

MOSAIC

Coming together, we form an icon of God's Kingdom

Vol. 9, No. 10

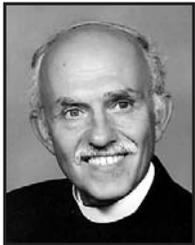
Holy Apostles Greek Orthodox Church 2501 S. Wolf Rd. Westchester, IL.

March 2005

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From Father Bill...



**Milestones
mean more
than you
think!**

Milestones are turning points in life. They are part of life for everyone, the rich and the poor, the strong and the weak. They come to us and should be carefully observed because they are important sign posts providing direction. On the surface, these milestones may give the appearance as being ordinary, but with careful thought and prayer, one will discover their meaning. We can be so busy making good time on the road of life that we do little more than glance at the milestones as we pass them by. I read recently that no matter where you are in life, God has equipped you to accomplish great things.

A few weeks have passed since I observed my 49th year in the holy priesthood, a milestone for me personally and for my family, and an opportunity to reflect on the passing of these years.

As a priest, I have had the unique privilege of sitting or kneeling alongside many who are on the threshold of their eternal home. The last words they utter, "Lord, forgive my sins" are of great significance. Jesus' last words before His spirit left Him at Golgotha contain seven significant statements while He was suspended on the cross.

We will soon enter the Great and Holy Lent and prepare to celebrate Pascha. Lent is a time for inner reflection and seeking for God to cancel our transgressions.

On Holy Thursday night, after the reading of the Twelve Holy Gospels, I take my seat next to Presvetera in the congregation. It is a special moment for us as our thoughts return through the corridor of time and connect us

...See Fr. Bill on P. 3

A beloved face here again for Celebration

Holy Apostles will again be graced with a visit from one of Orthodoxy's most distinguished hierarchs, Bishop Kallistos Ware. He will present three thought-provoking talks during this year's Celebration of Books.

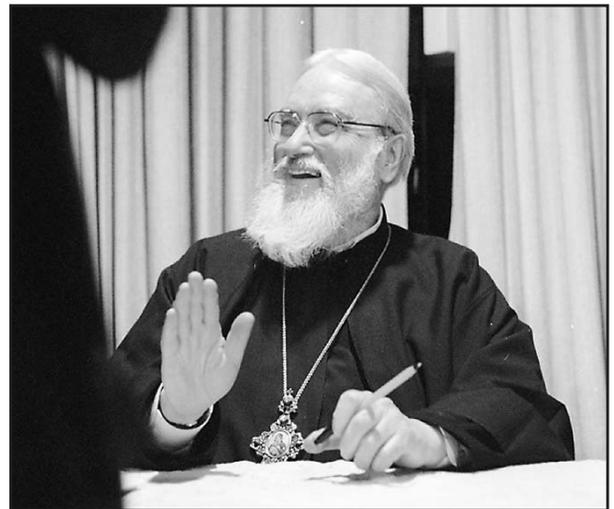
On March 27, he will discuss "Why does a God of love allow innocent suffering?". On March 29, the topic will be "Can we find a solution in the Book of Job?" Then on March 31, he will conclude with "Only one way forward: 'Forgive us... as we forgive.'"

Bishop Kallistos (Timothy Ware) was born in England at Bath, Somerset, in 1934. He was educated at Westminster School, London, and at Magdalen College, Oxford, where he took a Double First in Classics, and then went on to read Theology.

He joined the Orthodox Church in 1958, and was ordained deacon in 1965, given the new name of Kallistos. In 1965 he was ordained to the priesthood. He took monastic vows at the Monastery of St. John the Theologian in Patmos, Greece, where he continues to be a member.

From 1966 to 2001 he taught in the faculty of Theology at Oxford University as Spalding Lecturer in Eastern Orthodox Studies. In 1966, he founded the Greek Orthodox parish of the Holy Trinity in Oxford, and in 1967, he was promoted to the rank of Archimandrite. In 1970, he became a Fellow of Pembroke College, Oxford. In 1982, he was consecrated titular Bishop of Diokleia and was appointed as one of the assistant bishops in the Orthodox Archdiocese of Thyateira and Great Britain (under the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople). During 1992-94, he was Chairman of the Board of the Theology Faculty at Oxford.

