

ST. NICHOLAS NEWS

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ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH

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OCTOBER 18, 2015

20TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. 2ND SUNDAY OF LUKE

PARISH CALENDAR

- Sun., Oct. 18 20th Sunday after Pentecost. 2nd Sunday of Luke. Prophet Baruch.
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy – Tone 3, pp 87–89
Church School
Parish Board meets
- Wed., Oct. 21 Nun Pelagia.
8:00 AM *Pirohi Prep*
- Thu., Oct. 22 Apostle James Alphaeus. Patriarch Tikhon of Moscow.
8:00 AM *Pirohi Making*
- Fri., Oct. 23 Martyrs Eulampius and Eulampia.
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM *Pirohi Sale*
- Sun., Oct. 25 21st Sunday after Pentecost. 3rd Sunday of Luke. *Fathers of the 7th Ecumenical Council.* Bishop Martin of Tours. Symeon the New Theologian.
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy – Special Sheets.
Special Collection at Divine Liturgy in support of the OCF, our nation-wide Orthodox College Ministry Program.
Annual Parish Meeting

Confessions: Before Divine Liturgy

PEOPLE STUFF

Please remember in your prayers:

Deceased: Helene Flaherty. Edward Hawley. Julia Kovacs. Pat Addio.

Living: Fr. George Dursa. Fr. Donald Valasek. Stephanie Bonk. Gloria Bracey. Bob Chalk. Susan Danchak. Ricky, Rick & Sarah. Michael Danchak. Jada Eiden.. Tammy Hall. Heather Harris. Robert & Lorraine Kacaba. Anna Mae Kuklis. John Lange. Dee Lositski. Peggy Majcher. Theresa Niester. Margie Pecuch. Mary Phillips. John Polanichka. Karen Rolka. JoyAnn Scarnato. Amy Shimo. Faye Snell. Marion Sosnowski. Russell Spilka. Jeff Thomas. Ann Marie Tigue. Gary Wassel.

At Home: Michael Andreosky. Elizabeth Basalyga. George & Anna Senich.

Assisted Living Homes: Julie Roberts. Kathryn Stocoski.

Julia Kovacs fell asleep in the Lord this past week. We will celebrate her 40 day Memorial on Sunday, Nov. 15. Please pray for Julie and for her family. May God grant her eternal memory!

COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Breadbasket of NEPA: The collection bins are in the hall and starting to fill up again! Please help support this ongoing charity by bringing in canned goods and

dry goods to donate to those who need our help!

PARISH STUFF

3D Time! Once again it is time to consider becoming a *Distinguished Diocesan Donor*. As you all know, the vast majority of 3D funds goes to support our Camp Nazareth. Please consider becoming a 3D'er for only \$100 per person. We will be listing parish donors in the bulletin.

Church School meets today.

Parish Board meets today.

Spaghetti Dinner: TAKE OUT OR DINE IN Saturday October 31st. 12:00 Noon to 4:00 PM or Until Sold Out
Price \$10.00 a Person. Includes: Spaghetti and Meatballs, Salad, Bread and Dessert. To Order ahead call 570/344-1522

Bake Sale! At the Spaghetti Dinner, Oct. 31. Since it is Halloween, we are asking *everyone in the church*, not just the Altar Society, to bake something for the bake sale such as cookies, cupcakes, brownies, cobbler, candy apples, etc. We would appreciate it if you could contact Carol Pugh to let her know what you are bringing at 570-489-2321 or toots638@comcast.net.

REMINDER!!

NEXT SUNDAY!

ST. NICHOLAS ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

- ☺ We need 25 members for a quorum.
- ☺ *Topics for the agenda are welcome.* Please contact Jane Togher or place them in the suggestion box located in the Church hall in order to have them added to the agenda.
- ☺ This meeting includes, as always, elections to the Parish Board. The list of the seats open for election this year:
 - ☺ Officers of the Board:
 - ☺ President - Jane Togher
 - ☺ Vice-President - Bill Wassel
 - ☺ Secretary - John Shimo
 - ☺ Treasurer - Nick Polanichka
 - ☺ Financial Secretary - Maryann Polanichka
 - ☺ Three Trustees:
 - ☺ Mary Brizinski
 - ☺ Walter Orzolek
 - ☺ Bill Thomas
 - ☺ The following 1-year auditor terms will end:
 - ☺ Lorraine Kacaba
 - ☺ Christina Bracey

YOUR GIFTS TO GOD AND HIS CHURCH

Oct. 4, 2015

\$292.00	General Collection
2.00	1st Sunday
68.00	7 Day Light
1532.00	Pirohi Sale
17.00	Holy Days
15.00	Heat Offering
9.00	Taper Candles
3.00	Maintenance & Repairs
50.00	Hall Donation
30.00	Memory of Julia Worobey
\$2023.00	Total

Distinguished Diocesan Donors: Stephanie Bonk, Ed Bonk, Jr. Carol Pugh.

