

SCRIPTURE LESSONS FOR THE DAY

Epistle Lesson: St. Paul's Second Epistle to Corinthians 9:6-11

BRETHREN, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything and may provide in abundance for every good work. As it is written, "He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures forever." He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your resources and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for great generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.

Gospel Lesson: St. Luke 7:11-16

At that time, Jesus went to a city called Nain, and his disciples and a great crowd went with him. As he drew near to the gate of the city, behold, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow; and a large crowd from the city was with her. And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep." And he came and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, "Young man, I say to you, arise." And the dead man sat up, and began to speak. And he gave him to his mother. Fear seized them all; and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has arisen among us!" and "God has visited his people!"

Spit –n-Polish—Captain's on the Bridge! We completed a month's worth of work in a little over a week in an effort to prepare for the visit of His Eminence, Metropolitan Nicholas. "Doing" windows, cleaning chandeliers, dusting and polishing were all part of the process. Organizing our storage room, office and community center; clearing out things we don't use, installing door hardware and brackets to hang vigil lamps, new music stand lights for our choir, glass table tops for the Holy Table and the Prothesis Table were all part of our preparations. And polish, polish, polish; "boots and brass" as Fr. Iakovos would say. While we're disappointed that his Eminence could not join us this weekend, we can take pleasure in just how beautiful this Temple looks to us. Thanks to every one of you who worked so hard to prepare for the visit of our Hierarch. Your dedication, tenacity and love for this community show by your willingness to step forward and work hard at the tasks of preparing for a visit like this. God bless you and reward you for your hard work. The place looks simply stunning!



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, 19 October 2008

Pastor: Presbyter Iakovos (Olechnowicz)

Pastor's e-Mail: iakovos@charter.net

Mailing Address: PO Box 2356

Church Phone: (231) 668-6583

Traverse City, MI 49685

Pastor's Cell Phone: (231) 590-2038

✠ PARISH CALENDAR OF EVENTS ✠

- Sunday 19 October 3rd Sunday of Luke. Prophet Joel.**
9 AM Orthros
10 AM Liturgy of St. Chrysostomos
11:15 AM Church School
11:30 AM Fellowship Hour
- Monday 20 October Great Martyr Artemios. St. Gerasimos of Cephalonia.**
No Choir Rehearsal or Bible Study This Evening.
- Tuesday 21 October St. Hilarion the Great.**
- Wednesday 22 October St. Averkios of Hieropolis.**
Strict Fast Day
5:30 PM 9th Hour and Vespers
- Thursday 23 October St. Iakovos (James) Brother of the Lord.**
9 AM Orthros
10 AM Liturgy of St. Chrysostomos
6:30 PM Orthodox Book Club Discussion Group Meeting Nr. 3
- Friday 24 October Great Martyr Arethas.**
Strict Fast Day
- Saturday 25 October Martyrs Marcionos and Martyrios.**
4:30 PM 9th Hour and Vespers
5:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

Sunday 26 October 6th Sunday of Luke. St. Demetrios the Myrrhghusher.

9 AM Orthros

10 AM Liturgy of St. Chrysostomos

11:15 AM Church School

11:30 AM Fellowship Hour

Christos Hountalas Falls Asleep. Christos Hountalas (84) of Aurora, IL, the father of Fr. Dean Hountalas, our Chancellor and pastor at Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church in Farmington Hills, MI, died 16th October in Chicago after a long illness.

Visitation will be on Sunday, October 19th from 2pm to 5 pm and 6 PM to 9 PM at the Healy Chapel, 332 West Downer Place, Aurora. The trisagion will be at 7 PM. Funeral Services on Monday, October 20th at 10:00 AM at the St. Athanasios Greek Orthodox Church, 1855 E. Fifth Ave, Aurora, IL.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made either to the St. Athanasios Church or the Philoxenia House, 725 West Center Street, Rochester, MN. 55902.

We pray that our Lord will grant eternal rest to the soul of Christos (Chris), and that He will give courage and strength to the entire Hountalas Family.

