GOOD WORKS

Quarterly Publication of
The Council of Orthodox Christian Churches
of Metropolitan Detroit

Христос Воскресе!

Cristo ha resucitado!

Hristos a înviat!

CHRIST IS RISEN!

حقا قام!

Χριστός Ανέστη!

COTCC DETROIT

APRIL-JUNE 2013

A MESSAGE FROM
OUR PRESIDENT

Christ is in our midst!

Spring is in the air but the winds are still blowing cold. During this Great Lent let us reflect on the cold nature of our hearts and allow the Holy Spirit to bloom in our souls shining the warm light of truth upon us. I ask you to pray for me also, that the Lord enable me to keep the fast as we journey this road together.

If I asked the question, "Do you love Orthodoxy?" I'm sure all would say "Yes", but are you doing your very best to see it goals and aspirations realized? The COCC need Delegates (representatives) from all parishes to attend and contribute to its monthly meetings. One meeting a month should not be too heavy of a burden for those that love the beauty of God's house and want to work in his vineyard. Please help us get our programs reach a wider audience by spreading the word about this publication and the "good works" we strive to do for our those in our community! Volunteer to join in our cause and be a blessing to the Orthodox in this metropolitan area — your prayers, kind words and participation are integral. Every little bit helps, and Our Lord will reward your effort!

As a reminder to clergy and parishes: If you've not yet paid your 2013 dues, please remember that we cannot do the many charitable works that we do each year without your financial support. Just as parishioner donation's allow your parish to sustain itself, so too do your yearly dues helps the COCC.

God bless each of you, your families, our parishes, and those we serve as we celebrated Christ's Pascha — Christ is risen!

Subdeacon
Robert A Mitchell
President

We need YOUR help!

- **Is our Orthodox Faith important to you?**
- **Could you spare a few hours a month?**
- **Would you like to meet new people?**
- **Are you interested in helping others?**

We need caring, energetic people to join in our good works! The commitment is minimal, but the rewards are great, and your presence is a first-step to make our organization better. Call President Robert Mitchell (313 204-5103) today. We welcome you!

COCC DETROIT

OUR MISSION

"Go forth and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and Lo, I AM with you always, even unto the end of time." (Matthew 28:19-20)

The Council of Orthodox Christian Churches of Metropolitan Detroit is a cooperative organization of clergy and laity established in 1957. Our mission is to promote the Faith through worship, fellowship, charity, education, and outreach.

The devotion of all who serve and support us allows our witness of faith in Detroit to continue into the future.

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A benefit in support of retired Orthodox Clergy and wives

2013 Spring Celebration!

Dinner-Dance

Sunday, June 2

Cocktails, 5pm | Dinner, 6pm

St. Michael the Archangel Banquet Hall
26355 W Chicago, Redford (b/t Beech Daly & Inkster)

Live Ethnic & American Music with **THE OFF-BEATS**

Delicious menu! Children's Entertainment! Dancing! Raffle!

$40 donation Includes Dinner & Refreshments
(Children 12 & under Free. Semi-formal attire please.)

Call Mihaela today!
313 595-7640

+ FROM OUR SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Christ is Risen! As we look and see the state of so-called 'civilized' society, oh how much we need to search and hold onto the words our Savior, the Risen Lord! How we must listen to and follow the saints.

As Christ, the new Adam, foiled the devil's intrigues - not in the sweetness of Paradise, but by fasting in the desert - taught us to withstand the wiles of evil through bodily and spiritual abstinence - may we have closed the way to our hearts against the evil-one by our forty days of fasting, armed with the invisible fiery sword of the spirit - prayer.

As we celebrate the holy days of Pascha, the Lord's Resurrection, we might ask: How do we approach the Risen Savior, and show our love for Him? In the Holy Scripture (John 14:15-21) we hear Christ say, *"If you love me, keep my commandments - he who has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves Me. He who loves Me, shall be loved by My Father and I will love him."*

To celebrate Pascha worthily, we must, as St. Paul writes, *"Purge out the old leaven.... for Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.... let us keep the Feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. (1Cor 5:7-8). We must forgive all who hurt us, and we must not praise Christ our Savior only with our lips, making us hypocrites, in partaking in the Feast."*

We are known as Orthodox Christians by the life we lead - our heart open to good, love, self-sacrifice and faith, no matter how our community and society are overcome by works of evil. Many cold and hardened hearts are warmed by the fire of the holy Love of Christ, Who offers Himself for the salvation of the world in His Blood, Death and Resurrection.

Turn to Christ and rejoice in the words from the Divine Liturgy, *"O Christ, Great and holy Pascha, O Wisdom, Word and Power of God, grant that we may more perfectly partake of the never-ending day of Thy Kingdom."*

The Lord judged us to live at a time when we can determine the future of our city, state and country. We are in troubled times, in an immoral environment with many who lack peace and spiritual direction, humility and love. St. Seraphim of Sarov often greeted visitors throughout the year with, *"Christ is Risen!"* As I write this message, I look upon the icon of St. Seraphim holding a scroll that reads, *"Acquire the spirit of peace and 1,000 souls will be saved around you."*

Is it not our Christian commitment to acquire that spirit of peace? Is not the Paschal Feast a time to grant peace to our hearts and help us overcome the disorders that surround us? May the Feast of Feasts be the source of Peace, mutual understanding, tolerance, brotherhood, constructive work and unity that we all desire! May we not only celebrate the Resurrection of Christ our Lord and Savior at Pascha, but always remember that 'Christ is Risen' not just today, but forever!

