



**Prayer Corner:** Please send prayer requests to Rebecca Delp by text at (813) 763-5225, email at delp10290@yahoo.com or message Rebecca on facebook.

**Living:** Please pray for the ailing: Pearl, (grandmother), Mike, Stella, Amanda, Darla, Stacy, Bruce, Arlene, Nicole, Martha, Tim, Vilma, Dan, John, Sherrie, Chuck, Rick, Tony, Michelle, Reagan, Jana, Roy, Erin, Cynthia, Rebecca, Stephanie, Steven, Nora, Keith, Kassey, Clay, Alyssa, Lola, Chris, Andrea, Archie, Gwen, Robert, Celina, Amy, Christina, Robert, Soccorro, Travis, Charles, James, Maggie, Eli, Paula, Cathy, Barbara, Deb, Laura, Kyle, Carol, Roy, Sally, Avi, Jean, Blonie, Ray, Pat, Shaylia, Amy, Lauren, Rebeka, Barbara, and Dale, Anton

**Reposed:** Please pray for the departed: John, George, Pavel, Subdeacon John, Jack, Nathaniel, PJ, Dorothy, Thomas, Kristy, Pani, Fr. Anastaje, Archbishop Vsevelod, Metropolitan Constantine, Harry, Mary, Marie Mary, Helen, Jeannette, Betty, Joe, Lucy, George, Fr. Martin, Sue, Vera, Michael, and CletusNews:

**Bible Study:**

A Bible Study has been formed and meets on select Saturday evenings at the homes of parish families. All are welcome to attend.

**Adult Christian Education:**

Father Harry will occasionally present "Five Minutes with Father Harry" during coffee hour. On the second Sunday of each month Father Frederick will pass out Icons of a Saint and explain the details of the Icon. Adults will meet after fellowship weekly in the church.

**Children Christian Education Classes:**

Children and Teens meet each Sunday at the back of the hall. Teens will meet The first and third Sunday of each month. All are welcome to attend whenever they can. Teen focus until January is Prayer. There are optional take home lessons and projects for those interested.

**Coffee Hour:**

Sign up for Coffee Hour will continue. The sign up is in the hall at the dessert table.. We will continue having a "Theme" of the week. If you have a suggestion place it in the box in the hall, on the dessert table.

October 29<sup>th</sup> – Sweet Delights

November 5<sup>th</sup> – International Potluck, Your Choice

November 12<sup>th</sup> – Chicken and Fixings (Luncheon to Honor Veterans)

November 19<sup>th</sup> – Fasting Pot Luck

November 26<sup>th</sup> – Parish Thanksgiving, see sign up sheet

December 3<sup>rd</sup> – Fasting Potluck Soup

December 10<sup>th</sup> – St. Nicholas Day, Pot Luck, Children Friendly.

Please continue to bring in non-perishable food items and paper goods, especially forks.

**Upcoming Events:**

November 5<sup>th</sup> – 3:00 pm, Wedding of Derek Andrews and Apryl Anton. Reception is a potluck and all are welcome to bring a dish. The Parish has an open invitation – there will be reminder invitations.

**Out Reach:**

For the month of November we will be collecting canned goods, pantry items and grocery gift cards for two needy families. If you know of someone in need let a council member know. There are two baskets to collect items, one in the Narthex and one in the Church Hall. Please contact Arlene or Rebecca Becker if you would like to help with the Outreach Program. We usually have a project every two months. Ideas and suggestions are welcome. Thanksgiving Baskets should be ready on November 12<sup>th</sup> for delivery before Thanksgiving on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

## **On Stewardship and the Orthodox Life**

By Father Frederick Watson

“God so loved the world, He gave...”  
(John 3:16)

Thanksgiving Day in the United States of America is soon upon us. In the first year the Pilgrims landed in America, half of them died from lack of food and a severe winter. They were taught by the natives how to plant and harvest corn, which prepared them and helped sustain them for the following winter. In 1621, Governor William Bradford wanted to set aside a day of feasting and prayer in thanksgiving to God for surviving the winter.

