



Issue: July-August 2015



† From the Bishop's Throne

Pastoral Visitations-

His Grace Bishop Ilia is prepared to visit the faithful who are in hospital, nursing care facility or homebound and to administer Holy Communion. He is available to make home visits to meet parishioners and help build community. Contact him at the priest's office 773-889-6799 or by cell at 775-848-6369.

Vizite Baritore- *Hiresia e Tij, Bishop Ilia eshtë i gatshëm të vizitojë besimtarët që ndodhen të sëmurë në spital, në azil apo në shtëpië e tyre. Ai do të sjelle Kungatën e Shenjtë me vehte. Gjithashtu ai eshtë i predispozuar të kryejë vizitat në shtëpi të enoritëve me qellim që të forcojë akoma më shumë komunitetin tonë. Kontaktoni Episkopin në telefonin e zyres 773-889-6799 ose në celularin 775-848-6369.*

A Case for Sunday Rest

For too many people, Orthodox among them, Sunday is no longer observed with attendance at Divine Liturgy and refraining from work. Is it wrong to throw the clothes into the automatic washer? Is it wrong to dress sloppily for Church service? How about sewing on Sunday? Is it really wrong to use scissors on Sundays, as our babas insist? As early as 1491 BC,

before Christ was born, we are told in Exodus 20 that God told Moses to tell his people that “Remember to keep the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labor and do all thy work; but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God. . . for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day: Wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.” Eusebius in the year 341 wrote about attendance at Divine Liturgy: “We, the children of the New Testament, celebrate our Pascha every Sunday, being established by the Body of the Savior, and always partaking of the Blood of the Lamb.” According to Tertullian, attendance at the Divine Liturgy was regarded as customary duty for all adult Christians by the 3rd century. Following the ancient custom of Jews and pagan Romans, the Christians put on their best clothes for attendance at worship. This tradition became universal among all Christian nations and has survived until recently, even among those who no longer attend Sunday services. Concerning Sunday rest, the Church naturally avoided what Christ had condemned as a narrow and unreasonable interpretation of the law, as seen in Mark 2:27. But from the beginning the law was observed through the common conviction of Christians that all work must be discontinued which would make attendance of divine worship impossible or impede one’s spiritual contemplation and tranquility on Sunday. The Council of Laodicea held around 343 in its Canon 19 stressed the obligation of Sunday rest for all Christians, as far as possible. The duty of relieving slaves and servants from work so that they could attend worship and instruction, both in the morning and in the afternoon,

was universal. As early as the 4th century Christian masters seem to have anticipated our modern weekend practices, for slaves were free from their duties even on Saturday, in preparation for Sunday. The law of Sunday rest imposed the further obligation of abstaining from servile (non-essential) work in household, farm, trade and industry... Professional people, merchants, and civil officials also were required to abstain from their regular work; however there are many exceptions because of necessity, such as duties of doctors, nurses, firemen, etc. The Church has always stressed the positive ideal of Sunday observance. The Resurrection Day, after public worship, should be spent in works of piety and charity, in peaceful relaxation, in the happy union of family life. The first Christian emperor, Constantine, initiated the practice which has continued up to recent times, of honoring Sunday as the Day of the Lord by state laws and regulations. In 321 he forbade the sitting of courts and any legal action on Sunday. He also allowed all Christian soldiers to be excused from duty in order to attend Sunday services, while the pagan soldiers had to assemble in camp, without arms, and offer a prayer which we would now call nondenominational. As more and more laws allowing rest and prayer on Sunday are being stricken from the books, it does not give Christians license to forget what God told us through Moses: “the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord our God.” (from The Orthodox Herald)♣ ♣ ♣

Pilgrimage to the Flowing Waters of Hope

Bishop Ilia is leading a pilgrimage to the Ecumenical Patriarchate, Jerusalem and the Holy Land, November 5-16, at the inclusive cost of \$3, 457

double occupancy with departure from Chicago direct to Istanbul, For complete details go to www.mgatours.com or request an itinerary from Bishop Ilia. This is an opportunity to deepen your faith and drink the spiritual waters which refresh the soul and renew your hope. **+Bishop Ilia**



† 2015 Memberships

Please send in or drop off your 2015 dues by March 31; dues for current members are \$125 per one person, \$200 for husband and wife. Please note "2015 dues" on your check. If you are not yet a member but would like to join our parish, please speak to a member of the Parish Council for information. There is no initiation membership fee anymore.

