

SCRIPTURE LESSONS FOR THE DAY

Epistle Lesson: St. Paul's Epistle to the Galatians 2:16-20 (Sunday After the Cross)

BRETHREN, you know that a man is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the law, because by works of the law shall no one be justified. But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were found to be sinners, is Christ then an agent of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again those things which I tore down, then I prove myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law, that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Gospel Lesson: St. Mark 8:34-38; 9:1 (Sunday After the Cross)

The Lord said: "If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? For what can a man give in return for his life? For whoever is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." And he said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power."

Special Council Meeting This Wednesday. Members are reminded of a special council meeting which will be held this Wednesday evening beginning at 5:30 PM at the church. Our speaker for the evening will be Laura Paulus of the Department of Parish Development of the Archdiocese of America. This is the kick-off meeting for our strategic planning process so every member of the council is encouraged to attend this important meeting.

Pahl's Pumpkin Patch Hay Ride and Outing. You'll want to reserve the date of Saturday, 18 October at 2 PM for some outdoor fun. Our parish will be sponsoring a trip to Pahl's Pumpkin Patch in Buckley, MI. Hay rides, pony rides, a corn maze and a petting zoo are all part of the fun scheduled for the day. Specially designed for our church school students, the outing is open to all for a fun afternoon of outdoor activities. Mark the date and watch this space and our web site for more information about this event.



TRAVERSE CITY ORTHODOX MISSION

A Ministry of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Detroit

Meeting at 1030 Hastings St., Traverse City, Michigan

www.tcorthodoxchurch.org

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Sunday, 21 September 2008

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✠ PARISH CALENDAR OF EVENTS ✠

Sunday 21 September Sunday After the Elevation of the Holy Cross.

9 AM Orthros

10 AM Liturgy of St. Chrysostomos

11:15 AM 50th Wedding Anniversary Blessing for Antonia and John Psaros

11:30 AM Fellowship Hour

Monday 22 September Hieromartyr Phocas.

5:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

6:30 PM Scripture Study Group Class Nr. 3

Tuesday 23 September Conception of St. John the Forerunner.

Wednesday 24 September Protomartyr Thekla.

Strict Fast Day

5:30 PM Parish Council Strategic Planning Meeting

Thursday 25 September St. Euphrosyne of Alexandria.

9 AM Stewardship Committee Meeting

6:30 PM Orthodox Book Club Discussion Group Nr. 1

Friday 26 September Translation of the Relics of St. John the Theologian.

Fast Day-Wine and Oil Allowed

Saturday 27 September Martyr Kallistratos and Companions.

9 AM-4 PM Religious Educators' Conference in Southgate, MI

Please note: No Vesper Services this evening.

Sunday 28 September 1st Sunday of the Gospel of St. Luke. St. Chariton the Confessor.

9 AM Orthros

10 AM Liturgy of St. Chrysostomos

11:30 AM Parish Council Elections

11:30 AM Fellowship Hour

Antonia and John Psaros Feted on 50th Anniversary. Today our parish salutes Antonia nee Dulke and John Psaros as they celebrate their fiftieth wedding anniversary. Their marriage, solemnized in West Frankfurt, IL on the 20th of September 1958, was followed by a Church wedding at St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church in Hammond, Indiana with Fr. Elias Geianias celebrant and Ms. Mary Tsiakra serving as koumbara. During the service of the Holy Liturgy we will take special petitions and prayers for the couple culminating with a special blessing at the end of the service.

Donna and John have three children and 6 grandchildren. Karen Kain nee Psaros (married to Randy Kain of Kingsley) of our parish is the oldest of the three children which include another daughter, Linda of West Bloomfield (married to Greg Nelson) and a son, Greg (married to Shelly), of Lake City. Donna and John relocated from Munster, IN to Lake City in 1987 as part of transfer of work at the Indiana Forge where John was employed as a tool and die maker. While John was busy at the plant, Donna made a name for herself working as a secretary for a judge, a real estate agent, bookkeeper and homemaker.

