



Eastern Catholic Life

“In the beginning was the word...”

VOL. XLVIII, NO. 9

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2012

ByzanTEEN Youth Rally 2012

She lit up the stage with her violin at the “O Joyful Light” national ByzanTEEN Youth Rally 2012 held recently at the University of San Diego, California. The Rally event, hosted every other year by one of our four eparchies, opened with a brilliant concert from composer and performer Eric Genuis who was accompanied by three young female musicians including the 19-year-old virtuoso violinist from Strongsville, OH. The brightness of these young musicians, Genuis’s passionate compositions and the temperate climate of southern California seemed to inspire a “Joyful Light” from the 150 teenagers, most of whom travelled coast to coast to attend the Rally.

“The behavior of these kids is just magnificent! They give us so much hope!” remarked Sister Jean Marie of the Eparchy of Phoenix and who was also one of the conference speakers. Sister Jean Marie’s observation expressed the same sentiments shared by all of the adults present at the Rally. “These kids are great!” said Father Robert Rankin, a member of the Rally Planning Committee.

The master of ceremonies for the Rally was teamed by two young vocations from the Eparchy of Parma, Subdeacon Andrew Summerson, who gave the keynote address, and Postulant Jesse Houck from Christ the Bridegroom Monastery in Burton, OH. The teen participants attended conferences, played sports, hung out at the “B.C. Café,” had time for reflection, Confession and even took part in the “ByzanTEENS Have Talent” show which was a new feature of this year’s Rally directed by Christie Petty of the G.C.U.

There is always a Rally within the Rally, a retreat within the retreat. These are the unplanned moments, but these are the things that God had in mind for us to confront. One of the most inspiring and touching moments of the Rally was unplanned. It was the sound of all of the teenagers together with the priests and religious chanting the Panachida service for the soul of the sister of one of the Rally participants who learned during the Rally that his sister was killed in an auto accident. But there is, perhaps, no moment in the Byzantine Catholic Church in America that so closely touches the eschaton than the closing Divine Liturgy of the Rally, where all of our Hierarchs are together with all of their youth chanting

the Divine praises in glorious harmony.

The particular vision and charism of the ByzanTEEN Youth Rally is to provide an appropriate venue in which the youth of our far-flung Church can come together and build a sense of community, support and fellowship. The teens pray together, play together, cry together, laugh together, or just simply “hang” together. They renew old friendships and meet new, and often times, lasting friends. “O Joyful Light,” the theme of ByzanTEEN Youth Rally 2012, comes from an ancient prayer from our vespers service which refers to the Light of Christ that comes into a world of darkness. Rally 2012 called the teenagers to the place of the setting sun so that they could be sent forth as Joyful Light to the world. They certainly were joyful lights of hope at ByzanTEEN Youth Rally 2012.



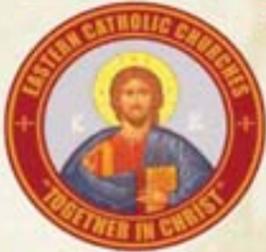
After the ByzanTeen Rally, 94 teens and chaperones of the Eparchy of Passaic participated in an “after event” which took them to the main tourist spots of San Diego. On Sunday, the teens and their chaperones were transported to the world famous San Diego Zoo, located adjacent to downtown San Diego in Balboa Park, which is 100 acres in size and houses over 4,000 animals comprised of more than 800 species from the forests and jungles of the world. Sea World was the attraction on Monday. Sea World San Diego is an animal theme park, oceanarium, and marine mammal park. The teens were on a one-of-a-kind journey to the wonders that exist

beyond the ocean’s door. They experienced an up-close encounter which connected them to the energy, excitement and mystery of the sea and sea life. The end of the “after event” took the teens to the shores of the Pacific Ocean to Mission Beach where these “East Coasters” were able to dip their toes into the waters of the West Coast – most for the first time. While some may compare San Diego’s Mission Beach to the East Coast’s Atlantic City and Coney Island, there is a unique Southern California vibe you can’t find anywhere else. As they saw the setting of the sun at Mission Beach the ByzanTeens of the Eparchy of Passaic truly experienced the Joyful Light which was the ByzanTeen Rally experience of 2012.

ByzanTeen Rally Photos - pages 8-9

78th Annual Pilgrimage Schedule - pages 14-15

EASTERN CATHOLIC CHURCHES ENCOUNTER 2012



"Together In Christ"

"All you who have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ."

Halleluia!

REGISTER ONLINE

encounter2012easterncatholicchurches.org

Clergy Days THURSDAY, 10/11, 2:00 P.M.
FRIDAY, 10/12, 2:00 P.M.

Main Conference

The Eastern Catholic Bishops of the U.S.A. invite all Eastern Catholics, clergy, religious and laity of the U.S. and Canada, and all interested seekers, to gather "Together in Christ" for...ENCOUNTER 2012 an historic conference, to be held in three locations in the United States, FALL 2012.

Very Rev. Edward Cimbala, D.Min, Regional Coordinator

One Theme

"Together in Christ"

One Purpose

*Together in the vineyard of Christ...
"Unity in Mission; Diversity in Ministry"*

One Voice

Encountering Christ Together in Prayer

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12

5:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Registration and Hospitality

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13

8:00 AM Registration, Continental Breakfast

Informative Sessions, Vendors, & Hospitality

9:45 Prayer Service

10:00 *Session I:* Who is Church?

Speaker: Sr. Marla Marie Lucas,
Maronite Church

11:15 *Session II:* Activity of the Royal Priesthood

Speaker: Dr. Maureen Dadonna,
Byzantine Ruthenian Church

12:15 PM Luncheon and visit Vendors

2:30

Main Session:

The 'How' and 'What' of Lay
Leadership: Action—Put on Christ?
Speaker: Bishop Peter Labasci

3:45 *Session III:*

Blueprint for Church Growth
Speaker: Rev. Damon Geiger,
Byzantine Melkite Church

5:00

Vespers

6:30

Dinner

8:00

Hospitality

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14

8:00 AM Matins

8:30 Divine Liturgy

9:45 Breakfast Buffet

Keynote Address: "Servant Leadership: Be All You Can Be;
We are not finished yet!"

Speaker: Bishop Nicholas Samra,
Eparch of Melkite Church in America

12:00 PM

Departure

EASTERN UNITED STATES

October 11-14, 2012

St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church & Center
Hillsborough, New Jersey

EVERYONE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE

St. Mary Church is located at 1900 Brooks Blvd., Hillsborough, NJ 08844

For information or to register online visit: www.Encounter2012EasternCatholicChurches.org

Or contact Fr. Ed Cimbala at (908)-725-0615 or email him at FrEdStMary@aol.com

Hotel Information: Contact Days Inn (1/2 mile from St. Mary Church)
at (908)-658-9000. Use Group Name "Encounter" for special rate of \$59.00/night.



FROM THE OFFICE OF THE EPARCHIAL ADMINISTRATOR



It is often difficult to explain something that has not been personally experienced. This is the reality that we, as Byzantine Catholics, often encounter when attempting to explain the joy of our Faith and our beautiful Byzantine Tradition to those who have no familiarity with it. In a similar way, many Byzantine Catholics are likewise unacquainted with the inspiring and meaningful traditions of other Eastern Catholic Churches, simply because we have not encountered them.

"Encounter 2012" will change all that!

Sponsored by the Bishops of Region 15 of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, "Encounter 2012 – Together in Christ" is a coast-to-coast endeavor of all Eastern Catholic Churches in the United States and Canada to meet and grow in the Lord, and to encounter Him through the unified diversity of the various Eastern Catholic faith traditions.

There will be three "Encounter" locations during the year, including one in the Eparchy of Passaic at Saint Mary Byzantine Catholic Church in Hillsborough, NJ from October 11 to 14, 2012. All Byzantine

Catholic faithful from throughout the Eparchy are encouraged to attend!

At the "Encounter," we will have an opportunity to learn more about our other Eastern Catholic brothers and sisters and we will reflect on the spirituality of being disciples of Christ and our call to holiness. This will be a wonderful opportunity to meet brothers and sisters from the various Eastern Catholic Churches of Canada and the US, to dialogue with them, and to grow in appreciation of our identity and mission today!

The speakers at each Encounter location will be representative of the various Eastern Catholic faith traditions and jurisdictions, as will the variety of liturgical services scheduled. This will truly be a magnificent chance for us as Byzantine Catholics of the Eparchy of Passaic to encounter Our Lord through the beautiful faith expressions of our other Eastern Catholic brothers and sisters! I encourage all to participate and to ENCOUNTER the Lord!