Bishop Kallistos is active in work for Christian unity. During 1973-84, he was a



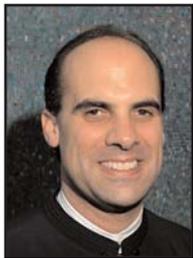
Bishop Kallistos greets parishioners during a previous visit.

member of the Anglican-Orthodox Joint Doctrinal Discussions. During most of this time, he served as the Orthodox theological secretary to the commission. During 1992-97, he served as the Orthodox co-chairman of the Preparatory Commission for the Orthodox-Methodist Theological Dialogue. He was one of the editors of *Eastern Churches Review* during 1967-78. He is a vice-president of the Fellowship of St. Alban and St. Sergius, and acts as one of the editors of the Fellowship's journal, *Sobornost*. He is also a moderator of the Ecumenical Society of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Bishop Kallistos is the author of *The Orthodox Church*; *Eustratios Argenti: A Study of the Greek Church under Turkish Rule*; *The Orthodox Way*, and *The Inner Kingdom*, the first of a planned six-volume collection of his works. He is co-translator of two Orthodox service books, *The Festal Menaion* and *The Lenten Triodion*, and also of *The Philokelia*.

Bishop Kallistos lectures around the world and speaks equally to laypeople and specialists on both timeless mysteries and urgent contemporary concerns.

From Father Nicholas



Extreme Makeover, Home Edition

A few days ago, the ground hog saw its shadow. So, we are in for a long winter. When our family is confined indoors, we all enjoy watching the “Extreme Makeover – Home Edition” show on Sunday nights. This show is a popular reality TV show. After the producer’s review thousands of written applications, families are chosen for a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Their entire home, inside and out, is renovated. Families that are chosen typically have suffered a tragedy or unfortunate circumstance in their lives. The show’s staff comes to the house on Monday morning and begins interviewing the family to determine their renovation needs. Extreme Makeover then sends the family away on a seven-day vacation. Volunteer workers, directed by the design team, transform the old house into a new home. The family returns to see a huge bus shielding their home. When the show’s host yells “Move that bus”, a totally renovated, brand new home is revealed. The cost? Nothing.

We too, have a free gift that is given to us each year. This gift is even better than a newly renovated home. It is a spiritual gift that can transform us – Lent! The Gospel readings leading up to Lent show us the importance of the season. They prepare our hearts and souls for the great and Holy Lenten season.

A few weeks ago, we celebrated the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee. The Gospel reading addresses something that is fundamental to progress in the Christian life – humility. This is the willingness of a person to be humble and acknowledge his sinfulness. Acknowledgement brings repentance and a pledge to place our total dependence on God’s great mercy and infinite grace. Once we realize how much we have alienated ourselves from God, then we can take the necessary steps to true and lasting communion with Him. The Pre-Lenten season begins with a very deliberate question that will challenge us throughout Lent: “How willing are we to humble ourselves before God?”

Last week we observed the Sunday of the Prodigal Son. This is a moving parable of a father reuniting with his lost and wayward son. The passage encourages deeper reflection upon the great mystery of reconciliation and the unconditional love of God towards us, fallen but repenting. This parable conveys the



Gavel to Gavel



BY PETER POTERES... Parish Council Secretary

Parish Council meeting of Thursday, January 27

Present: Fr. William Chiganos and Fr. Nicholas Georgiou, George Alex, Don Alexander, James Banakis, George Beshilas, George Chechopoulos, Terry Chiganos, Sandy Fiascone, Ted Gregory, Nick Kirkeles, George Mannos Jr., Peter Poteres, Steve Savas, Peter Tomaras, and Chris Zurales.

Finance

✦ Peter Poteres reported that for the month of December, the church had a favorable net revenue of \$71,062.44. The twelve months ending December 2004 reflected a favorable amount of \$37,678.66. There were no outstanding expenses. Steve Savas moved to approve the financial statement. The motion passed.

✦ Peter Poteres stated that the church has a cash surplus in the amount of \$51,300. In order to balance the budget, he recommended that we add the surplus of \$51,300 to the special projects for building & grounds. Nick Kirkeles moved to approve the 2005 Budget with the recommended changes. The motion passed unanimously.