FROM THE DIOCESE & OTHER STUFF

College Student Sunday & Special Collection: On Sunday, October 25, 2015, Orthodox parishes across North America, of all Orthodox jurisdictions, are being asked to celebrate College Student Sunday -- recognizing our college students and bringing awareness to Orthodox campus ministry that is taking place through the efforts of the Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF), an endorsed ministry of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America.

Statistics show us that more than 6 out of 10 of all young adults, including Orthodox, leave the Church after graduating from high school and college. To

PARISH FUND RAISERS

PIROHI SALE!!! Next Sale is Friday, October 23. We'll be working Wed, Oct. 21 and Thu., Oct. 22. Both days we will start around 8 AM.

counteract this trend, OCF is on the frontlines of campuses engaging our students in the Orthodox faith through fellowship, education, worship, and service. Through this four-tiered approach, college students who participate in OCF make their way from schools to parishes spiritually stronger and ready to serve.

Our Diocesan Bishop Gregory is the Episcopal Liaison for the Orthodox Christian Fellowship, and he is calling upon our parish's support of the good works of the OCF on College Student Sunday. In particular, there will be a *Special Colletion* on October 25, 2015 for the benefit of OCF. Parishes may choose to augment the collection with parish funds.

ANNUAL FALL YOUTH ENCOUNTER: Due to planned renovations at Camp Nazareth, The National Jr. ACRY will be hosting its Weekend Encounter at St Nicholas Orthodox Church in New York City over Veteran's Day Weekend. The event will be held from November 6 -8, 2015, and is open to youth ages 8 - 18. You do not have to be a member of the Jr. ACRY to attend.

The weekend's activities will include time for prayer, recreating, learning more about the Faith, and more. During the weekend, you can catch up with old friends, make new friends, and have fun while living the Faith.

Due to kind hospitality of St. Nicholas Church, the cost will be only \$65.00 for the weekend. We have a limited number of spots and everyone will be taken on a first come, first serve basis, so please register ASAP!

There are three steps to registering this year:

1. R S V P by October 18th to juliatimko@hunterschools.org with your name, age, and any allergies you may have.

2. Download and complete the registration form on <http://acrod.org/news/7283/jrencounter2015> and send it with a check for \$65 payable to "St. Nicholas Choir" by October 25th to: Justine Timko, 89 79th street, Brooklyn, NY 11209. The deadline to register for the event is October 25th.

The Third Annual Rusyn Genealogy Conference "Our Culture" Coming October 24, 2015! Come join us on Saturday (10/24/2015) from 9AM-4PM at King's College Campus Center, Wilkes-Barre, PA. Speakers include John Righetti, Tom and Kathryn

Peters and John Schweich. They will provide an in depth glimpse into our rich cultural legacy. You are welcome to bring documents for interpretation. This conference costs \$40.00 and includes a breakfast buffet, lunch, and afternoon refreshment. Merchandise will be available for purchase as well as a basket raffle. This event is sponsored by the Eastern PA Chapter of the Carpatho-Rusyn Society. More information is available at <http://www.c-rs.org/>.

Please RSVP by October 20th to Sharon Jarrow (shangp@rcn.com or call 610-759-2628) or mail check made to C-RS Eastern PA to Michele Parvensky~347 West Beil Avenue~Nazareth, PA 18064. We look forward to seeing you there!

The Book Sale Committee of St. Thomas More Parish BIG, BIG, BIG Book and Bake Sale - Saturday, October 24, 2015, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Lunch will be served 11-1. St. Thomas More Parish at St. Joseph Church, N. Main Ave & Theodore St, North Scranton.

