

The Apostles' Joy

www.holyapostleschurch.org

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October 2005



HOLY APOSTLES
ORTHODOX MISSION

Temporarily Worshipping at:

“Mission Central”

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Christ is in our Midst!

My brothers and sisters in Christ!

I greet you in this, our Mission's maiden voyage newsletter. Much has happened and continues to happen in our community, and this newsletter is a chance and opportunity for us to make sure everyone is informed!

The events of the last few months have given all of us a reason to be thankful. We have all seen the absolute horror and pain that so many of our fellow Americans are going through in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Especially this month, having the feast of the Protection (Pokrov) of the Theotokos, we ask the Mother of God to protect and defend *“all those who call on you with faith.”*

Be assured of my continue prayers for all of you, and I ask you to remember me and our community in yours.

With love and God's blessing,



Our Mission @ a glance:

Eis Polla Eti Dhespota! We offer our prayers and support for our soon-to-be installed Bishop TIKHON of Philadelphia and Eastern Pennsylvania. The official celebration is on Saturday, October 29, at St. Stephen the Proto-Martyr Cathedral in Northeast Philadelphia. As our new father in Christ, we ask the Lord to protect and preserve him in his arch pastoral ministry for many years!

Orthodoxy 101 Class: Starting on Tuesday, October 11, we will begin our "Orthodoxy 101" Catechism class meeting at "Mission Central" at 7pm. If you cannot make every class, don't worry, still come when you can! We meet for about an hour and then have time for any questions. It is a way for inquirers to learn more about the Church, and even for veteran Orthodox Christians to brush up on their faith — join us! October's Dates are: the 11th, the 18th, and the 25th.

OCA Mission Planting Grant: As mentioned last Sunday, our Mission has applied for the National Church's Mission Planting Grant. With it, we may be eligible for temporary assistance from the National Church. In the coming weeks we will know more as to our status in possibly receiving this assistance. Please keep this in your prayers.

Mission Council: The monthly meeting of the Mission Council will meet Thursday, October 20, at 7 pm at the Linnehan residence.

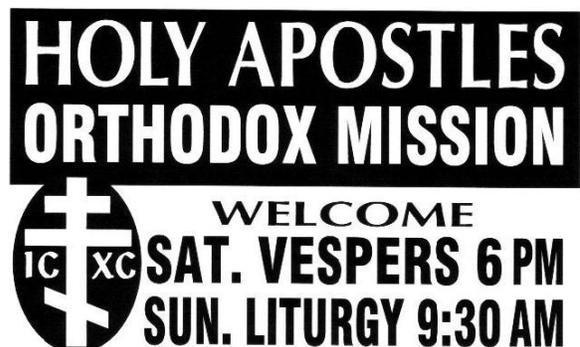
Search Committee: Recently the Mission Council met and decided to re-establish a search committee for a more permanent site in which to serve our parish community's growing spiritual needs. If you feel you could be a help to this effort, please do not hesitate to volunteer and offer your services to our Church!

Do you buy your groceries at Giant?

If so, please consider participating in our parish's new fundraiser. We are able to buy Giant Gift Cards at a discount and sell them to you at face value, painlessly raising money for the work of the Church! The gift cards come in various denominations and have a declining balance. Just use them like a credit or debit card. If you are interested in buying one or have questions about the program, please see Elizabeth Gaither.

Disaster Relief: For anyone who desires to contribute to the continuing disaster relief for the aftermath of the devastation caused by the Hurricanes in the Gulf, information can be found at the International Orthodox Christian Charities (I.O.C.C.) website: www.iocc.org

Look for a sign! Our Mission recently acquired a parish sign showing the world where we meet. So many people have said that they drove right past "Mission Central" not knowing where we were meeting for worship. Now we have a beautiful sign that welcomes visitors and gives information about services times. Come and see!

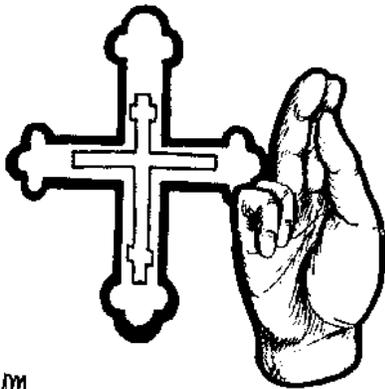


The Sign of the Cross

No symbol has expressed the mentality of Christians more faithfully than the Cross. The Cross is the concrete expression of the Christian mystery, of victory through defeat, of glory through humiliation, of life through death. It is the symbol of God becoming man to die and to save His creation.

The early Christians hesitated to openly use the Cross as the symbol of faith, since the pagan culture they lived in could not understand such "foolishness." When the Cross did appear, it was usually disguised. However, once the persecution of the Church had ceased in the fourth century, the Cross slowly emerged as the sign of the Christian People.

