

THE ORTHODOX POST

July-August 2010

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St. Nicholas Albanian Orthodox Church, 181-14 Midland Parkway, Jamaica Estates, New York, NY 11432
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President's Message

by Bill Peters

The most important news this month is the appointment by Bishop Nikon of our next Pastor. Our next Pastor will be Deacon Nathan Preston and his appointment will be effective upon his Ordination to the Holy Priesthood. This Ordination ceremony will be celebrated by Bishop Nikon on Sunday, August 29th at our St. Nicholas Church. More information is provided in the article below. All are invited to attend the Ordination and the related Reception!!!

On Monday, July 26th, St. Nicholas Church will hold its Annual Golf Outing. This event is a major fundraiser for our Church. Parishioners are urged to participate in this event and help raise money by getting businesses they deal with to make a donation for an advertisement sign to be placed on the golf course. More information is shown in the "Golf Outing" article on page 3.

As you can see when you are in Church, the Building Expansion Project is coming to an end. Currently, there is a list of miscellaneous items pending that will

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complete in the near future. Come September, we will begin the new church year with the ability to use all the new improvements provided by the Building Project. Important Fall activities include Sunday School operations utilizing the new classrooms and the Special Dinner/Dance being held in the expanded Fellowship Hall on Saturday, October 23rd. It celebrates the completion of the Building Project and our 40th Year Anniversary of being in Jamaica Estates. To commemorate this grand event, a fundraising journal will be created including information on the Church and ads placed by parishioners and businesses.

Have a Great Summer!!!!

New Pastor Appointed for St. Nicholas Parish



GREAT NEWS!!!! Bishop Nikon has agreed with the Parish Council Committee's recommendation, and will appoint Deacon Nathan Preston as Pastor of our St. Nicholas Church upon his Ordination to the Holy Priesthood.

The Ordination will be held at our St. Nicholas Church on Sunday, August 29th. A Reception will follow the ceremony in our Fellowship Hall.

In the meantime, Deacon Nathan and Priests assisting us on a temporary basis will continue to serve the needs of parishioners.

Deacon Nathan is known to many parishioners at St. Nicholas. He has served as our deacon since he was ordained to the diaconate by Bishop Nikon in August 2009. Prior to that, he served us as a Ministry Assistant aiding Fr. David and Fr. Andrew. He graduated from St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary in 2007 with a Master of Divinity degree. Since graduation, he has been working at Covenant House as a Counselor for homeless and at-risk youth. In the summer of 2006, Nathan spent two weeks in Albania as a member of an OCMC short-term mission group. While there, he taught English at a day camp in Tirana while staying at Shene Vlash and spending evenings and free time with the children from the Home of Hope.

We look forward to having Deacon Nathan as our Pastor and Congratulate him on this very special achievement.

Deacon's Message

by Deacon Nathan Preston

Why do we come to Church? Particularly now, as the sun shines and summer adventures beckon, we contemplate this putting on our good clothes and getting in the car for the drive. Why could we not have a normal hobby, one that would inspire less guilt for even our temporary negligence? I don't believe it's that we want to ignore God, when we are challenged by such moods. We are simply busy people and tired and ready for the rest of one still and uncluttered morning's refreshment that such a lapse, our absence from Liturgy, might provide. We are all probably thoughtful people too, who can see God outside of Church, who say some daily prayers and try to remember to be thankful. So, why come?

Summer is so like paradise: the tremendous bounty of natural beauty is freely on view every day, and we reap bright flowers and fruits unknown (at least, tasting as they ought) the rest of the year. Paradise is where we belong, and it is the reason to rise early Sundays, make the journey, and come. We, children of those first parents—Adam and Eve, were made to dwell in paradise, and many of our greatest theologians and hymnographers have mediated deeply on this theme. We are to live with God sharing in the joy of his creation, but we are weak. We come to Church to live inside the moments of the services—those fragments of time when we know that God is near. Yet we come so that we can also learn to live outside those moments, when we are dispirited to remember that Christ is really with us.

Some people say our services are long and repetitive. They are right. They are right because these hours of prayer were made for us, knowing that we are tired and we are often slow. We can't grasp it all all at once. Rather, we find resonance here and there when our thoughts are collected or God simply intrudes into our chattering brains. These fragments of revelation we must treasure outside the Church as we attempt to reclaim them throughout the week and reconcile them with our lives where prayer should always be more. Like the choir, slipping from tune, we come each Sunday to hear the pitches and try to sing again.

