

SCRIPTURE LESSONS FOR THE DAY

Epistle Lesson: St. Paul's Letter to Timothy 2:1-10

Timothy, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus, and what you have heard from me before many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No soldier on service gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to satisfy the one who enlisted him. An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. It is the hardworking farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops. Think over what I say, for the Lord will grant you understanding in everything.

Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, descended from David, as preached in my gospel, the gospel for which I am suffering and wearing fetters like a criminal. But the word of God is not fettered. Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain salvation in Christ Jesus with its eternal glory.

Gospel Lesson: Gospel According to St. Matthew 15:21-28

At that time, Jesus went to the district of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and cried, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely possessed by a demon." But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, "Send her away, for she is crying after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." And he answered, "It is not fair to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master's table." Then Jesus answered her, "O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire." And her daughter was healed instantly.

Frostbite Food Drive Wraps Up Today. Our parish participated in the food drive that began on Friday, 1 February and concludes today. In that time 14 parishioners provided over 56 man hours of labour in assisting in this project. The numbers on the collections are not in yet, but as of printing time, Fr. Fred Foundation was able to report one completely full semi-trailer and one half full 53' trailer. Thanks are extended to our people that participated in this important philanthropy. They are: Robert, Elisabeth and Samantha Dalbo (Kewadin); Angeliki and Roger Dunlap (Peninsula); Martha and Ray Ealy (Manton); Karen Kain (Kingsley); Holly Olszewski (Grawn); Fr. Iakovos and Presvytera Olechnowicz (Traverse City); Tina and Doug Partlo (Traverse City); and Tom Sebestyen (Peninsula).

On Anger... If you desire to attain perfection and rightly to pursue the spiritual way, you should make yourself a stranger to all sinful anger and wrath. If you want to correct your brother when he is doing wrong or to punish him, you must try to keep yourself calm; otherwise you yourself may catch the sickness you are seeking to cure and you may find that the words of the Gospel now apply to you: "Physician heal thyself" Luke 4:23 St. John Cassian in *The Philokalia On the Eight Vices*



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, 10 February 2008

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✠ PARISH CALENDAR OF EVENTS ✠

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| Sunday 10 February | Sunday of the Canaanite Woman. St. Haralambos.
9 AM Orthros and Liturgy of St. Chrysostomos
11:00 AM Church School
11:30 AM Fellowship Hour Hosted by Karen and Randy Kain
Church Maintenance Duty Fr. Iakovos and Presvytera |
| Monday 11 February | Hieromartyr Vlassios.
6:30 PM Enquirer's Class |
| Tuesday 12 February | St. Meletios, Archbishop of Antioch.
Noon Ladies Luncheon at Tuscan Bistro |
| Wednesday 13 February | St. Martinianos the Righteous.
Strict Fast Day
5:30 PM Regular Monthly Council Meeting |
| Thursday 14 February | St. Auxentios of the Mountain. St. Cyril, Apostle to the Slavs.
5 PM Paraklisis for the Ill |
| Friday 15 February | St. Onesimos of the 70.
Strict Fast Day |
| Saturday 16 February | Martyr Pamphilos and Companions.
4:30 PM Ninth Hour and Vespers
5:30 PM Choir Rehearsal |
| Sunday 17 February | Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee. Triodion Begins.
9 AM Orthros and Liturgy of St. Chrysostomos |

11:00 AM Church School
11:30 AM Fellowship Hour Hosted by Helen Knapp
Church Maintenance Duty Helen Knapp
1:30 PM- 4 PM Youth Sledding Party

Friends of the Metropolis Drive 2007 Results. We recently received a report of the participation of our parish in the 2007 "Friends" drive to assist our Metropolis. It was reported that 18 households of our parish responded to the invitation to assist in this drive; that is roughly 25% of our original mailing. These 18 households contributed a total of \$2,220. Not only is the level of participation and the amount collected stunning, but it is particularly noteworthy because this is the first year that Traverse City has been represented in this appeal. The Metropolitan extends his thanks to everyone for volunteering to help out with this important cause. Additionally, some individuals have already made pledges towards the 2008 drive which will take place in November.

The level of support for our Metropolitan is heartening, inspiring and one that helps to demonstrate that the faithful of Traverse City take the instruction of the Holy Fathers and the Holy Scriptures to heart in pledging support to our Metropolitan and his ministries. We look forward to a good year and continued service from the Office of the Metropolitan made possible through these generous donations.

Parish Plans "Field Trip" to Sterling-Hamtramck. Last week we reported that His Eminence, Metropolitan Kallistos of Diokleia will be the guest of our Metropolitan, His Eminence, Nicholas of Detroit. As part of an American tour that includes many stops across the country to lecture and deliver papers at various symposia, His Eminence will deliver a lecture on Monday, 18 February at St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church in Sterling Heights. The evening's activities will begin with a book signing at 6:30 PM followed by the celebration of Vespers at 7 PM. Following the vespers, His Eminence will speak on "Preparing for Great Lent".