† Member directory

If you need to update or correct your address or phone number for the next membership directory, please let Olga Titos know. We are also collecting email addresses; please send yours to Olga at olga1214@sbcglobal.net.



Help Kids Less Fortunate

Would you save another person's life if you could??? A 55 year-old mother of two living in suburban Chicago has failing kidneys and desperately needs a transplant. Eligible family donors are not compatible. If you are interested in volunteering, and have type O blood, please contact Sonja Gordon at 847-414-7417. Blood tests for compatibility can be done at a location near you. All necessary expenses will be paid, including travel. Lost wages, for the recommended 2-3 week recovery period will also be paid. PLEASE HELP!

School Supply Drive

The Pantry's program to provide school supplies to neighborhood children in need will help to ensure these kids have the opportunity to get the school year off to a strong start. Last year the Pantry provided supplies to over 400 kids.

This year, school supply distribution at the Irving Park Community Food Pantry will begin on Wednesday, August 5 and end on Wednesday, August 26.

School supply donations will be accepted at the St. Nicholas church hall through the month of July up until Sunday, July 26. Ideally we would like to deliver the supplies to the Pantry in time to meet their first distribution date.

Programi qe ndihmon me mjetet mesimore per femijet ne nevoje kerkon perkraheje per te siguruar nje fillim te sukseshem te vitit te ri shkollor. Vitin e kaluar ky program ndihmoi me shume se 400 femije me mjetet e duhura shkollore.

Kete vit shperndarja e mjeteve shkollore per Komunitetin e Irving Park do te filloje te Merkure me 5 Gusht dhe do te perfundoje te Merkure me 26 Gusht. Donacionet e mjeteve shkollore do te pranohen ne Kishen e Shen Kollit ne holl gjate muajit Korrik deri te diele me 26 Korrik. Do te deshrojme ti sjellim te gjitha mjetet shkollore ne destinacion ne kohen e duhur me qellim qe dhe shperndarja te behet sipas afatit te caktuar.

List of School Supplies We Are Collecting

Loose Leaf Notebook Paper	Pencil Cases
Spiral Notebooks	Crayons (24 pack)
Pocket Folders	Erasers
Black or Blue Pens	Scissors
Washable Markers	Glue and Glue Sticks
Colored Pencils	
Rulers (marked inches and centimeters)	



† St. Nicholas Choir

Kay Giannos and Maria Barbachi, the choir co-directors, invite you to join our church choir. Singing experience or Albanian language skills are not required. What is required is that you enjoy singing for pleasure and would like to enhance the worship experience for yourself as well as for the entire congregation. Alto and bass voices are needed. Please come up to the choir loft and give us a try. Everyone is welcome.

Kay Giannos and Maria Barbachi, co-directors te korrit, ju ftojne te merrni pjese ne kete korr. Anetaret mund te jene te te gjitha moshave, burra (kerkojme zerra burrash ne vecanti), dhe gra. Nuk ka nevoje te dini gjuhen shqipe. Eshte me te vertete nje eksperience shpirtore dhe e virtytshme. Per me shume informacion kontaktoni Maria Barbachi cdo kohe pas Liturgjise Hyjnore te dielave. Ne rast se nuk e njihni, ju mund te pyesni Bishop Ilia, June ose cdo anetar te keshillit te kishes. Gjithashtu mund ta kontaktoni Marian ne adresen e e-mail: mariapaulet@aol.com.

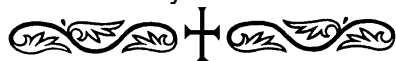


† St. Nicholas Ladies Auxiliary

Ladies of St. Nicholas Albanian Church, we are looking to increase enrollment in the St. Nicholas Ladies Auxiliary. We are comprised of women of diverse ages and backgrounds working together to reach out not only to the parish membership, but to the community through fundraising, charitable donations and volunteerism. We are looking for ideas to make this event bigger and better. Won't you come join us? We meet the first Sunday of each month in the church hall.

