

**THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER**  
*St. Peter & St. Paul Orthodox Church*  
**Orthodox Church in America**  
 6980 S. County Line Road—Burr Ridge, IL 60527  
 Fr. Herman Kincaid, Rector



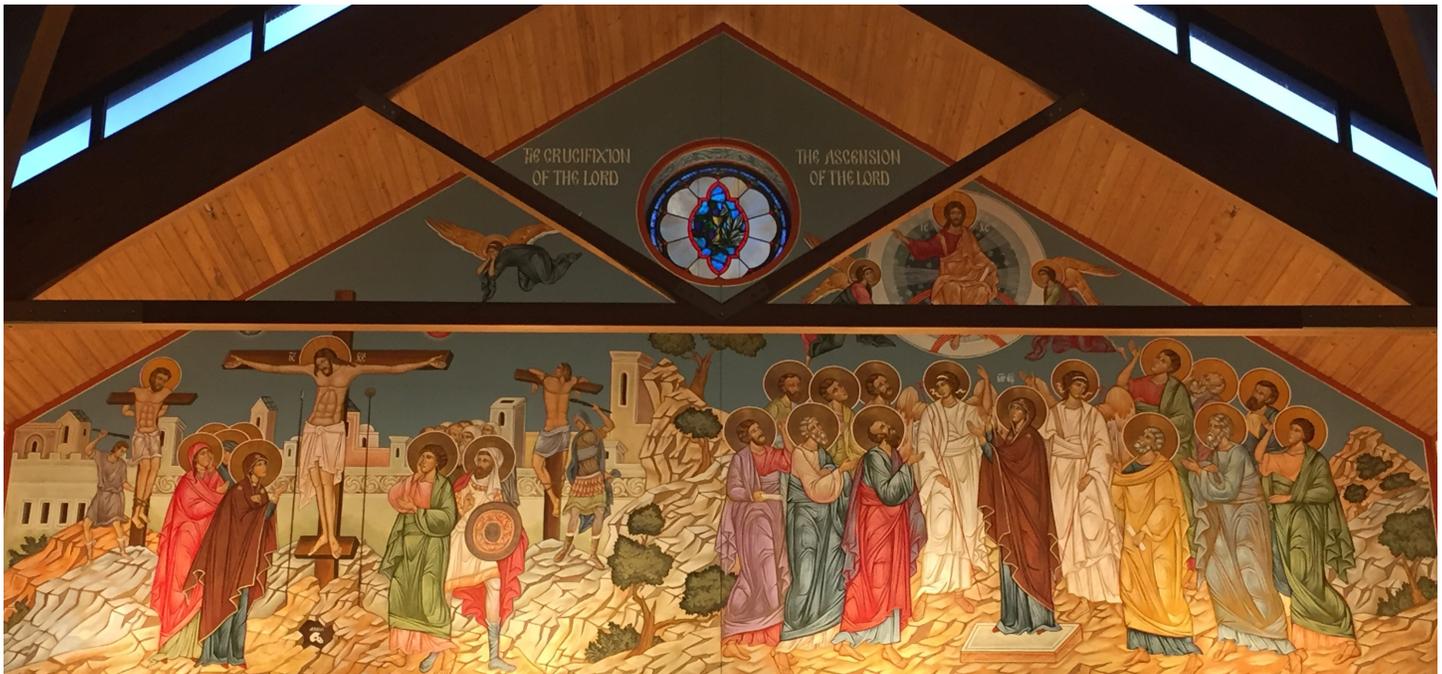
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<http://orthodoxssp.org>

Produced by the adjunct committee on Evangelization, Outreach and Parish Stewardship (EOPS). Our hope is to concentrate on information, people and events. Information should be given to Shirley Bryar, Dorothy Koncel or Fr. Herman. Back copies of all Newsletters can be viewed in our library.

**SUMMER 2016**

*Once again, Fr. Ted has astounded us with his magnificent talent. He will return next year to work on another area of our church.*



**CRUCIFIXION**

In our Orthodox Study Bible, Luke 23:33 - 43, it is written that two thieves were crucified alongside Jesus, one on the right hand and the other on the left. The thief on Christ's right admitted his deeds, but argued that Jesus had done no wrong. He asked Jesus to remember him, to which Jesus replied,

**“Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.”**

The unrepentant thief on Christ's left hand is depicted farther away.



**ASCENSION**

**40 Days after Pascha (Easter)**

Jesus appears to his disciples after his Resurrection and reminds them in Luke 24:44,

**“These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning me.”**

He then led them to Bethany, lifted up his arms to bless them and ascended as two men stood by him in white garments. The Theotokos appears in the center. Christ is depicted ascending into heaven on a mandorla, surrounded by angels.

Our wonderful iconographer, Fr. Theodore Jurewicz, created this years work on the upper North wall.