Stewardship

✦ Ted Gregory reported that for December 2004, the church received 898 pledges (down 35 from 2003) totaling \$598,253 (up 25,355.50 from 2003) for an average pledge of \$666.21 (up \$52.18 per pledge from 2003). Amount paid YTD was \$582,309.48 (up \$31,327.98 from 2003). Ted was very encouraged that the amount paid was up \$31,327.98 and thanked George Mannos Jr. and his committee for their hard work.

Correspondence

✦ An item was submitted to the Suggestion Box stating the concerning the religious demeanor during Holy Communion. It was recommended that a focus on prayer ensue while the faithful are awaiting the Blessed Sacrament. Everyone agreed that education must continue to heighten the awareness during the Divine Liturgy, in general, and Holy Communion in particular.

infinite magnitude of our Lord’s great love and mercy. Before we begin our Lenten journey, we are reminded that no degree of alienation from God is too great to be reconciled. God does not reject the person that truly desires lasting communion with Him. Instead,

Meditation

✦ Fr. Bill spoke about The Holy Presentation of our Lord in the Temple celebrated on February 2. This is the day when Mary and Joseph presented Jesus to the Lord, according to the Law of Moses. We celebrate this event today when parents bring their newborns to church for the forty day blessing.

Building and Grounds

✦ George Alex moved that we pay Ed Straka’s estate \$750 for work that he had completed prior to his sudden death. The motion passed.

Ways and Means

✦ Macaronatha Luncheon will be Sunday, March 13. Sandy reminded the Council that all members must help with set-up on Saturday and serving on Sunday.

Old Business

✦ At the request of the Archdiocese, Holy Apostles has prepaid its 2005 financial obligation in full. Nick Kirkeles delivered the check to the Very Reverend Demetri Kantzavelos. Father Bill thanked the Parish Council for responding to the request.

New Business

✦ Father Bill reported that we collected over \$6000, with donations still coming in, for the Tsunami Relief Fund through Metropolitan Nikitas’ office. The Metropolitan will provide a full accounting of how the funds are used.

✦ Chris Zurales explained that we could reduce the cost of postage by using email and accessing the parish website. It was suggested that an item should appear in the Mosaic to explore the issue further.

✦ Don Alexander suggested that in order to reduce accounting fees, we explore the option of completing our own monthly compilation reports, and have the accountant only provide an annual audit.

Correction

✦ The correct spelling of the Parish Council President is Sandy Fiascone. We regret the error in the February issue.

He offers that person divine grace, restoration and forgiveness.

The next week is known as Meat Fare or the Sunday of Judgment. Our Lord reminds us that although He is a loving and merciful

...See Fr. Nicholas on P. 6

Fr. Bill from p1

The fruits of Lent will fall on a forgiving heart

with our deceased daughter, Sofia. Seated in the peaceful surroundings and gazing upon the precious cross underscores the significance of life in the church. In absolute darkness, one by one, the faithful proceed to the foot of the cross and light a candle, dispersing darkness. The absolute silence is only broken by the footsteps of the pious faithful expressing their adoration and love to the crucified Savior.

The mind wanders as to what that night was like during those dark hours. He hung between heaven and earth with iron spikes, His feet and hands nailed to the heavy timbers. Ancient hymns sung by our chanters move everyone to tears.

The people of His day, along with all of us, sense His shame. They ripped off His clothes and gambled for them. They taunted Him with vinegar and vulgar slurs. They stripped Him of every shred of dignity and decency. His response?

The evangelist Luke tells us His response was: "But Jesus was saying, 'Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.'" The verb tense in the original Greek conveys the idea that He continued to say, "Father, forgive them...Father, forgive them...Father forgive them!" The troparia (hymns) chanted throughout the entire Lenten period focus on forgiveness. The Orthodox Church observes an evening of forgiveness on Forgiveness Sunday when the faithful are called to worship to express contrition and seek pardon from their sins. At the conclusion of this service, in a dramatic expression of humility and faithfulness, there is an exchange of love and forgiveness from everyone in attendance.

Forgive? Ah, there's the rub. Forgiveness isn't that simple. It requires shrugging off the royal robes of pride and instead clothing oneself in humility. It means that instead of nursing your bitterness, you bury past hurts and refuse to bring them up again. It means instead of playing the broken record of others' painful words and actions over and over in your mind, you toss out the record and start broadcasting the refreshing message of grace.