ENCOUNTER 2012 - Together in Christ Friday, October 12th - Sunday, October 14th St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church - Hillsborough, NJ



The Eastern Catholic Bishops of the USA are sponsoring three Encounters of our respective Churches this year which will take place in three locations: Cleveland, OH (September 20-23), Los Angeles, CA (November 1-4) and for the Eastern United States at Saint Mary Byzantine Catholic Church in Hillsborough, NJ (October 10-14). These gatherings, and the one in Hillsborough in particular, are geared for the laity and clergy with the theme: **Together In Christ – The Spirituality of Discipleship: A Call to Holiness**

An Encounter is a time for all Eastern Catholics to meet and to grow in the Lord, and to study themes that would assist them in fostering more spiritual and educational growth in their parishes. By having an Encounter in our region, it will be easier and convenient for more participation of the laity and clergy. Also, follow up meetings and programs within a certain region will provide more growth for our Churches since parishes of Eastern Traditions have so much in common.

A special day for clergy who have pastoral commitments in parishes will precede the weekend. The weekend Encounter (Friday evening through Sunday brunch) is mainly geared for the laity who are asked to arrive on Friday for a welcome and hospitality. The main

focus will be on Saturday and Sunday. Four plenary sessions will be held. The first session, entitled **Who is the Church?**, will be led by Father Damon Geiger of the Eparchy of Newton. The second session, **Activity of the Royal Priesthood**, will be led by Dr. Maureen Dadonna of the Eparchy of Passaic. The third session, **Blueprint for Church Growth**, will be led by Sr. Marla Marie Lucas, MSCL, of the Eparchy of St. Maron. The main session entitled, **The "How" and "What" of Lay Leadership: Action – Put on Christ!** will be presented by Bishop Peter Libasci, Auxiliary Bishop of Rockville Centre. On Sunday, Matins and the Divine Liturgy will be celebrated with a keynote address entitled, **Servant Leadership: Be All That You Can Be!**

Registration is \$75.00 per person for the Encounter. A discount for early registration of five or more from one parish is available at \$50.00 per person. Hospitality and meals are included in the registration fee. Vendors of Eastern Catholic books and icons are being invited to complement the Encounter.

This year's Encounter is open to all who want to learn, pray and grow in Christ for the building up of the Body of Christ.



DUNMORE, PA – Mrs. John (Susan) Lucas, 90, a life-long resident of Dunmore, fell asleep in the Lord in Sunday, July 15, 2012. She and her husband would have celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary this November. She was the cantor at Saint Michael Byzantine

Retired Cantor Reposes in the Lord

Catholic Church in Dunmore for more than 40 years.

Born in Dunmore, daughter of the late Michael and Mary Sansky, she was a graduate of Dunmore High School and worked for a number of years in the garment industry. She was a life-long member of Saint Michael the Archangel Byzantine Catholic Parish in Dunmore where Father Robert Lozinski, CSC is pastor.

In addition to her ministry of cantoring, she was also an instructor in the Eastern Christian Formation Program and an active member in various church societies. Her

generosity of spirit also extended to her civic commitments in the community. She was a founding member of the Dunmore Community Chorus which appeared throughout Northeastern Pennsylvania raising funds for civic organizations and brightening the day for residents of various nursing facilities. She was also an active member of various parent-teacher associations.

In addition to her husband, John, who continues to cantor daily at Saint Michael Parish, she is survived by a daughter, Suzanne Ferguson and husband, Jim, and a son, Michael and wife, Betty Ann. She

has six grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Also surviving are a brother, John Sansky, and two sisters, Olga Hudak and Margaret Rogan, along with several nieces and nephews.

A Parastas was celebrated on Friday, July 20th at the Chipak Funeral Home in Dunmore. The Office of Christian Burial with Divine Liturgy was celebrated on Saturday, July 21st by Father Robert Lozinski, CSC, Pastor. Local cantors took part in both services. Interment followed at the parish cemetery in Dunmore.

May her memory be eternal!



People you know... ...Around the Eparchy

In the Wyoming Valley...

...Two Members Honored



WYOMING VALLEY – Recently, two members of our Wyoming Valley Byzantine Catholic churches were honored by Bishop Milan Šašik of the Mukachevo Greek-Catholic Eparchy for a continual financial support in the development of the Mukachevo Greek Catholic Eparchy and Uzhorod's Greek Catholic Theological Seminary of Blessed Theodore Romzha in Ukraine.

Elizabeth Kovach of Saint Mary Parish in the Brookside section of Wilkes-Barre, PA, was awarded the Order of the First Degree of Most Reverend Bishop Andrew Bachinsky. Betty has been very kind and generous to the Eastern Catholic Church both in Europe and in the United States.

Cantor George Daru, of Saint John Parish in Wilkes-Barre Township (Georgetown), PA, was award-

ed the Order of the Third Degree of Most Reverend Bishop Andrew Bachinsky. George, a book collector for nearly 50 years, decided to start selling off his collection with the proceeds going to the seminary in Uzhorod, Ukraine. Each of the past three years, he was able to raise \$5,000.00. All books not sold were donated to the Byzantine Franciscans in Sybertsville, PA, for their book sale.

Cantor George says: "This is my wife's and my way of saying: 'Thank you' to Bishop Milan for helping our Church in America with clergy. I have many books left and hope to help them for many years to come - with God's help."

Saint John Parish is served by Father Mykhaylo Prodanets and Saint Mary Parish is served by Father James Hayer.

In Westbury...

...Fortnight for Freedom Observed

WESTBURY, NY – The Fortnight For Freedom was observed on Long Island on July 2nd, as the parish family of Saint Andrew the Apostle Church in Westbury NY, welcomed local Byzantine and Latin Catholics for an evening of prayer and information. The evening began with the Akathist Hymn to the Mother of God celebrated by Father Jack Custer and Deacon Nicholas Daddona of Saint Andrew Parish, along with Father Wasyl Hrinkiw of Saint Vladimir Ukrainian Catholic Church, Hempstead, NY.

Jim Krug, a Roman Catholic theologian and President of the Long Island chapter of the Catholic League spoke on "Catholics and Religious Freedom: Are Our Rights in Jeopardy?" He demonstrated how the original free "exercise of religion" guaranteed by the Constitution risks being restricted to a "freedom



of worship" that excludes people of faith from full participation in the public forum, and he challenged the congregation to prayer, to witness to sacrifice, and to defend the freedom to practice the Catholic faith in all spheres of public and private life.

Following the singing of "God Bless America," guests and parishioners mingled over refreshments in the Parish Hall. Saint Andrew Parish is served by Father Jack Custer.



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Best of Ireland Tour

January 28 – February 7, 2013

\$2676 Roundtrip from New York

(Air/land tour price is \$2388 plus \$288 government taxes/airline fuel surcharges)

Hosted by Father Charles M. Yastishock

Tour Includes: Roundtrip Air from New York, First Class/Select Hotels, Most Meals, Professional Driver/Guide & Comprehensive Sightseeing

Visit Waterford, Killarney, Galway, Connemara, Knock, Sligo, and Dublin! For a brochure & more information contact Father Yastishock at:

Tel: (732) 255-6272 or Email: czarcmy@comcast.net

The Sisters of St. Basil
warmly invite you to the
78th Annual Pilgrimage
in honor of
Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Sept. 1 & 2, 2012



Theotokos, Guide on the Journey of Life



Come and participate in:

- *The beautiful Divine Liturgy*
- *Mystery of Reconciliation*
- *The popular Children's Procession*
- *The inspiring Candlelight Vigil*
- *Adult enrichment sessions*
- *And, more...*



Sisters of St. Basil the Great
Mount Saint Macrina

Uniontown, Pennsylvania

(724) 438-8644

www.sistersofstbasil.org

The Daily Pilgrimage Schedule For the 78th Annual Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Perpetual Help *September 1st and September 2nd, 2012*



*Sisters of the Order of Saint Basil the Great
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Province
Mount Saint Macrina
Uniontown, Pennsylvania
Sister Seraphim, OSBM, Provincial
The Seventy-Eighth Annual Pilgrimage
In Honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help*



Conducted under the Patronage of the Byzantine Catholic Metropolia

Metropolitan William (Skurla) - Archbishop of Pittsburgh
Bishop John (Kudrick) - Bishop of Parma
Bishop Gerald (Dino) - Bishop of Phoenix
Father Edward Cimbala - Administrator of the Eparchy of Passaic

Glory to Jesus Christ!