Round up your old books NOW and drop them off at the rectory. PLEASE - NO ROMANCE NOVELS OR MAGAZINES! Then join us on 10/24 to stock up for the winter! For more Information: 570-343-0634

"Trunk or Treat" for Halloween 2015 in Olyphant, PA. Saturday, October 24, 2015 at the "Wargo-Monsignor Hrynuck- Beckage Sports Complex" at 700 Block of East Grant Street, FernHill Section of Olyphant. at 1:00 p.m. Decorate your car and join the FUN!!! Over 300 children attended the event in 2014. Volunteers are needed. Contact Krukovitz or Foley for donations of TREATS to be handed out!!!! COME AND JOIN US FOR A FUN, SAFE, FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENT!!! All kids invited to come in Halloween Costumes. Decorate your trunks/vehicles for Halloween and hand out treats. The children will go car to car in a safe secure area on the Baseball field. To REGISTER your car call David Krukovitz 570-780-4446 or Paula Foley at 570-351-8452. (only registered decorated vehicles will be allowed on the field.) Car Arrival at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday. Trunk and Treating Starts at 1:00 p.m. Child Fingerprinting, Hot Dogs and Hot Chocolate at the Eureka Volunteer Fire Company (across from the Baseball field) 3:00 p.m. There will be a prize for "THE BEST" DECORATED TRUNK VEHICLE only!!!! Volunteers are needed. Contact Krukovitz or

Foley for donations of TREATS to be handed out!!!!

EKUMEN CHORALE CONCERT! *Sunday, November 1, 3:00 PM.* Ss Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church, 20 Nottingham St., Plymouth, PA. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. The Ekumen Chorale includes both Orthodox and Byzantine Catholic members.

Fund-raising Dinner for Geno Comonie: GENO COMONIE, a life time resident of Olyphant has been battling Multiple Myeloma, a form of bone cancer.

A Pasta Dinner will be held for Geno to help out a neighbor and friend!!!! On November 7th, 2015 Saturday, the Pasta Dinner will be held at the Eureka Hose Co. Firehouse at 700 block of East Grant Street, across from the Baseball Field-Sports Complex in the Fernhill section of Olyphant, PA 18447. Call Kim Atkinson at 570-383-9552. Plenty of Free Parking. Raffle gifts and 50/50 tickets will be available for purchase. Donations also accepted by contacting Kim Atkinson.

Sit-down dinners starts at 4:00 p.m-8:00 p.m. Take out Dinners are available from 3:00 p.m. to 5 p.m. Tickets are pre-sold at \$10.00/ticket. Dinner includes:Pasta, salad, rolls, dessert and refreshments. Call: Kim at 570-383-9552, Mike at 570-241-2065, Paul 570-499-0908, Joanne at 570-382-3524 or any member of the Eureka Hose company. Limited amount of tickets will be sold at the door.

INTERNATIONAL DINNER CLUB, St. Mary's Church, 320 Mifflin Ave, Scranton, Pa. The Center will host "A Taste of Italy" on Thursday, November 12, 2015 with seatings at 5:30 and 6:30pm. The price is only \$20.00 per person and reservations can be made by calling 570-343-5151. Closing Date is November 9. The menu will start with a lovely Chicken and Spinach Tortellini and an Appetizer of Riccota Gnocci in a brown butter and sage cream sauce. The Entrée will be Chicken Scapapiello (whole chicken in bite size pieces with peppers, onions, fried potatoes, broccoli, and sweet sausage in a lemon and light brown sauce. The dessert will be Tiramisu. A Non Alcoholic beverage service will be included but a Cash Bar is available.

Annual Harvest Dinner. Sponsored by St. Vladimir Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church. Sunday, November 22, 2015 - 12:30pm . St. Vladimir Parish Center - 428 North Seventh Avenue, Scranton PA. Roast beef, mashed potatoes, gravy, hot vegetables, dinner rolls, dessert, coffee, tea and beverages. Adults \$13.00; Students 6 to 12 years \$8.00; no charge for children age 5 and under. Advance reservations close Sunday, November 15 - no tickets sold at the door. Take-outs available - must pick up promptly between 11:30am and 12:00 noon. For reservations contact Dorothy Fleck at 570 346-4164.

Marywood University,
Suraci Gallery,
Shields Center for Visual Art, 2nd Floor
Oct. 25 - Dec. 6
Mon., Thu., Fri., 9 AM – 4 PM.
Tue., Wed., 9 AM – 8 PM.
Sat., Sun., 1 PM – 4 PM.

