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November, 2018 Newsletter

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To schedule services, events and meetings:

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Sunday, October 28th 22nd Sunday after Pentecost

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

Apple Pie Sale The Cap City O Club & Jr. O Club is baking apple pies! We are taking orders between October 28 and November 11 with delivery on November 18—just in time for Thanksgiving! Cost is \$15 per pie. There's an order form on the bulletin board by the coffee hour table or email Tammy at tammyschultz@gmail.com. Thanks for your support!

Baptism Our prayers and best wishes are extended to **Walter Gary Joseph Smith**, who will be baptized in water and the Spirit this coming **Saturday, November 3rd**. The baptism will begin at 10 AM. Congratulations are extended to Walter's parents, Greg and Mary Evelyn, big brother Simeon, big sister Frannie and his Godparents, Juliana and Cooper Breden.

Orthodoxy 101 Our next class will take place this **Saturday, November 3** at **4:45 PM**.

Sunday, November 4th 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

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

O Club Meeting Our parish O Club will be meeting today following Liturgy. All O Club members are asked to attend.

Sisterhood Board Meeting The board will meet this Tuesday, November 6th at 10 AM in the Upper Room.

Family Bowling Night The Jr. O Club will be hosting a parish family bowling night on **Friday, November 9th** at Capri Bowling Lanes beginning at 7 PM. The address is 5860 Roche Dr., Columbus 43229. The cost per game is \$10 which includes bowling shoes, and the Jr. O Club will provide pizza. We need to know how many will be attending in order to keep our lane reservation. Please RSVP to Joe Mann at jbmamm@vorys.com if you are able to attend. For parents of children under 10, please plan to stay at the bowling alley. For parents dropping off, please plan to pick up by 8:30 PM.

Book Club Meeting Our parish book club will be meeting on **Saturday, November 10th at 4 PM**. The book being discussed will be *The Winter Pascha* by Fr. Thomas Hopko. This will be a great book and topic as we prepare to enter the Nativity fast, so please make plans to attend!

Sunday, November 11th--24th Sunday after Pentecost

Church School 9:15 AM Hours 9:40 AM Liturgy 10:00 AM

Chili Cookoff The Scholarship Committee is hosting its annual chili cookoff fundraiser after Liturgy today! Everyone is invited to taste test all of the delicious chili recipes that have been prepared and offer donations to support your favorites! Whoever raises the most money for their chili is the winner and all proceeds go to the scholarship fund!

Jr. O Club Meeting Our Jr. O Club will be having its monthly meeting after Liturgy today. All members are invited and encouraged to attend.

Parish Council Meeting The November meeting of the parish council will take place this **Thursday, November 15** at **6:30 PM**. Council members are reminded to have all information in the dropbox by Tuesday, November 13th.

Orthodoxy 101 Our next class will be held this coming **Saturday, November 17th** at **4:45 PM**.

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Nativity Fast Begins

Brothers and Sisters,

The 40-day Nativity fast begins on Thursday, November 15th. With the hectic nature of the season, the Church again gives us an opportunity to pray, fast and give alms, and focus on the impending miracle of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ's birth, and how we might draw closer to Him in our spiritual lives. Take every opportunity that the fast affords you to engage in the spiritual life of the Church.

At a time of the year where there is so much focus on what people want, let us rather focus on what we can give. Let us take the time to slow down and contemplate the awesome gift that God gives to us in His only begotten Son taking on flesh for our sins and our salvation.

The fast is a great time to reflect on our sins and the things that are holding us back from God. To that end, consider participating in the Sacrament of confession during the 40 days. I will plan to be available prior to Vespers most Saturdays during the fast (beginning at 5 PM) as well as after Vespers.

May God's blessing with all of you and your families and on us as a parish family during this holy time of year!

In Christ,

Fr. M

Sunday, November 18th

25th Sunday after Pentecost

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

Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple

This week, we will celebrate one of the 12 major feast days of the Church, commemorating the Most Holy Theotokos being brought to the temple by her parents, Joachim and Anna as a child. Some things to keep in mind as we celebrate this feast:

- **Great Vespers with Litya** will be celebrated on the eve of the feast, **Tuesday, November 20** beginning at **6:30 PM**.
- **Girls and young women participation.** As we have done in the past, during the Vespers service, when the festal icon is processed into the center of the Church, the girls and young women of the parish are invited to lead the procession with candles in imitation of the maidens who held candles to light the path for the Theotokos as she made her way to the temple.
- **Prayers of Thanksgiving.** Due to the timing of the Feast this year and its proximity to the holiday, we will offer prayers of Thanksgiving during the Tuesday evening Vespers service, in lieu of the Thanksgiving Moleben normally celebrated on the eve of Thanksgiving.
- **Festal Divine Liturgy** for the feast will be celebrated on **Wednesday, November 21** at **9 AM**.

Sunday, November 25th

26th Sunday after Pentecost—Leavetaking of the Entry of the Theotokos into the Temple

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

Fr. M's On-Call Schedule for the month of November

During the month of November, Fr. M will be on-call at Children's Hospital on the following dates:

- Saturday, November 3 (8 AM until 8 AM the following morning)
- Wed., November 21 (4 PM until 8 AM the following morning)
- Sunday, November 25 (8 AM until 8 AM the following morning)
- Friday, November 30 (4 PM until 8 AM the following morning)

As We Celebrate Thanksgiving

Protopresbyter Alexander Schmemmann, the late Dean of St. Vladimir's Seminary, celebrated the Divine Liturgy for the last time on Thanksgiving Day, 1983—25 years ago. Two weeks later, on December 13, he fell asleep in the Lord. As is well known, Father Alexander had devoted his entire life to teaching, writing and preaching about the Eucharist—the Greek word eucharist means thanksgiving. At the conclusion of the Liturgy, Father Alexander took from his pocket a short, written sermon, in the form of a prayer, which he proceeded to read. This was uncharacteristic of Father Alexander, since he never wrote his liturgical homilies, but delivered them extemporaneously. These were his words, which proved to be the last ever spoken by him from the ambo in Church.