When we search the Scriptures, we discover the healing that occurs during forgiveness. Matthew 5 and 18 teach us that forgiveness is a choice. Personal healing will not begin until we first offer the gift of forgiveness to others.

Surrender is the hardest thing to do when you have been violated. It becomes your greatest fear. What I find in Christ's Word makes surrender less frightening: "Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous, love does not brag and is not arrogant, does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong

suffered, does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things" (1 Cor.)

One must be more intimate with God and depend upon Him. Lean upon God for the grace and the strength to forgive the one who has hurt you, realizing that forgiveness is risky. The person you forgive might hurt you again. Forgiveness is also costly, not based on feelings but on a willingness to follow Jesus Christ's example and direction.

I stated earlier that forgiveness is not simple. Learning how to forgive is one of the most courageous steps of faith you could take this year. It is with this gesture of reconciliation that we signal our desire to be reconciled with God, this being the aim and objective of our journey. For forty days we will wander through the Lenten desert. Already we can glimpse the radiance of Easter morning. Watch and pray while these milestones continue to enter your life and learn from them.

God's blessings and grace be with you

Kids will be kids... even in church

A little boy was in a relative's wedding. As he was coming down the aisle, he would take two steps, stop, and turn to the crowd. He would put his hands up like claws and roar. So it went step, step, ROAR; step, step, ROAR; all the way down the aisle. As you can imagine, the crowd was near tears from laughing so hard by the time he reached the pulpit. When asked what he was doing, the child sniffed and said, "I was being the Ring Bear."

One Sunday in a Midwest City, a young child was "acting up" during the morning worship hour. The parents did their best to maintain some sense of order in the pew, but were losing the battle. Finally, the father picked the little fellow up and walked sternly up the aisle. On his way out just before reaching the safety of the foyer, the little one called loudly to the congregation, "Pray for me! Pray for me!"

One particular four-year-old prayed, "And forgive us our trash baskets, as we forgive those who put trash in our baskets."

A little boy was overhead praying: "Lord, if you can't make me a better boy, don't worry about it. I'm having a real good time like I am."

A Sunday School teacher asked her little children, as they were on their way to church service, "And why is it necessary to be quiet in church?" One bright little girl replied, "Because people are sleeping."

The preacher was wired for sound with a lapel mike, and as he preached, he moved briskly about the platform, jerking the microphone as he went. Then he moved to one side, getting wound up in the cord and nearly tripping before jerking it again. After several circles and jerks, a little girl in the third pew leaned toward her mother and whispered, "If he gets loose, will he hurt us?"

Six-year-old Angie and her four-year-old brother Joel were sitting together in church.

Joel giggled, sang, and talked out loud. Finally, his big sister had had enough. "You're not supposed to talk out loud in church." "Why? Who's going to stop me?" Joel asked. Angie pointed to the back of the church and said, "See those two men standing by the door? They're hushers."

My grandson was visiting one day when he asked, "Grandma, do you know how you and God are alike?" I mentally polished my halo while I asked, "No, how are we alike?" "You're both old." He replied.

A ten-year-old, under the tutelage of her grandmother, was becoming quite knowledgeable about the Bible. Then, one day, she floored her grandmother by asking, "Which Virgin was the mother of Jesus? The Virgin Mary or the King James Virgin?"

I had been teaching my three-year-old daughter, Caitlin, The Lord's Prayer. For several evenings at bedtime, she would repeat after me the lines from the prayer. Finally, she decided to go solo. I listened with pride as she carefully enunciated each word, right up to the end of the prayer "Lead us not into temptation," she prayed, "but deliver us some E-mail. Amen."

A mother was preparing pancakes for her sons, Kevin, 5, and Ryan, 3. The boys began to argue over who would get the first pancake. Their mother saw the opportunity for a moral lesson. "If Jesus were sitting here, He would say, 'Let my brother have the first pancake, I can wait.'" Kevin turned to his younger brother and said, "Ryan, you be Jesus."

A Sunday School class was studying the Ten Commandments. They were ready to discuss the last one. The teacher asked if anyone could tell her what it was. Susie raised her hand, stood tall, and quoted, "Thou shall not take the covers off the neighbor's wife."

