

# PARISH NEWS

By Vera T. Schuster

## FROM FATHER'S DESK

We have entered the Christmas season, for us Orthodox Christians that is prayer and fasting before the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Also, not very far from now, is Theophany (Baptism of our Lord) and the celebration of St. Sava, the enlightener of the Serbs and protector of children. After that comes the blessing of your home and so on - it is wonderful that we have this. It is also very important that your whole being participates in these events. By participating you are receiving a special blessing that enlightens the rest of the year.

Before all of these events, comes our slava (Patron Saint) celebration, on the 16<sup>th</sup> of December. Come and bring your family and friends and in such a way, give thanks to the protector of our church family - St. Nicholas. Our Bishop Longin will be here and a possible visit is expected by the myrrh-streaming icon of St. Nicholas. It will be a very special day like every year. Additionally, on that day at 9:30 prior to the Divine Liturgy, Bishop Longin will ordain 2 readers: Manojlo (Mane) Bubalo and Robert Foreman Jr.

Come and enjoy the day that the Lord has given to you!

## CHILDREN'S, MOTHER'S & FATHER'S DAY

At this time of the year, our Serbian Orthodox traditions are abundant. The first one is Serbian Children's Day. This is celebrated on 12/23/01 and is the day the children give gifts to their parents.

Serbian Mother's Day celebrated on 12/30/01 is the day children tie the legs of their mother with a little rope and untie them when they receive a gift.

Serbian Father's Day celebrated on 1/6/01 is when Father's are tied like the Mothers and in order to free themselves, they give presents to their children.

In most cases children wake up early before their parents and tie their legs up in bed.

Parents should have presents ready or give money. The meaning of this tradition signifies the tying of the relationship between parents and children.

## CANTOR COURSE

The cantor course for this year will be ending in December. Please look forward to the information for the next session. The announcement will include information on how many lessons will occur and list the things that will be learned.

## YOUTH EVENT IN DECEMBER

I am planning on taking our youth on a skiing trip to Nashville, IN on December 21 & 22 (after school on Friday). We are planning on renting a cabin with 3 rooms (1 for the boys, 1 for the girls, and 1 for me). There we will have a lecture with discussion on Friday evening and skiing all day on Saturday. We will be taking the church bus. For more information, please call me at 297-7876.

**NOTE:** St. Sava Day in January is fast approaching. In preparation for this celebration, I will be mailing out a letter and a poem to the parents for your children.

Please make an effort to come for Liturgy on Christmas Day, January 7. We owe it to our Lord. For a special letter to be excused from work or school, please call me as soon as possible.

## NIGHT IN BELGRADE - BEOGRADSKO VECE

On November 17, we held our annual fall event, Night in Belgrade. It was a great evening filled with our Serbian culture and fellowship. The food was great, the live entertaining kolo dancers were top notch and Sumadija's music kept young and old alike dancing until midnight.

Thank you to all of our out of town guests from South Bend and Northwest Indiana who made the special trip to support us. Also, thanks to those key members who worked to execute this event.

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## KOLO CHRISTMAS DINNER

Our Kolo will be hosting its annual Christmas Dinner on December 10 at the Capri Restaurant. Cocktail hour will begin at 6:30 with dinner starting at 7:00 p.m. The cost per person will be \$20. Please call Millie Arsich (852-7291) or Stana Bennett (844-4308) for reservations.

## CHOIR ANNUAL MEETING

On December 9, after Divine Liturgy, the choir will have its annual meeting. All members are urged to attend. We also encourage anyone interested in joining the choir to attend this meeting. Any questions please see Dara Todorovich.

## SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

⊗= Under 80    ⊙=over 80  
⊖=80            ⊕⊖= over 110

11/04/01	101	souls	⊗
11/11/01	103	souls	⊙
11/18/01	69	souls	⊕
11/25/01	102	souls	⊕

## HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE

As we concentrate on the spirit of giving, starting December 3 we will have a collection bin for holiday food donations to help some of our church family members during this special time of the year. We will take non-perishable items or cash contributions that will be used for a ham or turkey.

## CHRISTMAS AND PASCHA(EASTER) DONATIONS

These are two very special Holy Days in our Church calendar. These are also two great fundraisers for our church as at these times of the year we solicit for special donations. Please consider this in your yearly financial planning and attempt to make a special donation on these feast days.

## DID YOU KNOW?

- Dragitsa Kerr and Family donated 2 additional candle molds so that we may provide a variety of handmade sizes. We greatly appreciate their continued generosity. God Bless your entire family.

## WEBSITE UPDATE

New web page address is as follows. This will be activated on November 1.

[Home.att.net/~st.nicholas.indy](http://Home.att.net/~st.nicholas.indy)

Father's Email [st.nicholas.indy@att.net](mailto:st.nicholas.indy@att.net)

## BULLETIN SPONSORS

As of printing we do not have a sponsor for the month of December. Should you wish to donate to upcoming bulletins, please see church secretary for your donations.

## DUES REMINDER

To date only 42% of our membership is current in their dues. If you are one of the folks in the 58% category, we urge you to pay your dues to our financial secretaries, Katie and Steve Shaw. This income assists us in covering our operating expenses as well as provides you the privilege to vote at the annual meeting. Please pay your dues.

## UPCOMING DATES

12/09/01 Choir Annual Meeting  
12/10/01 Kolo Christmas Dinner  
12/16/01 Church Slava Celebration  
12/23/01 Children's Day  
12/30/01 Mother's Day  
01/6/02 Father's Day and Badja Vece  
01/7/02 Bozic - Christmas  
01/13/02 Kolo Annual Meeting  
01/13/02 Serbian New Year's Eve  
01/27/02 St. Sava Day Celebration  
02/03/02 Annual Membership Meeting