**THE MOTHER OF GOD AND THE SAINTS:
A CENTENNIAL EXHIBITION**

As we honor Marywood University's 100th anniversary and IHM tradition, we welcome the community to experience magnificent icons and relics on loan from St. Tikhon's Monastery and the Metropolitan Museum of the Orthodox Church of America at St. Tikhon's Monastery in Waymart, PA. Organized by Fr. John Perich, curator for St. Tikhon's Museum and Icon Repository, and Fr. Richard G. Cannuli, OSA, Villanova University, the discerning exhibition celebrates the continuing dialogue between the Roman Catholic Church and Eastern Orthodoxy.

Sun., Oct. 25 at 4 PM, a Lecture will be given titled, "Witnessing the Mother of God and her intercessory role in the lives of the Saints of the Eastern Orthodox Church." Given by Archpriest Fr. John Kowalczyk, Professor at St. Tikhon's Orthodox Theological Seminary, and Alumnus of Marywood University.

Reception will follow.

Free admission and open to the public.

OCF'S WINTER BREAK COLLEGE CONFERENCE!

As you will read below, this fantastic event will be offered free of charge to our Diocesan College Students (\$250 registration fee and a portion of their travel expenses up to a total of \$500)

All parish college students are urged to take advantage of this fantastic opportunity for fellowship with other Orthodox Christians their age.

JOHNSTOWN, PA - The Diocesan Chancery is pleased to announce that registration for the 2015 College Conferences is now open. The conferences will be held during Christmas Break in two locations: St. Nicholas Ranch in Dunlap, Calif and Antiochian Village in Bolivar, Pa.; each centering on Orthodox Christian Fellowship's (OCF) theme for the year - "Modern Martyrs: Witnesses of the Word."

This College Conference theme will address our calling to be martyrs for Christ by being witnesses of the Faith. As college students living in a secularized world, there are numerous opportunities for us as Orthodox Christians to be witnesses/martyrs for Christ on college campuses: in the dorm room, on social media, and in every aspect of our lives. This theme will also address the current-day persecution of Christians and provide some insights into how we can best aid our Christian brothers and sisters across the globe.

Annually, nearly 400 college students from across North America participate in College Conference to learn and grow closer in their Orthodox Faith in an exemplary display of pan-Orthodox fellowship. Each four-day conference includes a prominent keynote speaker, along with workshops led by clergy and lay leaders who are experts in their related fields.

Last year, as in the past several years, Bishop Gregory was joined by a number of Diocesan College Students at College Conference East who had an awesome experience! Here To Read Reflections On Their Experience This year, the Nun Vassa [Larin] will deliver the keynote address. Workshop Speakers will include: Steven Christoforou - Director of the Department of Youth and Young Adult Ministries and the Office of Camping Ministries of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America; V. Rev. Fr. Timothy Hojnicky - Rector of Holy Apostles Orthodox Mission in Mechanicsburg, PA; V. Rev. Fr. Stephen Loposky - Director of Camp Nazareth and Pastor of Saints Cyril and Methodius Church in Mercer, PA; Fr.

Alexandros Petrides and Pres. Stephanie Petrides and Dr. Timothy Patitsas - Assistant Professor of Ethics at Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology

This year, as in the past, full scholarships and partial reimbursement of travel expenses to College Conference East are being offered to our (ACROD) Diocesan Students on a first-come-first-serve basis to encourage more students to attend. Students are urged to register online ASAP on the OCF Website. Students are required to fill out the on-line scholarship application and pay the \$150.00 deposit, which will be refunded when all Diocesan Students register. To register, students attending college conference for the first time need to register for an ocf events registration account. Returning attendees may log on with their existing ocf events registration account.

When registered, students are asked to contact Fr. Stephen Loposky, Diocesan Youth Director at campnazareth@acrod.org or 607-329-2844 BEFORE making travel arrangements. Diocesan students are kindly asked to register ASAP as with each passing year registration tends to close quickly due to the popularity of this conference.

A NEW ECCLESIOLOGY FOR THE ORTHODOX CHURCH?