Due to the funeral, His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas is unable to join us for his scheduled visit this weekend. His Eminence hopes to establish another time for a visitation to our parish in the future.

Fr. Iakovos and Presvytera will be traveling to Aurora this afternoon in order to represent our parish and participate in the funeral service on Monday. Please note that there will be no choir rehearsal or Bible study tomorrow evening due to Father's travel itinerary.

Father will be returning to Traverse City on Tuesday early afternoon. Although absent from Traverse City during the next day or so, people are encouraged to contact him on his cell at 231-590-2038 if they require service.

Strategic Planning Informational Session a Success. Members of our parish council and stakeholders from the parish engaged in an energetic and information packed meeting with Laura Paulus of the Archdiocesan Department of Parish Development last night in our community room. Laura was invited to Traverse City to provide information about the services provided by her department with respect to assisting parishes in the development of a strategic plan that will drive growth, development and decision making. Laura brings many years of experience in this area from the "for profit" private sector working for Anderson Consulting. Lately, since 2004, she has been affiliated with the Archdiocese of America recognizing the importance of bringing effective management tools and strategies from the business world into the world of the Church. She is uniquely qualified to translate these approaches while insuring the overarching spiritual nature of work of this kind in the Church.

Present at this meeting were: Harriet Rennie, president; Karen Kain, vice-president; John Batsakis, council member; Helen Knapp, council member; Doug Partlo, council member; Bob Underwood, council member; Ray Ealy, council member-elect; Holly Olszewski, director of religious education; Dennis Stavros, music ministry; Helen Dalbo, stewardship chair; Donna Psaros, stewardship

committee; Fr. Iakovos and Presvytera. Also present for the meeting were stewards: John Psaros, Katerina Stavros, Martha Ealy, Douglas Hadley, and Elizabeth Husby.

The roughly two hour meeting consisted in a presentation by Ms. Paulus which explained the purpose of a strategic plan. Additionally, the presentation helped to highlight why it is important to have a strategic plan and how to go about generating a plan. She emphasized that it would be important to involve the entire parish in the process. She also communicated that this is a process that will take a great deal of effort on the part of everyone involved. It will require honesty, compromise and a willingness to listen to one another. The power point presentation which she stepped through with the attendees will be available electronically for review at a later date for those that have an interest in reviewing it.

Several of the participants at the meeting shared their experiences of the strategic planning process in the secular world highlighting some of the challenges (as well as the rewards) of completing this type of exercise. We also discussed the importance of having the Metropolitan involved in this process. There was discussion of incorporating his Eminence's vision for ministry in Northwestern Lower Michigan into our overall understanding of who we are and what we are to be about here. The group is hopeful that his Eminence will help us in this process.

The evening concluded with a question and answer period. In her summation, Ms. Paulus indicated that her department will lay out a proposed plan and timetable for our working through this process with their help. This proposal will be reviewed by our parish council and the members of this charter committee. Following review, we will make a decision about embarking upon this process. There will be a general meeting of our stewards to discuss this prior to our moving forward. Watch this space for more information over the next several weeks.

Thanks are extended to everyone who took time out of a busy schedule to be available for this meeting. Also thanks to all for their flexibility in view of the many time and personnel changes throughout the week.

Stewardship Meeting Today. The Stewardship Committee will meet in a special session with Laura Paulus this afternoon immediately following the conclusion of our fellowship hour. The objective of the meeting is to develop and fine tune aspects of the 2009 campaign making sure that we tailor our appeal to the unique conditions of our parish and her stewards. While the general part of the meeting will be open to any steward, at the point where the meeting begins to deal with specific strategies, the gallery will be dismissed in order to protect the confidentiality of our members.

Laura resides in the Chicago area but has a familiarity with Traverse City through her father's love of sailing (which he passed on to her) that gave them a great familiarity with our town and the Mackinac Island passage. Please give Laura a warm Lower Northwestern Michigan welcome as she joins us this morning for the holy services.

If you happen to sin—believe in the mercy of God; offer up repentance and keep going without being disturbed. St. Barsanuphios of Optina