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THE TRISAGION

The Monthly Newsletter of Holy Trinity Orthodox Church
119 S. Sparks Street, State College, PA 16801 814-231-2855
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SNYDER COUNTY'S FIRST OUTREACH EVENT A HUGE SUCCESS!

On September 26, the mission in Snyder County had a unique opportunity to offer a witness to the increased presence of Orthodoxy in their community. As “vendors” at a street fair in downtown Selinsgrove, they passed out free bottled water and literature and answered questions about the Faith. Over 750 bottles of water were distributed and several inquirers visited the booth throughout the day.

This was an exciting day and the first official outreach event for the mission under its new name of **Chapel of the Holy Spirit** (which takes its name from Holy Trinity’s sister patronal feast). With a new identity, a blessing from Bishop MELCHISEDEK, and the arrival of Fr. Basil Biberdorf to assist in their efforts, CHS will soon benefit from a fuller cycle of services, including bimonthly Divine Liturgies. And the outreach continues to grow: four of the mission’s faithful will be illuminated at Holy Trinity this Saturday.

October will be another full month for the fledgling group. On Saturday, October 10, the faithful will set up another table at the annual Oktoberfest celebration in Beavertown. They will once again promote their main event, a presentation entitled “The Search for the New Testament Church” featuring Fr. Peter Gillquist, on Tuesday, October 20, 7pm, at Susquehanna University.

Please continue to pray for the success of the ongoing outreach to Snyder County. For more information, visit their new Web page: holyspirit-oca.org.



Members of the newly-established Chapel of the Holy Spirit pass out water and entertain questions about the Apostolic Faith to passersby at the annual Selinsgrove Street Fair.

PARISH ANNUAL MEETING

As we look towards our annual meeting on October 4, we will be asked to take decisions which affect the direction Holy Trinity will be taking not only in 2010 but in the years to come. Yet, there will not be any particular proposal on the table. We will receive various reports, including the Treasurer's. We will vote on the proposed budget, a 3.8% increase over 2009. (A synopsis is included in this edition of the *Trisagion*, next page.) We will also elect half of the members of the Parish Council.

It is pretty mundane stuff. But much of parish life is pretty mundane. And it is in the mundane, the necessities of human existence, that we are called to work out our salvation. We tend to underestimate the daily round of our life and labor. We shouldn't. It has immense importance because future accomplishments are based upon making sure that little things are done well every day.

The challenge is always to see the holy in the mundane. The 19th century hymn writer John Keble put it well:

*If, on our daily course, our mind
Be set to hallow all we find,
New treasures still, of countless price,
God will provide for sacrifice.*

*The trivial round, the common task,
Will furnish all we ought to ask;
Room to deny ourselves, a road
To bring us daily nearer God.*

— Fr. John

Meeting Details

On Sunday, October 4, 2009 at 12:00 noon following the Divine Liturgy, Holy Trinity Orthodox Church will hold its Annual Meeting. The agenda is as follows:

- **Opening Prayer:**
"O Heavenly King..."
- **Minutes of the 2008 Meeting**
- **Priest's Report**
- **Financial Review** (please see the proposed budget, next page)
- **Treasurer's Report**
- **Election of Officers**
(Treasurer, Vice President of Grounds, and Secretary)
- **Closing Prayer:**
"It is truly meet..."

All parishioners who are in good standing and registered members of the parish as of last December, and who have fulfilled their obligations of Confession and Communion may and should attend. No new business may be introduced from the floor.

ORTHODOX MISSION IN THE 21ST CENTURY

EDITOR'S NOTE: *The following series is excerpted from an article on missiology by Bishop HILARION (Alfeyev), a noted theologian, historian, composer, and author.*

Part IV: Conclusion

The rediscovery of traditional Christian values is essential in the epoch which is marked by a deep demographic crisis, which in the course of the 21st century is likely to turn into an unprecedented catastrophe for many countries of the so-called "Western Civilization." More and more people are coming to the understanding that the roots of the current demographic crisis are spiritual rather than economic. It is loss of the traditional understanding of marriage and family, based on religious values that led to a radical transformation of ethical norms related to human sexuality in the second half of the 20th century...