September 23, 2015 by Seraphim Danckaert

Received from Fr. James Dutko 9/24/2015

Continued From Last Week

Since 2011, an increasing number of Orthodox churches have expressed aspects of this same "new ecclesiology" in a variety of official and unofficial settings. Most significant among these is the Russian Orthodox Church, given its size and importance in inter-Orthodox relations. In December 2013, the Holy Synod of the Patriarchate of Moscow promulgated an official position paper on the issue of primacy in the Universal Church. Several months later, Metropolitan Hilarion (Alfeyev) gave a speech in which he explained the official document's key points and theological rationale. At the time, Orthodox commentators focused on the obvious implications for Catholic-Orthodox dialogue (and rivalries between Moscow and Constantinople). A closer reading of the official position paper and Metropolitan Hilarion's explanation also reveals elements of the "new ecclesiology."

In his speech, Metropolitan Hilarion explains that one of Moscow's core objections to the most recent agreed statement of the Catholic-Orthodox dialogue is that it "does not fully correspond to the principles of church order as accepted in the modern-day Orthodox Church," specifically because "the contemporary Orthodox Church is structured differently" than it was in the first millennium. According to the modern Orthodox conception, within each autocephalous Church "there is the canonical territory of the autocephalous Local Church ... and the Diaspora, where there are parishes and dioceses located in the jurisdiction of the autocephalous Local Churches."

The Metropolitan's argument exhibits a familiar pattern. First, the apostolic order of governance called for in the canons was normative for the ancient Church, and still applies today to some degree, but we cannot forget that the Church has changed, growing beyond the conceptions of the first millennium. In fact, "the contemporary Orthodox Church is structured differently." Furthermore, the current administrative structure of the Church is not an accident of history that calls for repentance and change, but a reality that informs and inspires theological reflection and teaching. As a result, a truly Orthodox theology of the Church requires a federation of autocephalous Local Churches, whose pastoral authority includes a given territory and the worldwide diaspora of people who emigrate from that territory, as well as those they convert. Thus, the status quo is normative.

Other Orthodox churches have expressed similar conclusions for some of the same reasons. At last week's meeting of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America, the churches of Georgia, Bulgaria, Serbia, Moscow, ROCOR, and Antioch - all representing the official position of their Mother Church - made it clear that the status quo of overlapping jurisdictions throughout the world should be maintained. Each church has justified its decision in slightly different ways. For Antioch, in particular, it's not clear to what degree the announcement represents a temporary tactical move or a long-term transformation. Nevertheless, the real development is not that the majority of Orthodox churches are taking unity of governance in the diaspora off of the table, but rather their justifications for doing so - and the degree to which these justifications correspond to the portrayal of Orthodox ecclesiology in a growing number of official

documents and synodal decisions.

Many Orthodox people are quite happy that there will be no imminent change in governance, either because they value ethnic solidarity; or fear a reorganization would lead to changes in liturgy and church discipline; or prefer the particular ethos and network of relationships they have developed; or are loathe to cede control over the financial and institutional resources within their own orbits of influence - or some combination of all of these reasons, plus others. Yet these are not the reasons one finds in statements from official sources. No doubt, practical and ethnic and spiritual and political motivations lurk behind the scenes, but the official justifications are canonical and theological. And therein lies the problem. Practical or pastoral objections can be temporary, but the justifications we are seeing carry the potential weight of permanence. In stating that there is no canonical or theological reason to seek unity in governance - in fact, that unity means preserving the status quo - we are beginning to re-define our ecclesiological self-understanding.

Do the ends justify the means? Quite obviously, for some they do. There is a certain comfort in the knowledge that outside of the old country, Orthodoxy is like a Baskin-Robbins: which flavor do you like best? Division allows people to choose the kind of purity they prefer. Yet the (unintended) theological and spiritual implications of the "new ecclesiology" are profound. Justifying division in the diaspora on canonical and theological grounds introduces a new hermeneutics, which inverts the traditional Orthodox preference for patristic modes of life and prioritizes history over dogmatics. There are pastoral implications as well. Just as form follows function, the governmental structure of the Church influences its sense of calling and purpose. Prescriptively dividing the Church into camps reduces ministry to chaplaincy and mistakes catholicity for preservation. Even if such a Church provides a temporary firewall against the scourges of modernity, it will eventually collapse under the weight of its own inward focus.

About Seraphim Danckaert: Seraphim Danckaert, a graduate of Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, is currently a Ph.D. candidate at the Amsterdam Centre for Eastern Orthodox Theology within the Faculty of Theology at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. Some of his other articles are available on Academia.edu.