

# Parish News

## St. Peter & St. Paul Orthodox Church

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Pastor: Fr. Herman Kincaid, Editor: Shirley Bryar, Digital Strategist: Ervin (Rusty) Mihalko. A quarterly publication concentrating on the events of our church, on the lives of our parishioners, and interesting things in the world. Back copies of previous issues can be viewed in our church library, or on our web site.



**WINTER 2017-2018**



**ANNUAL PARISH PHOTO 2017—2018**

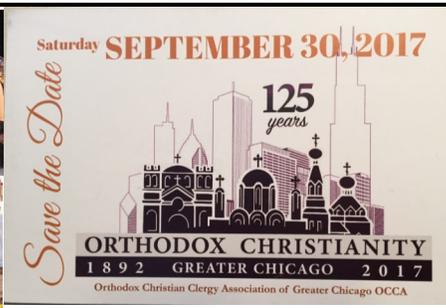
*Happy New Year 2018*



Vasilopita Bread, or cake contains a hidden gold coin for good luck to the receiver. The coin depicts St. Basil who is celebrated on January 1. When the cake was sliced, one person got the slice with the hidden gold coin. Fr. Herman's son Andrew was the lucky one to get the coin.



**Seven Hierarchs  
concelebrated Liturgy.  
Bishop Irinej delivered  
the homily.**



**The Pan Orthodox Liturgy was held at Lane Tech Auditorium in Chicago, and the afternoon Celebration Banquet was held at the Chicago Marriott O'Hare.**



*A celebration for all of Chicago*

**FEAST OF ST. JOHN OF CHICAGO**

**HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL**  
1917 - 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF MARTYRDOM - 2017



**St. John (Kochurov) of Chicago, pictured above & in the icon, far left, next to the Wonderworking "Hawaiian" Iveron icon, built Chicago's Holy Trinity Cathedral. He was killed on Oct. 31, 1917 in Russia becoming the First Hieromartyr under the Bolshevik Yoke.**

### OUR PARISH MISSION STATEMENT:

**To manifest the Gospel of Jesus Christ within the Eastern Orthodox Christian Faith for the healing and salvation of the community**

*Pastor's Corner*



I recently had the opportunity to attend a professional development conference sponsored by the U.S. Navy. This conference was titled: "A strategy for the delivery of religious ministry to Nones, Dones, and Millennials." This specific training equipped those present with insight on how to understand, approach and minister to the younger generations. As a parish pastor, this training was invaluable for communicating with our youth. The training demanded a change in

approach to meet the unique needs of the younger generations. Who are the Nones, Dones, and Millennials?

The "Nones" are those, when asked their religious affiliation, choose "None" on surveys. These individuals ARE spiritual, ARE open to religion, but are DISCONNECTED from organized religion. Their minds and hearts are open to living a life within a community of faith, however something in their past has separated them from organized religion.

The "Dones" are those who, like the Nones, probably were raised in an organized faith/religion, but choose to remain unaffiliated with religion. In other words, they are done with organized religion ("Been there, done that"). Dones DO pray and ARE spiritual, just not church going. Experience tells us that there is probably some type of negative experience associated with religion that has caused Dones to stay away. Perhaps they were insulted, abused, ridiculed? Perhaps they witnessed hypocrisy by church/family members? Perhaps they simply misconstrued the religious tenants of their former faith? The scenarios are endless.

The Millennials are a generation born approximately 1984 to 2000. They follow Generation X (mid 1960's-mid 1980's), who follow the Baby Boomers. Millennials are the first generation born into the digital age. Their reality is a world where everyone has a cell phone, your identity and self-worth as an individual is constantly scrutinized online and traditional institutions (religion, marriage, citizenship) are to be viewed with skepticism. It is within the generation of the Millennials that we have seen the rise of Nones and Dones.

