

THE TRISAGION

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH

Bishop Visits Parish, Tonsures Reader



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: His Eminence Archbishop Melchisedek tonsures Matthew Finke by clipping some hair from his head, a symbolic offering of his life to God. Matthew is then ordained by the bishop to the order of reader and is asked to read the Epistle. After the Divine Liturgy, Rdr. Matthew joined his wife Jill (Anna), children (Maria and Jane), and concelebrating clergy for a photo.

AFTER MARCHING WITH A DELEGATION of pilgrims from Holy Trinity and the Chapel at the 45th March for Life in Washington, D.C. (see related story, last page), His Eminence Archbishop Melchisedek joined the parish for services the weekend of January 20-21. On Saturday, His Eminence was a guest teacher for the “Orthodoxy 2.0” catechesis class. Later that evening, he traveled to the Chapel of the Holy Spirit in Beavertown for Great Vespers and was treated to a reception following with two dozen of his fellow Orthodox faithful.

On Sunday, His Eminence celebrated the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy, where petitions and proclamations were offered for Sanctity of Life Sunday. Before the liturgy, Matthew Finke was tonsured as reader, beginning a next phase of ministry as the parish’s ecclesiarch and Men’s Chorus director. Many years to Archbishop Melchisedek, Rdr. Matthew, and all who took part! ■

It’s a Job for Parents

by Fr. John Reeves

JEWISH PARENTS HAD AN OBLIGATION to instruct their children in the faith of their fathers. This is implicit both in the act of circumcision of eight-day old males and their presentation in the Temple forty days after opening the womb. This latter event coincided with the purification of the mother who had given birth and her bringing a thank-offering to the Temple as part of that rite. When these outward events were concluded for Jesus, marking him as a child of the covenant (with Abraham) and one which anticipated the coming of the Messiah, the scriptures say that the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him (Lk. 2:10).

(continued, see FROM THE RECTOR’S DESK, page 3)

HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH
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Schedules

	COFFEE HOUR	GREETERS	TELLERS	SERVERS
February 4	E. George and K. Oleynik	J. & R. Cadman and J. Houser	H. Torbic and M. Fedkin	Team B
February 11	M. Thompson** and D. Van Duin	L. Radomsky and M. Radomsky	M. Stevens and G. Cattell	Team A
February 18	BLINI/PANCAKE LUNCHEON*	J. Pettengill and S. Pettengill	E. Ashmore and R. Patel	Team B
February 25	I. Andrzhiievsky and L. Radomsky*	A. Ashmore and E. Ashmore	M. Fedkin and B. Haupt	Team A
March 4	A.T. Pelikan and J. Miranda*	B. Roberts and E. Miranda	G. Cattell and H. Torbic	Team B
March 11	H. Torbic and P. Doty */**	L. Radomsky and M. Radomsky	E. Ashmore and M. Stevens	Team A

* Denotes fast
 ** Denotes switch/change

Team A: Z. Cadman, B. Oleynik, J. Torbic, C. Schrauf, E. Scisler, and J. Scisler.
 Team B: J. Cadman, C. Legaspi, N. McFarland, S. Patel, D. Stuckles, and L. Torbic.

Captains:
 D. Torbic and S. Oleynik

■ FROM THE RECTOR'S DESK

Religious Life: It's a Job for Parents (continued from pg. 1)

Jesus' growth took place not because of the outward symbols of covenant had been observed but because the faith was being imparted Him in his home. When the Scriptures mention Jesus again at the Temple, he is twelve, able to dispute with the elders at the Temple about the meaning of Scripture. His parents find him after three days of looking, and he goes back home with them: he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them: but his mother kept all these sayings in her heart.

And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man (Luke 2:51-52).

Increasing in wisdom and stature, in favour with God and man did not happen automatically. Rather the home in which Jesus lived was one in which his parents instructed him in the faith of his fathers. Thus, Mary and Joseph were fulfilling their responsibility to raise Jesus in piety. To do so included possibly daily attendance at the Synagogue for instruction, weekly Sabbath rest, and all the other items attendant upon being raised Jewish. It consumed their whole lives. It was not a part of who Mary, Joseph, and Jesus were, it was who they were. Jesus was not given a choice to make for himself in later life. It was precisely because Jesus was raised as he was that He would make the life-giving, soul-saving choices for the whole world in His life and ministry.

