

Sts. Cyril and Methody Orthodox Church Parish Bulletin

September 2010

Orthodox Church in America
4770 Maryville Rd, POB 1303
Granite City, IL 62040



Bulletin Sponsor

This month's bulletin is sponsored by Lahzee and Noni Popovsky with prayers for the repose of the soul and remission of sins of mother Latsa Popovsky, who passed away fifteen years ago, on September 26th, 1995. May God grant His devoted handmaiden Latsa rest among the saints and Memory Eternal.

Many wage war and are victorious over people, but are captives of their own passions and

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become slaves. There is no victory more glorious than to be victorious over one's self and sin. - St. Tikhon of Zadonsk, from Journey to Heaven, ch 6, 71b.

If you would like to sponsor a monthly bulletin, sign up in the booklet at the candle stand. The cost of a monthly bulletin is currently running around 50 dollars.

The perfect person does not only try to avoid evil. Nor does he do good for fear of punishment, still less in order to qualify for the hope of a promised reward. The perfect person does good through love. His actions are not motivated by desire for personal benefit, so he does not have personal advantage as his aim. But as soon as he has realized the beauty of doing good, he does it with all his energies and in all that he does. He is not interested in fame, or a good reputation, or a human or divine reward. The rule of life for a perfect person is to be in the image and likeness of God. - St. Clement of Alexandria

Important

Please inform Father Andrew immediately when you or any member of your family is sick or hospitalized, so that appropriate prayer and visitation may be scheduled. Hospitals do not notify clergy of patients, even if you list yourself as a member.

Treat every man not with flattery, but simply, just as you do yourself. As you appear to him outwardly, be so inwardly as well; and what you say to him and what you have on your lips must be in your heart also. - ibid, ch 8, #36.

Congratulations

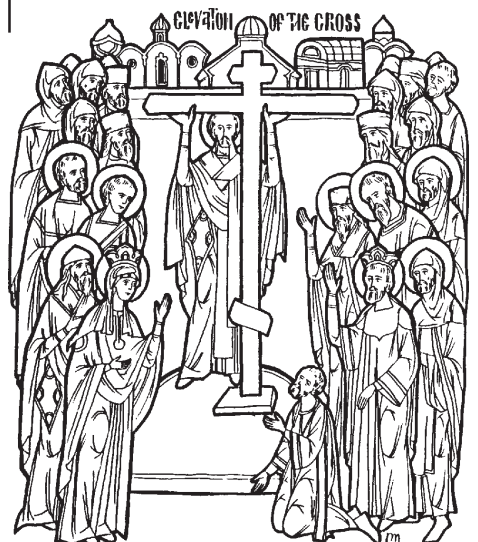
To Mark Keener on his promotion to LtCol; Pin on date was August 1st.

To our Church School children and teachers, beginning their new school year the Sunday after Labor Day, September 12th.

To Christian and Erin Moulton on the Baptism and Chrismation of their son Nicholas, on August 21st.

To Donna Carli on her rising stage career; Her latest play is Fiddler on the Roof, Labor Day weekend.

To Nora Todoroff, George Palcheff, Cis Mountz, and Regan Keener on their continued recoveries. May God grant them Many Years!



In our prayers:

Fr Kiril Antonoff
Fr Thomas Succarotte
Fr Paul Gaussios
Nadia Bakan
Betty Blagoe
Regan Keener
Cis Mountz
George Palcheff
Bertha Petty
Joseph Saur
Diane Stoffan
Nora Todoroff

Christians, woe unto us without love! Where there is no love there is no faith, for faith does not exist without love. Where there is no faith, there is neither Christ nor salvation. We confess God, Who is love. "Let us love one another that with one mind we may confess, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit" (from the Liturgy). - *ibid*, ch 12 pg 95

Passages this Month:

Birthdays: Pavlos Batsios (5th), Popadia Joan (15th), Anne Lucas (23rd). **Name Days:** Elizabeth Moulton (5th), Michael Richardson (6th), Sophia (Carolyn) Boeker (17th), Sophia (Carrie) Carpunky (17th). **Anniversaries:** Walter & Sharon Peleshenko (8th) Mike & Rose Richardson (15th). **Departed:** Alexander Markuly (1st/00), David Smith (5th/95), Edna Ambuehl (11th,67), Slavco Evangeloff (11th/84), Nicholas Todoroff (20th,07), Latsa Popovsky (26th/95), Alexandra Miofsky (27th).

Abba Doulas, the disciple of Abba Bessarion said, "One day when we were walking beside the sea I was thirsty and I said to Abba Bessarion, "Father, I am very thirsty." He said a prayer and said to me, "Drink some of the sea water." The water proved sweet when I drank some. I even poured some into a leather bottle for fear of being thirsty later on. Seeing this, the old man asked me

why I was taking some. I said to him, "Forgive me, it is for fear of being thirsty later on." Then the old man said, "God is here, God is everywhere."

Spiritual Reading

Journey to Heaven is the title of a collection of spiritual counsels by the saintly Russian Bishop Tikhon of Zadonsk. St. Tikhon lived a quiet life, and his works were sadly unknown to most Russians, but the Greeks discovered them - then the Russians found this 'pearl' in foreign hands and reclaimed it. It went through over 50 editions during the nineteenth century alone, silent testimony to its value. This book is a 'must have' for every sincere Orthodox Christian.

Journey to Heaven is available in our parish library or through the bookstore. The spiritual quotations in this month's bulletin include several from this classic of our Church.