Paradise is, after all, a perspective. If we are to dwell there (and we are supposed to dwell there), it requires the training of our minds and hearts to be attentive. Paradise is with God. Let us learn and let us train and let us practice to be there.

Enjoy your summer.

KENDI SHQIP

(The Albanian Corner)



by A. Llupa

Korrik–Gusht, 2010

Këtë rradhë po japim pjesë nga “Libri i Fjalëve të Urta”.

Qëllimi i fjalëve të urta, sic është thënë dhe më parë, është për të njohur diturinë dhe për të mësuar gjykimet e mëncura.

...Përfitime për diturinë...

...Biri im, mos harro mësimet e mia dhe zemra jote le të ruajë urdhërimet e mia, sepse do të të shtohen ditë të gjata, vite jete dhe paqeje.

Mirësia dhe e vërteta mos të lëncin kurrë; lidhi rreth qafës, shkruaji mbi tabelën e zemrës sate; do të gjesh kështu hir dhe arsye në sytë e Perëndisë dhe të njerzve. Ki besim tek Zoti me gjithë zemër dhe mos u mbështet në gjykimin tënd; pranoje në të gjitha rrugët e tua, dhe ai do të drejtojë shtigjet e tua.

Mos e mbaj veten te ditur ne syte e tu, ki frike nga Zoti dhe hiq dorë nga e keqja; kjo do të jetë shërim për nervat e tua dhe freskim për kockat e tua.

Ndero Zotin e pasurinë tënde dhe me prodhimet e para të cdo të ardhure që ke; hambaret e tu të grurit do të jenë plot e përplot dhe vozat e tua do të gufojnë me musht.

Biri im, mos e përcmo ndëshkimin e Zotit dhe mos urre qortimin e tij, sepse Zoti qorton atë që do, si një baba djalin.

Lum ai njeri që ka gjetur diturinë dhe njeriu që ka përfituar arsyen. Sepse fitimi i tij është më i mirë se fitimi i argjendit dhe fryti i tij vlen më tepër se ari i kulluar.

Ajo është më e cmuar se perlat dhe mbarë gjërat më të këndshme nuk mund të barazohen me të.

Kendi Shqip is continued on Page 5

COME AND PLAY

MONDAY, July 26, 2010



13th ANNUAL ST. NICHOLAS GOLF OUTING

Remember last year's Golf Outing? For those of you who participated last year and had a great time, and also those of you who did not and missed a great outing, we would be pleased to have you **join us on Monday, July 26, 2010** when we will be holding our *13th Annual St. Nicholas Golf Outing* at the *Town of Oyster Bay Golf Course*. This is an exceptional golf course with challenging holes and beautiful views.

We start with registration at 11 a.m. in the morning and tee-off at 1:30 p.m. striking that little magic white ball hoping it goes where we wish, but frequently in another direction. As we move along in good company, we have hamburgers at the pit stop and continue wishing to hit the Hole-in-One and win a BMW. After a beautiful round of golf, we proceed to the 19th Hole at the Woodlands Restaurant in the Clubhouse; followed by a great dinner, prizes/awards and the grand raffle. The results of all this is a great day and evening and a great fundraiser for our Church.

We are reaching out for your participation and/or signing up your friends and relatives to join us at this year's event. The cost to golf, lunch and dinner is **\$650.00 for a foursome** or **\$175.00 per person**. We also want to encourage you to solicit sponsors for **hole sponsorships for \$250.00**, and/or **prize/merchandise sponsorships for \$100-\$300** for the raffle, which helps raise funds for our church programs.

We do hope that you will participate and invite your friends to join us. Registration/sponsorship forms are available in the office or from any committee member. Please make an effort to help and respond early so we can plan to accommodate everyone.

Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact any one of the members listed, or call 516-520-5227 and ask for Lou or Al.

The Golf Committee: Phil Foundos and Tomi Beno: Co-Chairmen
Mark Papalexis, Al Foundos, Lou Foundos, Jim Liolin and Roland Llupa

Daughters Corner

by Linda Foundos

The Daughters are planning to have a luncheon at a nearby restaurant. Watch for details. We hope you will join us.

Our annual Flea Market is being planned for early October. Over the summer months and early fall cleaning; please try to gather any unwanted, gently used items you may have to donate.

Enjoy the summer. It's a good time for a change of pace, do something different, enjoy the sunshine and spend more time with family and friends.

Please contact Christina Liolin or Linda Foundos to be a part of our Coffee Hour Hostess rotation. It's a generous & Christian gesture.

Thought for the Day:

It's not what you gather, but what you scatter
that tells what kind of life you have lived.