Godparents' Luncheon, a time for family sharing



Maria Kallis holds the mike for Peter Savas who reads his original thoughts on "what my godparents mean to me".



Dr. Bob Pavlakos holds his godson Michael Linardakis before luncheon is served.



Rosalie Christofidis, above, chats with her goddaughter Elise Kotsakis.



At left, Faith Kouimelis and Nick Stathopoulos were among the children of Philoptohos members who volunteered to set the tables and distributed the food. A capacity crowd of 350 persons attended this family-style luncheon.

Straight talk about fasting from Mr. D

On March 14, Orthodox Christians will begin a 48-day period of prayer, fasting, repentance, and other spiritual exercises. Why the number 48 and what is fasting? Initially, "fasting" meant not eating any food whatsoever for a specific period of time: hours, a day, or a number of days. Later, it also took on the meaning of abstaining from certain foods.

Fasting has been practiced by almost all religions from ancient times as a consequence of grief, testing, mourning, or as a preparation for important religious tests and ceremonies. It was also prescribed for the purification of the soul as well as for the health of the body.

Among ancient peoples, the Hebrews, Egyptians, Romans, the Athenians, and Spartans fasted. Specifically, the Spartans mandated a general fast, especially when preparing for war. What many people may not know is that George Washington proclaimed days of prayer and fasting during difficult times in our War of Independence.

The Jews, as an expression of humility and atonement, had only one yearly national fast, established by the Mosaic Law, which lasted just one day during the holiday period of Purification.

Following the return of the Jews from the Persian captivity (531 B.C.), more yearly fasts were added. Fasts were accompanied by acts of repentance and other deprivations. King David fasted when he was deeply troubled or sought forgiveness from God.

During the time Jesus lived, the Pharisees kept strict fasts twice a week, on Monday and Thursday, in remembrance of Moses ascending and descending Mount Sinai. The Essenes, Jews who lived a monastic existence, fasted often, abstaining primarily from meat and wine.

Christ did not abolish the practice of fasting, but He himself fasted for 40 days (Lk. 4:1-2). He cited fasting along with prayer as a means of fighting against the devil (Mk. 9:29). Fasting, along with prayer, is mentioned elsewhere in the New Testament and St. Paul recommends fasting along with prayer for married couples.

Therefore, among New Testament Christians, fasting was prescribed as a preparation for important religious tasks and as a means and motivation for achieving temperance and spiritual exaltation. Christianity, being first and foremost a spiritual religion, didn't give fasting primary importance at first, considering it a means and not an end. As a result, specific periods didn't immediately develop in the church.

According to Christian writings dating from the end of the first century A.D., the earliest weekly fasts were Wednesday, in remembrance of Judas' betrayal of Christ, and

Friday, the day Christ was crucified. The most ancient yearly fast developed before Easter, and was based on Christ's suffering, crucifixion, burial, and on His words "...but the days will come, when the bridegroom shall be taken from them, and then shall they fast".

According to St. Justin the Martyr (second century A.D.), Christians kept this fast strictly. By the fourth century A.D., the fasting period before Easter had been extended to 40 days. However, this fast did not include Holy Week. Among American Orthodox Christians, this 40-day period before Holy Week is commonly called Great Lent. Therefore, the periods of Great Lent and Holy Week taken together comprise approximately 48 days.

During Great Lent, the early Christians didn't eat anything Monday through Friday other than dry bread and water, which they consumed at 3 p.m., the time Christ died, or following the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts, celebrated Wednesday and Friday evenings throughout Great Lent. When the ancient documents say "the fast was "loosed" (broken) on Saturday and Sunday," this meant that olive oil and wine could be added to the diet, and perhaps vegetables, nuts, and dried fruit. Furthermore, two meals, instead of one, could be eaten on Saturday and Sunday.

No meat, fish, eggs, or dairy products were consumed during the entire 48-day Easter fast, except on March 25th, when fish was permitted. Travelers, the very young or very old, and the sick were not required to fast as strictly. Fasting during Holy Week was kept as strictly as during Great Lent, with the exception that no oil was consumed on Holy and Great Saturday.

Fasting in later centuries also took on the meaning of abstaining from certain foods, but this was not its initial meaning. Finally, based on St. John Chrysostom's festive homily read at the conclusion of the Easter Sunday Liturgy, it appears that not all Christians fasted during Great Lent, or at least, they didn't fast as strictly.