-Archpriest Roman Star

SAINTS OF THE SEASON

This great and renowned sovereign of the Christians was the son of Constantius Chlorus (the ruler of the westernmost parts of the Roman Empire), and of the blessed Helen. He was born in 272, in (according to some authorities) Naissus of Dardania, a city on the Hellespont. In 306, when his father died, he was proclaimed successor to his throne. In 312, on learning that Maxentius and Maximinus had joined forces against him, he marched into Italy, where, while at the head of his troops, he saw in the sky after midday, beneath the sun, a radiant pillar in the form of a cross with the words: "By this shalt thou conquer." The following night, our Lord Jesus Christ appeared to him in a dream and declared to him the power of the Cross and its significance. When he arose in the morning, he immediately ordered that a labarum be made (which is a banner or standard of victory over the enemy) in the form of a cross, and he inscribed on it the Name of Jesus Christ. On October 28 he attacked and mightily conquered Maxentius, who drowned in the Tiber River while fleeing. The following day, Constantine entered Rome in triumph and was proclaimed Emperor of the West by the Senate, while Licinius, his brother-in-law, ruled in the East. But out of malice, Licinius later persecuted the Christians. Constantine fought him once and again, and utterly destroyed him in 324, and in this manner he became monarch over the West and the East. Under him and because of him all the persecutions against the Church ceased. Christianity triumphed and idolatry was overthrown.

THE HOLY SAINTS
CONSTANTINE & HELEN
EQUALS TO THE APOSTLES - Commemorated May 21

As for his holy mother Helen, after her son had made the Faith of Christ triumphant throughout the Roman Empire, she undertook a journey to Jerusalem and found the Holy Cross on which our Lord was crucified (the Holy Cross is celebrated September 14). After this, Saint Helen, in her zeal to glorify Christ, erected churches in Jerusalem at the sites of the Crucifixion and Resurrection, in Bethlehem at the cave where our Saviour was born, another on the Mount of Olives whence He ascended into Heaven, and many others throughout the Holy Land, Cyprus, and elsewhere. She was proclaimed Augusta, her image was stamped upon golden coins, and two cities were named Helenopolis after her in Bithynia and in Palestine. Having been thus glorified for her piety, she departed to the Lord being about eighty years of age, according to some in the year 330, according to others, in 336. *(source: goarch.org)*

O Lord, Your disciple Emperor Constantine,
who saw in the sky the Sign of Your Cross,
accepted the call that came straight from You,
as it happened to Paul, and not from any man.
He built his capital and entrusted it to Your care.
Preserve our country in everlasting peace,
through the intercession of the Mother of God,
for You are the Lover of mankind. (Tropar, Tone 8)

Today, Constantine with his mother Helen
present the Cross, the most precious wood.
It shames unbelievers. It is a weapon of
faithful kings against their adversaries.
A great sign has come forth for us
which is awesome in battle. (Kondak)

MARTYR JOHN of SUCEAVA (June 2)

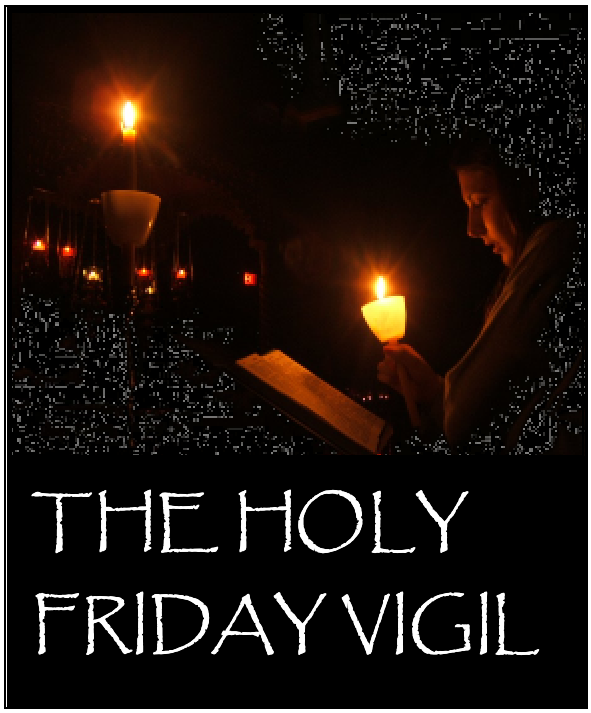
St. John was born in Trebizond in Asia Minor in about 1300 to devout Orthodox parents. On a trading trip to Cetatea Albă, then part of Moldova (in Romania), he got to know a Venetian merchant named Reiz while they were sailing on the Black Sea. They discussed the faith many times and, seeing that John always defeated his arguments, the Venetian decided to take revenge. On arriving in Cetatea Albă, Reiz spread a rumor that John, despite being raised Christian, was interested in the Muslim faith, which at that time was controlled by Muslim Tartars, and when their ruler heard this he called for John. He was asked if it was true that he wished to deny Christianity and become Muslim. He responded that he would never give up his faith in the true God in order to worship created things or the inventions of men. This response offended the Tartar ruler, who ordered John to renounce his faith on pain of torture. He refused , and was eventually martyred by being dragged behind a horse through the streets of the city before having his head struck off by a 'fanatical Jew'. John was only about 30 years old.