According to the Pew Institute, the percentage of Nones grew from 8% in 1980 to 32% in 2017. This generation does not appreciate labels, so identifying with a particular religion (Orthodox, Catholic, Methodist, etc.) does not appeal to them. They are open to dialogue, but do not want to be preached to (either in person or digitally). Again, they are spiritual and open to religion, but living in the world of 24/7 news and an internet which presents every opinion as equal and valid. They are very skeptical to attach themselves to any label. Is there absolute truth?

What does this all mean for us as Orthodox Christians? It means, that just like all generations, we need to respect our youth. They need to feel appreciated. They need to be called THE Church, NOT the future of our Church. We need to understand their appreciation for dialogue. Through digital platforms (Facebook, Instagram, etc.) they have been taught to contribute their thoughts and opinions (be it a comment or liking or hearting someone else's post). Are we taking the time to hear them? Are we praying for them, with them, but not AT them? There is a place for the Church to reach these beautiful souls through social media, but we don't all have to create these accounts to reach our youth. Do our children, relatives, or neighbors fall into the None and Done categories? Talk with them! Pray with them! Most importantly, listen to their story! Don't make them feel guilty for their current faith status. One common thread among the Nones, Dones and Millennials: they want to belong to a community.

May our Lord grant us the wisdom, patience and love to embrace our youth where they are, and to bring them to salvation!

*Father Herman Kincaid*

THEOPHANY

Fr. Herman blessing the water and blessing the church.



Annual picture of Fr. Herman's family with St. Nicholas.



Susan Burke decorating our Annual Memorial Tree.



Detail of Ornaments

Our parishioners purchase these "Angel Wing" ornaments, insert a photo, or just the name of a departed loved one. After the holidays, they either take their ornament home, and return it the next year, or they leave it for our church to care for it, to hang them next year.



Nov. 13, Congratulations to his Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon on his fifth anniversary election in 2012. Nov. 21, he presided at a double celebration at St. Nicholas Russian Cathedral in NY, marking the 115th anniversary of the Cathedral and the 100th anniversary of the election of St. Tikhon to the Patriarchal Throne. Nov. 30, as he departed for Russia to further celebrate St. Tikon's anniversary he said, "At a time when the political divides seem daunting and at times insurmountable, the relationships that exist between the Russian Church and the Orthodox Church in America are signs and even evidence, that better days surely are going to come."



Peiyu Quan is a Chinese scientist who has been working on a physics project at the University of Chicago, while conducting his experiments at Argonne Labs. He has been living with a Chinese family in Burr Ridge and discovered our church. He became interested in Orthodoxy and made friends with the men of our cleaning crew, even joining them on Monday mornings and helping them clean before he went to work. His Visa expires soon, but he is hoping to come back soon. We are sure our Cleaning Crew will miss his friendship and assistance.

In order to get the church in such pristine condition it takes a whole crew to do it. We are so lucky to have such a dedicated group of volunteer parishioners.



It takes a lot of work. We have a great Cleaning Crew.



Pictured above are just a few of the many Jolly Cleaning Crew.



In September, 2017, Fr. Herman announced the formation of a Men's Group Social. They had their meetings at our parish hall watching "The Pursuit", an Orthodox production about real manhood. Seven men attended the first meeting where we hear their discussion following the film, also included a lot of laughter. On January 7th the group met at Father's home for a Football Social. Sons, godsons, and grandsons, were also invited and had their own games.



The Women's group recently asked Fr Herman to have a Children's Sermon. Fr. liked it so much that he now schedules them.



Alice Obmascik, is a Master Gardener, and we are lucky that she plants wonderful flowers and plants on the grounds of our church, plus she brings us beautiful plants and flowers for the interior of our church, all year long. We also wanted people to know that the work she does is not easy.



Our parishioners take turns to make a nice "Sunday Coffee Hour". Some people just bring supplies, and some make us wonderful treats. We are grateful for all your endeavors. The men also make the coffee, in the 2 large urns, every week.

In order to get the above, you have to do the work below. Thanks Alice Obmascik.





