

Prayer Corner:

Contact Cynthia Brown to add or delete names from the Prayer Corner lists. Cynthiaann36@live.com or (863) 223-6775.

Living: Please pray for the ailing: Pearl, (grandmother) Mike, Stella, Egerton, Amanda, Mike, Michael, Samuel, Vilma, Dan, Stacy, Arlene, Bruce, Laura, Christopher, Virginia, Anton, John, Sherrie, Chuck, Rick, Graham, Darla, Trevor, and Cynthia ,R e b e c c a

Reposed : Please pray for the departed: Virginia, Harry, Millie, Harry, Richard, Albert, Mary, John, Doris, Mary, Subdeacon John, Vera Beverly James Dessie, Ernest, Elbert, Bill, Viva, Ina, Cynthia, Bernard, Finn, Marie, Kathy, Cassia, Ashton, Camillo, Lexi, Francesca, Tina, Joan, Lennie, Walter, Wally, Bertha, Karl, and Nancy.

Traveller Alert:

Archbishop Daniel is planning a trip to the Holy Land. If you are interested, the information is in the narthex.

Church School

Contact Tracy Galla for church school information: Tracygalla12@gmail.com or (412) 996-3462

Christian Education is starting back up after Labor Day. If you are interested in helping, please see Tracy Galla or a council member.

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Saint John of Kronstadt

Sermon on the Dormition of the Most Holy Theotokos August 15

“Magnify O my soul, the honourable Translation of the Mother of God from earth to heaven.” (Refrain for the 9th Ode of the Canon)

Let us be happy, beloved brothers and sisters that we belong to the Holy Orthodox Church, worthily and rightly glorifying the Most Holy Sovereign Theotokos on this eminent day out of all the days of the year with special solemnity. There exists on earth many societies and entire governments that do not consider the need nor the obligation to call upon and glorify the Queen of heaven and earth, the Mother of Our Divine Lord Jesus Christ, and other saints and angels; to submissively serve Her

lovingly, as the true Mother of God. Sadly in Russia nowadays we have heretics (among us) who actively dishonor the Mother of God, the saints, their icons, their relics and their festivals. O, if only they also unanimously with us glorified the worthy Queen of heaven and earth!

Today the Holy Church solemnly glorifies the honorable Dormition or translation of the Mother of God from earth to heaven. A wonderful translation - she died without serious illness, peacefully. Her soul is taken up in the divine hands of Her Son and carried up into the heavenly abode, accompanied by the sweet singing of angels. And then, her most pure body is transferred by the apostles to Gethsemane where it is honorably buried, and on the third day it is resurrected and taken up to heaven. You see this on the icon of the Dormition of the Theotokos. On it is represented the life-bearing body of the Theotokos laying on a bier, surrounded by the apostles and hierarchs, and in the center of the icon the Lord holding in His hands the most pure soul of the Theotokos. The translation of the Mother of God is a paradigm of the translation in general of the souls of Christians to the other world.

We say that our dead have “fallen asleep” or “passed away.” What does this mean? This means that for the true Christian there is no death. Death was conquered by Christ on the cross. But there is a translation, i.e, a rearrangement of his condition, i.e. his soul is in another place, in another age, in another world beyond the grave, eternal, without end, that is what is meant by “falling asleep”. It is as if it were a temporary dream after which, by the voice of the Lord and the fearful yet wonderful trumpet of the Archangel, all the dead shall live and come forth each to his place: either to the resurrection of life or to the resurrection of