On hearing of his death, Reiz resolved to dig up the body of the martyr and steal it as a further act of revenge, but the Orthodox priest in the city had a dream in which John who informed him of this crime and asked him to bring his body to the Orthodox Church. This was the first miracle of the great martyr. For years his relics were kept in Cetatea Albă, where they became famous for healings and other miracles, but eventually Prince Alexander the Good heard of the martyr's relics and, at the urging of Metropolitan Iosif Muşat of Moldova, arranged to have them brought to his capital, Suceava (in northeastern Romania), on June 24, 1402. John's incorrupt relics have been at the monastery bearing his name in that city until the present.

SAINTS CYRIL & METHODIUS (May 11)

O Cyril and Methodius, inspired by God, you became equal to the Apostles by your life. As teachers of the Slavs, intercede with the Master of all to strengthen all Orthodox peoples in the True Faith, granting peace to the world and great mercy to our souls.

Our fathers Cyril and Methodius were brothers who brought Orthodoxy to the Slavic peoples of central Europe in the ninth century. In preparation for their mission to the Slavs they devised the Glagolitic alphabet to translate the Scriptures and other Christian writings into what is now called Old Church Slavonic. The Cyrillic alphabet, used today in a number of Slavic languages was derived from this. The brothers have been recognized as saints, equals to the apostles, for their missionary work.



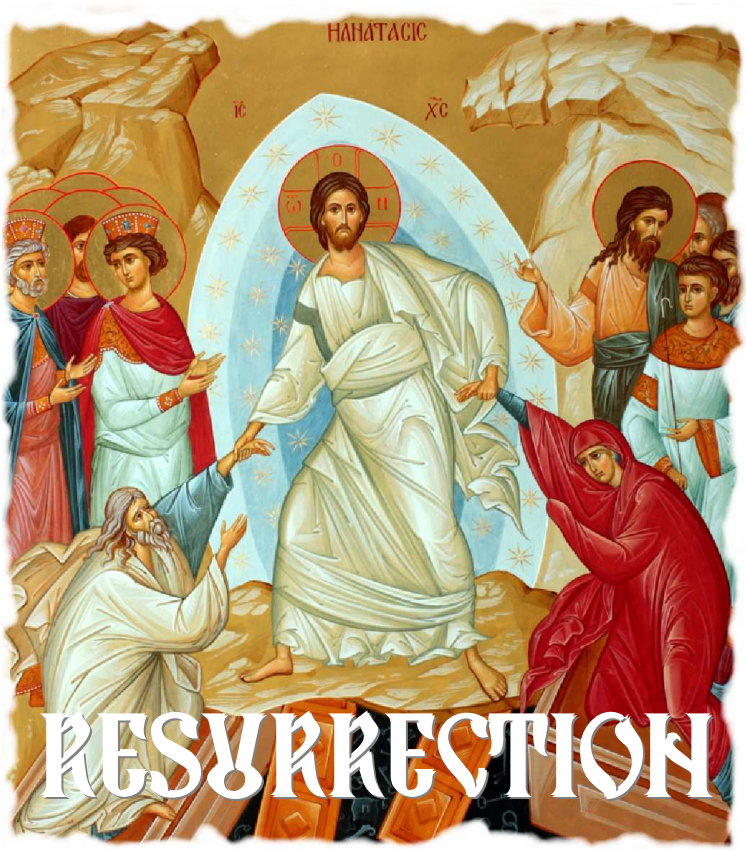
THE HOLY FRIDAY VIGIL

In order to more fully appreciate the wonder of Christ's Resurrection, it is important to understand the significance of His sufferings that we may behold His glorious Resurrection.

An ancient tradition in the Orthodox Church is the Vigil at the Tomb of Christ. After Our Lord died on the Cross, Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimathea took the body of Jesus, bound it in clean linens with spices and buried it in a new tomb. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary sat opposite the tomb watching as their Lord was buried. The Church over the centuries has joined with these women in keeping watch over Jesus' tomb. The Holy Friday Vigil is our opportunity to help keep watch as He descends into Hell to loosen the bonds of death.

What better way to understand the Holiest of Feasts than to participate in this Holy Vigil. Young adults are particularly encouraged to organize and participate in this ancient custom! It is a simple, yet strikingly powerful way to complete the journey to Holy Pascha.

"Christ is risen from the dead trampling down death by death, and to those in the tombs bestowing everlasting life!"
-Tropar of Pascha



THE PASCHAL SERMON
of Saint John Chrysostom

"If you piously love God, partake now of this beautiful and radiant feast! If you are a grateful servant, rejoice and enter into the joy of your Lord. If you are weary from fasting, come and receive your reward.

If you have worked at keeping the fast from the very First Hour, receive now your just payment. If you began even from the Third Hour, give thanks and feast. If you arrived at the Sixth Hour, have no doubts, you will not be denied. If you delayed until the Ninth Hour, do not hesitate to come forward. And if you came only at the Eleventh Hour, do not be alarmed, because the gracious Master accepts the last, just as He accepts the first. He gives rest to all, whether they came at the Eleventh Hour or worked from the First Hour. He has mercy on those who delayed, just as He shows care for those who came first. He bestows His gifts on all, accepting both our deeds and our intentions. He honors the act and praises the effort.

All of you, therefore, enter into the joy of Our Lord! The first and second among you, share in the reward! Rich and poor, rejoice together! Whether you abstained or neglected to, celebrate this day! Whether you fasted or not, be glad today! The table is prepared. All of you, come and feast! The calf is fatted. No one should go away hungry. All of you, come and partake of the banquet of faith! All of you, enjoy the riches of His loving kindness! Do not grieve about your poverty, for the Kingdom for all has been revealed. Do not weep because you have repeatedly fallen, for pardon has radiated from the tomb. Do not fear death, for our Savior's death has set us free! He that was held prisoner by death, has destroyed it! He that descended into Hell, has taken it captive!