In order to facilitate our parishioners' attendance at this event, we have reserved a block of rooms at the Comfort Inn in Warren, MI approximately 2 miles from the church. We are able to obtain these rooms which consist of two queen sized beds to accommodate up to four persons, plus free continental breakfast at a cost of \$67.49 plus tax per night. This is a special rate provided to us and is very reasonable for the area. Parishioners may car pool, or travel on their own to the function.

While Fr. Iakovos is involved in a Tuesday morning clergy meeting with Metropolitans Kallistos and Nicholas, we have planned a side trip for our faithful to the suburb of Hamtramck. For those interested in visiting and shopping in that section of the city it will provide a great opportunity for socialization and fellowship. The visit will include a trip to the Polish Art Center, which has agreed to provide us with a pisanki (Easter) egg decorating class at a cost of \$10 per person including all materials. The class, which lasts about two hours, will teach students how to make the beautiful Easter eggs (for which Slavic peoples are so famous) known as "pisanki". Also as part of the trip we will enjoy lunch at the Polish Village Café and shopping for kielbasa and other specialty meats to lay aside for Pascha at Srodek's Meat Market. We should be heading for home after lunch. Aside from the great opportunity to hear Metropolitan Kallistos, it should be a fun social time for our people as well. Persons interested in participating in the "field trip" and overnight are encouraged to speak with Fr. Iakovos for more details or to make reservations as soon as possible.

Parish Council Monthly Meeting. Our council will have its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday at 5:30 PM in Dining Room Nr. 3 located in the cafeteria section of the Munson Medical Center. Agendas, minutes of the prior meeting, and financial reports have been distributed to council members for review prior to the meeting. All council members are encouraged to attend. Apologies should be communicated to Judy Weston, council secretary, prior to the meeting. Stewards are welcome to attend our meetings.

Parish Ladies Plan Luncheon for Tuesday. Ladies of the parish are invited to join together for an informal luncheon to be held on Tuesday, 12 February, at the Tuscan Bistro located on 12930 West Bay Shore Drive on the West Bay. It is an opportunity for the ladies to get together and enjoy some fellowship and a pleasant meal. For more information on this event, please contact Kiki Sebestyen.

Youth Sledding Party Next Sunday. Our young people, and their friends, are invited to a sledding party (at a location to be determined) next Sunday between the hours of 1:30 PM and 4 PM. On hand will be some hot drinks, and various snacks and refreshments. Of course there will be plenty of sledding and skiing. At present we are trying to determine a location that will be convenient for all. The project is being coordinated by Holly Olszewski. Persons that would be interested in participating in this outing are asked to phone the rectory at 668-6583 so that we can zero in on a location. Everyone is welcome and we certainly expect to have snow!

2008 Stewardship Campaign Report. Our first pass at the 2008 stewardship campaign completed this past week. As of Friday, 8 February, we have received pledge responses from 36 households of the 72 packets that were mailed out on the 15th of January. Total pledged funds as of this printing amount to \$ 69,570. This leaves us \$50,430 needed to balance our budget. It is believed that most people that were of a mind to be participating stewards in the church have pledged already. Therefore, the council will consider alternative fund raising mechanisms to make up the deficit at their meeting to be held on Wednesday of this week. If you think of yourself as a steward and have not yet returned your pledge card, please do so as soon as possible. Blank cards are available in the back of the church or you may make your pledge by phoning our chairperson, Helen Dalbo at 264-9455.

Thank you to everyone that has participated in this important enterprise making a tangible and concrete commitment to support the expansion of Orthodoxy into Northwestern Michigan; with God's help, "**We Shall Do This!; Because God's Will is Unstoppable!**"

Choir Rehearsals On Saturday Afternoons. Our choir has organized to have informal rehearsals following vespers on Saturday in order to practice music for Great Lent and Holy Week as well as Pascha. Rehearsals will begin immediately following vespers and last until about 6:15 PM every week.

In Our Hearts and In Our Prayers. This week we offer up heartfelt prayers for the health and salvation of the following persons who are struggling with illness or difficult life situations. Please remember them in your prayers; they are: Brigette Barbas, John Batsakis, Nancy Brieghner (California), Niki and Alexander Chibucos (Chicago), Helen Dalbo, Eugene and Angeline, Barbara and Michael Dennos, Kalliope Drudge (Frankfort), Angeliki Dunlap, James Elliot (New York), Peter Farougi, Rebekah Foster (France), Bud Fromholz, Irene and Louis Govatos (Florida), Helen Knapp, Stephanie Long, Pamela and Leon Lysaght (Plymouth), Fr. Michael Michelapoulos (New York), Rebekah Olechnowicz (Ypsilanti), Angeliki O'Non, Costa Pappas (New York), Harriet Rennie, Jerry Slomba (Flint), Katerina Stavros and Judy Weston.