This year the children performed "The Christmas Carol Special Report" celebrating Christmas Carols Around the World.



We had News Anchors, Reporters, Narrators, a Shepherd, Wise Men, Sheep, Angels, and of course, Mary & Joseph. Thank you to Jennifer Treanor, the Director, and to all who helped. We are sure the children will never forget having been a part of the annual Yolka production.

DID U KNOW



National Candy Day November 4

50 Years Ago



How the Grinch Stole Christmas



Charlie Brown Comics

75 Years Ago

IOCC ADVENT YOUTH SERVICE PROJECT.



The youth of our parish assembled emergency hygiene kits from donations by our parishioners to be distributed to those in need by IOCC. Thank you to Barry & Deb Koncel for chairing this event.

Thank you to Bonnie Kreischer for again chairing the OCCA CHRISTMAS gift drive. To date our parishioners have fulfilled the "Wish List" of 120 children living in foster homes.



"THE NUTCRACKER"

Polina Smak was in two parts this year: a party girl and a soldier. She performed at three venues: Hinsdale Central High School, Governors State University and The Center for Performing Arts at Skokie.

Deacon John's daughter, Katelyn Kornafel donating her hair to Wigs for Kids. (They provide FREE hair replacements for kids who need it.)



Christmas Around the World, Museum of Science & Industry

110 Years Ago

Macy's continues Marshall Field's traditional Christmas Tree in the Walnut Room



SOMEONE YOU SHOULD KNOW



We wanted everyone to see Casey Moore because he is the one who climbs that tall ladder to take our Annual Parish Photo, but he doesn't get photographed himself. Also, he has served as President of our Parish Council for this past year. He officially joined our church 4 years ago when he converted to Orthodoxy. His wife

is Laura Bilas Moore, and we are sure you know their children, Nick, and twins: Paul and Rachel. His mother-in-law is Mona Bilas. You wouldn't believe that Casey is a Honduran citizen when you talk to him, but he was born on an island called Mangrove Bight, off the coast of Honduras. (See the pictures below.) He moved to Illinois to be with other family members in Arlington Heights, and has his sights set on US Citizenship. Casey works in the Gift Card industry and gets to do a lot of his work on his computer. He really loves computers and road trips. Recently he did a family road trip that covered 6,000 miles in 10 days, and he said he took 1,000 photos.



He looks forward to more road trips in the wonderful "Northern Hemisphere" of the Americas. Incidentally, he said he really likes the people in our church.

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National Nurse Week 2017 Was May 6 - 12

Sorry we forgot to include Annie Lynch with our Nurses in our last issue. She is a retired Nurse and lives in Glenview, IL.

NEW PHOTO WALL

Thank you to John and Alice Obmascik, and all those who submitted these photos to them. The Obmascik's did the framing, and worked late into the night hanging them to surprise us all when we got to church on May 7th. It was a really nice gift for the church's 85th Anniversary celebration. Also, the photos cover our past, and our present.



Great idea Alice!



Veterans Day Blessing Matthew Adams, Joseph Banchak, John Bogdalik, Bob Ciolino, Alex Demetzensky, Alex Demetzensky II, Ed Dettloff, James Dremak, Mary Ehnatko, Mike Halko, Ken Juhas, Fr. Herman Kincaid, Annie Lynch, Peter Mihalkanin, Ervin Mihalko, John Nacik, John Obmascik, Richard Palendech, Charles Pinkowski, Daniel Prokop, John Ruiz, Joseph Stefanisin, Michael Sutko, Jon Tsakopoulos, Hans Taulien, David Wanaski.

2018 March for Life Chicago Jan. 18



Fr. Herman, newly appointed clergy representative to Orthodox Christians for Life in Chicago, which covers all Orthodox jurisdictions, filmed his children, Andrew, Ella, Nathaniel, Church School Teacher, Larissa Ogurkiewicz and Bishop Paul giving his speech.