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This year we invite all to join us for the 78th Pilgrimage honoring Our Lady of Perpetual Help under the title of *Theotokos, Guide on the Journey of Life*. As we navigate the often shadowy waters of our lives, we can be assured that Mary our Mother will lovingly lead us to safe shores. In the miracle of the Wedding Feast of Cana, Mary instructs the servants at the feast to "Do whatever He tells you." In a poignant reflection on the Wedding at Cana Icon, Reverend Daniel Forsythe writes that:

Mary hopes for something unexpected to happen ... for she sees into the heart of God and knows that He is a God who is not satisfied with bare existence. His gifts are to the overflowing of the cup. It is in this turning of the water into wine, the fleeting disappointment into deep joy, that Jesus first reveals His glory. It is the glory of a rich and boundless generosity grounded in a simple moment of human life.

..The Art of Reflection, OLPH Shrine brochure

Social media bombards us with suggestions that travel, possessions, and entertainment are ways to lead a fulfilled life. However, we Christians understand that true peace can only be found by following the path already walked by Jesus, Mary, and His followers over the ages. With Mary as our Guide, Jesus can take the water of our ordinary lives on any given day and transform it into the rich wine of His lifegiving grace. With Mary, let us always hope for the "something unexpected to happen."

We Sisters invite you once again to join us for the annual Pilgrimage during Labor Day weekend at Mount St. Macrina. Together we can reflect upon Mary's great role in guiding us successfully through the days of our earthly journey. Together we will await the overflowing of the Lord's cup.

We look forward to welcoming you home to Mount St. Macrina. We pray that your journey will be peaceful and safe, and that you come with the expectation that Jesus will truly fill your days with the rich wine of His loving presence.

In the love of the Lord Jesus,

Sister Seraphim, OSBM

Sister Seraphim, OSBM
Provincial

PRE-PILGRIMAGE SCHEDULE **Friday, August 31, 2012**

5:00 pm
Vespers
Shrine Altar

7:30 pm
Compline
Shrine Altar

ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE SCHEDULE **Saturday, September 1, 2012**



7:30 am - 12 noon
Mystery of Reconciliation
(Confessions)
House of Prayer Patio

OPENING OF THE PILGRIMAGE

9:15 am
Procession with Icon of Our Lady of
Perpetual Help
House of Prayer to Shrine Altar

9:30 am
MATINS with DIVINE LITURGY
Shrine Altar

Welcome: Sister Seraphim, OSBM

Divine Liturgy to be followed
by the procession to Lourdes
Grotto for the Solemn Blessing
of Water; procession to return
to the House of Prayer at the
conclusion of the blessing.



1:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Mystery of Reconciliation
(Confessions)
House of Prayer Patio

Saturday, September 1, 2012 (continued)

1:00 am
MOLEBEN
Shrine Altar

2:00 pm
Children's Pilgrimage
Children's Tent
Orientation for Teens
Prayer Garden Area
Enrichment Sessions
Trinity Center

3:00 pm
Teen Pilgrimage
Prayer Garden Area

4:00 pm
Vespers with Divine Liturgy
Shrine Altar

6:00 pm
Enrichment Session
Mausoleum

7:00 pm
Procession
House of Prayer to Mount Macrina Cemetery

7:30 pm
Parastas
Mount Macrina Cemetery
Candlelight Procession
Mount Macrina Cemetery to Shrine Altar
Akathist to the Mother of God
Shrine Altar

Following Akathist...
Teen Social
Prayer Garden Area
Young Adult Social
Trinity Center Courtyard



Sunday, September 2, 2012

7:30 am
MATINS
Shrine Altar

9:00 am
DIVINE LITURGY (Slavonic)
Shrine Altar

10:30 am
DIVINE LITURGY
Shrine Altar

11:00 am
Mystery of Anointing
Trinity Center

12:30 pm to 5:00 pm
Mystery of Reconciliation (Confessions)
House of Prayer Patio

1:00 pm
Children's Procession with Special Blessing for Youth and Young Adults
House of Prayer to Mother of God Shrine

1:30 pm to 2:30 pm
Mystery of Reconciliation (Confessions) for infirm, sick and physically challenged
Manor Gazebo

2:00 pm
Children's Pilgrimage
Children's Tent
Teen Pilgrimage
Prayer Garden Area



Sunday, September 2, 2012 (continued)

Adult Enrichment Session
Trinity Center
Mystery of Anointing
Shrine Altar

3:45 pm
Procession
House of Prayer to Mother of God Shrine

4:00 pm
DIVINE LITURGY
Mother of God Shrine
Words of Gratitude by Sister Seraphim, OSBM, Provincial

7:15 pm
Procession
House of Prayer to Mother of God Shrine

7:30 pm
Candlelight Procession
Beginning and ending at Mother of God Shrine

CLOSING OF THE PILGRIMAGE

Following Candlelight Procession...
Teen Social
Prayer Garden Area
Young Adult Social
Trinity Center Courtyard

POST-PILGRIMAGE SCHEDULE
Monday, September 3, 2012

9:30 am
DIVINE LITURGY
Shrine Altar

s'Bohom! Go with God - and see you next year!

Dear Sisters,

Please pray for me and place the following intention(s) before the icon of our Lady of Perpetual Help.

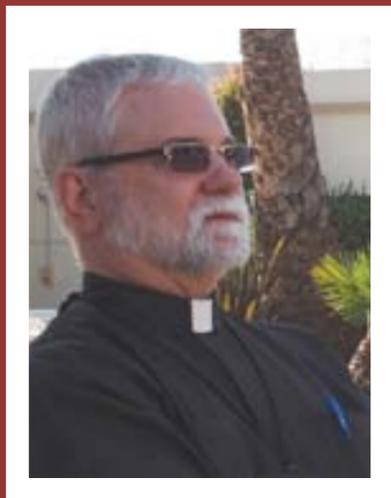
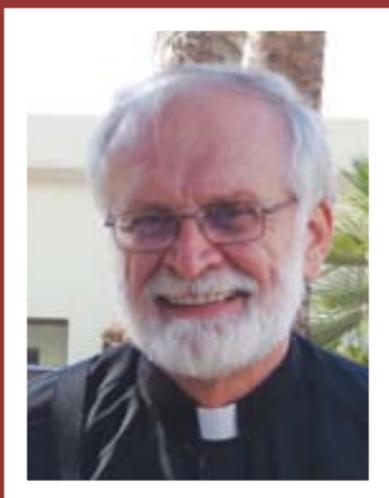
Your Name (optional):

We have no greater help, no greater hope than you, O most pure Virgin; Help us, then, for we hope in you, we glorify you, we are your servants. Do not abandon us.

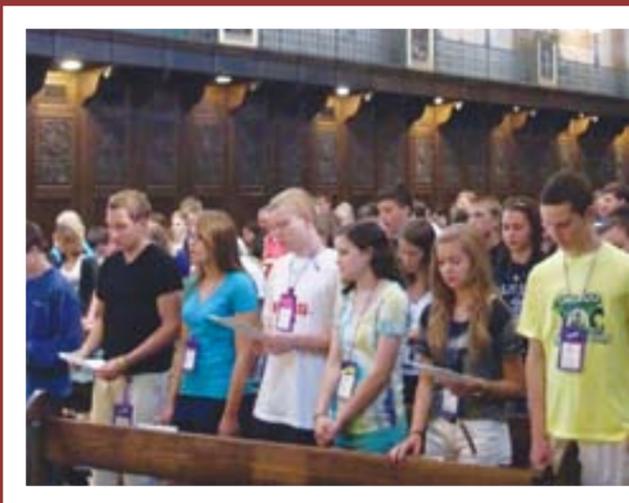
Mount Saint Macrina,
500 W. Main Street,
Uniontown, PA 15401
(724) - 438-8644