The Orthodox Church can play a significant role in [a] religious awakening, which is perhaps the only thing that can save Western civilization from an irrecoverable collapse. On the threshold of the 21st century the Orthodox Church once again showed its capability to attract and inspire millions of people. A religious revival of unprecedented scale is going on in Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Moldova and other countries of the former Soviet bloc.

Similar processes are underway in the Romanian, Serbian and Bulgarian Orthodox Churches, which also suffered under communist regimes, as well as in some other Local Orthodox Churches. Great missionaries carry out their apostolic work, such as Archbishop ANASTASIOS of Albania, who was able to practically re-create an Orthodox Church that had been reduced to zero by militant atheists. The Orthodox Church does not suffer from a "crisis of vocations," about which so many Christian Churches are constantly complaining. On the contrary, Orthodox theological seminaries, academies and faculties are full of young men and women eager to serve the Church, monasteries and convents are filled with monks and nuns.

As one of the few Christian Churches which are growing rather than declining, the Orthodox Church is a living proof of continuing relevance of that sort of Christianity which is based on traditional doctrinal and moral values. It also disproves a widespread opinion that we are living in a "post-Christian" epoch. I strongly believe that a worldwide revival of Christianity is ahead, and that the Orthodox Church will play a significant role in it.

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HOLY DAYS IN OCTOBER

St. Demetrius, Great Martyr and Myrrh-Streamer

Daily Vespers	Friday, October 23, 7pm
Memorial Divine Liturgy.....	Saturday, October 24, 9am
Great Vespers	Sunday, October 25, 7pm
Divine Liturgy	Monday, October 26, 9am

YOUTH TO RAISE FUNDS AND AWARENESS FOR HOMELESS

This month, members of the Orthodox Youth Association and Sunday School will plan, prepare, and serve a "Soup Kitchen" Benefit Luncheon in the Parish Hall after the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, October 25. All profits from the free will offering will be donated to Housing Transitions, an area homeless shelter. The shelter currently is hoping to expand its current maximum occupancy of 15 by adding 8 apartments, and will use our donation to support their ongoing meal program, of which Holy Trinity is a monthly participant.

There will be a planning meeting for everyone interested in participating in the luncheon on Friday, October 9 at 6:30pm. Following the Divine Liturgy on Saturday October 24, the kids will prepare all the food to be served the following day. For more information, contact Patricia Doty at (814) 238-0465.

For the Record

BAPTISM

➤ *Quentin Daniel Good, son of Kris and Erika Good, baptized September 5, sponsored by Ann and David Swisher.*

RECUPERATING

➤ *Paul George, from multiple surgeries at Geisinger, now at Hearthside of State College.*

OCF BEGINS FALL SERIES TO MINISTER TO PSU STUDENTS

To strengthen their outreach to the campus, the Orthodox Christian Fellowship will be introducing a new biweekly outreach to close out the Fall Semester. Alternating with their popular 6pm fellowship dinners at Redifer Commons, OCF will host a pizza dinner followed by a discussion every other Tuesday at 6pm in Room 212 of the Pasquerilla Spiritual Center. The series will explore commonly-held misconceptions about Christianity. It will culminate with a special two-hour presentation on sexuality offered by Fr. Thomas Hopko on Tuesday, November 3, at 7pm, held on campus and open to the public.

