

SCRIPTURE LESSONS FOR THE DAY

Epistle Lesson: St. Paul's Epistle to Titus 3:8-15

TITUS, my son, the saying is sure. I desire you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to apply themselves to good deeds; these are excellent and profitable to men. But avoid stupid controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels over the law, for they are unprofitable and futile. As for a man who is factious, after admonishing him once or twice, have nothing more to do with him, knowing that such a person is perverted and sinful; he is self-condemned.

When I send Artemas or Tychicos to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. And let our people learn to apply themselves to good deeds, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not to be unfruitful.

All who are with me send greeting to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.

Gospel Lesson: St. Luke 8:5-15

The Lord said this parable: "A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell along the path, and was trodden under foot, and the birds of the air devoured it. And some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. And some fell among thorns; and the thorns grew with it and choked it. And some fell into good soil and grew, and yielded a hundredfold." And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant, he said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but for others they are in parables, so that seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand. Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, that they may not believe and be saved. And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy; but these have no root, they believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. And as for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bring forth fruit with patience." As he said these things, he cried out "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

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 parents' 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.



TRAVERSE CITY ORTHODOX MISSION

A Ministry of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Detroit

Meeting at 1030 Hastings St., Traverse City, Michigan

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✠ PARISH CALENDAR OF EVENTS ✠

- Sunday 12 October Sunday of the Seventh Ecumenical Council (Nicea 787).
St. Simeon the New Theologian**
9 AM Orthros
10 AM Liturgy of St. Chrysostomos
11:15 AM Forty Day Memorial (Panachida) for the Repose of the Soul of +Mary Torsky, mother of Olga Dean
11:30 AM Fellowship Hour
4:00 PM Rainbow of Hope Farm Family Days--Kingsley
- Monday 13 October SS Carpos, Papylos, Agathodoros, and Agathoniki.**
5:30 PM Choir Rehearsal
6:30 PM Scripture Study Group Class Nr. 6
- Tuesday 14 October Martyrs Nazarios, Gervasios, Prostasios and Celsius.**
- Wednesday 15 October Hieromartyr Loukianos.**
Strict Fast Day
- Thursday 16 October St. Longinos the Centurion.**
- Friday 17 October Prophet Hosea.**
Strict Fast Day
- Saturday 18 October St. Luke the Evangelist.**
4:30 PM 9th Hour and Vespers
5:30 PM 2nd Year Memorial Service for +Veronica Stefanko mother of Sharon Foster of our parish

Sunday 19 October 3rd Sunday of Luke. Prophet Joel.

9 AM Orthros

10 AM Liturgy of St. Chrysostomos

Noon Reception for Metropolitan Nicholas at Great Wolf Lodge

Rainbow of Hope Farm Family Days in Kingsley Today. You are invited to join us at Rainbow of Hope Farm located at 1951 County Line Road in Kingsley this afternoon at around 4:30 PM as they celebrate their annual Family Day. Activities will include: hay rides, bonfire for roasting marshmallows, a bake sale, various foods and pumpkin and autumn decorations. Rainbow of Hope is a residential care facility and proceeds from all sales will be used to benefit clients. The event runs today from 3 PM to 8:30 PM.

Metropolitan Nicholas to Visit Next Weekend. Our parish is honoured to learn that His Eminence, Metropolitan Nicholas has made a plan to visit with us late Saturday (18 October) afternoon and to offer the Holy Liturgy for us on Sunday 19 October. At the time of the printing of the bulletin we do not have details about the time of arrival for the Metropolitan. In order to create some flexibility in scheduling for this visit we have cancelled our church school trip to Pahl's Pumpkin Patch which was originally planned for Saturday 18 October at 2 PM. The church school is uncertain at this time as to whether they will try to reschedule this event.

As for the Metropolitan's visit, this represents the first visit his Eminence has been able to make to our community since 2006. Traveling without the benefit of a deacon, His Eminence will drive himself to Traverse City after celebrating a function in Detroit Saturday morning. His Eminence's visit will provide an opportunity for him to inspect our progress here as well as meet our people. It will also provide us with an opportunity to meet with His Eminence and learn what his thoughts are with respect to our community and its future growth. Our parish council will be involved in a special meeting with His Eminence and have the opportunity to brief him on the work here. Coupled with the visit of Metropolitan Nicholas, we will also be hosting Mrs. Laura Paulus of the Department of Parish Development of the Archdiocese of America. Mrs. Paulus was originally scheduled to join us last month but was unable to keep the appointment due to some unforeseen events. She will be in town on this same weekend to help us begin the process of developing a strategic plan as well as provide advice about our upcoming stewardship and capital campaigns. She will be meeting with our council and the Metropolitan, as well as have additional meetings just with our council and executive leadership on Sunday afternoon/evening.