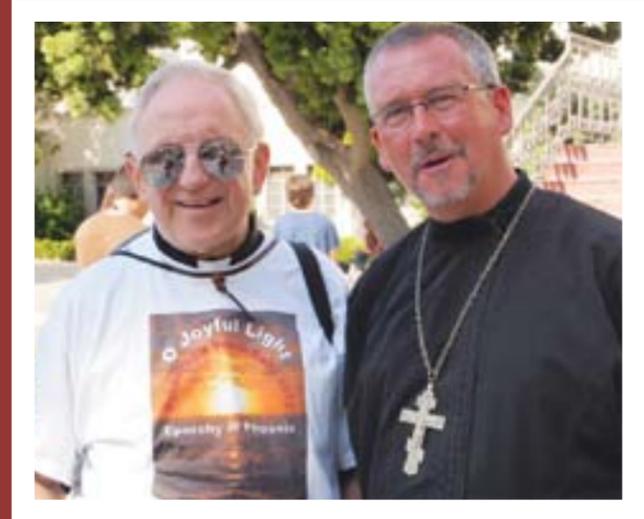


www.sistersofstbasil.org

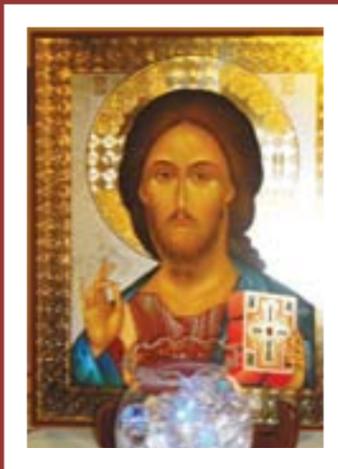
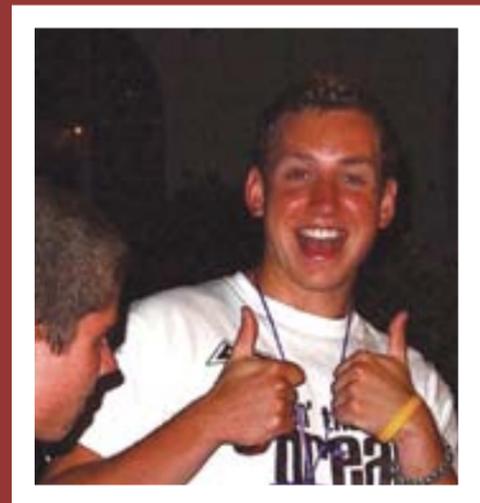


Byzantine Youth Retreat San Diego





TEEN Nightly 2012 San Diego





Catechetical Sunday 2012 Aims at “New Evangelization”

Every year as schools resume sessions, our Church responds with what has come to be known as “Catechetical Sunday.” Encouraged by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), a theme is provided and the attention of the faithful is directed toward implementing its goals.

As in the past several years, ECED, which is the publishing arm of ECA (The Eastern Catholic Associates)—the Eastern Bishops of USCCB, has produced a poster, prayers and informative material for this event.

Directors of Religious Education of each of the eighteen eparchies or archeparchies have recently received a CD with downloadable documents to enable them to supply the parishes and schools with what is needed for the local observance of Catechetical Sunday.

The very special presence of so many expressions of Catholic Traditions cannot easily be depicted or addressed in a material way. Yet the call for each to become aware of and a participant in “new evangelization” cannot be overlooked.

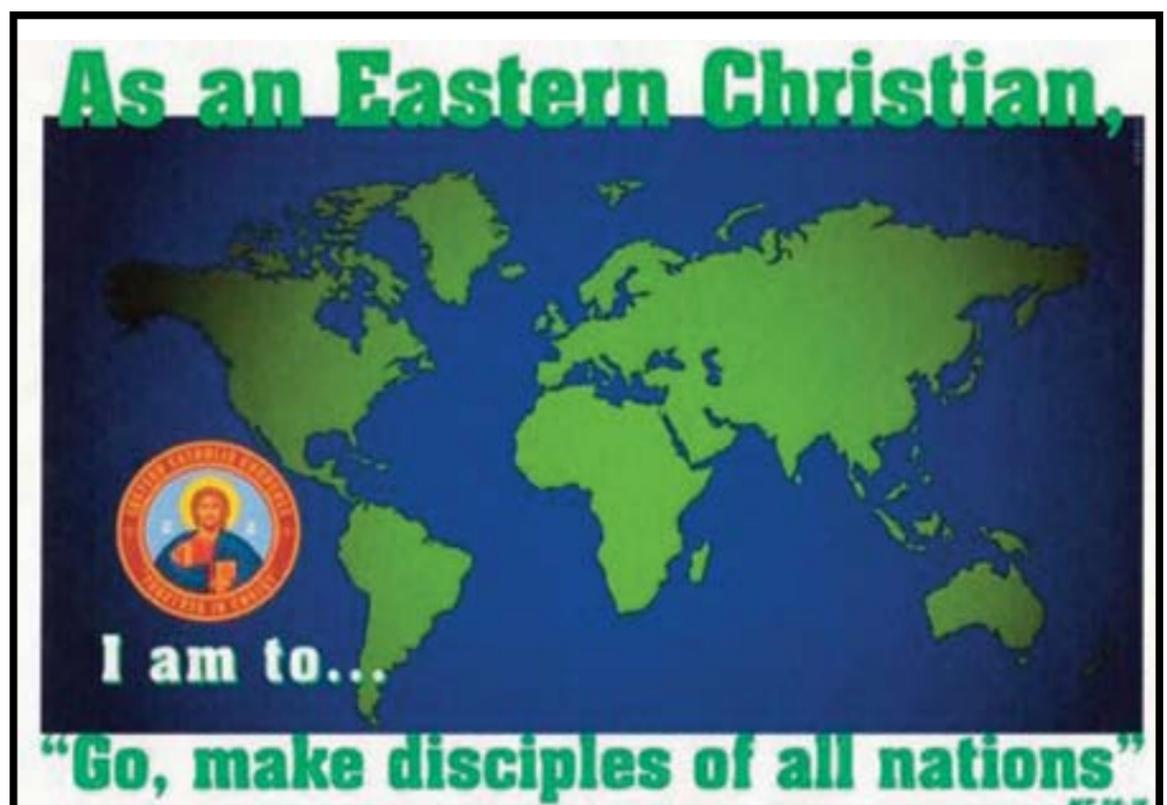
For a poster, ECED has chosen to show the global impact of the Churches of the Church using an icon of the ever-abiding presence of Christ as the clear object of our prayer life.

Clearly stated, too, is rationale for our own baptism—reflected in the Gospel message “Go, make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28-19). That is emphasized by realizing that “as an Eastern Christian, I am to...” do just that.

Helping us to be ambassadors of the Heavenly Kingdom, the structured classroom activities are geared to make us aware of what our Faith entails. As an adjunct tool, there has been developed an interactive activity for each student—tracing the steps personally taken to put this commission into practice. A generic lesson plan suggests how at every grade level, age-appropriate activities can be integrated into the curriculum, not just for “knowledge” of the faith, but for some practical

application. Additional versions of the poster are provided as a way of tracking the progress made in the student’s real life attempt to show the Gospel to others by their words and actions outside the classroom.

The “new evangelization” is not a task that requires external missionary activity, but an exercise in every-day Christian living. The end product is caught up in rethinking a familiar axiom: “Keep the Faith”. By being faithful to the calling as a Christian, our motto can be: “Don’t ‘keep the Faith’ --spread it!”



The ECED poster for Catechetical Sunday 2012 re-uses the logo of ENCOUNTER 2012 to foster awareness of our connectedness to one another through Jesus Christ, Head of the Church. The ALTERNATE copies are designed to be used as part of an on-going interactive “progress report” for each student/learner.



Slavic Festival in Annandale, VA Sunday, September 9, 2012 - Noon to 6:30 PM!

Come! Nourish your heart and spirit at our 39th Annual Slavic American Festival!

*Epiphany of Our Lord Byzantine Catholic Church,
3410 Woodburn Road, Annandale, VA 22003*

www.epiphanyofourlord.org or 703-573-3986

Featuring: Traditional Slavic foods: holupki, pirohi, kolbasi, haluski, & potato pancakes; Dance to Joe Shelko and His Band, 12 Noon to 6 PM; Enjoy children’s events; Religious art & crafts sale; Handmade Slavic art & crafts; Rummage sale; Bake sale; Nutrolls; Bingo; Football on TV; Raffles; and Cold refreshments.

Tour our new Church: 12:30, 2:30, 3:30 and 4:30 PM

Byzantine Sacred Music Concert: 1:30 PM

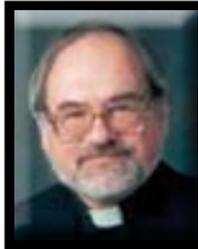
Liturgical schedule: Saturday September 8th – 5pm & Sunday September 9th – 8:00 & 10:30 AM

Rain or Shine - Noon to 6:30 PM – Free admission - Free shuttle parking - No pets please
Event times may vary - Quantities while they last - Proceeds benefit the Building Fund



Saint Maximus the Confessor said that Holy Communion is the “climax” of the Divine Liturgy. How we think of our union with the Body and Blood of our Lord demands our closest attention today. It is the aspect of the Liturgy that needs the most growth and reform. We can begin by asking how we prepare ourselves to receive Holy Communion. The law of the Church demands very little in immediate preparation, only that we abstain from food and drink, except for water, for an hour before we actually receive. The law has been made very lenient in order to promote frequent reception of Holy Communion. Until the second half of the twentieth century, people received very seldom, usually only twice a year. The Catholic Church had the law that Communion had to be received once a year, during Paschal time. Today, however, after the relaxing of the ascetical laws, people receive much more often. The Orthodox Church has not modified its fasting laws as much as the Catholic, but also encourages the frequent reception of Communion.

