

SAINTS PETER & PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH
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BULLETIN OF OCTOBER 28, 2007

SUNDAY/OCTOBER 28th
22nd Sunday After Pentecost (Tone 5)
St. Job of Pochaev

9:10a.m. 3rd & 6th Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine
Liturgy
Coffee Hour;
Question and Answer Period

MONDAY/OCTOBER 29th
7:00p.m. Memorial Service for Helen Chabra

TUESDAY/OCTOBER 30th
6:30p.m. Memorial Service for Joan Filippini
7-8:30p.m. Adult Study Class: Part IV:
"The Liturgy of the Faithful II"

FRIDAY/NOVEMBER 2nd
7:00p.m. Memorial Service for Michael Sokol
and John, Alexandra and Natala

SATURDAY/NOVEMBER 3rd
9:30a.m. Akathist; Confession
5:30p.m. Vigil; Confession

SUNDAY/NOVEMBER 4th
23rd Sunday After Pentecost (Tone 6)
Synaxis of the Holy Unmercenary
Healers
9:10a.m. 3rd & 6th Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine
Liturgy
With Prayers for Those in the Medical Field and
Related Disciplines;
Coffee Hour;
Question & Answer Period: To focus on the
OCA Crisis and the Parish Guidelines for
Christian Burial

Fasting Days
Wednesday, October 31st
Friday, November 2nd



ON THE HONORING OF THE HOLY SAINTS
By St. Nectarios of Aegina (+1921)

Our Church honors saints not as gods. But as faithful servants, as holy men and women, friends of God. It extols the struggles they engaged in and the deeds they performed for the glory of God and with the action of His grace, in such a way that all the honor that the Church gives them refers to God, Who has viewed their life on earth with gratification.

The Church honors them by commemorating them annually through public celebrations and through the erection of churches in honor their name.

The Church invokes the saints in its prayers as intercessors with God, and also honors their relics and everything that belonged to them, as well as icons depicting them.

The honor given to the saints is an expression of the love of the faithful towards them for their sublime virtues and great struggles, whereby they received the crown of glory.

The honor given to the saints is a confirmation of the love that is burning in our soul for rising to the height of their virtues, which abide as an eternal example for us.

Annual Prayers for those in the Healing Ministries – Sunday, Nov. 4th.

The first Sunday of the month of November is dedicated to the Synaxis of the Holy Unmercenary Healers. At the Divine Liturgy we will make supplication for those in the field of medicine and the related healing and curative disciplines.

Namesday Greetings

St. Narcis/Oct. 31st: Narcis and Narcissa Popa; Many Blessed years!

Advanced Planning – Nativity Lent

On November 15th, the 40 Day Nativity Fast begins. One of the “Four Lents” of the year, we prepare for the Nativity of the Lord, on December 25th with an ascetical work of fasting from meat, dairy, fish, wine and oil. Your parish wall calendar indicates modifications to the Lent.

Offerings for the week of Oct. 28th

Olive Oil – in memory of Emilia; in memory of Michael; for the health of Libbye (birthday); in memory of Michael Motoviloff; for the healing and salvation of Gabriela-Antoaneta.

Wine – in memory of John Rosocha Sr.; for the health of John Henry (birthday); for the health of Narcis and Narcissa (namesday).

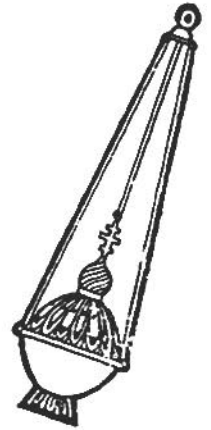
Flowers – in memory of Joan.

The Washington & New York Diocese

Annual Assembly will be held on Nov. 5th, Monday at Ss. Peter & Paul Church in South River. Fr. James and Michael Redmond will represent our parish.