And, at the very moment that it tasted His body, Hell became angry just as the Prophet Isaiah foretold when he said, 'Hell was angered when it encountered You below.' It became angry because it was abolished. It became angry because it was mocked. It became angry because it was slain. It became angry because it was annihilated. It became angry because it was bound in chains. Hell took a body. But it came face-to-face with God Himself! It took earth. But it encountered Heaven! It took what it saw. But it was overcome by the unseen! Death! Now where is your sting? Hell! Now where is your victory?

Christ is risen, and you are overthrown! Christ is risen, and the devils are cast down! Christ is risen, and the angels rejoice! Christ is risen, and life is set free! Christ is risen, and there are no more dead in the graves! For by rising from the dead, Christ has become the first-fruit of those who have fallen asleep!

To Him be glory and power, unto ages of ages. Amen."

Afrikaans
Kristus het opgestaan!
Hy het waarlik opgestaan!

Danish
Kristus er opstanden!
Sandelig Han er Opstanden!

Norwegian
Kristus er oppstanden!
Han er sannelig oppstanden!

Swedish
Kristus är uppstånden!
Ja, Han är verkligen uppstånden!

Portuguese
Cristo ressuscitou!
Verdadeiramente ressuscitou!

Czech
Kristus vstal z mrtvých!
Vpravdě vstal z mrtvých!

Slovak
Kristus vstal zmŕtvych!
Skutočne vstal!

Lithuanian
Kristus prisikėlė!
Tikrai prisikėlė!

Turkish
Hristós diril-Dí!
Hakíkatén diril-Dí!

Filipino (Tagalog)
Si Cristo ay nabuhay!
Siya nga ay nabuhay!

Indonesian
Kristus sudah bangkit!
Dia benar sudah bangkit.

Aleut
Kristus aq ungwektaq!
Pichinuq ungwektaq!

Yupik
Xris-tusaq Ung-uixtuq!
Iluumun Ung-uixtuq!

Japanese
ハリストス復活！
ハリストス復活！Harisutosu fukkatsu!
実に復活！Jitsu ni fukkatsu!

Swahili
Kristo Amefufukka!
Kweli Amefufukka!

On the Night of Pascha

English
Christ is risen!
Truly He is risen!

Greek
Χριστός Ανέστη! Christos Anesti!
Αληθώς Ανέστη! Aleithos Anesti!

German
Christus ist auferstanden!
Er ist wahrhaftig auferstanden!

Romanian
Hristos a înviat!
Adevărat a înviat!

Italian
Cristo è risorto!
È veramente risorto!

French
Le Christ est ressuscité!
Vraiment Il est ressuscité!

Spanish
Cristo ha resucitado!
Verdaderamente, ha resucitado!

Russian
Христос Воскресе! Khristos Voskrese!
Воистину Воскресе! Voistinu Voskrese!

Ukrainian
Христос Воскрес! Khrystos Voskres!
Воістину Воскрес! Voistynu Voskres!

Bulgarian
Христос Възкресе! Christos Vozkrese!
Воистина Възкресе! Voistina Vozkrese!

Serbian
Христос Васкресе! Christos Voskrese!
Ваистину Васкресе! Vaistinu Voskrese!

Albanian
Krishti u ngjall!
Vërtet u ngjall!

Arabic
Al-Masih-Qam! !حقا قام
Hakkan Qam! !المسيح قام

Latin
Christus Surrexit!
Surrexit vere!

Polish
Chrystus zmartwychwstał!
Prawdziwie zmartwychwstał!

"The Day of Resurrection, let us be illumined all people, Pascha of the Lord O Pascha! For Christ God has brought us from death to life, and from earth to heaven, we who sing a song of victory: Christ is Risen from the dead!" - Irmos of Ode I, Paschal Canon

The Midnight Service (Nocturns) leads us to the stroke of midnight, the deepest, darkest moment of time in the world. We stand in anticipation. The Royal Doors open and the people are invited to "Come, take the Light which does not fade and glorify Christ risen from the dead!"

We leave the church, and like the women who went to anoint the Body of Christ, we stand before the door of the now empty Tomb. The Gospel speaks of the eyewitnesses of Christ's resurrection and the plot of His enemies to hide the truth.

Come, take the Light and glorify Christ risen from the dead!

Matins of the Resurrection begin. The paschal hymn "Christ is Risen" is proclaimed just as the angel told the women. We re-enter the church which is now glowing with light. The "Rush Service" continues with the hymns being sung quickly and joyfully, just as the women and apostles excitedly rushed to spread Christ's Good News (Gospel) of Life.

The Paschal Sermon of Saint John the "Golden Mouth" invites us to not go away hungry, but to enter into and fulfill the mystery of our own baptismal death and resurrection with Christ by feasting on His Precious and Holy Body and Blood, the source of Life. Therefore, the Divine Liturgy is immediately celebrated. Only then is our pilgrimage through Great Lent and the Great and Holy Week of Our Lord's Passion complete. Only in receiving that Life-giving Food of Immortality do we participate in the joyful and eternal Life that Christ regained for us through his death and resurrection.

Unworthy as we are — all of us who have been baptized into Christ — His undeserved Love, Joy, and Peace are offered freely to us. But we must humbly walk through the darkness if we are to reach the Light that shines from His Tomb. Truly, He is Risen!