Despite their reticence to use the Cross as a public symbol, Christians made wide use of it as early as the second century to sign themselves on the forehead. In the second century, Tertullian reports: "In our travels and movements, in all our coming in and going out...whatever employment occupies us, we mark our foreheads with the Sign of the Cross." In the fourth century, St. Cyril of Jerusalem writes: "Let us not be ashamed to confess the Crucified. Let the Cross be our seal, made with boldness by our fingers on our brow and in everything..."



In the Sixth century East, the Sign of the Cross began to be traced with a larger sign on the body. The succeeding centuries saw further modifications from the Eastern tradition, due to a desire to explicitly profess the faith in this action. Eventually, the form common today became standard.

Today, Orthodox Christians make the Sign of the Cross in this manner: the thumb, index and middle fingers of the right hand are extended out and joined together, and the third and little fingers are folded down onto the palm. The hand is brought from the forehead to the "heart" (generally mid-stomach), then to the right shoulder, and finally to the left shoulder.

This simple sign is full of theological significance. The three fingers joined together represent the Holy Trinity. The other two fingers symbolize the two natures of Christ: Human and Divine. The form of the action itself has dual significance. First, tracing the Cross on ourselves is a sanctification of our whole person: our mind, heart, and actions. Second, we are reminded that Christ descended from heaven to earth (top to bottom), and we pray to be on His right at His Awesome and Second Coming and not cast away with those on His left (right to left). In Biblical language, the right always represents that which is good, and the left that which is evil.

Since the Sign of the Cross is a sign of reverence and prayer, we should always do it in a reverent manner, and never horribly or sloppily. It should lead our whole being into an awareness of God's presence and His eternal love for us. Always remember that this action professes our Faith!

- taken from a similar article by Rdr. David. M. Mastroberte



“A cheerful heart is good medicine.”
(Proverbs. 17:22a)

A new pastor was visiting the homes of his parishioners. At one house it seemed obvious that someone was at home, but no answer came to his repeated knocks at the door. Therefore, he took out his business card and wrote on the back of it: "Revelation 3:20" (which reads: "Behold, I stand at the door and knock.") and stuck it in the door. When the offering was processed the following Sunday, he found that his card had been returned. Added to it was this cryptic message: "Genesis 3:10." Reaching for his Bible to check out the citation, he broke up in gales of laughter. Genesis 3:10 reads, "I heard Thy voice in the garden and I was afraid for I was naked, and I hid myself." 😊

Kitchen Corner: Pumpkin Roll

CAKE ROLL Ingredients:

- | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------|--|
| 3 eggs | 2 tsp. cinnamon | 2/3 can pumpkin (29oz.)-not mix |
| 1 cup sugar | 1 tsp. ginger | 1 cup finely chopped-walnuts or pecans |
| 1 tsp. lemon juice | 1/2 tsp. nutmeg | powdered sugar for sprinkling |
| 3/4 cup flour | 1/2 tsp. salt | |
| 1 tsp. baking powder | | |

FILLING Ingredients:

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 cup powdered sugar | 1 8oz. pkg. cream cheese |
| 4 tbl. butter | 1/2 tsp. vanilla |

Directions to make CAKE ROLL:

- Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Grease & flour 15x10x1 jelly roll pan
- Beat eggs on high speed-3 min. Add sugar and beat until smooth.
- Stir in pumpkin and lemon juice. *In separate bowl*-mix all dry ingredients: flour, baking powder, cinnamon, ginger, nutmeg, and salt.
- Fold the dry ingredients mixture into the pumpkin mixture.
- Spread into pan. Sprinkle evenly with nuts. Bake @ 375 degrees for 15 min.
- Take out, cover with a tea towel over pan, and then place a board on top.
- Turn upside down, take pan off and sprinkle with powdered sugar.
- Roll up with tea towel (w/length of towel). Let sit 45 min. until cool.

Directions to make FILLING:

- Beat all filling ingredients until smooth. Unroll cake roll. Ice cake with filling.
- Roll back up without towel. Wrap in plastic wrap and chill in refrigerator.



An ORTHODOX approach to HALLOWEEN:

“Preserve the good in goodness, and make the evil be good by Thy goodness...”
 - from the Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

A common concern for Orthodox Christians this time of year is whether or not Halloween is an appropriate holiday for our children to participate in. Oftentimes we see in the media that this is a feast of Satan, a “pagan” commemoration or some other thing. If that was all it was I would agree that this should be avoided at all cost.