The couple is numbered among the founders, builders and benefactors of the establishment of a mission community here in Traverse City.

Fifty years of marriage is a major milestone in the life of any couple. It is a testimony to the tenacity of commitment, perseverance and dedication to the ideals of Christian marriage enshrined in the Sacramental Theology of our Church. Truly, Antonia and John were “ordained” to live the married life and that living out of their vocation has enabled them to be transfigured to the iconic representation of Christ’s love for the Church—the representation to which all married couples are called. Today as we honour them, let our other married couples as well as those anticipating marriage consider well the duties enjoined upon them by holy mother Church. And let each and every one of us pray for the up-building and success of the marriages of all those that have been called to this holy estate.

May God grant to his servants Antonia and John, peace, health, happiness, furtherance in all things that lead to salvation for many happy and blessed years.

MDOT Project. “We’re gonna jump down, turn around, pick a bale of cotton...” or so the old African-American folk song goes. Only for the six workers from our community that worked for several hours on Friday afternoon policing four miles of M-72 in Bear Lake Township, Kalkaska County, it was “pick up someone else’s trash.” John Batsakis, Elizabeth Husby, Helen Knapp, Presvytera Joleen-Elisabet, Holly Olszewski and Fr. Iakovos worked to clear the roadway and shoulder of litter that had accumulated there as part of the Michigan Department of

Transportation’s Adopt-a-Highway Programme in which our community participates. In return for our work, our parish receives a sign board along the roadside for which we are responsible indicating our participation. MDOT tells us that our sign will be put up along this section of M-72 in spring of 2009.

The group attended their pre-pick-up safety meeting at the church and then car pooled to the site. Thanks are extended to everyone that worked on this project. While a bit stiff and sore from all of the bending and stooping, a good time was had by all. Our next scheduled outing will be in April 2009. New workers are welcome to join us—anyone interested in helping out on this project is encouraged to speak with Fr. Iakovos.

Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos Delegation Hosted. Our parish played host to Mrs. Eleni Zeferes of Cincinnati, OH and Mrs. Catherine Kotsis of Ann Arbor, MI who travelled to Traverse City yesterday for an informational meeting with the ladies of our community. Twenty-two ladies of the parish attended the meeting which was held at the Traverse City Country Club and featured an elegant luncheon catered by the staff there. As part of the meeting Mrs. Zeferes presented an informational dvd relating the history of the Philoptochos in America and also helped to define the relationship between this important women’s organization and the Archdiocese of America.

New Class Commences This Week. The second in our educational series of classes will begin this Thursday at 6:30 PM. This class will focus on a reading of the Russian spiritual classic, “The Way of the Pilgrim and the Pilgrim Continues His Way.” The books will be available free of charge to students through a grant received from one of our parishioners. Persons attending this class will be asked to read the book according to our syllabus and then come to our twice per month meetings to discuss insights into the book. This class will meet on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month. It is not necessary to be Orthodox to participate and enjoy this class. Everyone is welcome.

Our study of the Gospel of St. John continues this week with our regular meeting tomorrow evening. New students are welcome and it is not too late to get involved. See Fr. Iakovos for more information, or just show up!

Life-Chain Scheduled for Sunday October 5. Area churches will participate in the life-chain on Sunday, 5 October beginning at 2:30 PM. We will be standing by the Merrill Lynch building on Grandview Parkway in order to witness on behalf of the sanctity of life and call on the general public to support the rights of the unborn. Members of our church will hold icons and stand silently by the Parkway testifying to God’s great love and desire to give us life. For more information on this event, please contact Fr. Iakovos.

Parents’ Night Out—Friday, 24 October. Parents of our young people can enjoy a night out without worrying about child care by signing up to participate in our parent’s night out project. Children may be dropped off at the church on Friday evening at 5:30 PM and we will provide games, activities, snacks and supervision through 9 PM. For more information or to register your children to participate in this event, please see Fr. Iakovos.