Adapted by Fr Laurence Lazar, 1994

The Sunday of ORTHODOXY

Photo credits: A Radulescu, JE Lazar

on the Eve of the ANNUNCIATION

On Sunday evening, March 24, 2013 Metropolitan Nicholas presided at the Great Vespers for the Feast of the Annunciation of the Theotokos at the Annunciation Cathedral in Detroit, Michigan. On this occasion, clergy and members of the Council of Orthodox Christian Churches of Metro Detroit (COCC) were invited to participate. Responses were offered by the choirs of the COCC, the Annunciation Cathedral and the chanters. More than 30 clergy from the Greater Detroit Area co-celebrated at this historic event. Fr. George Shalhoub (St. Mary Antiochian Basilica of Livonia, Michigan) offered a wonderful sermon focused on unity among Orthodox Christians. A procession with icons was organized to celebrate the Sunday of Orthodoxy and the triumph over the Iconoclast movement that banned the use of icons of Jesus, Mary, and the saints and commanded the destruction of these images.

Afterward, a lovely reception was offered by the ladies auxiliary of the host parish.

From www.detroit.goarch.org

O Lord save Your people and bless Your inheritance, grant victory to Orthodox Christians over the enemy, and preserve Your people by Your Cross!

Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers, celebrated on the Eve of the Annunciation, 24 March 2013.

Sunday, February 10, 2013, sixty people from many Orthodox communities came to the Orthodox Christian Women's 20th Anniversary held at the Romanian Cultural Center at St George Cathedral in Southfield. A Memorial Service by Fr Laurence Lazar (host priest) and Fr Roman Star, remembering our departed members, preceded the program. Fr Star, our Spiritual Advisor, conducted elections. The food was delicious and service was efficient.

OCW 20years

Mother Gabriella and Preoteasa Anita Lazar were among the original twelve signers present. Other guests included our Spiritual Advisor, Priests, President and Vice-President of the COCC. Mother Gabriella (Abbess of Holy Dormition Romanian Orthodox Monastery, Rives Junction), was the keynote speaker, her topic being 'Women's Role in the Church, Now and in the Future'. A great time was had by all thanks to the hospitality of our host.

We invite all Orthodox Christian Women to join us at our events over the next three months. Simply contact Sonia Knapp, Membership Chair (313 274-8227), or Mary Lafter, our newly elected president (248 356-4186). We welcome you!

9th Annual

LENTEN RETREAT

for Orthodox Women of all ages

SATURDAY, April 20

9:00am – 3:00pm
St Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church
760 W Wattles Rd, Troy 48098

Morning Session:
Practicing Daily Prayer in the Orthodox Life
Afternoon Session:
Icons, and Their Relationship to Prayer

Theodora Dracopoulos Argue
Retreat Leader & Author

Registration: $35.00 (Includes Refreshments & Lunch)
No tickets sold at the door. Proper attire / No jeans please.

Demetra Manolias 248 743-0067 | manolias4@sbcglobal.net

Sponsored by St. Nicholas Ladies Philoptochos Society & M.O.M.s (Mothers on an Orthodox Mission)

EDITORIAL

Mother's Day

Each year, nations of the world set aside a special day to remember Mothers. Here in the United Sates, the second Sunday of May marks "Mother's Day". There are special efforts made to show our mothers that we love them and that their hard work does not go unnoticed. The stores bombard us with greeting cards; restaurants fill with reservations to treat mom; churches have a special memorial to remember physical and spiritual mothers, and some even have a banquet, give flowers and recite poems. The ladies take a break (at least this one time!) from cooking.

These are all wonderful, and even necessary gestures — but do we use this day as an "excuse" to be nice to mom? What about the rest of the year? Do we remember to treat all mothers, grandmothers, aunts, sisters, godmothers, with the love and admiration that they deserve each day of the year?

Usually, a mother's personal wants and needs are put aside for the sake of others. Often, we choose to forget about her (private) sacrifices and struggles endured on our behalf and that of family and friends. Further, sadly, there are too many people who have strained relationships, or no relationship at all with their mom. Others have sent them to their eternal rest with the Lord and no longer have them physically near them. For these and other reasons, we should be even more conscious of how we treat our mothers, and women in general.

Of course, there is a special relationship between a mother and child that cannot be replicated. I will be the first to admit that my mother doesn't get nearly the attention and respect she deserves.

So, take time to say "thanks" or "can I help" or "I love you mom" — *and mean it!* Let them know that you think they're the best, not just on a holiday, but everyday.

COMMUNITY FEAST DAY SERVICES

The Sunday Vespers series (in Great Lent) is a long-standing tradition of the COCC. This year we announce a new initiative, providing opportunities for faithful to visit and pray at selected parishes *throughout the year* on their feast-day (or on a saint's day more specific to the people of a particular land).

The Orthodox community is rich in diversity, and this program offers an educational, spiritual, cultural experience, bringing the universal services of our Church to life through the unique melodies, languages, architecture, and customs of various parishes.

We invite you to mark your calendar and make time to take advantage of these "Community Feast-day Services", joining our brothers and sisters in prayer. ***All are welcome!***

+ (Eve of) Sts Constantine & Helen
Monday, May 20
Vespers
Sts Constantine & Helen Greek Church, 7pm
36375 Joy Rd, Westland
www.stconsc.org

+ Ascension of the Lord
Saturday, June 15
Hierarchal Liturgy
Holy Ascension Romanian Monastery, 10am
15143 Sheridan Rd, Clinton (near Saline)
www.holy-ascension.org

+ (Eve of) St Stephen the Great
Monday, July 1
Vesperal Liturgy
St George Romanian Cathedral, 7pm
18405 W Nine Mile Rd, Southfield 48075
www.sgroc.org

+ (Eve of) The Transfiguration
Monday, August 5
Vigil of the Feast
Holy Transfiguration Church, 7pm
36075 W Seven Mile Rd, Livonia
www.orthodoxlivonia.org

**** Dates and locations are subject to change. Consult www.coccdetroit.com***

PARISH SPOTLIGHT...