Note: A Mandorla is a round or almond shaped design used in icons such as the Ascension and Descent Into Hades depicted on the East wall of our church. Usually it surrounds the Resurrected Christ in icons of the Transfiguration, the Resurrection and the Dormition of the Theotokos.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



Chaplaincy Conference & Annual Training

I had the opportunity to participate in two important training events in the past few months.

First, I attended a professional development conference on ethical decision making for Navy Chaplains at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. During this conference I was treated with a tour of the chapel used by Fr. Stephen Duesenberg (Commander), a brother OCA priest. The chapel is a historic site once used by African-American Marines during the era of segregation. Faithful Orthodox Christians attend the chapel services regularly.

Second, I attended two weeks of Annual Training at Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center in Twentynine Palms, California. In addition to serving a Sunday Divine Liturgy and spending time with PFC Michael Sutko, I was assigned to a unit whose chaplain was deployed overseas. Although very different from parish ministry, this experience served as a professional development as well. In a parish you see members of the community once a week (assuming they attend liturgy every Sunday). This brief encounter does not allow much quality time to build a relationship. Unless invited to visit in their homes or during sick calls, I must wait for parish members to "come to church" and stay after liturgy or vespers to talk. In a military setting the dynamic is very different: as chaplain, I am present in the Marines' work spaces without invitation. Much of my time was spent "making the rounds" to office cubicles, the base airfield, motor pool and various posts. As a Navy Chaplain, I cannot wait for people to approach me - I must approach them if there is any hope of developing a rapport and building trust. This training was especially helpful for me due to my fear of disrupting other's routines. I was forced to put my fears aside and enter the space of others, striving to develop conversation with them in hopes of building trust.

Does this military training benefit our parish dynamic? My answer is a resounding YES! How so? All vocations demand periodic professional development, the learning of new skills, and time for personal reflection. These military sessions allowed me to learn about ethical decision making (while reflecting on my own moral compass), push beyond my own barriers to ministry by visiting others in unique situations, and allowing for some time for personal reflection. It is my hope to return home to our parish with new skills, a refreshed spirit and new perspectives for ministering to our wonderful spiritual family.

Fr. Herman Kincaid



MANY YEARS YOUR BEATITUDE

Friday, July 15, marked the 50th birthday of Metropolitan Tikhon. As St. Peter and St. Paul Church is his home parish, we all here, in Burr Ridge, wish him a very Happy Birthday, and a wonderful year ahead.



HOLY SEPULCHRE UNDERGOES RESTORATION



Right after Easter this year, long awaited repairs and cleaning began on the Tomb of Jesus. Each marble slab is being removed and cleaned of smoke from the many candles. Also, repairs are being made. After the 1927 earthquake, a protective system of iron scaffolding and supports were installed. The Greek Orthodox, Roman Catholic, and Armenian Churches are responsible for maintaining separate sections of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, have agreed on the required restoration. Also, Jordan's King Abdullah said that he would help pay for the project, as Jordan continues to play a role in safeguarding Muslim and Christian Holy Sites. The work is expected to be finished in March, 2017.

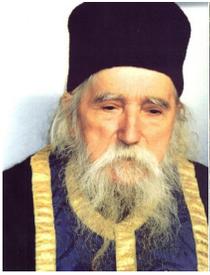


Bishop Paul celebrates Divine Liturgy in St. Petersburg, Russia's Holy Trinity Cathedral at the St. Alexander Nevsky Lavra, in July, 2016. He traveled there as the guest of the Russian Church with Frs. John Adamcio and Alexander Garklavs for the Feast of the Tikhvin Icon.

Entrance to 29 Palms Base. Each tree commemorates a Marine Corps battle.

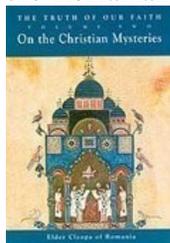


**Elder Cleopa of Romania  
1912—1998**



*Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of GOD, consider the outcome of their life and imitate their faith. (Hebrews 13:7)*

Elder Cleopa was one of the outstanding Orthodox Spiritual leaders of the 20th Century. When he fell asleep in the Lord in 1998, over 10,000 people gathered at his funeral at Sihastrea Monastery located in a remote area of the Carpathian Mountains of N.E. Romania. He was born Constantine Ilie in 1912. When he was seventeen he entered the Monastery of Sihastrea together with his two brothers. He was assigned the task of caring for the monasteries herd of sheep. While a shepherd, he prayed and read the scriptures, along with the writings of the Fathers that he borrowed from the monasteries library. In 1937, after six years of monastic life, Brother Constantine was tonsured and given the name "Cleopa". In 1942, the abbot of the monastery asked Father Cleopa to take his place in guiding the needs of the monastery and the spiritual direction of the monks. Although the abbot's choice was surprising to the other monks as he was only thirty years old and had no seminary training, the abbot knew that Father Cleopa read voraciously, had a powerful memory, was capable, rational and spiritually advanced. In 1947 the Communists closed many monasteries, countless hierarchs, priests, monks, nuns and other Orthodox faithful were imprisoned, tortured and murdered. Father Cleopa was arrested several times from 1948 to 1962 by the Romanian Secret Police. Between these arrests, he spent time hiding from the Communist authorities. He considered these years of solitude, the most blessed time of his life as he felt he had met God in his heart through unceasing prayer. After his return as a hermit, his fame spread throughout Romania. He was called to oversee the spiritual renewal of several monasteries and he became the spiritual father of Metropolitans and Bishops.



