



Weekly Bulletin

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

A Community of the Orthodox Church in America

Witnessing to the Apostolic Faith in Lake County for over 44 Years

Father Andrew Clements, Pastor

Volume 32

2018

Number 24

Sunday	Jun 17	<i>3rd Sunday after Pentecost / Tone 2 / Martyrs Manuel, Sabel & Ismael of Persia</i>
		9:30 am Divine Liturgy / Prayers for Fathers / Graduates / Teachers Tea
Saturday	Jun 23	<i>Martyr Agrippina of Rome</i>
		4:00 pm Confession
		5:30 pm Great Vespers
Sunday	Jun 24	<i>4th Sunday after Pentecost / Tone 3 / Nativity of St John the Baptist</i>
		Readings: Rom 13:11-14:4 Luke 1:5-25, 57-68,76, 80
		9:30 am Divine Liturgy Coffee Hour

ATTENDANCE / STEWARDSHIP / June 10

Attendance: (Adults 104, Children 22)	126
Operating	\$2,526.00
OCA Assessments	377.00
Uganda Children	55.00
Charities	65.00
Icons	60.00

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

May God bless and keep all of our fathers for many years and may He establish the souls of our beloved departed fathers in the mansions of the righteous. Memory eternal.

GRADUATES AND TEACHERS HONORED

Today we're honoring our Graduates and Church School Teachers. Our High School Graduates: Tess Lannon (Chardon, off to the U of WV to study Chemical Engineering), Timofey Kozikov (Kirtland, off to the U of Cincinnati to study Classical Guitar Performance & Political Science). College: Peter LeMaster (Case, Mechanical Engineering), Greg Walker (Paramedic School). Teachers: Jerry Lemaster, Anne Lynch, Cameron Robinson, Jason Kirouac, Cole Schlafer, Jaimie Hasenorhl, Laura Abernathy, Megan Tolefson, Juliana Kingsbury, Sarah Schlafer, Kristin Moore, Holly Kirouac. Subs: Sharon Georges, Maureen Medakovich, Cindy Renda, Michelle Cooley.

COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, June 21 at 7:00 pm.

HALL FLOOR WAXING

The Hall Floor will be waxed July 2 & 3 using a commercial 'non-slip' high performance finish. Hopefully

this will help alleviate the slippery condition that some have experienced near the bathroom corridor leading to the kitchen.

CONFESSION NOTE

Please be planning to approach for your Summer Confession through August. Special times have been added before Vespers on Saturday and the usual time afterward.

PRAYER CORNER + + + + +

Eleanor Alexander (Tom's mom), Perry (Capitan), Sbdcn Leonard, Kathy (Denise F's sis), Jim (Ruth's dad), John (Adam's nephew), Ted Geletka, (Fr's frnd), infant Julian, John Clements, Willie (Elena G's son), Sarah Crivella, Darlene (Mary V's csn), Donald Starr (Scott C's fr-n-lw), Mary Georges (Peter's mom), Nancy, (Ruth B's frnd), Andy Dzura, suffering Christians in Ukraine and the Middle East.

Anniversaries: Collin & Kristen Moore (6/18), Kevin & Dee Kurtz, Bill & Suzanne Gubser (6/20), Jim & Tina Capitan (6/23).

Birthdays: Nichole Zadd, Charolotte Kurtz (6/18), Bruno Christani (90th 6/20), Laurie Alexander, Kathy Chongris (6/21), Jim Horabik, David Kucmanic (6/22).

Newborns: Nicholas (Jonathan & Larissa).

Expecting: Tom & Laura, Deanna & Patrick, Alexandr & Olga, Chad & Meredith, Matt & Michelle, Tom & Miranda, Mitch & Winnie.

Our Seminarian: Brian Crivella & Family.

Newly Illumined: Julian Rosca.

Immitating our Heavenly Father (Borrowed)

One of the most precious images we have of God is as our Heavenly Father. Jesus Himself taught His followers to think of “the One who is and was and is to come, the Lord Almighty” as “Our Father” whenever we pray. What a radical image that Christ offered to His disciples – telling them not to think of our All Powerful Creator as a distant God, as someone or something separate and far from us, but to relate with our Maker as our Father! And numerous examples Jesus offered highlighted this comforting image – think of the most beautiful story Jesus ever taught, the parable of The Prodigal Son, which more appropriately should be called the Parable of The Loving Father. God as a compassionate, merciful, forgiving, grace-filled Father, One whose love for us is unconditional and unlimited, this is our understanding of Our Heavenly Father. That is the image of God for all Christians to embrace and hold onto.

I highlight this image of God because today our country commemorates Father’s Day. Today we celebrate and honor our fathers, and all the father figures in our lives, and thank God for the blessing they have been in our lives and the lives of many. Fathers can play such a central and influential role in our lives.

I think of my own father and thank God that I had a wonderful role model – one who tried to live all that he preached. One of the greatest lessons I learned from my father, which exemplifies his spirit, is his sincere love and generosity towards the poor, needy and defenseless. He always incarnated God’s divine love to those in need. “If you are going to err,” he would say, “Err on the side of generosity! Err on the side of helping others in as generous a way as possible!”

Throughout his life, my father tried to offer to all a clear vision of life according to the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. While preaching the Good News through countless moving sermons, and trying to live faithfully according to our Orthodox tradition, he also desired to offer every possible opportunity for his children and others to discover and embrace that same intimate, dynamic relationship with God for themselves.

“One father is worth more than a hundred school teachers.” George Herbert - “My father

didn’t tell me how to live; He lived and let me watch him do it.” Clarence Kelland- - “A dad is someone who wants to catch you before you fall, but instead picks you up, brushes you off, and lets you try again. A dad is someone who wants to keep you from making mistakes, but instead lets you find your own way, even though his heart breaks in silence when you get hurt. A dad is someone who holds you when you cry, scolds you when you break the rules, shines with pride when you succeed, and has faith in you even when you fail.” Unknown

If Jesus called us to understand God as our Father, He obviously has a very high understanding of what a Father should be. A Father is supposed to be a model of love, peace, and joy; an example of someone who is compassionate to the marginalized, generous to the poor, ready to help those in need, merciful and forgiving to those who have fallen. A father is one who is faithful, an encourager and supporter of others, a caregiver and a protector of his loved ones. A father is one who guides His family – who leads first by his example, and second who walks hand in hand with his family, guiding them on a path that leads into the Kingdom of God.

As I reflect on fathers, I think of something that my former professor shared. He said that all Christians, and I could underline these central traits in true fatherhood, are called to reflect two fundamental characteristics. We are called to be “philotheoi” (friends/lovers of God) and “philop-tochoi” (friends/lovers of the poor). Jesus Himself said that the two greatest commandments were to love God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength, and to love our neighbor, the other. We can’t say we love God if we don’t love the other, and we can’t truly love the other if we don’t see the image of God within them and then love them with the agape love that God fills us with. On Father’s Day, we lift fathers who love their wives, who are present and available to their children, who support and care for their families, who protect their homes, and above all, who teach their family to fear the Lord and lead them on the path of the Kingdom of God!