Yet, modern parents too often see religious life as an elective for their children even though it doesn't translate to other areas of life. Take secular schooling, for example: Mandatory, not optional. Doctor visits and prescriptions? Children aren't given a choice not to take medicine. Eating the right foods for good health? Required. Sports events on Sunday morning? Unfortunately, that's obligatory for many children, too. The only part of a child's life which many see as optional is the religious nurture of children. Yet, God never indicated it to be an option, either for Jewish

parents or Christian ones (cf. *Ephesians 6:4b*). It is the prime obligation of parents to provide for spiritual life of children as well as physical life.

There is a key in the reference given above to Mary: she kept all these sayings in her heart. Unless parents keep the sayings of Jesus in their hearts, the values they have, the priorities they set, the disciplines observe, it is hard to expect children to be raised in the nurture and the admonition of the Lord. It's that simple.

Joseph and Mary's life in the home in Nazareth guided the young Child as he grew in stature, in favour with God and man. They understood, as best they could, that raising a godly child was a thing of the heart, as well as the head. Things haven't changed since God instructed the Children of Israel as follows:

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD: And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates. (Exodus 6:4-9)

So, parents need to ask themselves: are they doing their jobs raising their children, raising them, first of all, in the things of God so that they might know how to live godly lives as adults? If so, it is because God is treasured in their hearts, in their homes, in their conduct above all.

Jesus said, "where a man's treasure is, there will his heart be also" (*Mt. 6:21*). That's where we ultimately will find our children. It truly is a parent's job. ■

Chapel of the Holy Spirit

CATEGORY	2015 ACTUAL	2016 ACTUAL	2017 ACTUAL	2017 BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
INCOME					
BUDGETED INCOME (<i>Stewardship Offerings</i>)	\$21,690	\$19,335	\$23,906	\$18,500	106%
NON-BUDGETED INCOME					
Building Fund Donations	5,247	2,325	1,320	—	—
Charitable Income/Other Income	—	1,030	1,363	—	—
TOTAL NON-BUDGETED INCOME	\$5,247	\$3,355	\$2,683	—	—
TOTAL INCOME	\$26,937	\$22,690	\$26,589	—	—
EXPENSES					
BUDGETED EXPENSES					
Personnel	8,408	7,119	6,150	7,400	92%
Property/Mortgage	—	3,150	3,682	3,500	105%
Operating Expenses (Liturgical, Office, Christian Ed.)	1,602	1,169	1,969	2,000	49%
Utilities	339	1,702	1,849	2,100	71%
Outreach and Fellowship	2,826	1,902	1,707	3,000	106%
Insurance	—	367	—	500	37%
TOTAL BUDGETED EXPENSES	\$13,175	\$15,409	\$15,357	\$18,500	84%
NON-BUDGETED EXPENSES					
Building Expenses	2,744	11,987	—	—	—
Charitable Expenditures/Other Expenses	—	1,162	375	—	—
TOTAL NON-BUDGETED EXPENSES	\$2,744	\$13,149	\$375	—	—
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$15,919	\$28,558	\$15,732	—	—
NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	\$11,018	(\$5,868)	\$10,857	—	—



Strong Orthodox Christian Presence at Annual Pro-Life March

LEFT: Faithful from Holy Trinity and the Chapel of the Holy Spirit attended the 45th annual March for Life in Washington, DC last month, an event that marks the anniversary of the 1973 *Roe v. Wade* decision that legalized abortion in the United States. RIGHT: His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon, led Orthodox Christian hierarchs, clergy, seminarians and faithful at the March. Throughout the year, our parish partners with the State College Pregnancy Resource Clinic (scprc.com) to educate and encourage men and women to make informed life choices. ■

