



Newsletter March 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/

March Important Church Dates:

(Please check calendar for Divine Liturgy Schedule)

Sunday, March 1st – Triumph of Orthodoxy

Wednesday, March 4th – Pre-Sanctified Liturgy*

Sunday, March 8th – Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas

Wednesday, March 11th – Pre-Sanctified Liturgy*

Sunday, March 15th – Adoration of the Holy Cross

Wednesday, March 18th – Pre-Sanctified Liturgy*

Sunday, March 22nd – Sunday of St. John Climacus

Wednesday, March 25th – Pre-Sanctified Liturgy*

Sunday, March 29nd – Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt

*6:00 pm Pre-Sanctified Liturgy (*those wishing to receive Communion should not eat or drink anything after lunchtime*)

Rescheduled due to the recent

“Snowpocalypse” Thursday, March 12th

† 7:00 pm. Public Lecture on Church History by Fr. Gregory (see our website for flyer & more details)

How often do you need to come to Confession?

Following is an excerpt from the ‘Manual of Confession’ as blessed by our Bishop Longin:

“...Communion of the faithful without confession is not practiced in the Serbian Orthodox Church... One should confess 4 times a year in accordance with the 4th Church Commandment... The Orthodox Confession of Faith requires the faithful to confess at least once a year...”

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

Church Cleaning: The next cleaning will be held on **March 14th at 9:00AM**. Marshall will open the church for cleaning. March cleaning duty list:

1. Zarzaur
2. Bergantz
3. Capsopoulos
4. Cox

Note: If you can't make it to the cleaning, please arrange to trade places with someone from the coffee hour list that can.

Coffee Hour: (*Lenten Fast)

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| *March 1 st – Sisterhood | *April 5 th – Sisterhood |
| *March 8 th – Pastrick | April 12 th – Pascha! |
| *March 15 th – Pickle | April 19 th – Zarzaur |
| *March 22 nd – Platt | April 26 th – Bergantz |
| *March 29 th – Wolf/Standifer | |

Birthdays:

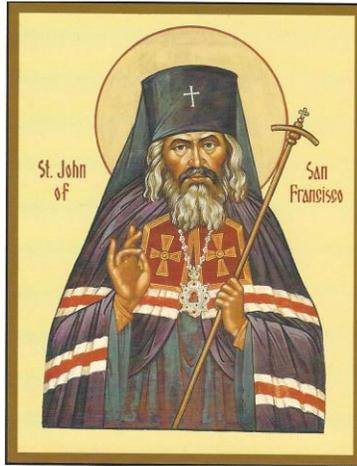
- 3rd – Iryna Haddock
13th – Cassandra Kioutas
18th – Bob Pickle
23rd – Brigid (Schultz) Doty

Anniversaries:

- 16th – Steve & Robbie Cox

Supplies Needed: Please consider donating the following:

- Cold beverage cups (8oz)
Sugar Packets
Coffee Creamer (non-dairy)



Lay up Treasures not on Earth, but in Heaven Where Nothing is Lost

By St. John Maximovitch

The Lord speaks to all people of all times and races, and tells them something clear and well-known. Today a person is alive, but tomorrow he dies and everything that he has is lost to him. But the soul, which moves the body, continues to live and it is either comforted and happy, or sad and burdened. Man is created thus; the body must live as the soul desires.

At the moment of death the soul continues to live without the body. Everything will perish except that which the soul has gathered through love and prayer. Everything virtuous done by a man is written in the soul and will not be taken from him.

While a person is alive, he finds himself paying attention to many things: clothing, health, his job, studies. There are times when he is concerned only with the thought of war or a failed harvest—of everything that is necessary for life on earth.

So, too, in spiritual life there are times of special attention to what is needful for the soul. Such is Great Lent—a time of special attention, examination, of the freeing of spiritual forces. Fasting is established by the Holy Spirit. Righteous men, striving towards God, through life experience came to know the meaning of fasting and bear witness that without fasting there can be no spiritual life.

All the various attacks of the devil, all his temptations, everything concerning the diabolic world is cast aside—becomes powerless and is shamed—when a person firmly follows the words of the Saviour Himself, the Lord Jesus Christ: “...*This kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting.*” (Matt. 17:21)

Now is a time of fasting, a suitable time for cleansing the soul. This is the most important thing, for a soul to be able to accept the grace of God, so that those treasures will be stored up in the soul, which will not be taken from it. And then the path of its life will be straight; in the soul there will be peace and joy. “*Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.*” (Psalm 50:10)

Ride Share: If you are unable to attend Divine Liturgy for lack of transportation, please give us a call and we will do our very best to find someone in your area that you can share a ride with. And if you are available to help us out by providing a ride for someone, please let us know that as well so that we can be sure that we have your contact information on file. Life's a journey, why not share it! (256) 881-2449

Prayer List:

Please keep in your prayers

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

Reposed: Vangie Pamfilis, Milan Petrovic, Jim Smith (Lisa Crafts' father), Larry Smith (Lisa Crafts' Uncle), Anna Scoggins (mother of Kathy Hoyer), Mary Kochoff, Mary, Sam, Frances, Joe, Anne, Stan, Daniel, Anna, Fryni, Nelia, Natalie, 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

“Fasting and prayer are two pillars of faith; two living fires that burn up the evil spirits. Through fasting, all bodily passions are calmed and destroyed, especially immorality; through prayer, all other passions of soul, heart and mind are calmed and destroyed: evil intentions and evil deeds, revenge, envy, hatred, malice, pride, ambition and the others. By fasting, the vessels of body and soul are cleansed of their filthy contents of worldly passions and vices; by prayer, the grace of the Holy Spirit is drawn down into the empty, cleansed vessel—and the fullness of faith consists in the abiding of God’s Spirit in man.”

St. Nikolai Velimirovic

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.*