ST. MARY CATHEDRAL

Schedule of Services:

Sunday

9:30am Hours & Confession

10:00am Divine Liturgy

Fellowship luncheon weekly

Saturday

5:00pm Vespers & Confession

St. Mary the Protectress (Pokrova) Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral belongs to the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and is under the protection of the Ecumenical Patriarchate. For over sixty years, our parish has been a gathering place for the Ukrainian Orthodox faithful in the Detroit Metropolitan area. We deeply appreciate the hard work of the founders of this parish – their legacy is a beautiful place of worship that enjoys a warm family atmosphere.

Our current Church was built in 1970 and our parish has opened its doors and hearts to many generations of Ukrainians –many who have left their homeland to find a better life in the U.S.A. and those born here. This has also become the spiritual home of many people from various post-Soviet countries. We are very pleased to see the diversity of people worshipping together. St. Paul people said, "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus." (Galatians 3, 28).

We come together for worship services regularly on Saturdays and Sundays and during major holy days. The main language of worship is Ukrainian, but services are also conducted in English and Church Slavonic.

Olga Liskiwskyi, Parish Council contact
248 252 8184 | olgaliss0910@gmail.com

ST MARY THE PROTECTRESS (POKROVA) UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL
Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the United States (Ec Pat)
21931 Evergreen Rd, Southfield
(between 8 & 9 Mile Rds)
Telephone 248 471 1755
www.protectress.org

V Rev Fr Pavlo Bodnarchuk

ORTHODOX CHURCHES OF METROPOLITAN DETROIT

Basilica of Saint Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church
Founded 1972

www.stmarylivonia.com
18100 Merriman, Livonia 48152
Very Rev Fr George Shalhoub
Rev Fr Jim King

Diocese of Toledo & the Midwest Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese

Descent of the Holy Ghost Romanian Orthodox Church
Founded 1916

31500 Ryan Rd, Warren 48092
Very Rev Fr John Mihut

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Rev Fr Teodor Petrutiu

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Detroit
Ecumenical Patriarchate

Serve the poor... SERVE THE LORD.

The Gospel of Meatfare Sunday (Matthew 25:31–46), makes it clear that we must minister to the poor, those that are hungry, thirsty, the stranger, naked, sick, or imprisoned.

Not only do we as Orthodox Christians follow the golden rule, *"do unto others as you would have them do unto you"*, but we must be compelled to take it further and see Christ in everyone, including the poor. The consequence is clear:

"Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me." Then they will answer Him, saying "Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?" Then He will answer them saying, "Surely, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me." And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.

In this passage, we are told very specifically what we will be judged for: our acts of Christian love toward others. This love challenges us to go beyond society's notion of charity and calls us to see Christ in everyone, serving each person as we would Christ.

Commentary from:
http://lent.goarch.org/family/judgementsunday.asp

During lent, we increase our prayer, fasting, and alms-giving. What a perfect opportunity to take the Gospel of Last Judgment more seriously and volunteer with Orthodox Detroit Outreach! Contact us if your parish would like to host an event or just "show up" at any activity… you are more than welcome.

Opportunities for volunteering are:

- **Sack Lunch & Breakfast Sandwich assembly:**
  Saturday, April 6, 10:00am
  St. Raphael of Brooklyn Orthodox Church
  (Detroit, off Jeffries Fwy, just E of Telegraph)
  Saturday, May 11, 10:00am
  St. George Romanian Orthodox Cathedral
  (Southfield, 9 Mile Rd, just W of Lodge Fwy)
  Saturday, June 1, 10:00am
  St. Lazarus Serbian Orthodox Cathedral
  (Detroit, on NE corner of VanDyke @ E Outer Dr)
- **Breakfast at NSO Homeless Shelter, Detroit**
  Tuesday, April 9, 8:00am
  Tuesday, May 14, 8:00am
  Tuesday, June 4, 8:00am
- **Lunch for the homeless**
  in partnership with Detroit Hunger Alliance
  Served EACH Sunday, 2:00pm
  Sts. Peter & Paul Orthodox Cathedral
  (Detroit, SW block of Michigan Ave @ Livernois)
- **Community Garden Up-keep**
  Tuesday, April 9, time TBD (weather permitting)
  (Detroit, near Sts. Peter & Paul Cathedral)
  Gardening activities will ramp up in May, check ODO Facebook page for updates
- **2013 Urban Mission @ St. Raphael Church**
  Many hunger to experience missionary work first-hand, but only a small portion are able to go abroad. While there is important work to be done here as well as overseas, our suburban parishes find little direct exposure to urban and rural poor and the homeless. In Detroit, the annual St. Raphael of Brooklyn URBAN MISSION week provides an opportunity to not only learn about missions in an Orthodox Christian context but to participate in outreach here in our own backyard.

Visit our website:

www.orthodoxdetroitoutreach.org

and our facebook page for specific information on volunteer and charitable giving opportunities.

AFFILIATE MINISTRIES OF THE COCC:

Get involved!