Parish Synodicon

Oct. 28, 1916 Paul Klega
Oct. 28, 1932 Nicholas Kulina
Oct. 30, 1965 Stanley Hamernick
Oct. 30, 1972 Helen Chabra
Oct. 30, 1993 Joan Filippini
Oct. 31, 1959 Michael Barna
Oct. 31, 1967 Michael Salamander
Oct. 31, 1972 Vassily Romanov
Oct. 31, 1976 Fr. Andrew Slepecky
Nov. 01, 1977 John Rosocha
Nov. 01, 1990 Mary Davidovich
Nov. 01, 1999 Theodore Gorbatuk
Nov. 02, 1967 Fr. Cornelius Svigoon



Parish Educational Classes

- 1) Teen Discussion Group (high school students) a brief 20 minute informal discussion to be held on the 2nd Sunday during the Coffee Hour.
- 2) A Five Week Adult Study “On the Meaning of the Divine Liturgy,” will be held on Tuesday evenings, Oct. 9th-Nov. 6th, 7-8:30p.m.
- 3) Class A (K thru 3rd grade) on the 1st and 3rd Sundays during Coffee Hour.
- 4) Class B (4 thru 8 grade) on the 1st, 2nd & 3rd Sundays during Coffee Hour.
- 5) General Question & Answer Period on the 4th Sunday during Coffee Hour.

Aluminum Cans for Holy Trinity Church

Don't forget to bring your rinsed cans to the bucket in our church hall.

The Parish Bulletin Board

Has posted various items, events, news, and other information. Check it out at Coffee Hour.

ORTHODOXY IN AMERICA UPGRADES MAPPING SOFTWARE

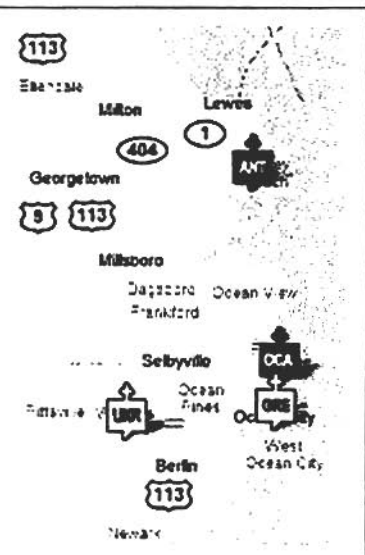
The online directory of all the Orthodox jurisdictions in the United States, Canada, and Mexico, just upgraded its mapping software, making it possible to search by specific jurisdictions (Antiochian, Greek, Serbian, OCA, etc) and listing types (parishes, monasteries, and seminaries). Each church is now represented on the map by its own special marker.

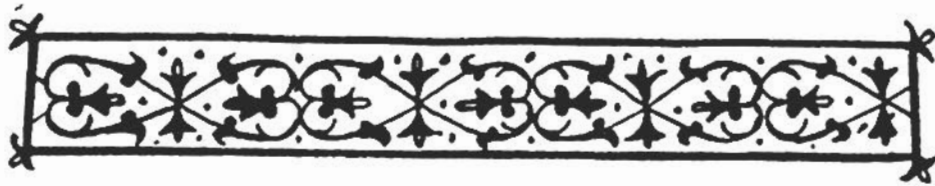
The image on the right shows what the new maps look like when one searches for “Ocean City, MD”. You'll see that the map shows the current locations of the four Orthodox parishes in Delmarva. You can click on each marker to view the Parish's name, contact information, and website.

Many of our visitors find us through the internet. In fact, next to word of mouth the parish website is the main way people find a parish.

To view the Orthodoxy in America website, please go to:

orthodoxyinamerica.org





OrthodoxyToday.org

Commentary on social and moral issues of the day

Planting Seeds for the Kingdom: The Garden in Galatia

Fr. William C. Mills

Sermon on Galatians 1:11-17.

Imagine that you and your family are vacationing at the beach. It is warm and sunny, the blue ocean waves gently roll along the sand. Your son or daughter wants you to help build a sand castle. So of course being a good parent you say yes and the two of you begin work. At first you think that it will be a small sand castle, but your son has other plans – they want an entire village complete with castle, moat, and walls! So you spend hours building this castle, going back and forth collecting hard sand and having fun with your children. After a while the two of you decide to stop and have lunch, so you walk back to your blanket across the beach and have lunch and enjoying your time together. After lunch you walk back to the sand castle and low and behold what do you see, someone must have walked by and stomped all over your castle! The towers are now flat, the moat is destroyed, and the walls caved in. To make matters worse as you are standing there a big wave comes into shore flattening half of the castle. How would you react to this situation? Would you be happy, saying "yea, my sand castle is destroyed!" or would you be indifferent saying "oh well, my sandcastle is destroyed" or would you be angry, upset, flabbergasted that your wonderful sandcastle that took two hours to build was messed up!" I'm sure most of us would be very, very upset.