However you and your family choose to fast, keep in mind our Savior's words, "Moreover, when you fast, do not be like the hypocrites, with a sad countenance. For they disfigure their faces that they may appear to men to be fasting. ... But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, so that you do not appear to men to be fasting, but to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly" (Mt. 6:16-18).

No one can order you to fast under threat of penalties if you don't. Otherwise, it wouldn't be a secret. Finally, don't be tripped up by trivial and divisive details, as for example, using cream or a cream substitute, olive oil or

vegetable oil. You and your family must make the choice, which must remain between you and God. You may, however, decide to seek the guidance of your spiritual father in this matter.

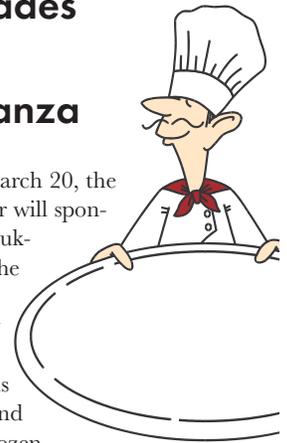
In closing, I urge you to read Isaiah 58:1-12, which describes in a beautiful way how fasting must be accompanied by compassion towards one's fellow man.

Editors' Note: Lenten cookbooks, service books and meditations are available in HARC.

Loukoumades sale extravaganza

On Sunday, March 20, the Adventure Theater will sponsor an awesome loukoumades sale, in the multi-purpose room immediately following Divine Liturgy. The cost is \$3.50 per dozen and \$10.00 for three dozen.

Coffee and juice will be provided. You can purchase your loukoumades to go, or sit down at a table, relax, and enjoy them.



March Registry

Baptisms

John Emmett, son of
Christine & John Lee
Sponsor: Elaine Selos

Lily, daughter of
Laura & Dean Panos
Sponsors: Andrea & John Patrinos

Thomas Gregor, son of
Diana & Theodore Dietz
Sponsor: Katina O'Connor

Katherine, daughter of
Fay & Spyro Demakis
Sponsors: Freida & Deno Varlas

Weddings

None

Opportunities for youth this spring

College Students Throughout the month of March, universities will offer students a break from schoolwork. *Real Break* is an alternative to the traditional Spring Break and offers college students the opportunity to live and learn more about their Orthodox Christian life. Teams travel to exciting locations to help others, experience the overwhelming presence of Christ, meet Orthodox students from all over North America and create incredible experiences that will change their lives and hearts. If you are interested in taking part in this exciting ministry, information is available at www.ocf.net or by calling 800-919-1623.

Metropolis of Chicago Winter Camp

The camp will be held at the Conference Point Retreat Center in Williams Bay, Wisconsin. This year's exciting theme is "Integrity: Who I am when no one else is around." The Great Escape" (9th-12th grades) will be held from

March 18-20. "New Frontiers" (6th-8th grades) will take place from April 1-3. Join kids from all over Chicago for an exciting weekend of learning, fellowship and fun. Reunite with friends from Fanari Summer Camp and the Jr. Olympics. It's an experience that you will never forget. For more information, call the Youth Office at 773-626-5400.

AHEPA Scholarship Foundation

Applications are available for the Order of AHEPA's scholarships for 2005. Eligible students must have a minimum four-year cumulative grade point average of B, be a high school senior, and be of Greek heritage or have a parent that is an active member of AHEPA. Detailed eligibility requirements are listed on page one of the application, under Guidelines. The deadline for submitting application is March 15. Applications are available in the church office.

Upcoming events for Philoptohos

On Sunday evening, March 27, Philoptohos will host the Celebration of Books reception following the lecture. Your Lenten baked goods are welcome.

In lieu of a March/April meeting, on Wednesday, April 6, Philoptohos will host a Lenten dinner following the Pre-Sanctified Liturgy.

The dinner will be served buffet style in the multi-purpose room. Help from those attending is always appreciated.

Fr. Nicholas From p. 2

Pre-Lenten themes gradually prepare us for the Great Fast

God, and forgiving Father, He is also the great Judge of all. Our Lord is a just and fair judge. On this day, we are reminded that after we receive the freely given grace of God, we must convey genuine and limitless love to each other. This includes love and help for our neighbors and even our enemies. Did we forget the things that really count? Did we do things only because we loved ourselves and wanted to be recognized by others? Were we motivated by some other personal or selfish motive? These are some of the difficult questions asked on this day.