What is the best preparation we can make for Communion? Before discussing this, one point must be made very clearly. Frequent Communion should be the norm for the faithful. In fact, in the early Church laws, it was necessary for a baptized



THE BYZANTINE LITURGY

By Archpriest David Petras, SEOD

Preparing for Holy Communion

Christian to receive Communion at every liturgy he or she would attend. It was assumed that if you attended the Liturgy, you received Communion. The Apostolic Canons prescribed that “all the faithful who enter into a church and listen to the reading of the Scriptures but do not assist at the prayer and at Holy Communion, must be excommunicated as sowers of disorder in the Church.” (Canon 9) This came from our Lord’s commands when he revealed the mystery of the Eucharist, for he said, “Take, eat, all of you” and “Take drink” The Liturgy goes on to say, “Remembering, therefore, this saving command and all that has come to pass in our behalf.” By receiving Communion, we accept the gift of our Lord and become a part of his people, the mystical Body of our Lord which is the Church. By refusing Communion, we diminish the Body.

The Orthodox Church in general has stricter rules about fasting before Communion. The rules may not be exactly the same for all jurisdictions, but they are more rigorous than the Catholics. The ideal was that the first food one would take in a day was the “heavenly bread” that brings about our salvation. Only then can we eat ordinary food for the sustenance of the body. It was for this reason that the Liturgical Instruction of the Oriental Congregation for the Eastern Catholic Churches observed, “The change in discipline of the eucharistic fast has contributed to the development of a greater participation in the Eucharist, although it has sometimes contributed to weakening the

awareness of the extraordinary value and meaning of the mystery celebrated ... An eventual restoration, at least partial, of the ancient norms for fasting in the Eastern Catholic Churches is valued opportune ...” (January 6, 1996, paragraph 62) This must be done prudently, because the over-riding value of frequent Communion should not be compromised.

While this is desirable, I do not believe the restoration should be done legalistically. The fact is that laws in themselves will not be effective in restoring piety towards the Eucharist. It is more important that we become aware in faith of how great and necessary this great gift is. The restoral of practice can only follow the restoral of faith. When faith weakened over the centuries, it was not the laws that were repealed, but the practice of frequent Communion. Likewise, faith cannot be restored by laws.

There is, of course, one reason that one should absent oneself from Communion. If one has committed a grave sin and has not repented, then one should not receive Communion. This does not refer to our unworthiness to receive Communion. No one is worthy of the divine gift of union with God by our very nature. In the Liturgy, the priest prays before the Great Entrance, “No one who is bound by carnal desires and pleasures is worthy to come to you, to approach you, or to minister to you, the King of Glory.” This applies in the first place to the greatest of our blessings, the gift of the Holy Eucharist in Communion. We are healed of this unworthiness by the gift of God

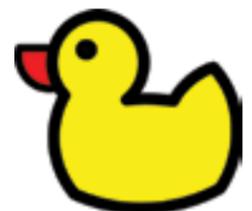
himself in Communion, as the priest observes after distributing the holy gifts, “Behold, this has touched your lips and will take away your iniquities and will cleanse your sins.” The serious sin which bars us from Communion, however, is a real act, done deliberately and maliciously, that has violated the grace of baptism and stripped us of our good standing in the Body of Christ. These sins are not usual and are usually quite evident to our consciences. They must be healed first by genuine repentance and confession.

In the matter of confession, the Orthodox are again stricter than Catholics. Some Orthodox jurisdictions expect that one will confess before every Communion, an old attitude that was held by many Catholics also. The Catholic Church now requires confession, as noted, only for very serious, specific sins. Our sins of weakness and inadvertence are forgiven by the reception of the sacrament itself. Many of the problems in preparing for Communion, however, are a result of the individualist mentality we have today. Communion, for many, is not a matter of “community,” but of our individual relationship with God. Sometimes, while we are quite willing to fast or to abstain from certain foods for the sake of our own bodily health, we don’t do it for solidarity with the community or to honor the sacrifice of Christ. Communion is not a private gift of God to us, but a well-spring of unity for the whole Church. In order to accept it is this way, we need discipline of mind and sincerity of heart.



LETTERS FROM THE EDITOR *and Euro*

Compiled by Father James Hayer, Editor



A Trip to the Vet

A man brought his pet duck to the vet’s office. The vet pulled out her stethoscope and listened to the bird’s chest and, after a moment or two, the vet shook her head and sadly said, “I’m sorry, sir, your pet duck has passed away.”

The distressed duck owner wailed, “Are you sure?” “Yes, I am sure. What you’ve got is a dead duck,” replied the vet. “How can you be so sure?” protested the grieving man, “I mean you haven’t even done any tests on him at all!”

The vet left the room and returned a few minutes later with a black labrador retriever. As the duck owner looked on in amazement, the dog stood on his hind legs, put his front paws on the exam table and sniffed the duck from top to bottom. He then looked up at the vet with sad eyes and shook his head. The vet then brought in a cat who jumped on the table and also deli-

cately sniffed the bird from head to foot. The cat sat back on its haunches, shook its head, and meowed sadly for the dead duck.

The vet turned to her computer terminal, hit a few keys and produced a bill for \$820.00 The grieving man shouted, “\$820 just to tell me my duck is dead!” The vet shrugged, “I’m sorry, sir. If you had taken my word for it, the bill would have been \$20, but with the LAB Report and the CAT Scan, it’s now \$820.” ☺

“The way of fools is right in their own eyes, but those who listen to advice (of the Righteous) are the wise.” (Proverbs 12:15)

[Many thanks to Rick from Connecticut for sharing this story!]

If you have an inspiring story or article you wish to share you may send it to Father James at: “Letters from the Editor” c/o: Saint Mary Church, 695 N. Main St., Wilkes-Barre, PA 18705. or E-Mail him at EasternCatholicLife@verizon.net.



SEASONAL REFLECTIONS

By Msgr. John T. Sekellick, JCL



Indiction or New Year

Then God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky, to separate day from night. Let them mark the fixed times, the days and the years." This biblical citation from Genesis, Chapter 1, Verse 14 refers to the creation of the sun and moon by whose appearances man first calculated periods of time. Primitive man observed the cycle of the seasons, which today we know as Spring, Summer, Fall (Autumn) and Winter.

Each great civilization formulated its own calendar, marking off days into weeks, weeks into months and months into years, based on those two natural phenomenon – the sun and the moon. The moon with its regular monthly changes in appearance due to its rotation around the earth showed twelve cycles of just over 354 days. However, this fell short of the sun's cycle with 365 days. It was not until the time of Julius Caesar that the first practical solar calendar was introduced around 45 B.C. and would serve mankind

for the next 1500 years until its correction by Pope Gregory the Great in 1582 A.D.

This correction was not accepted everywhere principally in those areas separated from Rome by schism (the Orthodox and Anglican Churches) so that even today most Orthodox as well as some Eastern Catholic jurisdictions observe the Julian calendar which is 13 days behind the Gregorian or more modern computation. Perhaps the most obvious differences between the two calendars is the Easter cycle which can place Pascha anywhere from coinciding on the same date to a difference of five weeks. Some of the countries which eventually adopted the Gregorian computation include Japan, 1873; China, 1912; Greece, 1924 and Turkey, 1927.

The term *Indiction* which appears on our Byzantine calendars marking our "New Year" originates from the practice of the Roman Emperors who decreed that their subjects in every district be taxed every

year for the maintenance of their armies. By law, Roman soldiers were obliged to fifteen years of service. At the end of each fifteen-year period, a new tax was ordered which was to be paid over the span of the next fifteen years. This imperial decree which was issued before the season of winter was named *Indictio*, that is an Order. When the Emperors also were located to Constantinople, the term took hold there as well.

From that practice, there eventually evolved three types of indictions: 1.) the Imperial which begins on the 24th of September; 2.) the Papal or Roman, which begins on January 1st and which we know as our civil New Years, and 3.) the Byzantine which was adopted by the Patriarchs of Constantinople after the fall of the Eastern Empire in 1453. The Byzantine indiction begins on the first of September.