We wondered if a renewed interest in the Elder Cleopa was because he was being considered for "Saint Hood", but our sources checked and that is not the case, rather they think that his books are being published into English more and more, causing other writers to look into the remarkable life of Elder Cleopa.

**Island of Cyprus**

The turmoil since the invasion by Turkish Muslims in the north in 1974, seems to have abated. The ethnic Greek Orthodox, now in the south, are working together to restore Muslim and Christian sites that fell into ruin. St. Panteleimon, built in 1735 honors St. Andrew, the Apostle of Christ, who brought forth a spring here for the salvation of sailors.



**RUSSIAN PATRIARCH KIRIL VISITS ANTARCTICA  
ORTHODOX CHURCH**



When the Patriarch met with Pope Francis in February this year in Cuba, he continued on to visit Mexico, Paraguay, and Brazil. He also added a surprise trip to Bellingshausen Station in Antarctica. He flew from Chili to a landing strip, then took a small boat across the harbor to King George Island. There he celebrated a moleben at Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, the only permanent church in Antarctica,



where he prayed for the polar explorers, including 64 Russians. The church was pre-fabricated elsewhere, transported by boat, and then assembled at the site in frigid conditions.



When our Bishop Paul learned of the need for motor bikes for the use of our clergy in Kenya, who sometimes have to walk great distances to minister to their flocks, he thought that it would be a worthy project for the Midwest Diocese. After investigating the cost of the bikes, at \$1,000 each, it was decided to purchase 10 bikes. The response from the parishes of the Midwest Diocese came to \$31,128.50. The check was presented to Fr. Martin Ritsi, the Executive Director of the Orthodox Christian Mission Center at their annual dinner on March 10, 2016. Our church participated in this worthy cause.



Tired of some old, but not broken favorite jewelry? The nuns at St. Mary & St. Martha Monastery would like to have it for their resale shop. Thanks to Dorothy Koncel for calling them. Send your donations to St. Mary & Martha Monastery, 65 Spinner Lane, Wagner, South Carolina, 29164 .

“O” CLUB OUTING ON MAY 15TH



Thanks to "O" Club president, Faith Pommier, and Fr. Herman (who unfortunately got cut off on the right side of this photo), we went to see the "weeping icon of St. John the Baptist" at a church in Homer Glen. We went to lunch afterward. Great convention. Details & photos in next issue.

THANK YOU

To: The “O” Club for the Mother’s Day and Father’s Day Gifts.

To: Harriet Ruiz for buying us 3 books on Orthodoxy for our Church Library at the Annual Holy Apostle Book Fair.

Also, the EOPS staff wishes to thank all those who supplied photos for this Newsletter: 13 different Photographers for the Winter edition, 19 for the Spring edition and 9 for the Summer edition. Your photos helped tell our stories. We are grateful for your good work.



Fr. Herman blessed our cars after Liturgy on July 31st.



KERMESH, OUR CHURCH’S ANNUAL NAMES DAY PICNIC



Thanks to all who came, who brought food, who cooked, cleaned, or amused us: Fr. Herman on the double water slide, and Greg Erbstoesser, who let the kids put colored hand prints on the back of his van.



FIRST HOLY CONFESSION

Many years to the students offering their First Holy Confession: Jamie Brown, Adeline Haak, Ella Kincaid, Ada Stoica and Gianna Frigerio.

MEMORY ETERNAL



June Radeni

June Radeni, a life long member of our parish, fell asleep in the Lord on June 20th and was laid to rest on June 29th at Evergreen Cemetery. She was 88 years old. She is the beloved sister of Thomas (Sandy) Radeni. June was a very kind, gentle and shy person. She loved her church and especially enjoyed making Easter Baskets for the Sunday School children. Fr. Herman served a Panikhida at graveside which was attended by her family and friends.



George & Mary Potsek



Army Honor Guard

George Potsek fell asleep in the Lord on June 9th. We had just celebrated his 100th birthday on Pascha, May 1st. Beloved husband of the late Mary ( nee Wanda) dearest uncle of many nephews and nieces. George was an Army Veteran, a former POW, a member of the Stickney American Legion, and Loyal Order of the Moose. He was a long time member of our church. EOPS especially wishes to thank him. If your last name was Potsek (didn't matter how it was spelled) George hand delivered our Quarterly Newsletter to you. We will long remember his laughter, his love for our church, and his generosity to our church.