Finally, the fourth week is Cheese Fare Sunday. This is the last of the Pre-Lenten Sundays, the day before the beginning of Lent. On this day, we are reminded of our great need for forgiveness. We need forgiveness from the Lord after forgiving others first. The readings also remind us to forgive ourselves. If God can forgive us, we should forgive ourselves. We are encouraged to fast secretly. The passage tells us: "when you fast, do not be like the hypocrites with a sad countenance – but (fast) to you Father who is in the secret place."

These four Sundays preceding Lent are great tools that the Church gives us. They can prepare us for Lent and the struggles that it brings. By utilizing these Sundays to prepare for Lent, our souls and minds will be illumined. Hopefully, when Great Lent begins and we begin to be transformed, "Move that bus!", and experience a spiritual makeover.

ABC=Appropriate Behavior in Church

Here are a few suggestions to help those with little children make the most of worship time.

Sit in pews as close to the front as possible so that the children can observe what's taking place. Restrict, but do not prohibit movement. Say "whisper" rather than "don't talk."

Bring materials for the children, such as children's Liturgy books, or use the one in the pews. Check HARC for materials that may be useful in church.

Prepare your children for the Liturgy before you leave home. Explain that today we are going to be in Jesus' house and it will be a special time for all. When entering the church, give them their own candle to light and assist them to venerate the saints and the icons. Teach them the Lord's Prayer, encourage them to sing the simple responses such as "Lord have mercy." Explain the sacredness of the Entrances, Christ coming in our midst and the walk to Golgotha. Remind them the focus of each Liturgy is Holy Communion.

Don't be harsh with your children. You probably expect better behavior from them



than your parish family does. If you feel they are being disruptive and annoy others in church, usher them to the rear of the church, quiet them down and then return. Perhaps a visit to the Cry Room would help. Don't

give up on them too soon. After all, they are children and though you may not realize it, through the presence of the Holy Spirit, their lives are being sanctified every moment in church.

When it comes time for Holy Communion, remain in your row. An usher will guide you to approach the holy altar. It is not necessary for you to go into the hall and wait with other parents who have taken their children from Sunday school, or have infants. We can maintain the beauty and decorum throughout the entire time you and your child are in church.

What follows from your experience at the Liturgy is vital. Make the church an important part of your life. Strive to learn more, pray more, and do good works. Review at an appropriate time what the child experienced and be prepared to answer questions.

Attend extra services with your children during Lent, Christmas and summer.