■ 2017 FINANCIAL YEAR IN REVIEW

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church

CATEGORY	2015 ACTUAL	2016 ACTUAL	2017 ACTUAL	2017 BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
INCOME					
BUDGETED INCOME					
Stewardship Offerings	\$209,054	\$243,441	\$257,017	\$253,557	101%
Parking	5,257	6,037	8,099	6,000	135%
Candles and Flowers	3,723	3,410	3,217	3,150	102%
Interest Income/ <i>AmazonSmile</i>	88	85	359	25	1436%
Miscellaneous Income	5,733	306	557	—	—
TOTAL BUDGETED INCOME	\$223,855	\$253,279	\$269,249	\$262,732	102%
NON-BUDGETED INCOME					
Funds Income (<i>Bookstore, Building, Memorial, etc.</i>)	74,609	60,779	30,684	—	—
Charitable Appeals Income (<i>Matt. 25, Souper Sun., etc.</i>)	7,782	7,167	8,387	—	—
TOTAL NON-BUDGETED INCOME	\$82,391	\$67,946	\$39,071	—	—
TOTAL INCOME	\$306,246	\$321,225	\$308,320	—	—
EXPENSES					
BUDGETED EXPENSES					
Personnel	\$141,844	\$145,490	\$145,129	\$148,879	98%
Mortgage	28,573	28,572	28,572	28,572	100%
Archdiocesan Expenses (<i>Assessment, Assembly, etc.</i>)	21,496	20,308	20,147	20,486	98%
Utilities	11,384	8,867	11,973	12,700	94%
Outreach/Fellowship	9,409	9,910	11,634	10,250	114%
Physical Plant	9,938	7,026	6,899	10,200	68%
Liturgical	7,258	5,889	6,367	8,275	77%
(<i>Transfer to Property Reserve Fund</i>)	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	100%
Office Administration	5,717	5,249	3,951	5,350	74%
Insurance	2,482	2,892	3,339	3,020	111%
Christian Education	3,066	2,930	2,897	3,600	80%
Licenses/Professional Fees/Bank Charges	2,529	2,377	1,712	2,400	71%
(<i>Transfer to Discretionary Funds</i>)	1,250	1,500	1,500	1,500	100%
Accessibility Improvements	—	—	1,482	750	198%
(<i>Transfer to All-American Council Fund</i>)	1,000	1,721	1,000	1,000	100%
Refurbishments	—	—	415	750	55%
TOTAL BUDGETED EXPENSES	\$250,946	\$247,731	\$252,017	\$262,732	96%
NON-BUDGETED EXPENSES					
Funds Expenditures (<i>Building, Memorial, etc.</i>)	29,928	131,809*	4,109	—	—
Charitable Expenditures (<i>Matthew 25, Souper Sun., etc.</i>)	5,588	9,834	10,304	—	—
Adjustments for Prior Year	—	676	639	—	—
TOTAL NON-BUDGETED EXPENSES	\$35,516	\$142,319	\$15,052	—	—
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$286,462	\$390,050	\$267,069	—	—
NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	\$19,784	(\$68,825)	\$41,251	—	—

* includes a one-time expense of \$117,521 for Trinity House renovation and accessibility improvements.

Join Matthew 25 this Lent

This month, Holy Trinity's *Matthew 25* ministry will plan a Lenten Drive in order to fulfill our Lord's command to minister to the least among us. Those interested in helping determine the beneficiary as well as other details are invited to attend a meeting at Trinity House on Thursday, February 8 at 4 p.m.

Jr. OYA Returns, "Olympic" Style

Deacon Mark and Hannah Oleynik, new leaders of the Junior Orthodox Youth Association, are blessed to announce the return of this ministry for students in grades 5-8. They are planning the group's first get together on Sunday, February 11 following the Divine Liturgy and finishing at 2:30 p.m. The theme for the get-together is the Winter Olympics. While the main objective is fellowship, a short portion of each meeting will be dedicated to reaching out to others "beyond the parish" through prayer and charity. Contact Dn. Mark at dnmark@holytrinity-oca.org for more details.

Prospora Workshop and Brunch

On February 17 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon Matushka Brenda will host a prospora workshop and light luncheon at the rectory. Participants will gather to fellowship and to learn how to prepare the bread used for Divine Liturgy and Litiya. Everyone is welcome to attend. Please RSVP by calling/texting 570-765-2202 before Wednesday, February 14 if you plan to attend.