The feast of Christmas was originally a pagan holiday commemorating the birthday of the sun (note S-U-N) as it was the time of year in which the days began to become longer. The Church used this already established practice and made it the feast of the birthday of the Son (S-O-N) of God. We have the ability to change opinions, culture, and even creation with the help and blessing of God. I think that how we approach things in life is critical to our spiritual development. If we approach this as a demonic holiday, well then there is one more thing we hand over to the Evil One. If we, however, claim it as our own, and make it a family event, getting out to know our neighbors, then it becomes

something completely different. Something bright, something wholesome, and something that would be blessed by God. In terms of dressing up in costumes, it is true many people wear ugly masks, of monsters and evil characters. Again, don't give in to it. Have the kids dress as something positive, a policeman, a firefighter, a teacher, a nurse, or even a priest (!!!). Take that which has been misused and abused and reclaim it for the Church. Besides which, any opportunity to get free candy can't be all bad...

- Fr. Tim



October 2005

Holy Apostles Orthodox Mission, Mechanicsburg, PA

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>"Chosen by God in a turbulent time, Thou didst glorify God in complete holiness; And didst attain greatness through humility and didst show forth the power of God through simplicity and piety; Thou didst lay down thy life for the Church and Her people, O Holy Confessor and Patriarch, Father Tikhon, pray to Christ God with Whom Thou wast also crucified that He may save our souls."</p> <p>- Troparion to St. Pat. Tikhon, Tone 1</p>						<p>1 Pokrov</p> <p>Set Up, Choir, & Altar Server Class: 5pm Great Vespers & Confessions: 6pm</p>
<p>2 TONE 6</p> <p>Divine Liturgy 9:30am Fellowship & Church School following Altar Server Team 1</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>St. Tikhon's 35th Annual Fall Lecture Series 7pm</p>	<p>5 Fast Day</p>	<p>6</p> <p>St. Innocent of Moscow</p>	<p>7 Fast Day</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Teacher Training Lancaster, PA Set Up, Choir, & Altar Server Class: 5pm Great Vespers w/Litiya & Confessions: 6pm</p>
<p>9 TONE 7</p> <p>St. Pat. Tikhon Divine Liturgy 9:30am Fellowship & Church School following Altar Server Team 2</p>		<p>11</p> <p>Orthodoxy 101 Class 7pm @ "Mission Central"</p>	<p>12 Fast Day</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Sitka Ikon of the Theotokos 7pm Akathist @ Christ the Saviour Harrisburg</p>	<p>14 Fast Day</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Choir Workshop Bethlehem PA, 9am Set Up: 5pm Great Vespers & Confessions: 6pm</p>
<p>16 TONE 8</p> <p>Divine Liturgy 9:30am Fellowship & Church School following Altar Server Team 1</p>		<p>18 Evangelist St. Luke</p> <p>Orthodoxy 101 Class 7pm @ "Mission Central"</p>	<p>19 Fast Day</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Mission Council Meeting 7pm @ the Linnehan Residence</p>	<p>21 Fast Day</p>	<p>22 Kazan Ikon</p> <p>St. Demitrios Memorial Saturday Set Up & Choir: 5pm Great Vespers, Panakhida & Confessions: 6pm</p>
<p>23 TONE 1</p> <p>Divine Liturgy 9:30am Fellowship & Church School following Altar Server Team 2</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Orthodox/Catholic Dialogue Meeting Noon in Harrisburg Orthodoxy 101 Class 7pm @ "Mission Central"</p>	<p>26 Fast Day</p> <p>Greatmartyr & Healer Demitrios O.C.C.S.C.P Mtg. Lancaster 7pm</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 Fast Day</p> <p>29</p> <p>Bishop Tikhon's Installation: St. Stephen's Cathedral, Philadelphia</p>  <p>Set Up: 5:30pm Great Vespers & Confessions: 6:30pm</p>	
<p>30 TONE 2</p> <p>Divine Liturgy 9:30am Fellowship & Church School following Altar Server Team 1 FOCA Banquet 1pm Christ the Saviour</p>	<p>31</p> <p>St. John Kochurov of Ghicago</p> <p>halloween</p>					
<p>Εἰς Πόλλα Ἐτι Δεσποτά!</p>						



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Prayers for those who are Sick and in need:

Archbishop GREGORY, Archpriest Victor Sokolov, Archpriest John Perich, Harry Sysak, Nona Carey, Amelia Kuzmiak, Theophan Koziar, Mary Stafursky, Daniel Medill, & the infant Christopher Elliot

The recovering: Mary Burke, Margorite Putrosky, Pauline Fetsko, Nina Dacko, Richard Peck & ***all those affected by the devastation of Hurricane Katrina***

And for the continued Health and salvation of:

Matushka Anastasia & the child to be born of her, Rdr. Paul Sidebottom, Sharon Hanna, and *our Catechumens*, Christopher and Derek Givler.

Prayers for the Departed: Michael Andreoli & Kekelia Reamy

If anyone has any additions to this list, please see Fr. Timothy.