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

<p>Safety Advisory Effective immediately, parents must personally pickup their children from their Sunday School classrooms. Children will not be dismissed otherwise.</p>		<p>4:30pm Greek School 7:00pm Religious Education Meeting</p>	<p>1:00pm Adult Christian Fellowship And Study Group 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Catechism Instruction</p>	<p>4:30pm Greek School</p>	<p>4:30pm Adventure Theater</p>	<p>FIRST SATURDAY OF THE SOULS 8:00am Orthros 9:00am Divine Liturgy 10:00am Adventure Theater Retreat</p>
		1	2	3	4	5
<p>MEAT FARE SUNDAY 8:00am Orthros 9:15am Awaken To God 9:30am Divine Liturgy Fellowship Hour Greek School Dinner Dance</p>	<p>5:15pm The Way</p>	<p>9:45am TOTS 4:30pm Greek School 7:30pm GOYA Meeting</p>	<p>1:00pm Adult Christian Fellowship And Study Group 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Catechism Instruction</p>	<p>4:30pm Greek School</p>	<p>4:30pm Adventure Theater 7:30pm YAL Meeting</p>	<p>SECOND SATURDAY OF THE SOULS 8:00am Orthros 9:00am Divine Liturgy 10:00am Altar Boy Meeting</p>
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
<p>CHEESE FARE SUNDAY 8:00am Orthros 9:15am Awaken To God 9:30am Divine Liturgy Macaronatha Luncheon 6:30pm Forgiveness Service</p>	<p>LENT BEGINS 12:00pm Sixth Hour 5:15pm The Way 6:00pm Holy Unction</p>	<p>12:00pm Sixth Hour 4:30pm Greek School</p>	<p>12:00pm Sixth Hour 1:00pm Adult Christian Fellowship And Study Group 6:00pm Presanctified Liturgy 7:30pm Catechism Instruction 7:30pm Parish Council Mtg</p>	<p>12:00pm Sixth Hour 4:15pm Greek School Greek Independence Program</p>	<p>12:00pm Sixth Hour 4:30pm Adventure Theater 7:00pm First Heretismi (Salutations) 8:15pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>THIRD SATURDAY OF THE SOULS 8:00am Orthros 9:00am Divine Liturgy</p>
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
<p>SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY 8:00am Orthros 9:15am Awaken To God 9:30am Divine Liturgy Loukoumades Sale</p>	<p>5:15pm The Way 6:30pm Great Compline</p>	<p>12:00pm Sixth Hour 4:30pm Greek School GOYA Ice Skating Evening</p>	<p>1:00pm Adult Christian Fellowship And Study Group 6:00pm Presanctified Liturgy 7:30pm Catechism Instruction</p>	<p>12:00pm Sixth Hour 4:30pm Greek School 7:00pm Vespers At Annunciation Cathedral</p>	<p>ANNUNCIATION OF THE THEOTOKOS 8:00am Orthros 9:00am Divine Liturgy 3:00pm Adventure Theater 7:00pm Second Heretismi 8:15pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
<p>8:00am Orthros 9:15am Awaken To God 9:30am Divine Liturgy CELEBRATION OF BOOKS BEGINS 6:30pm Vespers Service 8:00pm Presentation By Bishop Ware</p>	<p>6:30pm Great Compline</p>	<p>12:00pm Sixth Hour 4:30pm Greek School 6:30pm Great Compline 8:00pm Presentation By Bishop Ware</p>	<p>1:00pm Adult Christian Fellowship And Study Group 6:00pm Presanctified Liturgy 7:30pm Catechism Instruction</p>	<p>12:00pm Sixth Hour 6:30pm Great Compline 8:00pm Presentation By Bishop Ware</p>		
27	28	29	30	31		

Weekday Services

Saturday of the Souls

Saturday, March 5
Saturday, March 12
Saturday, March 19
8:00am Orthros
9:00am Liturgy

Sixth Hour

Monday, March 14 to Friday, March 18
and
Tuesday, March 22
Thursday, March 24
Tuesday, March 29
Thursday, March 31
12:00pm

Presanctified Liturgy

Wednesday, March 16
Wednesday, March 23
Wednesday, March 30
6:00 pm

Great Compline

Monday, March 21
Monday, March 28
Tuesday, March 29
Thursday, March 31
6:00 pm

Holy Unction

Monday, March 14
6:00 pm

Heretismi

Friday, March 18
Friday, March 25
7:00pm

Annunciation

Friday, March 25
8:00am Orthros
9:00am Liturgy

Memorials

*Alexandra Kokos
Bessie Demos
George Marines
Mary Moore
Gus Psychogios
George Adams
Lambrini Adams
Louis Adams
Dr. George Alles
Nota Papanton
John Chulos
Toula Efthimiou
Constantine Kallos*

Funerals

*William Sigalos
Constantine Kallos
John Chulos
James John McKay
George Diamantos*

Macaronatha Luncheon

Please mark your calendars for the annual Macaronatha luncheon on Sunday March 13 immediately following Divine Liturgy. Although the lunch is complimentary, free will donations will be accepted to benefit the missions programs. Space is limited, so please book your reservations as soon as possible by visiting the reservations table during fellowship hour or by calling Steve and Stacey Savas at 708-387-2080. We look forward to seeing you at this wonderful family event. If you are unable to attend but would like to make a donation to the missions, please contact any Parish Council member.

Mosaic Deadline

The deadline
for the April Mosaic is
Tuesday, March 8.

Holy Apostles' Wish List

We are in need of some commercial pots and pans for the kitchen. Donations totaling up to \$600 will be needed to acquire these cooking items. Please contact Steven Savas at 708-387-2080. As always, thank you for your generosity.

Holy Apostles Greek Orthodox Church
2501 S. Wolf Rd.
Westchester, Il. 60154
(708) 562-2744

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