The year is finished with harvesting and the gathering of crops in August. September begins the sowing of seed in the earth for the production of

future crops. September, then, is considered the beginning of a new cycle of life – a New Year. The current Byzantine reckoning brings us to the year 7521 (from the creation of the world). Our civil reckoning based on the holy birth of Jesus Christ is the current year of 2012 from the time of His birth. The Jewish New Year also begins in September with the feast of Rosh Hashanah (September 17th). Tradition tells us that our Savior entered the synagogue of Nazareth on that Jewish feast where he read from the prophecy of Isaiah, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, for which cause He has anointed Me." (Luke 4:16-30)

On September first, our Church has us pray, "O Maker of all creation, You alone have power over seasons and times. Bless this year with Your bounty. Preserve our nation in safety, and keep Your people in peace, through the intercession of the Theotokos, and save us." (Troparion)

Roebling Ethnic Festival

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Icon Workshop in Sybertsville

THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Icon Workshop
led by
Marylyn Barone

**THURSDAY-SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 6-9
2012**



**Thursday 6:30-9:30pm;
Friday and Saturday 9:30am-4:30pm,
Sunday noon-4pm.**

This workshop will be at the beginner level for adults. Each student will write an 10"x12" icon of Christ, the Good Shepherd, using a prepared prototype, learning techniques for faces, garments, 23k gold-leaf gilding, and background. All supplies are included. Marylyn will also present the theology of icons, focusing on Jesus and the Theotokos

Cost: \$200 includes supplies and Friday & Saturday midday meals. Housing and other meals available at additional charge (room & board \$50 per night shared room, \$75/night private room (shared bath).

Contact: Fr. Jerome at holydormition@gmail.com; 570-788-1212 ext 402.

Payment: Holy Dormition Friary,
Attn: Good Shepherd Icon Retreat, PO Box 270, Sybertsville, PA 18251.

Parishioner Authors Book Parish Hosts Book-Signing



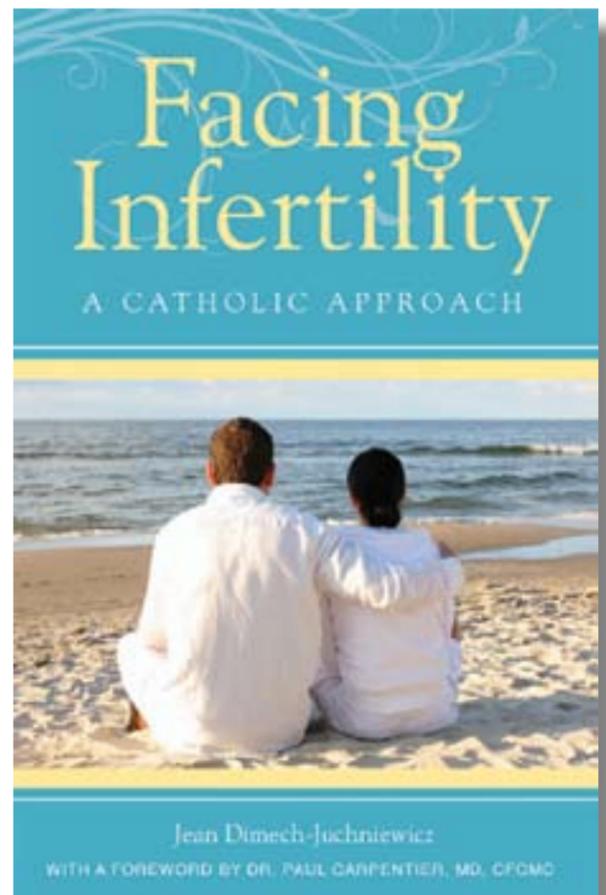
A parishioner at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Byzantine Catholic Church in Toms River, NJ, Jean Dimech-Juchniewicz, MA, recently published a book entitled *Facing Infertility: A Catholic Approach*. Infertility affects one in six couples. Perhaps you or someone you know is familiar with this heartache. *Facing Infertility* offers hope for Catholics whose lives are touched by infertility. It provides emotional and spiritual support for couples and offers helpful tips for family members and friends.

Drawing from her own experience with infertility and relying on her background in theology, the author compassionately explains the Church's moral teachings regarding the medical treatment of infertility. She highlights the high success rates of treatments that fall within the Church's moral guidelines, including NaPro TECHNOLOGY.

The book helps couples discern how God may be calling them to bear fruit in the desert of infertility, whether it is through morally sound medical treatment, adoption, foster parenting, or a life of loving service to others outside of parenthood.

Jean Dimech-Juchniewicz has served as a lay ecclesial minister in New Jersey since 2001. In addition to speaking on matters of theology, liturgy, morality, and spirituality, she facilitates a support group for Catholics struggling with infertility. Her book was published by Pauline Books and Media and has received an imprimatur from the Most Reverend David M. O'Connell, CM, Bishop of Trenton.

A book signing was recently held at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church where Father Charles Yastishock is Pastor.



Facing Infertility: A Catholic Approach is available through the publisher (1-800-876-4463) and online at www.amazon.com.

Book Sale! Holy Dormition Monastery, Sybertsville, PA on Saturday, September 29th from 10am-3pm!

Most Books \$2 or less. Diverse collection, Records, Sheet music, Newspapers (famous headlines), Magazines. Sports memorabilia and More! For information email holydormition@gmail.com or call Fr Jerome at 570-788-1212 x 402. Holy Dormition Friary is located on Pennsylvania Highway 93 at Main Street in Sybertsville, PA 18251.

A Pilgrimage Tour Old Calendar Easter in the Old Country April 28 - May 10, 2013

Join Father Ed Cimbala and Father Charles Yastishock for a pilgrimage to the "Old Country" and explore the roots of the Byzantine Catholic Church in America. During this thirteen day tour (April 23 to May 3, 2008) we will visit Poland, Slovakia, Ukraine and Czech Republic. The trip cost includes airfare, hotel accommodations two meals daily, special performances, English speaking guide, and admissions. Taxes, fees and tips will be extra. One of the most exciting features of our 2013 trip will be the opportunity to spend "Old Calendar" Easter in Uzhorod on Sunday, May 5. This will certainly be a memorable experience.

Cost will be announced shortly. For a brochure and detailed information, please contact:

**Father Ed Cimbala,
St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church,
1900 Brooks Boulevard,
Hillsborough, NJ 08844
Or call 908-725-0165
email: FrEdStMary@aol.com.**

Byzantine Online

Fall 2012

Visit for more information:
online.bcs.edu

Classes start
Monday, Sept. 24

Register now!

Eastern Catholic Churches
(Fr. Valerian Michlik)

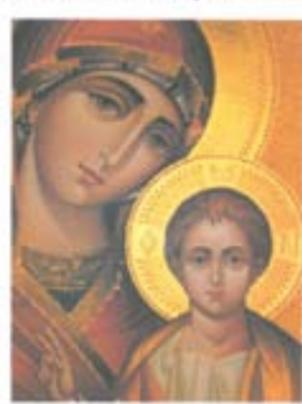
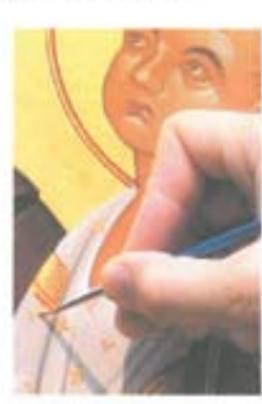
Holy Icons
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(Dr. Sandra Collins)

- All courses eight weeks long.
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Byzantine Online is pleased to announce their slate of courses for Fall 2012. Starting Monday, September 24th, Byzantine Online will offer *The Eastern Churches in the USA* with Fr. Valerian Michlik; *Holy Icons: from Judaism to Chalcedon* with Fr. Elias Rafaj; and *Biblical Prophets* with Dr. Sandra Collins.



Byzantine Online
Dr. Sandra Collins, Director
Byzantine Catholic Seminary
3805 Perrysville Avenue
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Metropolitan William Celebrates Byzantine Liturgy at Saint Ann Basilica

SCRANTON, PA – Metropolitan William returned to Northeast Pennsylvania and joined the clergy and the faithful for the celebration of the Byzantine Catholic Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom at the Basilica of Saint Ann in Scranton, PA on the occasion of the Novena to Saint Ann. It has been a long-standing tradition for the Byzantine Catholics to participate in the novena with the celebration of the Divine Liturgy.

