

THE PARISH NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2009

The Nativity of the Mother of God Russian Orthodox Church 518 869-3932

A parish of the Russian Orthodox Church Abroad www.albanyrocor.org

Mitred Protopriest Wsevolod Drobot Protopriest Father Michael Fritz

Protodeacon Michael Soloviev Subdeacon Andrei Podymow

THE SCHEDULE OF SERVICES AND MEETINGS FOR NOVEMBER

Saturday Vigils: 6:00 p.m. Vigils of Feasts: 6:30 p.m.

Sundays & Feasts: 9:30 a.m., Hours; 9:50 a.m., the Divine Liturgy

1 21st Sunday after Pentecost (Daylight Time ends)

8 22nd Sunday after Pentecost **(The Sisterhood will meet.)**

15 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

21 (Saturday **at 8:30 a.m.**) Synaxis of St. Michael and All Angels (The Bodiless Hosts). Father Michael will serve the Divine Liturgy at this earlier hour in order not to overlap with A Taste of Russia. He will serve the Vigil on Friday, November 20 at 6:30 p.m. **(Note: There will be no Vigil on Saturday, November 21.)**

22 24th Sunday after Pentecost **(Special Parish Meeting—see page 4)**

29 25th Sunday after Pentecost **Dessert & Discussion after Coffee Hour**

NOVEMBER NAMES' DAYS May God grant them all many years!

1 Joel Nikiforov John Gonyea Ivan Schuler Joanna Markessinis

2 Artem Cherkezov

8 Dimitry Nikiforov Dimitri Bradley

21 Protopriest Michael Fritz Protodeacon Michael Soloviev

Michael Levsha Michael Frantsov Mikhail Miller

Michael Sinkevich Michael Rudko Michael Borscok

Reader Michael Welsh Gabriella Fritz Gabriella Welsh

27 Philip Davis Philip Brosgol

29 Matthew Hauf

CHURCH SCHOOL SCHEDULE 2009-2010

Here's the tentative schedule for the rest of the fall-winter semester. Those

interested in being a teacher or a substitute teacher are asked to contact Matushka Cecelia Soloviev (765-2871), or one of the other teachers: Tasia Fedorov (459-1253) and John Schuler (346-4350).

Sunday, November 8, and Sundays, December 6, 13, 20.

Young Children's Class: Tasia Fedorov, Teacher

Middle Children's Class: Matushka Cecelia Fedorov, Teacher

Older Children's Class: Reader John Schuler, Teacher

Save the date: Russian Winter Festival, February 14, Washington Armory

ON VETERANS' DAY AND ALWAYS, Pray for our service men and women.

Though we may not have any parish members on active duty now, there are many Orthodox Christians in our armed forces serving in the current wars. Please keep them and all our military personnel in your prayers.

ABOUT HALLOWEEN

Remember that Halloween is at root a pagan festival. Trick-or-treating comes from Druids' worship of the dead. Our Christian ancestors suffered martyrdom and torment rather than burn a pinch of incense to Roman gods; yet many parents willingly, but unknowingly, allow their children to participate in ceremonies derived from pagan worship. Come to pray in church in honor of a great, modern Orthodox Christian saint, Saint John of Kronstadt, whose eve coincides with the pagan Halloween. *Editor's note: Halloween is rivaling Christmas in decorations. Look in your neighborhood! Neo-paganism is on the rise, decked out in acceptable, even responsible guises, such as conservationism, women's rights, and the like. Beware!*

DESSERT & DISCUSSION

Our monthly discussion, led by Fr. Michael Fritz, will be Sunday, October 25 at the Church Hall. Bring your dessert and coffee. Comments, questions, and concerns are encouraged. Next month's session: November 29.

FASTING MACARONI AND CHEESE

1¼ cups macaroni, cooked and drained	¼ cup margarine
1 clove garlic, minced	¼ teaspoon dry mustard
1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce	2 cups soy milk or rice milk
2 pkgs. "Veggie Shreds"—Cheddar	2 shakes hot sauce (optional)
Pepper, to taste	Paprika, if desired

In large saucepan melt margarine on medium-low heat. Add flour; stir until thick.