In the past, when the Hierarch comes to visit, our parish has always hosted a reception. True to our tradition and the custom of the Church, we have been successful in arranging for a reception for His Eminence at the Great Wolf Lodge on M-31 near Kohl's. The facility will provide light breakfast fare for our enjoyment and provide a venue for a short speaking programme. Everyone is invited to attend as we celebrate the visit of our Hierarch. A special notification has been sent to our parishioners and a press release will appear in the local paper later in the week. Our parishioners are invited to "pass the word" so that our house will be full when the Metropolitan visits!

October Parish Council Meeting Results. The parish council had its regular monthly meeting this past Wednesday. Present at the meeting were: Harriet Rennie, president; Karen Kain, vice-president; Judy Weston, secretary; and council members Stephanie Long, Helen Knapp, Doug Partlo, Theresa Patterson, Bob Underwood and Fr. Iakovos. Absent with apologies was treasurer, Mike Denny and council member

John Batsakis. In the gallery observing the meeting was Martha Ealy and her husband, council-member elect, Ray Ealy.

A considerable portion of the meeting was taken up with discussion over the establishment of the satellite campus in Petoskey. Fr. Iakovos explained the outcome of his work in the area which began in September of last year. After discussion, the council voted to support the opening of this campus and will underwrite a mass mailing to people from the mailing list residing in the north inviting them to the first service and an informational meeting. Fr. Iakovos has yet to set the date for that first meeting which is likely to be in early November.

In other news, the council heard reports from the finance committee and the stewardship committee as well as the final report concerning the Taste of Greece event. The finance committee reported that September saw a net surplus of \$1,288.14 with total revenues of \$10,972.60 and expenses of \$9,684.46. On the year, we are running a surplus of \$44.94. This is fantastic news given the deficits the community was running last year. The stewardship committee reported a total of \$71,949 in pledged monies received to the end of September. This leaves the parish with a balance to collect in the last three months of the year of \$ 34,401.

Doug Partlo gave a property report on research on a parcel of land that the council had asked him to look into. Also discussed was the rental of the additional room that the community currently uses for church school and the coffee hour as well as our adult classes. Doug will continue negotiations with our landlord as well as putting together costing data to help the council make a decision about expanding the lease to cover days other than Sunday. Currently the community rents the room for use on Sundays. Doug will report back at our next meeting.

There was also discussion of our upcoming stewardship drive for 2009 as well as questions about embarking upon our upcoming strategic planning exercise and capital campaign.

The parish council will meet again in special session with His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas during his visit as well as with Mrs. Laura Paulus this weekend.

PRE-HOLIDAY CLEARANCE SALE – All Bookstore merchandise 10% off during the month of October!! We are "clearing the decks" in anticipation of our Christmas merchandise which will be on display starting November 2nd. In addition to the usual books, CD's, icons and religious items, there are some "new" items which may have escaped your attention – such as the gold 3 bar lapel pin priced at \$ 3.00 each and an assortment of never offered before icons! Check out our display case for our newest offerings!

As an added convenience to our parishioners, we have established a MESSAGE/ORDER CENTER consisting of a bulletin board and a catalog rack. Now, bookstore staff need not be present for our parishioners to browse and place special orders using our catalogs and handy order request form. Of course, we stand ready to answer your questions in person following Sunday's Divine Liturgy!

Life-Chain Representatives. Last Sunday afternoon our church joined other area churches in the life-chain which involved persons standing along Grandview Blvd holding signs witnessing on behalf of the sanctity of life and calling on the general public to support the rights of the unborn. Members of our church participating in the event this year were: Helen Knapp, Holly Olszewski, Katerina and Dennis Stavros and Presvytera and Fr. Iakovos. Our people held icons of the Most Holy Theotokos and child standing silently by the Parkway testifying to God's great love and desire to give us life. Thanks to these people for representing our church in this important human rights event.