



# 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

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<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Aug 22</b>	<i>9th Sunday after Pentecost / Tone 1 / Afterfeast of Dormition</i>
		9:30 am Divine Liturgy Kucmanic Baptism Reception
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Aug 25</b>	<i>Apostle Titus of the 70</i>
		9:30 am Divine Liturgy
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Aug 28</b>	<i>Eve of the Beheading of St John</i>
		4:00 pm Confession
		5:30 pm Great Vespers & Litya
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Aug 29</b>	<i>10th Sunday after Pentecost / Tone 2 / Beheading of St John the Baptist</i>
Fast Day		Readings: Acts 13:25-33 Mark 6:14-30
		9:30 am Divine Liturgy Coffee Hour

### ATTENDANCE / STEWARDSHIP / Aug 15

Attendance	123
Operating	\$4,238.00
OCA Assessments	58.00
Maintenance	188.00
Icons	25.00
Uganda	100.00
Charities	60.00
Zoe	170.00
Welcome Home Picnic	25.00
Wi Fi	34.00

### SPECIAL WELCOME

We welcome Alina Kucmanic who was baptized into Christ and into the Holy Orthodox Faith today. May God plant her firmly in His Vineyard and bless and keep her for many years.

### RESCHEDULED COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, Aug 26 at 6:30 pm.

### OUR GRATITUDE

Thanks to everyone who contributed in any way to our Welcome Home Event last Sunday. We had a great turnout and it was so good to be together as a Parish Family.

### SUMMER CONFESSION NOTE

Afternoon hours and the time before Vespers will end at the end of August. Please approach if you have not done so already.

### ST JAMES SOUP KITCHEN

This Saturday, Aug 28 beginning at 10:00 am. Please let Kurt Hardman know if you can help.

### PRAYER CORNER + + + + +

Perry (Capitan), Sbdcn Leonard, Julian, John Clements, Sarah Crivella, Joella (LuAnn D's dghtr), Dr Mike Soroka, our Parish Faithful, the Furman family, Marie Gaydos (Maryann S' csn), Tim Price, Francis James (Anna D's frnd), Kim H (Maryann S's friend), Paris Santone (Debbie C's nephew), Bob Joss, Subdeacon Leonard, suffering Christians in the Middle East.

**Anniversaries:** Francis & Meridith Janek (8/24).

**Birthdays:** Mary Ray, Alexandria Dzura, (8/23).

**Expecting:** Brad & Katie (Clements frnds), Ryan & Jessica, Bobby & Juliana, Brian & Katya, Greg & Grace.

**Newborns:** Jackson (John & Michelle), Alina (David & Maria).

**Newly Departed:** Ted Geletka (Fr's good frnd (8/20), John (Adam C's uncle 8/14), Valentine (Fr A's frnd. 8/5), Fr Leonid (Longtime OCA Church Ambassador 8/3), Sotire (Adam C's uncle, 8/5), Alda 7/25, (Maureen M's frnd).

Glorious are your mysteries, O Pure Lady! You were made the throne of the Most High. And today you are translated from earth to heaven. Your glory is full of majesty, shining with grace in Divine Brightness. O virgins, ascend on high with the Mother of the King, Hail, O Full of Grace, the Lord is with you! /Through you granting the world great mercy!

— Vesper Hymn for Dormition —

# The Sacraments

Traditionally the Orthodox understand everything in the Church to be sacramental. All of life becomes a sacrament in Christ who fills life itself with the Spirit of God.

The Orthodox baptize infants as well as adults as the new birth into the new life of Christ. Baptism is understood and celebrated as the person's participation in the death and resurrection of Christ. It is the person's Easter as he is born again into life eternal.

Chrismation (or confirmation) is the "sealing" of the new life in Christ by the life-creating Spirit. In Chrismation the person receives the "seal of the gift of the Holy Spirit" in order to have the power to live the new life in the new humanity of Christ. In this sense, chrismation is the person's personal Pentecost just as baptism is his Easter.

Holy Communion is the "sacrament of sacraments" in that it is the banquet of the Kingdom of God, the fulfillment of every other sacrament. In Holy Communion we partake of the Body and Blood of Christ, the Eternal Passover Lamb, Who makes us alive and holy with Himself. Through Holy Communion we become sons of God the Father, together with Jesus, filled with the "communion of the Holy Spirit."

Marriage in Christ allows our human love to

become divine and unending. There is no "until death do us part". The point is just the opposite. Christ comes to our human love, frees it from sin and grants it everlasting joy in His Kingdom of love.

By our anointing of the sick in Christ's name, we consecrate our sufferings with the sufferings of Christ and we are healed by Him; if not for more time in this world, certainly for an eternity in the Kingdom of God. Thus by anointing with oil in Christ's name, our wounds become the way to Life and not to Death.

In confession, the sacrament of repentance, we come to Christ and receive His divine forgiveness. We are allowed once more to enter into Holy Communion with Him in the Church. We are reinstated into that life which we received in baptism and are renewed with that power which we were given in chrismation.

The one sacrament within the Church which guarantees the identity and continuity of the Church in all times and places is the sacrament of priesthood, the "holy orders," as they are called. The priesthood exists within the Church as the sign of the certain presence in the community of Christ Himself. Christ is not absent from the Church. He is present as its head and is manifested in the Body through the ministry of the priesthood. Thus the mystical life of the Church is fulfilled.