Riches are a gift of God... given you, O Christian, not for your sake alone, but also for the sake of the poor. Take pleasure in them with moderation, and give thanks to God, and provide for the needs of the poor. This is the correct use of riches. Remember that you are a steward, not the master of your riches, for you will be strictly examined for everything. - *ibid*, ch6 #1

Phone Lists

Updated phone lists are available at the candle stand. We also have a master and can print more copies, so please ask the Epitrops if the pouch is empty.

Even if we have thousands of acts of great virtue to our credit, our confidence in being heard must be based on God's mercy and His love for men. Even if we stand at the very summit of virtue, it is by mercy that we shall be saved. - St. John Chrysostom

Lincoln Place Heritage Assn. Festival

The fall festival of Granite City's old 'ethnic' neighborhood, where the original Sts. Cyril and Methody Church was built, will be on Saturday, September 18th, from 11AM until 6PM. (Actually 4:30PM, so you will have time to get to Vespers.) Sisterhood ladies will be manning our parish food booth at the festival as a fundraiser.

What is the sin of your neighbor who offended you? It is as a farthing against many thousands of pieces of gold, it is as a penny against ten thousand talents. Or, even better, say, it is as nothing against your sins toward God. - *ibid*, ch10

Internet Orthodoxy

This month I would like to recommend a well organized web site belonging to St. George Cathedral (Greek) in Greenville South Carolina. The portion of the site that would especially reward a visit is the "Orthodox Way of Life" section, at stgeorgegreenville.org/index2.html (no 'www' required).

There are sections on prayer, fasting, the sacraments, services, music, an on-line catechism, and links to sites with more information. Pretty much everything you need to win at "stump the priest" on Sunday mornings.

But I say to you," the Lord says, "love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, pray for those who persecute you." Why did he command these things? So that he might free you from hatred, sadness, anger and grudges, and might grant you the greatest possession of all, perfect love, which is impossible to possess except by the one who loves all equally in imitation of God. St. Maximus the Confessor

No one has seen God at any time. If we love one another, God abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in Him, and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son as Savior of the world. Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because as He is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love. We love Him because He first loved us. - 1 John 4:12-19

Congress - Sobor

A Congress Sobor of the Bulgarian Diocese will be convened on November 12 and 13th, at St. George Cathedral parish in Toledo Ohio. The purpose of the Sobor is to consider revisions to the Diocesan Constitution and to elect a candidate for consecration as our new Diocesan Hierarchy, to be submitted to the Synod of the OCA for approval.

Our parish delegates to this Sobor will be Father Andrew (as priest) and Walt Peleshenko and Mary Veloff (by election at the parish semiannual meeting).

Copies of the proposed diocesan constitution are posted on our parish web site; printed copies may be obtained by request from Father Andrew.

A nominating committee, consisting of our diocesan spiritual counsel and Father Andrew Jarmus, from St. Nicholas parish in Ft. Wayne. It is intended that we have opportunities to speak with the prospective candidates before the Sobor in November.

Submit your will to the will of God and overcome evil with good, overcome pride with humility, anger with meekness and patience and hate with love. This is the Christian victory, and it is more glorious than conquering people. - *ibid*, ch11, 95b

Greeting Visitors

The visitors to our parish are our new growth. It is new people who bring in new people. As a tree grows upon its outer rings, so our growth will come from our new people. I consider a new person as someone who has started attending in the last three years. They are the ones who will bring in new people. The regulars will bring in relatives, but it is new people who bring in new people. Our growth will come from how we treat our visitors because they will bring in more new people.

There is no greater love than that a man lays down his life for his neighbor. When you hear someone complaining and you struggle with yourself and do not answer him back with complaints; when you are hurt and bear it patiently, not looking for revenge; then you are laying down your life for your neighbor.” - Abba Poemen

Church School

Our new Church School year begins Sunday, September 12th, promptly at 9:15AM.

Because of the increasing number of children in our parish, we are expanding the number of classes. Our parish sisterhood has generously funded special materials for both children and teachers for a program of “Journaling through the Church Year”. This is a program that our children can get a lot out of, provided that they come regularly and on-time. We are asking parents and teachers to make that effort, starting September

12th, to be here and ready to begin classes at 9:15AM sharp.

Adults can come upstairs and join in our adult classes in the Nave, while your children are learning downstairs. This serves the double purpose of learning more about your faith and showing your children that Christian education is important.

We all have a kindred nature, and we are called men, and so we are. Let us, therefore, love one another. We are all created by the one God, we are created according to the image and likeness of God. Let us, therefore, love one another. - *ibid*, ch 12

Members Only

There is a new “members only” section at our parish web site, www.stscm.net. To get in, you need a members only user id and password which (obviously) is not included in this bulletin. You can get the id and password from our webmaster and official keeper of the secrets Chris Carpunky.

We are planning to post the parish address, phone, and e-mail list on this site sometime soon; This is the same listing that you can get at the candle stand, but will be updated more often. If you would prefer that your name not be listed in the members only section of the web site, please let Chris or Father know.

Pray fervently to Christ the Lord and give yourself to Him for direction, and He will correct and guide you to eternal life and blessedness according to His love for man. Only be careful and watch yourself, and seeing your care He will help you in everything. Read the Beatitudes, and the rest, often and with fervor. - *ibid* ch 13 #51

We appreciate any digital photos you may have taken which our parish family might like to see in the bulletin. E-mail them to Father Andrew