THE ORTHODOX CHOIR OF DETROIT

The Orthodox Choir of Detroit has brought an essential aspect of our Faith to southeastern lower Michigan with its beautiful music. The ensemble has existed in various forms for several decades, and is composed of singers in mixed voice (SATB) from parishes across the city.

The "Lenten Choir" is a more loosely organized group that gathers to give responses at the annual Sunday Lenten Vespers services. The choir also rehearses on a more intense level to prepare for concerts and other special events as needed. The English language repertoire includes composers of many national backgrounds and jurisdictions, from the traditional Byzantine and ancient melodies, to modern-day American composers.

(Matushka) Victoria Kopistiansky is the musical director, and **Elizabeth Star (734 306-1486 | estar2@mi.rr.com)** serves at the choir's representative liaison to the COCC. New singers are always welcome!

ORTHODOX **DETROIT** OUTREACH

ORTHODOX DETROIT OUTREACH (ODO)

Our mission first and foremost is to strive to fulfill the Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ, being faithful to the Apostolic teachings and Living Tradition of the Orthodox Christian Church. We seek to be known by the fruits of our ministry. We intend actively and in an ongoing manner to assess the needs of those within the greater Detroit metropolitan area, providing through various ministrations towards the material sustenance and spiritual aid to those in need. Finally, we wish to serve the churches of our area by providing both local and coordinated ministries aiding those in need, and offering educational and experiential resources as requested. - **Matthew McCroskery, Chairman / Director**

PO Box 38511, Detroit MI 48238
orthodoxdetroitoutreach.org

ST JOHN CHRYSOSTOM CLERGY BROTHERHOOD

The Orthodox Clergy of metropolitan Detroit gather throughout the year as part of the "Saint John Chrysostom" Brotherhood, as a way to share their pastoral experiences, learn, pray, and interact with one another on a unique level. All priests and deacons in good canonical order are invited to take part. The president of the Clergy Brotherhood, by virtue of his office, also serves as the Spiritual Advisor for the COCC.

Please contact **Fr Roman Star (313 538-1142)**.

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN WOMEN (OCW)

The Orthodox Christian Women of Michigan is an organization of women from the various jurisdictions of Canonical Orthodox churches in metropolitan Detroit. It's purposes are educational, spiritual, and charitable. Educational programs about our Orthodox Faith are presented monthly March through June and September through November. An annual retreat is held in the summer. The charitable purpose is fulfilled primarily by collecting nonperishable food and paper products then distributed to those in need. New clothing and other items requested by Children's Hospital of Michigan in Detroit are also collected then taken to the Hospital.

Annual observances of its founding are celebrated in February with a lunch and election of a Board of Directors. For further information, you may contact **Mary Ann Dadich at 586-775-4799 or mdadich811@gmail.com**.

BROTHERHOOD OF SAINT MOSES

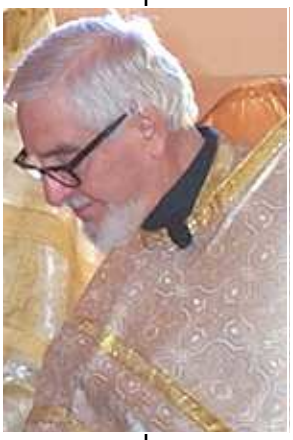
The Detroit Metro Chapter of the National Brotherhood of Saint Moses the Black (the Ethiopian) exists primarily as an outreach to those seeking the True Faith of the Orthodox Church. Just as the Church finds deep roots in the lands of Africa, so too does the BSMB strive to make those roots more known and understood in America.

The group is represented in the COCC by **Sharon Gomulka (248 477-6411 / bsmb-detroit@att.net)** who serves as the Chair for the Detroit Chapter.

+ MEMORY ETERNAL!

+ VERY REV FR PANAYOT PAMUKOV

With great sadness, we announce that the *Very Reverend Fr Panayot Pamukov*, Priest Emeritus of St Clement Ohridski Macedono-Bulgarian Church in Dearborn, fell asleep in the Lord on January 18, 2013. He was 87 years old.



He was born in Yambol, Bulgaria in 1925 and ordained to the priesthood in 1946. He graduated from the Theological Seminary in Plovdiv and the Theological School of the University of Sofia, receiving a Master's Degree in Theology from the St. Clement Ohridski Theological Academy in Sofia. He came to Detroit with his young family in 1968, having been assigned as parish priest of the newly built St Clement Church (on Ford Road in Dearborn). Father presided over a period of tremendous growth in the parish and beautification of the church. He retired after serving St Clement's for more than 35 years, ultimately marking nearly 66 years as a priest at the time of his repose! His wife, Popadia Sylvia, who served with him as the mother of the parish fell asleep in 2007. They are survived by their two children, five grandchildren, and many parishioners and friends who became endeared to them over the years.

Fr Panayot was active for decades in the Council of Orthodox Churches, having also served as its president. He was known among the clergy and faithful of Detroit, often participating in sister parish anniversaries and other occasions simply as a faithful servant of the Church and friend throughout the community. He will be remembered for his dedication, loving smile and kind heart. *May his memory be eternal.*

DID YOU KNOW...

That Saints Peter and Paul (Russian) Cathedral, OCA, located just south-west of Michigan and Livernois Avenues (Detroit), is the oldest Orthodox parish in Michigan? It was founded in 1907, and is worth a visit!

NEWS from around the Orthodox World...

His Beatitude **JOHN X**

was elected and enthroned as the new Patriarch of Antioch and All the East, on the 10th of February, 2013, in Damascus at the Church of the Holy Cross. JOHN X follows IGNATIUS IV, who reposed at the end of 2012. Many years, Your Beatitude!