August, 2017 Dedication Ceremony of outdoor icon on the grounds of St. Tikhon's. Our parishioners supported this endeavor.

MEMORY ETERNAL



Elsa Sekela, life long member of our church fell asleep in the Lord on December 3, 2017. Elsa was a member of Orthodox Singles and is pictured at one of their outings several years ago. Some of us remember the fun we had on a trip to Europe and we remember how much Elsa loved to dance. She was also one of the first to donate funds for the iconography and iconostasis in our new church. Elsa's husband John fell asleep in the Lord many years ago. Elsa is survived by her sister Mary Dering & Mary's family.



ICON WASHED ASHORE BY DOLPHINS

A miracle occurred on May 17, 2017. A colonel, sitting on the shore in Sochi, suddenly saw a dozen dolphins pushing something to the Shore.



Examining the muddy object, the colonel found the object was an icon of the Mother of God (of the Sign.). The colonel took the icon to Moscow to show to Patriarch Kiril.

**ORIGIN OF THIS EQUAL SIDED CROSS**



Usually, we Orthodox Christians wear the triple bar cross, but recently we have seen a different cross worn by those that we know to be of our same faith. We asked around, and no one knew the origin of this new cross.



We checked various sources and found that in the 12th C. a church was carved out of solid rock in Lalibela, Ethiopia that reminds us of the shape of this new cross, but the real answer to our question probably has reference to the December, 1978 adoption of a new Greek flag. Here we can clearly see the shape of this new cross.



**BAPTISM**



On Sunday, December 31, 2017, Inna & Wojciech Gryzewski had their little baby boy Andrew, baptized at our church. Fr. Herman also baptized their daughter Veronica in March of 2015.

You can make a cover for your basket and add some decorated eggs.



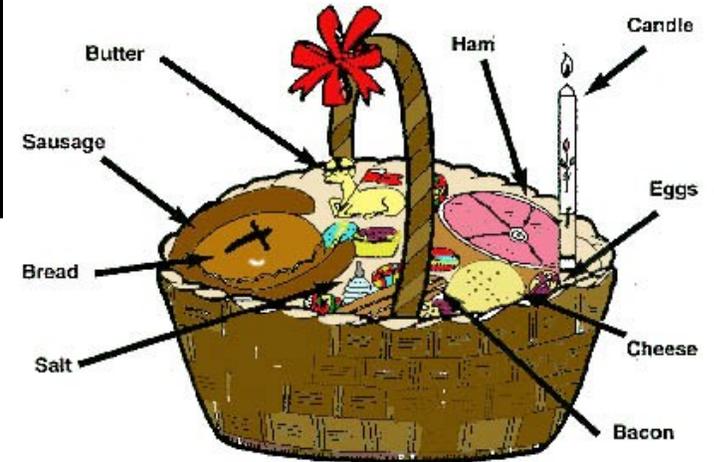
**CALENDAR**

- MAR 11—DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS, SET CLOCKS AHEAD
- 25—ANNUNCIATION
- APR 01—PALM SUNDAY (See Weekly Bulletin for all services)
- 08—HOLY PASCHA (EASTER)
- MAY 13—MOTHER'S DAY.
- 17—ASCENSION
- 27—PENTECOST
- 28—MEMORIAL DAY (Grave Blessing at Evergreen Cemetery)
- JUNE 17—FATHER'S DAY
- 29—APOSTLES ST. PETER & ST. PAUL
- JULY 20—23—"O" CLUB, FOCA NAT'L CONVENTION, ST. LOUIS, MO.
- 23—27—19TH ALL AMERICAN COUNCIL, ST. LOUIS, MO.



**PREPARING FOR PASCHA**

Some people like to make an Easter Cheese Pascha. You can make it in a special container or a flower pot. There are ladies at church who can share their recipe or you can find it on the Internet.



It is our custom to bring a basket of food to be blessed after the Holy Saturday midnight church service.

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