Gratë dhe vajzat e Kishës Shqipëtare të Shën Kollit, qellimi jonë është të ritim numrin e pjesëmarrësve në St. Nicholas Ladies Auxiliaries. Ky

grup përbëhet nga gra dhe vajza të të gjitha moshave dhe të gjitha profesioneve që punojnë së bashku jo vetëm për tu lidhur më shumë me anëtarët e kesaj kishe por edhe me tërë komunitetin nëpërmjet evenimenteve për ngritjen e fondeve, nëpërmjet kontributeve dhe ndihmës që i ofrojmë komunitetit. Kërkojmë më shumë ide të reja për ta zgjeruar dhe për ta forcuar këtë grup. Jeni të gjitha të mirëpritura të dielën e parë të cdo muaji!



† Prayer list / Lista e lutjes

Please remember these people in your prayers:

Ju lutemi mos harroni të përfshini edhe këta njerëz në lutjet tuaja:

Fr. Philip, Gregory, Lillian, Richard, Perry, Olga, Eva, Kay, Diane, Annie, Ellen, Debra, Helen, John, Tina, Nick, Georgia, Dan the men and women serving in the military, and those who have no one to pray for them. If you need to request a prayer for yourself or your beloved ones, please contact Mirela Pajcini @ 630-792-1235



† SCHEDULE of SERVICES †

July-August /Korrik-Gusht 2015

Sunday Divine Liturgy/ Liturgjia Hyjnore 10:00 am

Wednesday, July 1 Unmercenary Kosmas and Damian

Saturday, July 4 Independence Day

Sunday, July 5 5th reading in Matthew
Righteous Athanasios of Mt. Athos
Epistle: Galatians 5:22-26, 6:1-2
Gospel: Matthew 8:28-34, 9:1

Doxology for America Independence Day

Tuesday, July 7 Great Martyr Kyriake

Wednesday, July 8 Great Martyr Procopius

Saturday, July 11 Equal to the Apostles Olga

Sunday, July 12 6th reading in Matthew
Martyrs Proclus and Ilarion
Epistle: Romans 12:6-14
Gospel: Matthew 9:1-8

Friday, July 17 Great Martyr Marina

Sunday, July 19 630 Holy Fathers of the 4th
Ecumenical
Council at Chalcedon AD 451
Epistle: Titus 3:8-15
Gospel: Matthew 5:14-19

Monday, July 20 Prophet Elias

Wednesday, July 22 Myrrh bearer and Equal to the Apostles Mary Magdalen

Friday, July 24 Great Martyr Christine

Saturday July 25 Repose of St. Anne

Sunday, July 26 8th reading in Matthew
Righteous Martyr Paraskeve
Epistle: Galatians 3:23-29, 4:1-5
Gospel: Matthew 14:14-22

Monday, July 27 Great Martyr and Healer Panteleimon

August 1-14 Fast period for the Feast of the Repose of the Theotokos

Sunday, August 2 9th reading in Matthew
Relics of First Martyr St. Steven
Epistle: I Corinthians 3:9-17
Gospel: Matthew 14:22-34

Thursday, August 6 Transfiguration of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ
Divine Liturgy 10:00 am
Epistle: II Peter 1:10-19
Gospel: Matthew 17:1-19

Blessing of grapes
At table fish is permitted

Sunday, August 9 10th reading in Matthew
Apostle Mathias
Epistle: I Corinthians 4:9-16
Gospel: Matthew 17:14-23

Saturday, August 15 Repose of the All Holy Lady Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary
Divine Liturgy 10:00 am
Epistle: Philippians 2:5-11
Gospel: Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-28

Sunday, August 16 11th reading in Matthew
Transfer of the Icon not made by hands of Christ
Epistle: I Corinthians 9:2-12
Gospel: Matthew 18:23-35

Sunday, August 23 12th reading in Matthew
St. Irenaeus Bishop of Lyons
Epistle: I Corinthians 15:1-11
Gospel: Matthew 19:16-24

