



# Newsletter May 2015

Christ is in our midst!

## St. Michael the Archangel Serbian Orthodox Parish

Saturday Vespers 6:00 PM Sunday Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM

Website: [www.stmichaelshsv.org/](http://www.stmichaelshsv.org/)

### May: Important Church Dates:

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup>** – Sunday of the Paralytic

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup>** – Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>** – Sunday of the Blind Man

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>** – Ascension of our Lord.

† 6PM- Vespers

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup>** – Ascension of our Lord.

† 9AM – Orthros

† 10AM Divine Liturgy

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup>** – The Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup>** – Pentecost

**Confessions:** may be heard Saturdays after Vespers; also Sunday mornings before Divine Liturgy between 9:40 - 10 am or contact Fr. Gregory to arrange a time. Please come early on Sunday mornings so we may start Divine Liturgy on time.

**House Blessings:** Please contact Fr. Gregory to schedule your house blessing at: (church) 256-881-2449; (home) 256-325-4401 or (email) [frgregory1@gmail.com](mailto:frgregory1@gmail.com)

**Supplies Needed:** Please consider donating the following:

- ✓ Communion Wine. Preferably Manischewitz.
- ✓ Regular and decaffeinated coffee. Specialty coffee is always a nice treat!
- ✓ Paper towels.

If you can donate any of these items it would be greatly appreciated!

### Coffee Hour: (\*Apostles Fast)

May 3<sup>rd</sup> – Sisterhood

May 10<sup>th</sup> – Capsopoulos

May 17<sup>th</sup> – Cox

May 24<sup>th</sup> – Craft

May 31<sup>st</sup> – Darzi/Baker

June 7<sup>th</sup> – Sisterhood

\*June 14<sup>th</sup> – Ellis/Fontane

\*June 21<sup>st</sup> – Gulas

\*June 28<sup>th</sup> – Haddock

**Note:** *If you cannot be at church on your Sunday, please arrange to trade places with someone from the coffee hour list that can.*

**Church Cleaning:** The next cleaning will be held on **May 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:00AM**. Joe Bergantz will open the church for cleaning. Please come and help us keep our church clean!

### Birthdays:

11th – Anya Pickle

31st – Mary Zarzaur

### Anniversaries:

14th – Iryna & Jeremy Haddock

27th – Carol Wolf & Marshall Standifer

29th – Michele & Don Platt

**Sisterhood Meeting:** Sisterhood of St. Sophia meets monthly on the 3rd Thursday each month – May 21 at 6:00 PM.

**News Items** - Please send any church news items to the Newsletter Editor: Rick Kaiser at [rkmk2012@gmail.com](mailto:rkmk2012@gmail.com)



### Ascension of the Lord

After His Resurrection, the Lord appeared to His disciples numerous times over the course of the 40 days before His Ascension. The Myrrhbearing Women were the first to witness the evidence of His Resurrection at the Tomb. Then Mary Magdalene saw Him in the Garden and He sent her to tell the Apostles. They came and saw the empty tomb for themselves. Then He revealed Himself to them in the upper room and came again 8 days later for Thomas' sake. He appeared to Luke and Cleopas on the road to Emmaus and on several other occasions. Then on the 40<sup>th</sup> day after His Resurrection, His Most Holy Mother, the Apostles and the disciples were present on the Mount of Olives, when He ascended into heaven.

Although He left the earthly world in the flesh, Christ did not abandon it in His Divinity: "And, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." Our Holy Fathers tell us that if we will remain faithful to His commandments, repent of our sins and struggle to acquire the virtues with God's help, we too shall rise from the dead and, if we are judged worthy, will rise with our regenerated, spiritual body to heaven, where, as the Blessed Augustine says, "all the people of God shall be made equal to the angels."

As Vladimir Lossky wrote: "The feast of the Ascension is the feast of salvation consummated. The whole process of salvation: birth, passion, death and resurrection are completed in the Ascension."

*"When Thou hadst fulfilled for us Thy dispensation, and united the things in earth with the things in Heaven, Thou, O Christ our God, didst ascend into glory, in no wise being parted from those that love Thee, but Thou didst remain with them inseparably and proclaim to them: I am with you, no one is against you." (Kontakion of the Ascension)*

This month, we will celebrate the feast of the Ascension of our Lord. Let us take this opportunity to reflect on and participate in the spiritual significance of this feast for us. As Orthodox Christians, we are called to be witnesses of our Lord Jesus Christ and His heavenly kingdom. As He said, "My Kingdom is not of this world." So let us turn our minds and hearts heavenward as we celebrate this feast. In doing so, we are preparing ourselves for the time when we too will leave behind this earthly world in flesh and hope to join Christ in His heavenly kingdom. Glory be to God!



Palm Sunday Procession



Holy Saturday Baptisms



Playground Work Party

*“Thou didst raise up human nature which was fallen into corruption, O Christ, and in Thine Ascension Thou didst exalt us and glorify us together with Thyself.”*

*From the Ascension Matins Canon, Ode III*

**Prayer List:**

**Please keep in your prayers**

**Living:** **Church Members:** Kathe Hoyer, Brad Zarzaur, Ashley Zarzaur. **Friends of Members:** Anna Kobasa (mother of Helen Bergantz), Danny, Jean, Donna, Doug, John, Rachel, Demi, Anne, Joanne Karas, Glen, Catrina Thomas.

**Reposed:** Vangie Pamfilis, Milan Petrovic, Jim Smith (Lisa Crafts’ father), Larry Smith (Lisa Craft’s Uncle), Anna Scoggins (mother of Kathy Hoyer), Mary Kochoff, Mary, Sam, Frances, Joe, Anne, Stan, Daniel, Anna, Fryni, Nelia, Natalie and Clyde Ennis (Leslie Hargrave’s grandfather).

**Committees/chairpersons:**

Choir Director – Sandy Ellis  
Ass’t Choir Director – Matushka Ann  
Sisterhood President – Shellie Kioutas  
Sunday School Director - Matushka Ann  
Church Supply Coordinator – Loren Capsopoulos  
Library & Bookstore – Matushka Ann & Leslie Hargrave  
Building Maintenance - Bob and Rick  
Welcoming Committee Coordinator – Charles Malmede  
Capital Campaign – Hal Pastrick and Joe Bergantz  
Website – Charles Malmede  
Newsletter Bulletin – Rick Kaiser  
Candle Supplies – Michele Kaiser

**Church Council – 2014 to 2015**

Father Gregory Schultz – Parish Administrator  
Bob Zarzaur– President  
Michele Platt – Vice President  
Joe Bergantz – Treasurer  
Marshal Standifer – Secretary

**Members at large** – Sandy Ellis, Mike Jokich, Rick Kaiser, Shellie Kioutas, Charles Malmede, Hal Pastrick

Please note: the Church telephone number is:

**256-881-2449**

Office hours at the church are as follows.\*

Tuesday: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Wednesday: 12 noon – 6:00 pm

Thursday: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

*\*Please note: while Fr. Gregory will normally be at the church during these times, pastoral needs are given priority (i.e.; when someone is ill, etc.). If you need to see him, please call ahead.*