It is said that the settlers invited the natives to this meal to give thanks to God for their many blessings. The Pilgrims recognized God as the Giver of all good things and offered Him thanksgiving and gratitude. Stewardship is, at its most basic level, our thanksgiving and gratitude to God. It is acting out our Thanksgiving, like the Pilgrims with their native brothers and sisters.

"God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." God gave Jesus Christ to His

children and in so doing set the ultimate example. Our lives, in imitation of Christ, are to be ready, willing, and able to give of ourselves for the life of the world through the Church.

We often ask in stewardship “programs” that people give “as the Lord has blessed us.” Most of us have been greatly blessed, particularly compared to many in the world who have little or nothing. We can be reminded that even the widow in Christ’s story gave all she had and then she had nothing left over. Her thanksgiving was absolutely full. Can we consider our giving in proportion to our blessings? That is true stewardship.

A pastor once said to his congregation: "My friends, it takes faith to make the church walk!" They shouted, "Let it walk, Pastor, let it walk." He went on, "Brethren, it takes love to make the church run!" They shouted, "Let it run, Pastor, let it run." "Beloved," he continued, "It takes money to make the church fly." Back came the answer: "Let it walk, Pastor, let it walk."

In Orthodox icons the angels are pictured with wings to denote the speed with which they fly to carry out God's will. True stewardship can be called imitation of the angels. The Church should not walk or run. The Church should fly like the angels, sharing and expanding the love of Christ among both us and the world around us.

### **Extended Schedule:**

Sunday December 3 10am Liturgy St. Zephaniah the Prophet and forefeast of St. Barbara the Great Martyr and St. John of Damascus

**Tuesday December 5** 6pm Great Vespers of St. Nicholas and 10 year memorial for Harry Linsinbigler Jr. (Fr. Harry's dad).

**Sunday December 10** 10am Liturgy and St. Nicholas visitation for youth (and adults!)

**Sunday December 17** 10am Sunday of the Holy Forefathers; Sts. Daniel, Azariah, Ananiah and Mishael the Prophets.

**Sunday December 24** 10am FOREFEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST

**Monday December 25** 10am LITURGY OF THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST Save one present and bring it to Church and have them open it at the end of Liturgy at the front of the Church! Put it "under" (around) the Church tree when you arrive!

**Sunday December 31** 10am LITURGY THE LEAVETAKING OF NATIVITY; THE DAY BEFORE NEW YEAR, with prayers for the New Year

**Friday January 5** 6pm EVE OF THE GREAT FEAST OF THEOPHANY

**Sunday January 7** 10am THEOPHANY (afterfeast); ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST AND FORERUNNER

\*Please note, this year, after 20 years, we are giving Fr. Harry a break from annual home blessings ("annual home blessings" are not one of his duties as a priest, even though it is a Slavic custom to supplement the priest's income), but he will still bless new homes (which is his duty as a priest). That being said, you CAN bless your own homes. This is the traditional Orthodox custom, that when you get the blessed waters you take it to your homes and bless it, because you are priests of the Royal Priesthood. This was the original purpose of Theophany blessing of waters, that the Priest blessed the waters, and you took it home as priests of your own home and blessed them. Please note, Fr. Harry will likely not say "no" to anyone on the annual home blessings, but he just asks that you don't just for this year. Biblically we are supposed to give not just your priest but even your animals who work for you a break every 7 years, which we have not done several times over. Let him know you love and respect him by not asking him for the annual home blessing for just this year. God gives even beasts of burden a break every 7 years, and we are back-owed for this one as a parish, even if we are relatively new.

\*Note, Fr. Harry's Pastoral Duty Schedule from Sunday January 7 until March 24 will be generally as follows, and it is expected for you to schedule and not just "drop in" and also not delay already scheduled services and appointments:

Sundays from 8am until 3pm

Mondays from 8am until 9pm

Tuesdays from 8am until 9pm

Wednesdays from 8am until 9pm

Fr. Harry and Pani Carrie will ONLY be available for emergencies on Thursday-Saturday from January 7 until March 24.