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May, 2018 Newsletter

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To schedule services, events and meetings:

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Beginning of May through May 12th

Fr. M will be on-call at the hospital this Wednesday evening, May 2nd.

Sisterhood Game Night This **Thursday, May 3rd** at **6:30 PM**, the sisterhood will host its 2nd game night! All women in the parish 18 and older are invited to attend for an evening of fun and fellowship!

Library Work Day The Library committee is having its next work day on **Saturday, May 5th** at **10 AM**. All committee members are encouraged to attend, but anyone who wishes to help is invited to do so!

Entrant's Group Class will meet on **Saturday, May 5th** at **4:45 PM** prior to Vespers.

Sunday, May 6th—Sunday of the Samaritan Woman
Matins—8:50 AM Church School—9:15 AM Liturgy—10 AM

Keyholder Meeting Following Liturgy on **Sunday, May 6th**, Anthony Schultz and Fr. M would like to meet with ALL Church keyholders to review procedure for locking and alarming the building. Anyone who has any keys, either for the Church, Rel. Ed. Building, or annex is encouraged to attend. Please let Fr. M know if you can't attend on this day.

Fr. M will be on-call at the hospital this Monday evening, May 7th.

Sisterhood Board Meeting The Sisterhood board meeting will take place on **Tuesday, May 8th** at **11 AM** in the Upper Room.

Parish Council Retreat All Parish Council members are reminded of the retreat taking place on **Saturday, May 12th**. The retreat is in the Upper Room, beginning at 9:30 AM and will conclude by 2 PM.

Entrant's Group Class The final Entrant's Group class of the semester will take place on **Saturday, May 12th** at **4:45 PM** in the Upper Room. Vespers will follow at 6 PM.

Youth Choir Rehearsal Pani Jodi will be holding a youth choir rehearsal on **Saturday, May 12th** at **5 PM** in the Church. This is the final rehearsal before the youth choir sings Liturgy on May 20th, so please make every effort to have your children attend that evening.

Week of May 13th-May 19th

Sunday, May 13th—Sunday of the Man born Blind

Matins—8:50 AM Church School--9:15 AM Liturgy—10 AM

Happy Mother's Day A happy Mother's Day to all of the mothers, grandmothers and Godmothers of our parish and parish family. *May God grant to His servants, all of our mothers, grandmothers, and Godmothers, peace, health, long life and furtherance in all good things and preserve them for many years!*

We also remember in our prayers all of the departed mothers, grandmothers, and Godmothers of our parish family. *May God grant eternal rest and blessed repose to all of the departed mothers, grandmothers and Godmothers of our parish family in a place of brightness and repose, where there is no pain, sorrow, nor sighing, but life everlasting. Make their memory, O Lord, to be eternal!*

Feast of the Ascension This week, 40 days after Pascha, we celebrate our Lord's Ascension into heaven—one of the 12 major Feast days of the Church year.

- Great Vespers will be celebrated at **6:30 PM** on the eve of the Feast (Wednesday, May 16th). This will include the Litya prayers and the blessing of bread, wheat, wine and oil.
- Festal Divine Liturgy will be celebrated at **9:30 AM** on the morning of the Feast (Thursday, May 17th). All parish members are encouraged to at least attend one of these services.

Fr. M will be on-call at the hospital this Wednesday evening, May 16th. This will be his final on-call of this 2nd unit of CPE.

Book Club Our parish book club will have its next meeting on **Saturday, May 19th at 4 PM** in the Good Shepherd Religious Education building. If you plan to attend, we hope you will have read the Gospel of St. Luke in the new translation of the New Testament done by David Bentley Hart.

Vespers will be served on Saturday evening, May 19th at 6 PM.

Week of May 20th-May 26th

Sunday, May 20th—Holy Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council; Afterfeast of the Ascension

Matins—8:50 AM Church School—9:15 AM Liturgy—10 AM

Youth Choir Singing Liturgy Our parish youth choir, under the direction of **Pani Jodi Moriak**, is singing the responses to the Divine Liturgy today as part of Church school recognition day. We are thankful to Pani Jodi for her work with the children over the course of the Church school year, and are very proud of the hard work the youth choir has put in to be prepared to undertake this today.

Church School Recognition Day Today is the final day of our Church school classes, and the day that we recognize the hard work that our students have put in over the course of the year. Our thanks to **Michele Paduchik**, our Church school coordinator, and all of our teachers for their hard work and dedication. Thank you to all of the students and to their parents for their efforts in getting their children to class. We look forward to hearing about what they did this year, specifically, the Saint that each class focused on.