Annual Picnic a Success!!!



Parishioners with family and friends had a wonderful time at our Church Picnic on Sunday, June 20th which was held at Manorhaven Beach and Park in Port Washington. Many also celebrated Fathers' Day.

Everyone enjoyed good food, games, fellowship and excellent park with beach facilities. Generally, the weather was fine and even a brief shower did not dampen the enthusiasm.

Fun and a great time was had by all!!!

Flea Market & Bake Sale Coming in Early October



Using our expanded Fellowship Hall, The Daughters will hold its Flea Market and Bake Sale in Early October.

Save up your items to donate in September, so they can be sold to raise funds for the Church. Also, plan on providing Bake Goods to sell.

We need everyone to work together so we can have a very successful fundraising event!!!!

Bring Your Child to Sunday School In September



Plan now to enroll and bring your child/children to Sunday School when it begins in September.

It is important to arrange for them to attend classes on a regular basis.

THINK how you can make this possible for your child/children.

KENDI SHQIP - continued from Page 2

Trego mirësi me të tjerët ; mos i refuzo të mirën atij që i takon, kur e ke në dorë ta bësh.

Mos i thuaj të afërmit tënd: “Shko dhe kthehu; do të të jap nesër”, kur e ke me vete gjënë e nevojshme.

Mos kurdis asnjë të keqe kundër të afërmit tënd, ndersa ai jeton me besimin tek ti.

Mos bëj padi kundër askujt pa shkak; po të jetë se nuk të ka bërë asnjë të keqe.

Mos ki zili njeriun e dhunshëm dhe mos zgjidh asnjë nga rrugët e tij sepse Zoti e neverit njeriun e coroditur, por këshilla e tij është për njerzit e ndershëm.

Mallkimi i Zotit është në shtëpinë e të pabesit, por ai

bekon banesën e të drejteve. Me siguri ai tallet me tallësit, por i fal të përvuajturit. Njerzit e urtë do të trashëgojnë lavdinë, por poshtërsia do të jetë trashëgimia e atyre që nuk kanë mënd.

Ati fton të fitosh dituri

Dëgjoni, o bij mësimet e Atit dhe tregoni kujdes që të mësoni të gjykoni, sepse ju jap një doctrinë të mirë; mos braktisni ligjin tim.

Kur isha ende femijë pranë Atit tim, njomëzak dhe i dashur në sytë e nënës sime, ai me mësonte dhe më thoshte: “Zemra jote të kujtojë fjalët e mija; ruaji udhëzimet e mija dhe do të jetosh.

Fito dituri, fito gjykim; mos i harro fjalët e gojës sime dhe mos u largo prej tyre; mos e braktis diturinë dhe ajo do të të mbrojë; duaje sepse ajo do të të ndihmojë.

Dituria është gjeja më e rëndësishme; prandaj fitoje diturinë. Edhe sikur të humbasësh ato që ke, fito diturinë.

Bëjë tënden diturinë dhe ajo do të të lartesojë; ajo do të japë lavdi.

Ajo do të vendosë mbi krye një stoli prej nuri, do të të rrethojë me një kurorë lavdije.

Rri Larg Njerzve të Këqij

Mos hyr në shtegun e të pabesëve dhe mos ec në rrugën e njerzve të këqij; evitoje atë, mos kalo nëpër të, largoju prej saj dhe shko tutje. Sepse ata nuk mund të flenë, po të mos të bejnë të keqen; gjumi i tyre zhduket po qe se nuk mund të kenë rrëzuar dikë; ata hanë bukën e paudhësisë dhe pinë verën e dhunës.

Por shtegu i të drejtëve është si drita e agimit, që shkëlqen gjithnjë e më mirë deri sa të bëhet ditë e plotë.

Rruga e të pabesëve është si terri; ata nuk shohin atë që do ti rrëzoje.

Biri im, trego kujdes për fjalët e mija, dëgjo thëniet e mija; mos u largofshin kurrë nga sytë e tu, ruaji në qëndër të zemrës sate; sepse janë jetë për ata që i gjejnë, shërim për gjithë trupin e tyre.

...Dhe një vjershë...

“Dyert...”

Shih mbrapa dhe falendero Zotin.

Shih përpara dhe beso Zotin.

Shih përçark dhe shërbeji Zotit.

Shih në vetvete dhe gjeje Zotin.

Zoti mbyll dyer që asnje nuk mund t'i hapi

Zoti hap dyer që asnjë njeri nuk mund t'i mbyllë...