Arthur & Helen Olsen



Air Force Honor Guard

Art Olsen fell asleep in the Lord on July 7th after a short illness. He was an Air Force Veteran from WWII. Beloved husband of the late Helen ( nee Siminuk), loving father to Arlene and Diane, and a grandfather. Art & Helen were both long time members of the "O" Club, and our Cleaning Crew. Art was famous for only using his own vacuum cleaner, that he brought from home, causing lots of laughter. Those who bowled with him remember lots of laughter there too, while others shared a love of books with Art. Besides attending church regularly, another recalled that the Olsens never missed a choir concert or special event of our church.



Why do we Bless Graves?

We bless graves after Pascha to commemorate those who have hope of their own resurrection and eternal life. This year Fr. Herman had 2 Memorial services at our Evergreen Cemetery Veterans Memorial. Then he blessed individual graves, for those who requested this. We continue to love and respect those who have departed this life by our prayers. The first Service was on Apostle Thomas Sunday, May 8, which also happened to be Mother's Day. The next service was as usual, on Memorial Day, May 30.

BAPTISMS AND CHRISMATIONS



Jon Tsakopoulos Family, Morgan was Chrismated, and their daughter Sophia was baptized on April 30.



Morgan at her Chrismation by Fr. Herman. Matushka Jessica, on the left was her sponsor.



Gavin John Schubkegel was brought for baptism to Saints Peter & Paul Orthodox Church by his parents Todd and Jeannette Schubkegel. He was baptized by Fr. Herman on Lazarus Saturday, April 21, 2016. His sponsors were Fr. Deacon Mark and Matushka Rebecca Sauskojus, his Grandparents. His God Parents were Kate Brzezowski and Karl Sauskojus, his Aunt and Uncle.



On July 30th, Fr. Herman, (served in white) uniform, represented the U.S. Navy at the committal service of Marine PFC Charles Oetjen, who fell in battle 73 years ago on the island of Tarawa, located in the Pacific. His remains, along with 35 others, were brought back to the U.S. last year, to be identified according to History Flight, an organization dedicated to finding the remains of missing U.S. Military. Charles Oetjen was 18 years old, a high school senior, when he volunteered to join the Marines in WWII. He was buried next to his parents and grandparents. Blue Island residents came out as the Patriot Guard motorcycle riders led the way and the fire department unfurled an immense American flag. The story was reported on Channel 7 News. They said it was very emotional for everyone who attended.



**FOSTER CHILDREN  
CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE**



**THE SPIRIT OF GIVING**

**By: BONNIE KRIESCHER**

With August coming to an end and the Fall season just around the corner, we will be heading into the holiday season before you know it. One of the best activities of the holiday season is the opportunity for us to give to others through various drives. Our parish community has participated in the holiday gift drive for DCFS children for several years and has shown our commitment and generosity to the endeavor.

Participating in this event allows children from infancy through early adult years to have that special present under the tree, which otherwise may not be a possibility. Although most may wonder why there are older children that participate, we should remember that whether they are in high school or college, they too appreciate being remembered. Last year we made over 40 children happy!

We will once again participate this year in this exciting event! Please keep your eyes on the bulletin for more information this fall. Any questions should be directed to Bonnie.

**CALENDAR**

- SEPT 01—HAPPY CHURCH NEW YEAR
- 11—CHURCH SCHOOL BEGINS  
ALL PARISH PHOTO
- 25—GOLF OUTING MAKE-UP DATE
- OCT 01—MUSIC WORKSHOP FOR MALE VOICES. THEN PARTICIPANTS & THE QUARTET WILL SING VESPERS. FREE CONCERT 7:00 P.M. BY THE KONEVETS QUARTET FROM ST. PETERSBURG, RUSSIA.
- 8-9—BISHOP PAUL'S VISIT
- 09—ORDINATION OF DAVID KENNY
- 10—12 DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY, LANSING, IL FR. HERMAN & ELECTED DELEGATE MATT HAAK WILL ATTEND.
- 15—ANNUAL SYNERGY SYMPOSIUM RETURNS TO ST. GEORGE ANTIOCIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH, CICERO, IL  
SPEAKER: HIERMONK FR. AXELII OF SERBIAN MONASTERY, MO.
- NOV 06—DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS
- 14—16 PARISH PICTURE DIRECTORY SHOOT



**HOPE YOUR SUMMER WAS ENJOYABLE TOO.**



The Annual Parish Outing to see a White Sox game was held on June 12, 2016. The kids always get to run bases when the game is over. Always a great time for all.

*St. Peter & St. Paul Orthodox Church*

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