Begun during the time of Bishop Michael J. Dudick, of blessed memory, and continuing through the tenure of Bishop Andrew Pataki, also of blessed memory, there has

been a continuous presence of the Eparchy of Passaic at the Novena to Saint Ann in Scranton. The annual novena draws thousands of faithful and is televised to thousands more. It is also an occasion of inspiration for many others who have never witnessed or participated in a service of the Eastern Church.

About fifteen clergy, religious and deacons were in attendance for the celebration of the Divine Liturgy. Also in attendance were the altar servers and counselors of the annual Altar Server Retreat Camp who arrived by bus for the celebration of the Divine Liturgy. Father Edward Higgins served as Master of

Ceremonies, and responses were led by Cantor Andrew Drozdk of Saint Mary Byzantine Catholic Church in Scranton, PA. Thanks to the labors of Father Leonard Martin, SJ, Pastor of the Scranton Byzantine Catholic Churches, the Basilica was properly appointed with icons and other liturgical items proper for the celebration of the Byzantine Catholic Liturgy.

In his homily, Metropolitan William encouraged the faithful to let the light of Christ shine forth from our words and deeds like a bright light on a lampstand. This, too, he said, is the benefit of the celebration of the Byzantine Divine Liturgy at the Pilgrimage: to be a shining mo-

ment of inspiration to many who had never before seen the Liturgy of John Chrysostom!

Father Jim Price, CP, Passionist Superior, welcomed Metropolitan William and later hosted a dinner for the Metropolitan and clergy in attendance.





UNDERSTANDING ICONS

By Father Joseph Bertha, PhD

Saint Mark the Evangelist

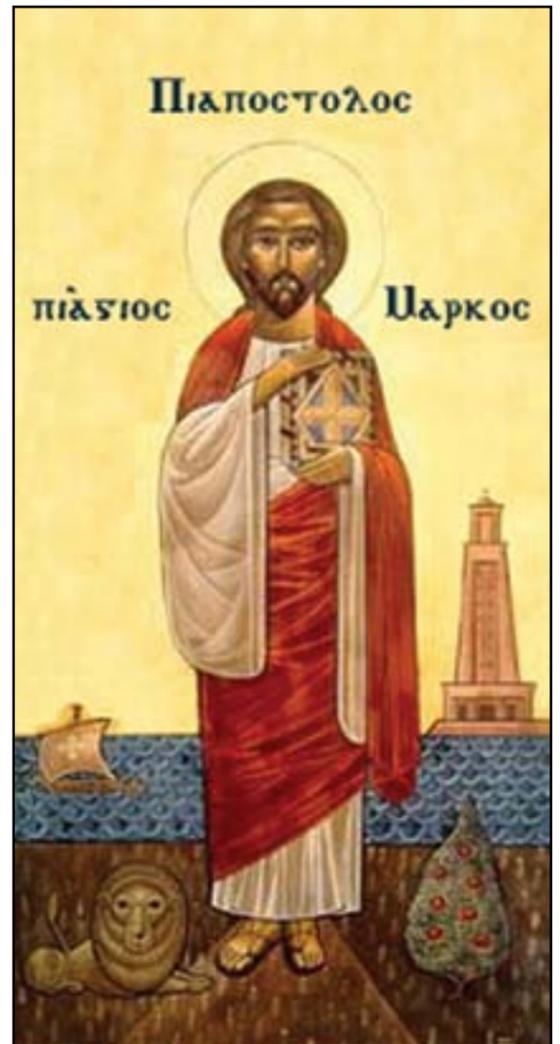
The author of the second gospel was born in Cyrene of Pentapolis, present day Libya. He became an Apostle and follower of Saint Peter and followed him to Rome. While there, he composed and wrote his gospel in Greek. In about the year 40, he traveled to Egypt and founded the Church in the city of Alexandria. It is here that he was martyred in about the year 68. In the ninth century, according to legend, his relics were removed from Alexandria and transported to Venice, where an elaborate basilica, the design of which is based on the now destroyed Church of the Holy Apostles in Constantinople, house the precious relics to this very day. His feast day is commemorated annually on April 25, and his Gospel is read daily beginning in the twelfth week of Pentecost.

Saint Mark, belongs to three orders of sanctity: he was an *apostle*, an *evangelist*, and he suffered death as a *martyr*. Most frequently, he is portrayed as a bearded middle-aged man (the approximate age at his death). In art history, the first icons of Saint Mark are found in illuminated manuscripts at the beginning of his gospel. These elaborate images were only seen by very few people, and typically by those in monasteries at the time. Later on, however, we see Saint Mark

portrayed individually as a gospel-writer together with his three other companions (Matthew, Luke, and John), and individualized as the author of the second gospel. It is much later on, however, that we begin to view the Four Evangelists on the royal doors of the iconostas, signifying by their location, that the four Gospels open up the doors of believers' minds and hearts to Christ.

Saint Mark is dressed as an apostle, wearing both the chiton (tunic) and himation (cloak), which reflect his role as teacher and evangelizer. Consistently in icons, Saint Mark either holds (or writes) the gospel bearing his name. Sometimes, too, the Gospel book is displayed on a lectern. A lion, Mark's symbol derived from Ezekiel's vision in chapter 1:10, is present during the process of inspiration. Traditionally, the lion either symbolizes the lion of Judah of Jesus Christ, or the roaring of the preaching of Saint John the Baptist, which begins the gospel narrative.

Traditionally, the Coptic Church traces the origin of Saint Mark as the Founding Father of the Patriarchate of Alexandria and its first bishop. It is interesting to see that most Coptic icons portray the Gospel writer as an African rather than as a European in their icons, reflecting the Lib-



yan birthplace of the evangelist. Also included as background details are the famous Alexandria lighthouse, a small lion, a tree and ship – all of which add local meaning to the icon, which is inscribed in Coptic letters somewhat close to Greek letters identifying the Apostle to Africa.



+Nellie Gray, Founder of the March of Life.

Reflecting on the lack of regard for human life can be disheartening and even overwhelming. It would be easy to give in to hopelessness as we recognize our own limits in the face of the immense problems facing our society. After all, what difference can one person really make?

Nellie Gray, the principal founder of the annual March for Life, passed away over the weekend of August 12th. Her death is mourned by those whose lives she touched in the pro-life movement. But in her passing, we are invited to reflect upon the work which the Lord can accomplish through each person.

The March for Life is a unique moment to join together with hundreds of thousands of other people



RESPECT LIFE FORUM

By Anne McGuire

The Necessity of One - The Passing of +Nellie Gray

who value the dignity of the child in the womb. It's a moment to be strengthened by one another's presence and enthusiasm. It's a moment to remember that we are not alone in our desire to promote the sanctity of life. And so, while we can be grateful for this solidarity with so many others each year, we can also be grateful for the reminder that one person can have such a tremendous impact.

The witness of Nellie's efforts inspires the question, "How can I also promote respect for the sanctity of every human life?" Although the March for Life occurs only once a year, the work of which it is a part continues each and every day. Examples abound of those who recognize and work to promote respect for life. Two such examples are Sr. Paula Vandegaer, SSS, and Vincent Rue, PhD, who received People of Life awards from the U.S. bishops' Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities in early August in recognition of their admirable dedication to the pro-life

cause. With such admirable efforts, both honorees serve as remarkable witnesses to following the Lord's guidance in their lives.

When we see people with such commitment, it is good to recognize something in the way they live that inspires us to live in a similar manner. It is not that we should necessarily pursue the same specific endeavors. Rather, we recognize that the Lord has a plan for each of our lives, which He invites us to follow by prayerfully pursuing the desires he places in our hearts. As Pope Benedict XVI said in his first papal homily in 2005, "We are not some casual and meaningless product of evolution. Each of us is the result of a thought of God. Each of us is willed, each of us is loved, each of us is necessary."

By seeing each person before us in this light, and by loving each person with Christ's heart, we live in a way that recognizes the value of every person. Realizing that we

are held in the Father's hands, and that he has a plan for our lives, we are free to follow wherever he leads. Sometimes that means helping to found or maintain the March for Life, pregnancy care centers, or an institute for healing after pregnancy loss. Sometimes it means taking twenty minutes to listen compassionately to your teenage daughter's struggles, regardless of the day's tight schedule. In this life, we may hardly be aware of the ways the Lord works through us. But by remaining open to his grace, we allow him to build up a culture of life through us.

May we always remember that he is bigger than any threat that faces our society. He has already won the victory.