New at the Bookstore this Month

St. Ignatius, first-century Bishop of Antioch, called the "God-bearer," is one of the earliest witnesses to the truth of Christ and the nature of the Christian life. Tradition tells us that as a small child, Ignatius was singled out by our Lord Himself as an example of the childlike faith that all Christians must possess (cf. Matthew 18:1-4). In *Bearing God: The Life and Works of St. Ignatius of Antioch the God-Bearer*, Fr. Andrew Stephen Damick recounts the life of this great pastor, martyr, and saint, and interprets for the modern reader five major themes in the pastoral letters he wrote: martyrdom, salvation in Christ, the bishop, the unity of the Church, and the Eucharist.

■ NEWS AND NOTES

Archdiocese to Conduct Catechetical Series

CRANBERRY TWP., PA [ocadwpa.org]— The Archdiocese of Pittsburgh will conduct an 8-week catechetical program with Fr. Josiah Trenham's renowned audio lecture series as its focus. Under the direction of Fr. David Vernak, classes will meet Tuesdays from February 27 through April 28 (skipping April 3) at the Archdiocesan Center Conference Room in Cranberry Twp. beginning at 7 p.m. The program is costs \$125 and is open to any interested person (no prerequisites to attend). For details, or to register, call (724) 869-9434.

PSU Student Awarded Scholarship by Raising Funds to Support Retreats

BROOKLINE, MA [ocf.net] — As part of the Orthodox Christian Fellowship's #GivingTuesday campaign held late last year, a contest was held encouraging students to spread the word about the ministry they love and inspire others to give. Three \$1,000 scholarships were awarded to the three students who brought in the most number of donors: Alexandra Benc (James Madison University), Nicole Petrow (Creighton University), and Rhea Sullivan, a member of our Penn State chapter.

More than 150 donors, including almost 40 current students, contributed to the campaign. Together, they raised \$17,321, which was then matched by an anonymous donor for a total of \$34,642. All the funds that were raised will help to support the many regional retreats and district events OCF hosts each semester. This semester, there are sixteen events scheduled for students across all nine OCF regions, including one hosted by our Penn State chapter at Trinity House this February 9-10. Exploring the world religions that view the Old Testament as authoritative, it is offered free of charge to students attending colleges and universities throughout the seven-state OCF Mid-Atlantic region. For more information, visit. ocf.net. ■