OCTOBER SCHEDULES

	Coffee Hour	Greeters	Altar Servers*
Oct. 4	Russian Ladies	Megan Leathers David Swisher	Team A
Oct. 11	Leslyn Radomsky Julianne Vaughan	Shane Stevens Maria Stevens	Team B
Oct. 18	Melody Thompson Jenny Anthony	Beth Roberts Ed Miranda	Team A
Oct. 25	Judy Fryncko	Mark Radomsky Leslyn Radomsky	Team B

* **Team A:** Dan Andresen, Chris Doty, Nikita Fedkin, Michael Haupt, Addison Miranda, and Samuel Oleynik. **Team B:** Joshua Cattell, Matt Doty, Pete Doty, Jonathan Miranda, Stefan Pelikan, and Jeremiah Stickles.

HOLY TRINITY 2010 PROPOSED BUDGET

	2008 Actual	2009 YTD	2009 Budget	2010 Budget	% Chg
INCOME					
General	\$160,131	\$102,614	\$173,850	\$179,850	3%
Other	\$7,258	\$6,364	\$8,000	\$9,500	19%
TOTAL INCOME	\$167,389	\$108,978	\$181,850	\$189,350	4%
EXPENSES					
Altar Society	\$6	\$8	\$100	\$100	0%
Archdiocese	\$14,638	\$9,460	\$15,610	\$18,182	17%
Bank Charge	\$0	\$0	\$100	\$100	0%
Christian Education	\$4,210	\$1,420	\$3,500	\$2,250	-36%
Coffee Hour	\$1,507	\$1,144	\$2,000	\$2,000	0%
Discretionary	\$1,252	\$930	\$1,500	\$1,500	0%
Insurance	\$1,184	\$1,356	\$1,400	\$1,500	7%
Legal/Prof Fees	\$570	\$823	\$1,000	\$500	-50%
Licenses/Permits	\$30	\$33	\$30	\$40	33%
Liturgical	\$4,864	\$3,670	\$5,100	\$5,800	14%
Misc. Non-Budgeted Expenses	\$4,479	\$950	\$500	\$1,000	100%
Missionary/Seminarians	\$13,250	\$2,000	\$3,250	\$4,000	23%
Office Administration	\$2,784	\$1,570	\$2,600	\$2,650	2%
Outreach & Fellowship	\$10,580	\$9,781	\$11,100	\$12,350	11%
Adult Ministries	\$571	\$735	\$500	\$500	0%
Advertising	\$2,511	\$2,579	\$2,500	\$2,500	0%
Literature	\$344	\$466	\$1,000	\$750	-25%
Matthew 25	\$2,089	\$1,118	\$2,000	\$2,000	0%
Miscellaneous	\$386	\$349	\$150	\$500	233%
Orthodox Christian Fellowship	\$984	\$1,981	\$1,750	\$2,000	14%
Orthodox Youth Association	\$695	\$253	\$1,000	\$1,000	0%
Parish Events	\$790	\$1,672	\$500	\$1,000	100%
Speakers	\$1,484	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000	0%
TLC	\$726	\$383	\$600	\$600	0%
Travel	\$0	\$245	\$100	\$500	400%
Personnel	\$68,709	\$65,584	\$98,714	\$104,702	6%
Custodian	\$1,200	\$2,600	\$3,900	\$4,104	5%
Deacon Housing	\$0	\$8,000	\$12,000	\$12,000	0%
Deacon Stipend	\$0	\$6,936	\$10,404	\$12,924	24%
Office Assistant	\$4,188	\$2,936	\$4,404	\$5,664	29%
Rector's Allowances	\$32,760	\$13,336	\$20,004	\$20,004	0%
Rector's Continuing Ed	\$1,095	\$708	\$2,400	\$2,400	0%
Rector's Stipend	\$28,416	\$29,568	\$44,352	\$46,356	5%
Supply Clergy	\$1,050	\$1,500	\$1,250	\$1,250	0%
Physical Plant	\$28,882	\$16,377	\$25,875	\$23,744	-8%
Refurnishings	\$1,554	\$0	\$1,500	\$1,500	0%
Sobor	\$987	\$0	\$0	\$0	—
Utilities	\$5,990	\$4,527	\$7,850	\$6,805	-13%
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$99,768	\$56,048	\$181,729	\$188,723	4%