COMMUNITY NEWS

by Linda Foundos

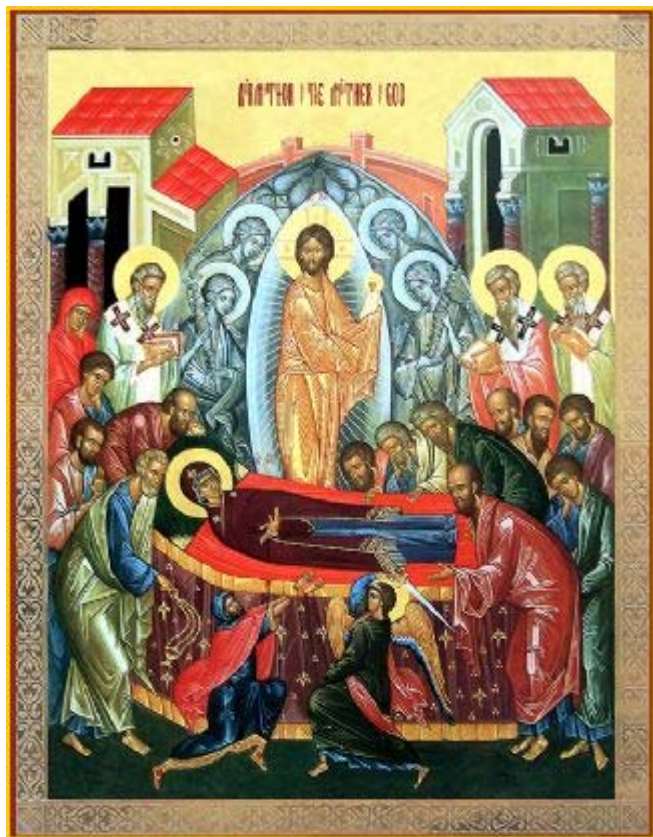
- Our deepest sympathy to Rosalie Zacharias and her family on the passing of her mother, Josephine Esposito. Josephine nearly made it to 100 years old; she was 95!! Josephine was quite a remarkable woman; vibrant, engaging, energetic & loving. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her.
- Kudos to Christina Heiser, daughter of Joanne & Doug, on her graduation from St. John's University summa cum laude!! Christina will pursue a Master's degree in May, 2011. She is quite an ambitious & capable young woman. Her parents, family & friends are all very proud of her. And.....to celebrate this special achievement, Christina enjoyed a cruise to Bermuda with her mom, Joanne. How special and memorable was that! The weather was perfect and the ship was lots of fun. This is what we like to hear!
- Kudos to Melissa Heiser, younger daughter of Joanne & Doug, on her graduation from Francis Lewis High School. She will begin her studies at St. John's University this fall. Her parents, family & friends are all very proud of her ! All the best to you as you take another major step in life.
- Well.....the Pochari/Gradt families have much to be proud of as well. Their children are coming along on a fine path. Jaclyn Wieland, grand-daughter of Charlie Pochari, graduated from Mount St. Vincent College cum laude in Special Education. Nicole Gradt, grand-daughter of Ellen Gradt, graduated from University of Connecticut with a Bachelor of Arts in Business. Laura Rifelli graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Weston New England College. Laura was also inducted into the National Honor Society. She will pursue a Masters Degree in Speech Pathology at Mercy College this fall. Brian Gradt graduated from Brookfield High School in Connecticut. Brian will attend University of South Carolina in the fall. And Louise Costantini has embarked on a new venture. Louise recently opened up a frozen yogurt shop in Westport, Conn. In case you find yourself in the area, the name of her shop is "Top This." Our congratulations to the entire family on all their wonderful achievements. We wish them all the best!
- Bravo to Matt Foundos on his graduation from John Glenn High School in E. Northport. Matt is looking forward to Roger Williams College in Rhode Island in the fall. Jana & Phil are very proud of this fine young man as are we all. Good luck, Matt.
- Natalie Kelapire is looking ahead with great anticipation to New York University in the fall after graduating from Wheatley High School in Old Westbury. Her parents, Ronnie & Michael, as well as the entire clan are so proud of her.
- Nicole Filis recently graduated from Marist College where she majored in psychology & minored in communications. Nicole is interested in working in Human Resources. Barbara & Nick, as well as the entire clan are so proud of her as well. Good luck, Nicole!
- It's been a long, challenging haul for Fiona Fundo who recently completed her residency at Bronx-Lebanon Hospital. Her husband, Ilir, and in-laws, Zana & Thomaq Fundo, are all so proud of her accomplishment. It took a lot of dedication and hard work. We wish Fiona all the best.
- Congratulations to Alison Papalexis on her acceptance to the New York State Bar Association. She is a graduate of St. John's University Law School. Mark and Barbara are very proud of her achievement.

