

Weekly Bulletin

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

A Community of the Orthodox Church in America

Witnessing to the Apostolic Faith in Lake County for over 45 Years

Father Andrew Clements, Pastor

Volume 35

2021

Number 42

Sunday	Nov 7	<i>20th Sunday after Pentecost / Tone 3 / Venerable Lazarus the Wonderworker</i>	
		9:00 am	Church School
		10:00 am	Divine Liturgy Coffee Hour
Wednesday	Nov 10	<i>Apostles, Erastus, Olympas, Herodion, Sosipater, Quartus and Tertius of the 70</i>	
		9:30 am	Divine Liturgy
Saturday	Nov 13	<i>St John Chrysostom</i>	
		1:00 pm	Walker Baptism
		5:30 pm	Great Vespes Confession
Sunday	Nov 14	<i>21st Sunday after Pentecost / Tone 4 / Holy Apostle Philip</i>	
		Readings:	1 Cor 4:9-16 John 1:43-51
		9:00 am	Church School
		10:00 am	Divine Liturgy Coffee Hour

ATTENDANCE / STEWARDSHIP / Oct 31

Attendance	116
Operating	\$3,493.00
OCA Assessments	80.00
Maintenance	120.00
Icons	20.00
Uganda	90.00
Charities	52.00
Cindric Memorial	165.00
Kristin Robinson	100.00
WiFi	38.00

WALKER BAPTISM

Please keep William Walker in your prayers this week. He will receive Holy Illumination on Saturday, Nov 13 at 1:00 pm. A Reception will follow in the hall.

ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, Nov 21 following a short Coffee Hour.

EFFECTIVE CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

We will continue showing the Videos on Tuesday, Nov 9 at 6:30 pm in the Church.

NEW TRANSLATION

At the Diocesan Assembly, held a few weeks ago, we discovered that at the Archbishop's Cathedral the word 'Corruption' is being used in the Hymns to the Theotokos replacing 'defilement.' Not only is this is closer to the original Greek but better conveys the Ever Virginity

of the Mother of God. Hence, we're making the change here at St Nick's.

PRAYER CORNER + + + + +

Perry (Capitan), Julian, John Clements, Sarah Crivella, Joella (LuAnn D's dghtr), Dr Mike Soroka, the Furman family, Tim Price, Francis James (Anna D's frnd), Kim H (Maryann S's friend), Paris Santone (Debbie C's nephew), Bob Joss, Subdeacon Leonard, Kristin & Cameron Robinson, Evelyn (Maureen M's mom), Dave Renda (Jim's bro), Bill Butterfield (Jen's husband), suffering Christians in the Middle East.

Anniversaries: John & Valerie Christani (11/8), Jim & Darlene Horabik (11/10), David & Michelle Schroeder (11/12).

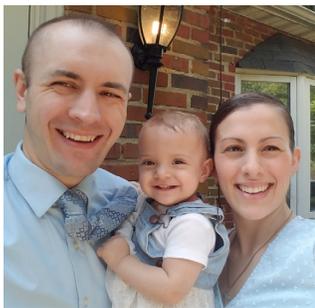
Birthdays: Cassandra Miller (11/7), Luba Schelkanov, Pauline Demanski (11/8), Evelyn Wick, Johnny Christani (11/10), Tom Alexander, Natalie Antonoff (11/12).

New Borns: Wyatt (Brian & Katya), Seraphina (Bobby & Juliana), William (Greg & Grace)

Expecting: Brad & Katie (Clements frnds), Ryan & Jessica, Peter & Katie.

Newly Departed: Joanne Michshaw (Paula T's sister, 11/6), John Choma (Darlene H's uncle, 10/19), Christina Cindric (10/14)

NEW MEMBERS



We warmly welcome the Lepointe Family. Katherine and Patrick met in middle school, growing up in central Massachusetts. They spent the better part of the last ten years working in computer software and analytics in Boston, but never quite felt at home. With Covid came the exodus from the cities, and they moved to Ohio with their newborn daughter, Sophia. Having traded salt water for fresh, they are embracing the Midwest and settling into the community. They are a pair of computer nerds (or so Patrick would say), but Katherine spends her off time perfecting the art of photography, and Patrick, tinkering at a workbench.

The Beatitudes Part III — Blessed Mourning

by Fr Thomas Hopko

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted” (Mt 5.4). This is the second beatitude, and it logically follows the first. If one is poor in spirit, liberated from the spiritual and physical lusts of this world, he will necessarily mourn and weep over the conditions of man.

The poor in spirit know how foolish and sad it is to be caught by sin, to be victimized by falsehood and evil, to be wedded to destruction and death. Viewing the realities of this world without God, the world captivated by its own vain imaginations, the world thinking itself rich and prosperous and needing nothing but in fact “wretched, pitiable, poor, blind and naked” (Rev 3.17), the spiritually poor man can only mourn. Knowing what could be from God, and what is actually with God, he will mourn and weep like the prophets over sinful Israel, like Jesus over the corpse of Lazarus and the city of Jerusalem (Jn 11.35, Mt 23.37), like Jesus Himself in the garden, confronted by His own cup of suffering which was so senseless and cruel.

Blessed mourning for sin is essential to the spiritual life. But in the victory of Christ, it is not morbid or joyless. On the contrary, it is filled with hope, with gladness and with light.

As it is, I rejoice, not because you were grieved, but because you were grieved into repenting; for you felt a godly grief, so that you suffered no loss through us. For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation and brings no regret, but worldly grief produces death. For see what earnestness this godly grief has produced in you . . . (2 Cor 7.9–11).

In his writings, Saint John Climacus (7th c.) follows this teaching of Saint Paul. It is the classical teaching of the Christian spiritual tradition. The end of blessed mourning is not despondency or remorse, it is repentance and salvation. It is the “mourning which causes joy.”

Mourning, according to God, is sadness of soul and the disposition of a sorrowing heart which ever madly seeks for that which it thirsts . . .

Mourning is a golden spur in a soul which is stripped of all attachment and all ties . . .

Keep a firm hold of the blessed joy-grief of holy mourning and do not stop working at it until it raises you high above the things of this world and presents you pure to Christ.

The fruit of morbid mourning is vain glory and self-esteem, but the fruit of blessed mourning is comfort.

He who is clothed in blessed and grace-given mourning . . . knows the spiritual laughter of the soul.

My friends, God does not ask or desire that man should mourn from sorrow of heart, but rather out of love for Him he should rejoice with spiritual laughter.

When I consider the actual nature of compunction, I am amazed at how that which is called mourning and grief should contain joy and gladness within it, like honey in the comb (The Ladder of Divine Ascent, Step 7).

“So do not make a passion the remedy against passion,” says Saint Nilus of Sinai, “est you anger . . . Him who granted you this blessing [of mourning and tears]. For in shedding tears for their sins many people forget the purpose of tears, and getting into a frenzy, they go astray” (Saint Nilus of Sinai, 5th c., Texts on Prayer).