Paul was upset too when he found out that his newly planted mission in Galatia was being slowly destroyed. See, Paul was like a gardener, sowing seeds in Galatia. He visited them and stayed there talking and teaching about Jesus Christ. He told them about God's son Jesus and everything that Jesus did to love people. This is good news. And Paul sowed seeds of the kingdom throughout all of Galatia, sowing, sowing, sowing. Then Paul left so that he could sow seeds in other places like Corinth, Rome, Ephesus, and Philippi. But then, behind Paul's back, his so called "friends" and I use this term loosely, came and basically said, "Ah, you don't have to believe what Paul told you, he's not really a teacher anyway, he's a bit crazy. We'll tell you what you have to know." So these "so-called friends" came and messed up Paul's beautiful garden, they planted weeds. And these weeds grew up with the seeds that Paul first planted. And Paul got so angry because these weeds were growing and growing and growing and were about to take over his small seedlings. So Paul wrote this very harsh letter to them telling them to go back to his teaching so that they could grow and survive. Paul had to rip out the weeds that were over taking the garden in Galatia.

Well, perhaps you didn't know it but every Sunday Paul plants seeds of the kingdom in us. Every time we hear his epistle he is planting a little seed. Week after week, season after season Paul sows his seeds in our hearts. And usually we are excited and happy about this, heck, that's why we come to Church, right? And we feel good about it. But sometimes, usually by Wednesday afternoon or so there are weeds that are planted in us. These weeds come a

variety of places, sometimes they come from other family members, sometimes they come from friends or co-workers, but no matter where they are from these weeds get planted in us. By Saturday we get so frustrated because the wonderful little seeds that were growing into saplings are almost knocked down. Then next Sunday we again hear Paul who comes and re-seeds the field, trying to re-start the garden again.

And we cannot give up hope. Gardening is hard. Sometimes there is a drought and no rain comes. Sometimes one type of plant grows while the one next to it doesn't grow. But Paul keeps on sowing the gospel in our hearts. We can't control where it will grow and where it doesn't grow or how much its growing, but all we can do is try to be open to hearing it. No matter where Paul went he never gave up hope. He was beaten, shipwrecked, put into prison and he never gave up hope. He didn't say, "well, I'm going to give up in Galatia" or "ah, I'll just go back to tentmaking, forget planting seeds for the kingdom." No, he went out like a farmer tilling his field always looking forward, for the next field to sow. He never looked back and neither should we. Every week we come to hear the good news again, hopefully to have an open heart so that seed can be planted and grow in us!

Fr. William C. Mills, Ph.D., is the rector of the Nativity of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church in Charlotte, NC, as well as an adjunct professor of religious studies at Queens University in Charlotte, NC. He is married to Taisia Mills and has two daughters, Hannah and Emma.

Latest book by Fr. Mills:

A Light to the Gentiles is a collection of pastoral reflections on the Scripture readings from the gospel of Luke that are read in the Orthodox Church from mid-September until the feast of the Nativity of our Lord. The gospel of Luke is also read during the preparatory Sundays before Great Lent as well as at the feast of the Ascension and at the commemoration of various saints. The gospel also contains many familiar parables and teachings: the Good Samaritan, the Publican and the Pharisee, the Rich Man and Lazarus, and Zachaeus. Luke reminds us that the gospel is to be proclaimed to the entire world in order to bring the gospel to all peoples and nations. Thus, the gospel of Luke serves as a beacon of light that shines brightly in the world. *A Light to the Gentiles* is an invitation for everyone to read, accept, and obey the Word of God in their lives. This book is a resource for personal and group Bible study, adult education classes, and sermon preparation.

CHRIST THE GOOD ARTIST

From the Fifty Spiritual Homilies of St. Macarios the Great

As the portrait painter keeps an eye upon the subject's face and draws, and when the subject's face is towards him, attending to him at his painting, he draws the portrait easily and well, but when he turns his face away, he cannot draw because the face is not gazing at the painter; in like manner Christ, the good artist, for those who believe in Him and gaze continually at Him, straightway portrays after His own image a heavenly man... Yet if a man does not gaze constantly at Him, overlooking everything else, the Lord will not paint His image... We must therefore gaze upon Him, believing and loving Him, throwing away all else, and attending to Him, in order that He may paint His own heavenly image and send it into our souls, and thus, wearing Christ, we may receive eternal life, and even here may have full assurance and be at rest.