***It seems our community has quite an impressive group of youth. They are bright, hard-working & ambitious. They are all paving the way for a wonderful career & future. Our most sincere congratulations to them all and their proud families.**

For Community News Reporting of Information

Please contact Linda Foundos at (516) 671-8071 or email her at ggsutter@aol.com

The Dormition of our Most Holy Lady the Mother of God and Ever-Virgin Mary - Commemorated on August 15



After the Ascension of the Lord, the Mother of God remained in the care of the Apostle John the Theologian, and during his journeys She lived at the home of his parents, near the Mount of Olives. She was a source of consolation and edification both for the Apostles and for all the believers. Conversing with them, She told them about miraculous events: the Annunciation, the seedless and undefiled Conception of Christ born of Her, about His early childhood, and about His earthly life. Like the Apostles, She helped plant and strengthen the Christian Church by Her presence, Her discourse and Her prayers.

At the time of Her blessed Falling Asleep, the Most Holy Virgin Mary was again at Jerusalem. Her fame as the Mother of God had already spread throughout the land and had aroused many of the envious and the spiteful against Her. They wanted to make attempts on Her life; but God preserved Her from enemies. Day and night She spent her time in prayer. The Most Holy Theotokos went often to the Holy Sepulchre of the Lord, and here She offered up fervent prayer. In one such

visit to Golgotha, the Archangel Gabriel appeared to Her and announced Her approaching departure from this life to eternal life. In pledge of this, the Archangel gave Her a palm branch. With these heavenly tidings the Mother of God returned to Bethlehem. She summoned Righteous Joseph of Arimathea and other disciples of the Lord, and told them of Her impending Repose. Then came the third hour (9 A.M.), when the Dormition of the Mother of God was to occur. A number of candles were burning. The holy Disciples surrounded her beautifully adorned bed, offering praise to God. She prayed in anticipation of Her demise and of the arrival of Her longed-for Son and Lord. Suddenly, the inexpressible Light of Divine Glory shone forth, before which the blazing candles paled in comparison. All who it saw took fright. Descending from Heaven was Christ, the King of Glory, surrounded by hosts of Angels and Archangels and other Heavenly Powers, together with the souls of the Forefathers and the Prophets, who had prophesied in ages past concerning the Most Holy Virgin Mary.

MAJOR FEAST DAYS IN JULY-AUGUST



Holy Wonderworking Physicians Cosmos and Damian at Rome
July 01



Procession of the Honorable Life-Giving Cross of The Lord
August 01



The Holy Transfiguration of Our Lord and Savior
August 06



The Beheading of the Holy Glorious Prophet John the Baptist
August 29

Sun, July 04: Divine Liturgy, 10 a.m.

Sun, July 11: Divine Liturgy, 10 a.m.

Mon, July 12: Parish Council Meeting, 7 p.m.

Sun, July 18: Divine Liturgy, 10 a.m.

Sun, July 25: Divine Liturgy, 10 a.m.

*Mon, July 26: Annual Golf Outing at
Town of Oyster Bay Golf Course,
11 a.m. Sign-up & 1:30 p.m. Tee-Off*

Sun, Aug 01: Divine Liturgy, 10 a.m.

Thurs, Aug 05: Vesperal Liturgy, 7 p.m.
Holy Transfiguration of Our Lord and Savior

Sun, Aug 08: Divine Liturgy, 10 a.m.

Wed, Aug 18: Parish Council Meeting, 7 p.m.

Sun, Aug 15: Divine Liturgy, 10 a.m.

Sun, Aug 22: Divine Liturgy, 10 a.m.

Sun, Aug 29: Divine Liturgy, 10 a.m.
Ordination of Dn. Nathan to the Holy Priesthood
Reception in Fellowship Hall

Ushers' Schedule
for Sunday Services
Lista e sherbimit te dielave ne kishe

July 04: Tomi Beno / Ardian Mile

July 11: Ilir Fundo / Stefan Baltadori

July 18: Petrika Troja / Nasi Pavllo

July 25: Andrea Kutali / John Jance

Aug 01: Damian Peters / Steven Foundos

Aug 08: Lou Foundos / Robert Korra

Aug 15: Roland Llupa / Edi Serra

Aug 22: Bill Peters / Ilia Luka

Aug 29: Ken Gjika / Izzy Tsamblakos

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.stnicholasalbanian.org

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