Monday, August 24 Righteous Martyr Kosmas of Aetolia

Saturday, August 29 Beheading of St. John- the Prophet Forerunner and Baptizer
Strict fast, wine and oil are permitted

Sunday, August 30 13th reading in Matthew
Holy Fathers Alexander, John and Paul
Epistle: I Corinthians 16:13-24
Gospel: Matthew 21:33-42

Korrik-Gusht 2015

E Mërkurë- 1 Korrik Anargjendët Koyma e Damianit

E Shtunë- 4 Korrik Dita e Pavarësisë e Amerikës

*E Dielë- 5 Korrik E 5a e Mateut
Oshënar Athanas Athonit
Apostulli: Galatianët 5:22-26, 6:1-2
Ungjilli: Mateu 8:28-34, 9:1
Doksologji për Ditën e
Pavrësisë e Amerikës*

E Martë- 7 Korrik Dëshmore Kiriakia (E Diela)

E Mërkurë- 8 Korrik Dëshmor Prokopi

*E Shtunë- 11 Korrik Mbretëresha Ollga e
barabartë me apostujt*

*E Dielë- 12 Korrik E 6a e Mateut
Dëshmoret Prokli dhe Ilariu
Apostulli: Romanet 12:6-14
Ungjilli: Matheu 9:1-8*

E Premte- 17 Korrik Dëshmore e madhe Marina

*E Dielë- 19 Korrik 630ë Etrit e Sinodhit të 4ë ekumenik
në Kalqedonë AD 451
Apostulli: Titi 3:8-13
Ungjilli: Mateu 5:14-19*

E Hënë- 20 Korrik Profet Ilia

E Mërkurë- 22 Korrik Miroprurësë Maria Magdalena

E Premte- 24 Korrik Dëshmore e madhe Kristina

E Shtunë- 25 Korrik Fjetja e Shën Anës

*E Dielë- 26 Korrik E 8a e Mateut Oshënore
dëshmore Parashqevia (E Premtja)
Apostulli: Galatianet 3:23-29, 4:1-5
Ungjilli: Mateu 14:14-22*

*E Hënë- 27 Korrik Dëshmor i madh dhe mjek
Pandeleimoni*

1-14 Gusht *Fillon Kreshma e Shën Marisë*

E Dielë- 2 Gusht E 9a e Mateut

*Lipsanët e Shën Stefanit
Apostulli: I Korinthianët 3:9-17
Ungjilli: Mateu 14:22-34*

*E Enjte- 6 Gusht Metamorfoza e Krishtit (Shën Sotiri)
Liturgjia Hynore 10 am
Apostulli: II Pjetri 1:10-19
Ungjilli: Mateu 17:1-19
Bekohet rrushi
Haen vaj, verë e peshk*

*E Dielë- 9 Gusht E 10a e Mateut
Apostull Matia
Apostull: I Korinthianët 4:9-16
Ungjilli: Mateu 17:14-23*

*E Shtunë- 15 Gusht Fjetja e Hyjlindëses Mari
Liturgjia Hynore 10 am
Apostulli: Filipianet 2:5-11
Ungjilli: Lluka 10:38-42, 11:27-28*

*E Dielë -16 Gusht E 11a e Mateut
Transferimi i Peshqirit të Zotit Krisht
Apostulli: I Korinthianët 9:2-12
Ungjilli: Matheu 18:23-35*

*E Dielë- 23 Gusht E 12a e Mateut
Shën Irineu Episkop i Liones
Apostulli: I Korintianët 15:1-11
Ungjilli: Mateu 19:16-24*

*E Hënë- 24 Gusht Hierodhëshmor Kozmai nga Etolia
(Kolkondas)*

*E Shtunë- 29 Gusht Prerja e Kryes së Joan Pagëzorit
Kreshma, haen vaj e verë*

*E Dielë- 30 Gusht E 13a e Mateut
Etrit Aleksandri, Pavli e Joani
Apostulli: I Korinthianët 16:13-24
Ungjilli: Mateu 21:33-42*