His Holiness **NEOFIT**

was elected as the successor to Patriarch MAXIM as new Patriarch of the Church of Bulgaria. He was enthroned at the famous Cathedral of St. Alexander Nevsky in Sofia on February 24, 2013. God grant him many years - Многая Лета!

His All Holiness, **BARTHOLOMEW I**

took part in the enthronement of newly elected Pope Francis, as Bishop of Rome and leader of the Roman Catholic Church. This was the first time that the Ecumenical Patriarch had been present for such an event since the Great Schism of 1054.

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Remembering...

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Red, white and blue for those we knew
Who marched off to war.
We honor them now and show them how
Their bravery we can't ignore.

Heroes of war, they were so much more,
Father and brother and friend.
Flags at half mast for those of the past
To whom our gratitude we send.

We place flowers on the graves of those who were brave,
We salute them far and wide.
Seeing poppies galore while our hearts soar,
remembering proudly those who have died.

MEMORIAL DAY 2013

Serving all of Metro Detroit!

Crosses, Books, Icons, Gifts, Music, Holy Vessels, Candles, More!

Richard Shebib welcomes you!
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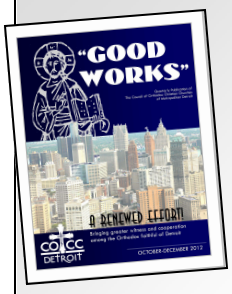

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❖Quarter Page *(4.25"x5.5")*	$800.00 *($200 x 4 issues)*
❖Business Card *(4.25"x2.75")*	$500.00 *($125 x 4 issues)*

(Note: sizes are approximate)

Please call MARY ANN… (586 775-4799)!

Special offers for Church-related events as well!

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

APRIL

21 *5th Sunday of Lent: St Mary of Egypt*
ODO Lunches for the Homeless, 2pm
Sts Peter & Paul Cathedral, Detroit

Romanian Parishes Joint Vespers, 4pm
St George Romanian Cathedral, Southfield

Inter-Orthodox Vespers (#5), 6pm
Holy Trinity OCA Church, Detroit

23 + *Great Martyr George*

28 + *PALM SUNDAY*
Annual Fish Dinner, 1pm
- St George Romanian Cathedral, Southfield
- Sts Peter & Paul Romanian Church, Dearborn Hts

Ladies Organizations Easter Bake Sales
- Holy Trinity OCA Church, Detroit
- St George Romanian Cathedral, Southfield

29-4 + *GREAT & HOLY WEEK*

MAY

5 + *HOLY PASCHA (Easter Sunday)*

11 ODO Sack-lunch making session, 10am
St George Romanian Cathedral, Southfield

12 101st Founders' & Mother's Day Banquet, 1pm
St George Romanian Cathedral, Southfield

84th Anniversary Hierarchal Liturgy & Banquet,
St Thomas Albanian-OCA Church, Farmington Hills

17 ODO Lunches for the Homeless, 2pm
Sts Peter & Paul OCA Cathedral, Detroit

18 Community Rummage Sale, 10am-4pm
St George Romanian Cathedral, Southfield

19 Family Day Dinner, 1pm
Sts Peter & Paul Romanian Church, Dearborn Hts

20 *+Eve of Sts Constantine & Helen*
CFS, 7pm: Sts Ctn & Helen Greek Church, Westland

27 Memorial Day (USA)

JUNE

1 ODO Sack-lunch making session, 10am
St Lazarus Serbian Cathedral, Detroit

4 ODO Breakfast serving, 8am

8 Romanian Heritage Festival
Sts Peter & Paul Romanian Church, Dearborn Hts

13 + *ASCENSION OF THE LORD*

15 Monastery Patronal Feast Hierarchal Liturgy, 10am
CFS: Ascension Romanian Monastery, Clinton

29 *+Holy Apostles Peter & Paul*

30 Patron Saints Dinner, 1pm
Sts Peter & Paul Romanian Church, Dearborn Hts

ODO - *Orthodox Detroit Outreach sponsored event*
OCW - *Orthodox Christian Women sponsored event*
CFS - *Community Feast-day Service Program*

All are welcome at published events.
Parishes are encouraged to submit calendars to us!

The 7th Annual
ROMANIAN AMERICAN HERITAGE FESTIVAL

Sts. Peter & Paul Romanian Orthodox Church
750 N. Beech Daly Rd., Dearborn Heights
www.spproc.org/festival

SATURDAY, JUNE 8 • 2pm — 12midnight

EVERYONE IS INVITED ! FREE ADMISSION !

FOOD • MUSIC • DANCING • CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

INTERNATIONAL ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHARITIES

IOCC AWARENESS EVENING

Saturday, April 20, 2013
7:00pm to 9:00pm

SCAVOLINI *by Cucina Moda*
202 E. Maple • Birmingham, MI 48009

Since 1992, IOCC has been working in cooperation with the Orthodox Church to provide lifesaving humanitarian assistance to the world's most vulnerable. Join us and IOCC Gift Officer Nick Kasemeotes to learn how your support is bringing relief and renewed hope to victims of strife in Syria, Greece and others in need around the world.

Tickets are $50 per person before April 17
$60 per person after April 17 or at the door
Sponsorship opportunities are available
For more information, please visit www.iocc.org/detroit

IOCC®

The COCC sincerely encourages you to participate and support IOCC!

All net proceeds to benefit IOCC's humanitarian aid and emergency relief

GOOD WORKS APR-JUN 2013

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