Junior O Club The Junior O Club is holding its May meeting after Liturgy today, which will include the opportunity to spend time with our Associate Pastor, **Fr. Stephen Frase**. A reminder that ALL parish children and young adults ages 10-18 are automatically a part of the group, and are invited and encouraged to participate in not just the meetings, but the fellowship events that the group holds on a regular basis. If you have any questions, please speak with Joseph Mann.

Parish Update Meeting Our next parish update meeting will take place after Liturgy today in the Upper Room. Parish Council will be providing an update and information primarily in relation to the work it has been doing since our Annual Meeting as it relates gathering information about the needs of our Church, our properties, etc. All parish members are invited and encouraged to attend.

Great Vespers for the Feast of Pentecost will take place this coming **Saturday, May 26th at 6 PM**. As one of the 12 major feasts of the Church year, the service of Great Vespers will also include the Litya prayers, and the blessing of bread, wheat, wine and oil.

Remainder of May

Sunday, May 27th—Holy Pentecost

Festal Matins—8:50

Festal Divine Liturgy 10 AM

Kneeling Prayers will take place at the conclusion of today's Liturgy, marking the first time we can kneel since Pascha.

Fast Free Week This week following Pentecost is a fast free week in the Church. We are not required to fast this Wednesday or Friday as we normally would.

Additional Announcements

Update on Fr. M's CPE Program

Brothers and Sisters,

On Friday, May 25th, I completed my 2nd unit of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) at Nationwide Children's Hospital. Completing 2 units means I have finished Level 1 of CPE (these levels are determined by the competencies you are asked to meet by the end of each level). This experience has been transformative and healing for me in many ways that I cannot completely spell out in this simple announcement. It has, without a shadow of a doubt, been a blessing and a great impact on how I approach things as a pastor.

I want to thank the parish for their support of me during this process. Many of you have offered so many kind words to me that have meant a great deal to me. I was hesitant of course, with the fear that this program would interfere with my parish responsibilities. Between your understanding and the hospital's flexibility, especially during this 2nd unit, I am pleased with how things have gone. I especially have to thank our Associate Pastor for his flexibility and ability to serve for me when needed during my on-call requirements. It is hard for me to imagine being able to have done this without him.

Looking ahead, the call to continue with the program is very strong, as I know pursuing Level 2 (which would require two more units of CPE), can only continue to be a benefit to me. Having gone through the process and knowing what to expect, I wanted to inform the parish of my intention to return to the hospital in the fall for a 3rd unit and a first one as part of the level 2 program. Whether I will do a 4th unit next spring is something I haven't given serious thought to at this time.

--Fr. M

Additional Announcements

Executive Secretary Position As you are aware of by now, Sub-Deacon Pete and Chelsea Simko will be departing as Pete begins his studies at St. Tikhon's Seminary in the fall. As a result of this, Chelsea's position on parish council as executive secretary will need to be filled. This position has been of great benefit to Fr. M, council and the parish as a whole. Chelsea has put great effort particularly into keeping the parish calendar of events organized to avoid conflicts as much as possible. She has also helped council organize its tasks and responsibilities through the use of dropbox, If you are well-organized and interested in serving the parish in this capacity, please see Fr. M as soon as possible. The need to fill this position soon is great and we want to ensure that there is plenty of time for the new executive secretary to meet with Chelsea and to potentially begin attending council meeting soon to help get them acclimated.

Outreach/FOCUS updates Recent conversations with Nathan Smith have led to the conclusion that the Jonah House project will not be pursued in the near future. Nathan will continue to be involved in the Outreach meals, but will do so to a lesser degree next year (approximately March, 2019). We also met with a representative of FOCUS North America, and it does not appear that with the Outreach program alone, FOCUS North America is needed in Columbus at this time. A meeting with the FOCUS Columbus Advisory Board will be happening soon to ensure whether there is a desire to move forward with FOCUS Columbus at this time. How this impacts our parish is that we need to prepare to view the Outreach program as under our watch more formally again (and not necessarily as a FOCUS Columbus program). From a more long term standpoint, Charles Robbins continues to sit on council representing outreach, but we are looking for someone in the parish with a heart for outreach to consider serving on council to assist with keeping the Outreach program running in an organized fashion, with the continued support of other local Orthodox parishes. In this position, spearheading other outreach opportunities within the parish that may present themselves in the future could be considered. There is not an immediate goal to fill this position, but this is something for faithful in our parish to prayerfully consider over the remainder of the calendar year. Please see Fr. M if you have any questions.

