. | = 4 |
| \$15,000. | = 3 |
| \$200. | = 3 |
| \$25,000. | = 2 |
| \$500. | = 2 |
| \$50. | = 2 |
| \$10. | = 2 |
| \$50,000. | = 1 |
| \$30,000. | = 1 |
| \$20,000. | = 1 |
| \$7,500. | = 2 |
| \$4,000. | = 1 |
| \$3,000. | = 1 |
| \$600. | = 1 |
| \$300. | = 1 |

Approximately 72 families have given over \$455,000.

Note: Next month we will be publishing the names (but not the amounts) of those who have given thus far towards the building of our new home.

PARISH NEWS

BULLETIN SPONSOR- THANK YOU

ANONYMOUS

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

Bulletin Bumper Sticker

Easter is all about the Lamb... not the bunny.

From the Parish Council

The parish council meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month beginning at 6:30 pm, for any changes please see the monthly calendar.

*** For a copy of minutes from the meeting please call the church office.

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUTES

HIGH SCHOOL: Marija Vekovic, - Marija Stankovich

COLLEGE: Mark Cvetkovich, - Natalie Rutovic

May Gods blessings be upon you as you embark on the next phase of your lives. Many years.

THANK YOU

To Yovanka Savich for donating books to our church library.

FROM A STUDENT WE HELPED

Dear Fr. Dragan and all members of the St. Nicholas Serbian Orthodox Church in Indianapolis, Indiana.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you from the bottom of my heart for your unselfish generosity, which you have shown to me during my unexpected illness. Your monetary gift is much appreciated. I pray to our Resurrected Lord to grant you all His heavenly and earthly blessings. Wishing you a very happy Resurrection of our Lord I am greeting you with our traditional Easter Greeting - Christ is Risen!

Student of the St. Sava School of theology in Libertyville, Illinois.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Elery Minich/Sovich - Born May 6th 2005 on her family Slava. Congratulations and God Blessings to her Parents Christine and Theodore

CANDLES

We are starting to make BEE'S WAX CANDLES. Thanks to our candle masters, Bogdan and Milo.

BOOKSTORE

The bookstore has several new arrivals. We have extra virgin olive oil, which is of high quality and has been blessed. The 750 ml bottles sell for \$15. We have a variety of candles: Theotokos, St. Nicholas, Archangel Michael candles sell for \$6 each and replacement inserts for the candles can be purchased for \$3 each. We also have some amber and clear glass candles with crosses on them costing \$3 each. We have incense burners, charcoal, and incense. We have a wide variety of religious jewelry. There is a variety of metal wall crosses priced at \$15 each and some wooden wall crosses priced at \$21. Our bookstore is fully stocked, so, we will need to sell items to make room for any new future additions. Please visit us and we can still special order or search for any special needs that you may have.

I would also like to recommend a couple of exceptional books. "The Words from the Cross" is an amazing commentary on the last words spoken by our Lord and Savior, as he suffered for us,

on the Cross. These seven statements are an awesome reflection of the love, passion, and pain of our Lord. Each short verse can be expanded into a full lecture on what it means to all of us. This is a book that should be read many times. You might consider giving it a try. Another book recommended is "Ascending the Heights". This is commentary on the 30 steps of the Ladder of Divine Ascent written by St. John Climacus. It is enlightening as to how many different ways we can be diverted from our spiritual path to our Lord. It is informative on how to recognize these traps and stay focused on what is truly spiritual and important. If you have tried to read the original writings of St. John Climacus and had difficulty or would like to get some background prior to reading the original, this book is an excellent option. These steps were written centuries ago, but they still are unchanged requirements for achieving salvation.

Thank you for you patronage, help, and suggestions, Your brothers and sisters working in the bookstore.

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.

MAKING PLANS TO KEEP FAITH A PRIORITY

In our hectic world, we must plan ahead for things important to us. Summer vacations often are planned in winter. Here are some important dates occurring in our July Calendar. Please plan ahead and keep faith a real priority to you and your family.

1. The two-week fasting period that begins Sunday, June 27, 2005 for Sts. Peter and Paul will continue through Monday July 11, 2005. Yes! July 4th weekend falls during this fasting period. We do this to give thanks to our Lord for working through these two Saints to establish the church, which serves us today and for our future. Please plan to Fast, if you have conflicts or questions please talk with Father Dragan.
2. Sunday, July 10-16 2005 is the week of New Gracanica Church Camp. Planning to attend: Dorothy Milivojac and Nina, Dragica Kerr and her grandchildren, Ivana Radovanovic, and Father Dragan and his daughters. Please have your children join them.
3. Sunday, July 17, 2005 St. Nikolai Pilgrimage, St. Sava Monastery, Libertyville, IL.
4. Friday, July 1,
Vigil on Eve of St. John of Shanghai
5. Thursday, July 7,
Nativity of St. John the Baptist
6. Thursday, July 14,
Ss. Cosmas & Damianus

AMAZING

Make a Promise Campaign

One family from outside our parish gave \$1,000. 00 towards our building project.

2 families from outside our parish and state gave: 1 family \$3,000.00 and the other family \$5,000.00 towards our building project. This is truly a wonderful example for all of us.