[Anne McGuire is a staff assistant for the Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. For more information on the bishops' work protecting conscience rights, go to www.usccb.org/conscience.]

The Order of Divine Services

TYPIKON

 For Cantors, Chanters, and Faithful

Arranged by Archpriest David M. Petras, SEOD

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. The Holy Martyr Mammias. Our Venerable Father John the Faster, Patriarch of Constantinople.
Resurrection Tone 5. Epistle: 2 Corinthians 1:21-2:4; Matthew 22:1-14.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

The Holy Martyr Anthimus, Bishop of Nicomedia. Our Venerable Father Theoctist, Companion of Saint Euthymius the Great. The Holy Deaconess Phoebe of Cenchreae.
Commons for Bishop-Martyr and Venerable. Epistle, Galatians 2:11-16; Gospel, Mark 5:24-34.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

The Holy Martyr Babylas, Bishop of Antioch. The Holy Prophet Moses, who saw God.
Commons for Bishop-Martyr and Prophet. Epistle, Galatians 2:21-3:7; Gospel, Mark 6:1-7.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

The Holy Prophet Zachary, Father of the Forerunner and His Wife, the Holy and Venerable Elizabeth.
Common for Martyr and Prophet. Epistle, Hebrews 6:13-20; Gospel, Luke 1:5-25.57-68.76.80.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

Memory of the Miracle of the Holy Archangel Michael at Colossae in Chionia. The Holy Martyr Eudoxius and His Companions.
Common for Angel. Epistle, Galatians 3:23-4:5; Gospel, Mark 6:30-45.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Prefestive Day of the Feast of the Birth of the Mother of God. The Holy Martyr Sozon.
Commons for Martyr. Epistle, Galatians 4:8-21; Gospel, Mark 6:45-53.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

FEAST OF THE BIRTH OF THE MOTHER OF GOD.
Solemn Holyday. Epistle, Phillipians 2:5-11; Gospel, Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

SUNDAY BEFORE THE EXALTATION OF THE CROSS. Postfestive Day of the Birth of the Mother of God. The Holy and Just Grandparents of God Joachim and Anna. The Holy Martyr Severian.
Resurrection Tone 6. Epistle: Galatians 6:11-18; Gospel, John 3:13-17.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

Postfestive Day of the Birth of the Mother of God. The Holy Martyrs Menodora, Mitrodora and Nymphodora.
Common for Woman Martyrs. Epistle, Galatians 4:28-5:10; Gospel, Mark 6:54-7:8.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

Postfestive Day of the Birth of the Mother of God. Our Venerable Mother Theodora of Alexandria.
Commons for Venerable Woman and for Bishop-Martyr. Epistle, Galatians 5:11-21; Gospel, Mark 7:5-16.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

Otdanije (leave-taking) of the Feast of the Birth of the Mother of God. The Holy Bishop-Martyr Autonomous.
Epistle, Galatians 6:2-10; Gospel, Mark 7:14-24.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Pre-festive Day of the Exaltation of the Cross. The Commemoration of the Dedication of the Church of the Resurrection of our Lord in Jerusalem. The Holy Bishop-Martyr Cornelius.
Epistle, 1 Corinthians 2:6-9; Gospel, Matthew 10:37-11:1.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS. The Passing of our Holy Father John Chrysostom, Archbishop of Constantinople.
Day of Strict Fast. Red vestments are worn today, and for the whole postfestive period, including Sunday. Epistle, 1 Corinthians 1:18-24; Gospel, John 19:6-11.13-20.25-28.30-35.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Saturday after the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. The Holy Great Martyr Nicetas. Our Venerable Father Symeon, Archbishop of Thessalonica.
Common for Martyr. Epistle, 1 Corinthians 1:26-29; Gospel, John 8:21-30.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

SUNDAY AFTER THE EXALTATION OF THE CROSS. The Holy Great Martyr Euphemia.
Resurrection Tone 7. Epistle, Galatians 2:16-20; Gospel, Mark 8:34b-38.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Post-festive Day of the Exaltation of the Cross. The Holy Martyr Sophia (Wisdom) and Her Three Children, Faith, Hope and Charity.
Common for Many Martyrs. Epistle, Ephesians 1:22-2:3; Gospel, Luke 3:19-22.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 Post-festive Day of the Exaltation of the Cross, Our Venerable Father Eumenius the Wonder-worker, Bishop of Gortyna.
Common for Venerable. Epistle, Ephesians 2:19-3:7; Gospel, Luke 3:23-4:1.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Postfestive Day of the Exaltation of the Cross. The Holy Martyrs Trophimus, Sabbatius and Dorymedont.
Common for Many Martyrs. Epistle, Ephesians 3:8-21; Gospel, Luke 4:1-15.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Postfestive Day of the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. The Holy Martyr Eustace and His Companions. The Holy Martyrs and Confessors, the Great Prince Michael and His Counsellor Theodore, Wonder-workers of Chernigov.
Epistle, Ephesians 4:14-19; Gospel, Luke 4:16-22.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Otdanije (Leave-taking) of the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. The Holy Apostle Codratus of Magnesia.
Epistle, Ephesians 4:17-25; Gospel, Luke 4:22-30.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

The Holy Martyr Phocas, Bishop of Sinope. The Holy Prophet Jonah. Our Venerable Father Jonah the Priest, Father of Theophane the Hymnographer and Theodore the Artist.
Commons for Bishop-Martyr and Apostle. Epistle, 1 Corinthians 14:20-25; Gospel, Luke 4:31-36.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. The Conception of the Holy Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John.
Resurrection Tone 8. Epistle: 2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1; Gospel, Luke 5:1-11.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

The Holy Martyr, Thecla. Synaxis of the Holy Fathers of the Pecherskaya Lavra who repose near the Venerable Anthony.
Common for Woman Martyr. Epistle, Ephesians 4:25-32; Gospel, Luke 4:37-44.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Our Venerable Mother Euphrosyna. Synaxis of the Holy Fathers of the Pecherskaya Lavra who repose near the Venerable Anthony.
Common for Venerable Woman. Epistle, Ephesians 5:2-26; Gospel, Luke 5:12-16.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

The Falling Asleep of the Holy Apostle and Evangelist John the Theologian.
Common for Apostle. Epistle, 1 John 4:12-19; Gospel, John 19:25-27; 21:24-25.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

The Holy Martyr Callistratus and His Companions. Our Venerable Father Nilus, Founder and Hegumen of the Grottaferrata Monastery.
Common for Many Martyrs. Epistle, Ephesians 5:33-6:9; Gospel, Luke 6:12-19.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

Our Venerable Father and Confessor Chariton. Wenceslaus, Prince of the Czechs. The Holy Prophet Baruch. The Passing of our Blessed Father and Confessor Bishop Nicetas Budka (1949).
Common for Venerable. Epistle, 2 Corinthians 4:6-15; Gospel, Luke 6:17-23.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

Our Venerable Father Cyriacus the Anchorite.
Common for Venerable. Epistle, 1 Corinthians 15:39-45; Gospel, Luke 5:17-26.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. The Holy Martyr Gregory, Bishop of Armenia.
Resurrection Tone 1. Epistle: 2 Corinthians 9:6-11.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 1

THE PROTECTION OF OUR MOST BLESSED LADY, THE MOTHER OF GOD AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY. The Holy Apostle Ananias. Our Venerable Father Romanos the Hymnographer.
Solemn Holyday. Epistle, Hebrews 9:1-7; Gospel, Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2

The Holy Bishop-Martyr Cyprian. The Holy Martyr Justina. The Holy Andrew, Fool for Christ.
Common for Bishop-Martyr. Epistle, Phillipians 1:8-14; Gospel Luke 6:37-45.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3

The Holy Bishop and Martyr Denis the Areopagite.
Common for Bishop-Martyr. Epistle, Phillipians 1:12-20; Gospel, Luke 6:46-7:1.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4

The Holy Martyr Hierotheus, Bishop of Athens. Our Venerable Father Francis of Assisi.
Common for Bishop-Martyr. Epistle, Phillipians 1:20-27; Gospel, Luke 7:17-30.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5

The Holy Martyr Charitina.
Common for Woman-Martyr. Epistle, Phillipians 1:27-2:4; Gospel, Luke 7:31-35.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6

The Holy and Glorious Apostle Thomas.
Common for Apostle. 8-67. Epistle, 1 Corinthians 4:9-16; Gospel, John 20:19-31.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. The Holy Martyrs Sergius and Bacchus.
Resurrection Tone 2. Epistle, 2 Corinthians 11:31-12:9; Gospel, Luke 7:11-16.

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