Prayer Page

Many Years to those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries in May.
(4/29-5/5): Greg Pawlack (4/29), Marsha Mitchell (5/2) and John Supina (5/5), celebrating their birthdays this week.

(5/6-5/12): Colleen Ross Church (5/7), Lillian Marie Church (5/7), Maria Arn (5/8), Luke Kankia (5/10), Jude Vest (5/10), Bill Brown, Sr. (5/11), and Patrick Meyer (5/11) celebrating birthdays this week and to Ruby and Steph Polinsky (5/9) and Tom and Cindy Chiatlas (5/10), celebrating their anniversaries this week.

(5/13-5/19): Zachary Cain (5/13), Kathie Schmoll (5/14), George Tamer (5/16), and Sophia Andromalos-Dale (5/18) celebrating their birthdays and to Anthony and Tammy Schultz (5/19) & J and Anna Neth (5/19) celebrating their anniversaries this week.

(5/20-5/26): Doris Blischak (5/21), Madeline Meyer (5/22), Simeon Smith (5/23), Peter Homik (5/25) and Phillip Schmoll (5/25), celebrating their birthdays and to Fr. Stephen and Matushka Elizabeth (5/27) celebrating their anniversary.

(5/27-6/3): Natalya Zarkov (5/28), Samuel Mann (5/29), Will Meyer (5/29), Lorii Wallace (5/30), and David Kankia (6/1), celebrating their birthdays, Fr. James Sizemore (6/2) on the anniversary of his ordination and to Bob and Amanda Paduchik (5/27), Andrew and Elva Hill (5/27), Dn. Joseph and Mat. Kyra Shaluha (5/29), & Joe and Luba Ambrose (6/2) celebrating their anniversaries.

For the Health and Well Being Of The catechumens Fawn and Benjamin, for Brittany and Noah and their newborn son, Roman Ignatius, Nina, Margaret, Mary Evelyn, Deborah, Anna and Carrie and their unborn children, the priest Daniel, the priest James, the priest John, Nathan, Cara, Pearlene, Kelly, Jennifer, Rosemary, Mark, Michelle and Eliana, those who participate in our outreach program.

Prayer List Policy Many in our parish aren't aware of this, but generally, I will keep names on the prayer list for three months, unless I am told they can be taken off sooner, or if I know there is a long term need. So, I have removed names from the list. Please let me know if there are names that need to be placed back on, and I will try to remind everyone of this policy on a regular basis.

-Fr. M

Policies, Procedures and Parish Life

Confession Prayers and Reflections take place at least four times during the year (at the beginning of the 4 major fasting periods) to assist us in being prepared for the Sacrament of Confession. Regular participation in the Sacrament of Confession is a vital part of our spiritual lives. Confessions are heard after Vespers on Saturdays or by appointment.

FOCUS Columbus Feed the People! community meals take place in the Annex on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 11 AM-1 PM and Sundays from noon-1 PM. A food pantry is also open whenever meals are taking place. Speak with Fr. Matthew or a member of FOCUS Columbus to get involved: columbusfocus@gmail.com

Charitable Giving Our charities fund is used to support needs in the parish, the community, and throughout the Church, both nationally and abroad. Please see Barbara Gossman if you have any questions.

Do you know of someone who is sick, hospitalized or a shutin? Please let Fr. Matthew know as soon as possible!

The Prayer Group offers daily prayer for those in need. Please submit prayer requests to Connie Wargo at cgw00728@yahoo.com

St. Elizabeth Group sends cards to parishioners and others who are seriously ill, hospitalized, or unable to leave the home. Please see Kathy Johnson for information.

General Parish Concerns can be brought to Fr. Matthew or Tom Chiatlas for discussion at monthly parish council meetings. Council does not address issues of concern via email due to privacy issues, sensitivity of topics and the potential for misunderstanding.

College Students: Make St. Gregory's your spiritual home away from home. Contact OSU's OCF spiritual advisor, Fr. Stephen Frase or Fr. Matthew.

Entrant's Group Classes are offered two Saturdays a month at 4:45 PM during school months by Fr. Stephen, Fr. Matthew and Karen Brown. Classes are ideal for those inquiring about Orthodoxy, or who are new to the parish, as well as anyone who enjoys learning more about their faith!

Children Under the age of 13 should be accompanied by an adult when going upstairs during services, and should not be in the Church or other parts of the church property unaccompanied during coffee hour. Thank you for your adherence to this policy.