Thank You, O Lord!

Everyone capable of thanksgiving is capable of salvation and eternal joy. Thank You, O Lord, for having accepted this Eucharist, which we offered to the Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and which filled our hearts with joy, peace and righteousness of the Holy Spirit. Thank You, O Lord, for having revealed Yourself unto us and given us the foretaste of Your Kingdom. Thank You, O Lord, for having untied us to one another in serving You and Your Holy Church. Thank You, O Lord, for having helped us to overcome all difficulties, tensions, passions, temptations and restored peace, mutual love and joy in sharing the communion of the Holy Spirit. Thank You, O Lord, for the sufferings You bestowed upon us, for they are purifying us from selfishness and reminding us of the “one thing needed”. Your eternal Kingdom. Thank You, O Lord, for having given us this country where we are free to worship You. Thank You, O Lord, for this school, where the name of God is proclaimed. Thank You, O Lord, for our families: husbands, wives and, especially, children who teach us how to celebrate Your holy Name in joy, movement and holy noise. Thank You, O Lord, for everyone and everything. Great are You, O Lord, and marvelous are Your deeds, and no word is sufficient to celebrate Your miracles. Lord, it is good to be here! Amen!

2019 Parish Pledge Drive

Brothers and Sisters,

As we draw closer to the conclusion of another year, we begin to turn our attention to the year ahead. First, however, we offer thanks for the blessings of the year nearly past, and to all of the faithful of our parish for your generous support of our parish in time, talent and treasure.

As we prepare for our journey through the Nativity Fast, let us all reflect on how we might best support our parish in the year that will soon be upon us.

Financial Pledge At our October parish council meeting, our treasury presented a preliminary budget aimed at addressing the needs of our parish. Through your pledges, we are not just able to “pay the bills” but to support our clergy and the many and varied ministries that are a part of the day to day life of our parish. Pledge cards will be available the first Sunday of November and we ask that you make every effort to turn in your pledge card by the end of the calendar year. As you prayerfully consider your pledge, we ask you to keep in mind the following significant change in how our Diocese will be receiving support from the parish level. At the recently completed Diocesan Assembly, a proposal which has been in the works for the last several years was adopted to move away from a per member “head tax” and for parish’s to submit monies to the Diocese as a percentage of their income. This percentage has been set at 13%. In the past, we had a set number per member that we asked people to contribute for this per member “head tax” or assessment. We simply ask that you consider this number when you make your pledge so we can be assured that we have the necessary funds to support the Diocese as well. I will be sending our more information about this, but please direct any questions you might have to myself or to Anthony Schultz.

Time and Talent In the weeks ahead, one of our council members, **Mark Dravillas** will be sending out a volunteer questionnaire in an effort to find out where people are already volunteering their time and talent in the parish as well as identify areas of interest for new volunteers. We hope that this will help all of us prayerfully consider how we might be able to help the parish through our offering of time and talent in ways both big and small.

Thank you and may God bless You!

In Christ,
Fr. M

Prayer Page

Many Years to those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries in October. **(10/28-11/3):** Demetrios Andromalos-Dale (10/30), Dylan James Reeves (11/1), Ian Michael Reeves (11/3) and Patrick Ross (11/3) celebrating their birthdays and to Kevin and Eleni Pisle (10/31) and Stephen and Lori Lyn Jogan (11/2), celebrating their anniversaries this week.

(11/4-11/10): Victor Rentel (11/4), Stephen Klipfel (11/4), Besarion Kankia (11/5), Anna McKnight Matney (11/6), Jeremiah Arn (11/8), Aymen Naguib (11/8) and Diane Tupps (11/10) celebrating their birthdays and to Noah & Brittany Kritz (11/6), and Ron & Diane Tupps (11/8) celebrating their anniversaries.

(11/11-11/17): Alexander Michael Shaluha (11/11), Theodore Hrinko (11/14), Marina Shikhova (11/14), Billy Brown (11/15) and Gabrielle Smith (11/16), celebrating their birthdays and to Fr. Matthew Moriak (11/14), celebrating the anniversary of his ordination.

(11/18-11/25): Karen Naguib (11/20), Kelly Reeves (11/21), Kristan Brown Jacobs (11/21), Bronwyn Lewis (11/21), Steve Gunderson (11/22), Diane Troianov (11/24) and Alexis Brisbane (11/25), celebrating their birthdays.

For the Health and Well Being Of The catechumens Fawn, Benjamin, and Stacey; Anna and J and their newborn daughter, Cora Ruth; Erica and Eleni and their unborn children, the priest Daniel, the priest James, the priest John, the priest Stephen, Mat. Deborah, Mark, Mary, George, Diane, Amy, Robert, Matthew, Nathan, Cara, Lucy, Michael, Pearlene, Kelly, Jennifer, Mark, George, Diane, Michelle and Eliana, those who participate in our outreach program.

Prayer List Policy Names are kept 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. Please let me know if there are names that need to be placed back on, or that can be taken off.

-Fr. M

Policies, Procedures and Parish Life

Outreach Program 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 to get involved.

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 shut-in? 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 Chiatelas 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.

Orthodoxy 101 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.