Stir in dry mustard, Worcestershire sauce. Slowly add "milk", stir. Add "Veggie Shreds"; stir constantly until melted. At this point, stir in "variations", if using. [Variations: diced tomatoes seasoned with basil, chopped and sautéed green peppers, sautéed mushrooms seasoned with oregano or thyme, steamed broccoli, or a combination of these.] Then stir in macaroni, adding pepper to taste. Sprinkle with paprika, if desired for color. Bake at 350 degrees in a sprayed 6"x8"x2½" casserole covered for 10 minutes; then uncovered for another 10 minutes.

Editor's note: A portion was taken to Mat. Dina. Xenia said "she loved it." A tray of it will likely be available to sample at coffee hour on October 25.

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DEADLINE FOR THE DECEMBER ISSUE: Thursday, November 26

Please submit items by e-mail or in writing. Thanks for your cooperation.

CharlieVas Murn BACVAS@dishmail.net

NEWS OF THE SISTERHOOD

The time is fast approaching for the fourth annual Taste of Russia--our big event--at the Church Hall on Saturday, November 21 from 10:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. All who volunteered to work that day are asked to come to the hall by 10:00 a.m., so there will be no confusion when the doors open.

We appeal to all parishioners to bring something to be sold at the baked goods table. The goods may be dropped off at the hall all day and evening on Friday or before 10:00 a.m. on Saturday morning. The items should be wrapped and ready for sale. Please suggest a price for your item. If you have any questions regarding baked goods, please call Nadja Jernakoff (785-6780) or Julie Bouton (356-3263).

At the last Sisterhood meeting we discussed the cleaning of the hall, the bathrooms, and the kitchen after coffee hours. Because this is a problem for the hostesses, we decided to hire an outside person to come in either on Sunday afternoon or early Monday morning for no more than two hours to clean the kitchen and bathrooms, to vacuum the kitchen floor, and to sweep and wet mop the hall. The Sisterhood is willing to pay \$20 per hour. If you know of someone willing to take on the job, let Raelynn (Anastasia) Gonyea know (695-6865).

We urge the ladies of our parish to join us. Annual membership dues are only \$5; but we have an active program (page 6 of our "Parish Handbook and Directory"). We need more helping hands. We do fun things during the year: our annual dinner and night out, our annual party for members and guests. Those interested in joining should contact the Sisterhood Co-Presidents: Raelynn Gonyea (695-6865) or Tania Taylor (399-1183).

ATTENTION: FELLOW ORTHODOX COOKS!

We have been informed of Father Brendan Crowley's website, which has lots of helpful recipes. You are encouraged to join it and, if you wish, to contribute

recipes of your own. <http://www.orthodoxkitchen.com/>

BOOK CORNER

In response to his offer of free books, your editor received this suggestion: "Start a little 'Book Corner' in the newsletter. Ask Parishioners if they have books they would like to share or they are looking for." Your editor offers The Forged Note, Father Sergii, Other Stories by Lyof N. Tolstoi in English translation, and Rise of Russia in the "Great Ages of Man" series by Time-Life Books--free for the asking. AND our bookstore and library has available for borrowing the complete set of the Church Fathers. One example: The sermons of St. John Chrysostom fairly leap off the page!

Thanks for your Fresco Fund gifts! (P.S.: Don't forget the Mortgage Fund.)

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SPECIAL MEETING OF THE PARISH!

Your presence at this meeting of our parish on Sunday, November 22 is urged that you may take part in the discussion of **the consecration of our temple, which will occur on Monday, September 6, 2010.** For very nearly all those attending that blessed occasion, it will be the sole opportunity in their entire lifetime to witness such an event. The date was deliberately chosen to permit more of the clergy and the other faithful to gather here: September 6 is Labor Day, 2010.

Father Wsevolod and the Church Council ask that all of us make every effort to attend this meeting. This "happening of happenings" will require the help of all of us successfully to arrange the service itself, a dinner at the Holiday Inn Turf, photography and videography, the provision of a commemorative book and/or mementos and invitations. Committees are needed: Vestment Committee (for what is to be worn by those serving on the altar and to adorn ecclesiastical furniture), Church Committee (to secure all that is needed for the service itself), Hotel/Dinner Coordinator, Church Hall Dinner/Appetizer Coordinator, Photography/Videography, Program/Commemorative Booklet, and Commemorative Gifts.

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Another date to note: Our own Nadieszda Kizenko, Professor of History at SUNY Albany, will lecture after the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, December 20 on "The Poltava Victory in Russian Liturgy"—how the Orthodox Church has marked military victory in general, and the legacy of Poltava to our day.

Nativity of the Mother of God Russian Orthodox Church
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