Holy Trinity Calendar

All events take place at 119 South Sparks Street in State College, unless where noted.
 Events listed at **Trinity House** (T.H.) take place at 123 South Sparks Street, in State College.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28 Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee (Fast Free Week) Matins, 8:50am Sunday School, 9am Divine Liturgy, 10am 40-Day Memorial for John Holowiak, 11:45am	29 <i>(Trinity House Open Late for Students, 7pm-11pm)</i>	30 Three Hierarchs: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom	31 Vespers, 5:30pm Men's Chorus Rehearsal, 6:15pm	February 1 Penn State OCF: "Stay to Pray" Dinner at Holy Trinity, 6pm Great Vespers/Lituya/Blessing of Candles, 7pm	2 MEETING OF OUR LORD IN THE TEMPLE Divine Liturgy, 8am (Hours, 7:40am) Choir Dinner and Movie Social, 6pm-9:30pm @ Trinity House	3 Council Strategic Planning, 9am @ T.H. Conf. Room Altar Society Mtg., 10am @ T.H. Atty Lounge S.S. Teacher Mtg., 5:15 @ T.H. Conference Room Great Vespers/Conf., 6pm
4 Sunday of the Prodigal Son Matins, 8:50am Sunday School, 9am Divine Liturgy, 10am 40-Day Memorial for Mary Ann Stickles, 11:45am OCF Super Bowl Party, 6pm @ T.H.	5 <i>(Trinity House Open Late for Students, 7pm-11pm)</i>	6 "Orthodoxy 2.0" Catechesis, 6:30pm @ Trinity House Conference Room	7 Vespers, 5:30pm	8 Matthew 25 Lenten Drive Organizational Meeting, 4pm @ Trinity House Conference Room Penn State OCF: Dinner and Discussion, 7pm @ 122 Pasquerilla Center	9 OCF Mid-Atlantic Regional Overnight Retreat: "The People of the Book," 7pm (through Sat. 4pm) @ Holy Trinity and Trinity House	10 Memorial Saturday of Meatfare Memorial Divine Liturgy, 9am Great Vespers, 6pm Confessions
11 Sunday/Last Judgment (Meatfare) Matins, 8:50am Sunday School, 9am Divine Liturgy, 10am Jr. Orthodox Youth Association (grades 5-8) Lunch and Activities, 12:30pm-2:30pm @ Trinity House	12 Young Adult Potluck and Game Night, 5:30pm @ Trinity House	13 Homeless Ministry, 4pm @ Centre House, 217 E. Nittany Ave. Clergy Staff Meeting, 6pm @ Trinity House	14 Vespers, 5:30pm Confessions Parish Council Meeting, 7pm	15 21 New Martyrs of Libya Penn State OCF: "Stump the Priest Night", 7pm @ 122 Pasquerilla Center	16 Men's Fellowship Breakfast, 9am "Orthodoxy 2.0", 10am @ Trinity House Conf. Rm. Choir Rehearsal, 4pm Great Vespers, 6pm Confessions	17
18 Forgiveness Sunday (Cheesefare) Matins, 8:50am/Sunday School, 9am Divine Liturgy, 10am Blini/Pancake Luncheon, 12pm Forgiveness Vespers, 7pm OCF National Day of Prayer Service (Hour 5 of 24), 10pm-11am	19 GREAT LENT BEGINS Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete, 7pm	20 Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete, 7pm	21 Confessions, 5pm Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts, 6pm Lenten Potluck, 7:30pm	22 Penn State OCF: "Stay to Pray" Dinner at Holy Trinity, 6pm Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete, 7pm	23 Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts, 6pm	24 St. Theodore of Tyre First & Second Finding of the Head of St. John Memorial Divine Liturgy, 9am Great Vespers, 6pm Confessions
25 Sunday of Orthodoxy Matins, 8:50am Sunday School, 9am Divine Liturgy, 10am Children's Icon Procession, 11:45am Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers, 7pm @ Holy Trinity	26 Choir Rehearsal, 6pm Penn State Student Night, 7pm @ Trinity House	27 St. Raphael of Brooklyn	28 Confessions, 5pm Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts, 6pm Lenten Potluck, 7:30pm	March 1 Penn State OCF: Dinner and Discussion, 7pm @ 122 Pasquerilla Center	2 Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts, 6pm	3 Memorial Saturday Memorial Divine Liturgy, 9am Great Vespers., 6pm
4 St. Gregory Palamas Matins, 8:50am Sunday School, 9am Divine Liturgy, 10am	5	6	7 Confessions, 5pm Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts, 6pm Lenten Potluck, 7:30pm	8	9 Forty Martyrs of Sebaste Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts, 6pm	10 Great Vespers, 6pm Confessions

Chapel Calendar

All events take place at the new building (145 North Kern Street) in Beavertown, unless where noted.

Thursday Feb. 1 Great Vespers/Lituya for the Meeting of the Lord, 6pm	Sunday 18 Forgiveness Sunday (Cheesefare) Divine Liturgy, 10am (Hours, 9:40am) Fellowship and Study of <i>The Orthodox Faith</i> , following Forgiveness Vespers, 6pm
Saturday 3 Great Vespers, 6pm Confessions	Sunday 4 Sunday of the Prodigal Divine Liturgy, 10am (Hours, 9:40am)
Sunday 4 Divine Liturgy, 10am (Hours, 9:40am)	Monday 19 GREAT LENT BEGINS
Tuesday 6 Choir Rehearsal, 6:30pm	Wednesday 21 Presanctified Liturgy, 6pm
Saturday 10 Great Vespers, 6pm	Saturday 24 Great Vespers, 6pm
Sunday 11 Sunday of the Last Judgment (Meatfare) Divine Liturgy, 10am (Hours, 9:40am) Fellowship and Study of <i>The Orthodox Faith</i> , following Chapel Family Fun Night, 5pm-7pm @ Middlecreek Area Community Center, Beaver Springs	Sunday 25 Sunday of Orthodoxy Divine Liturgy, 10am (Hours, 9:40am) Fellowship and Study of <i>The Orthodox Faith</i> , following
Tuesday 13 Choir Rehearsal, 6:30pm	Monday 26 "Hats & Blankets for Babies" Knitting Outreach, 6:30pm
Saturday 17 Prophora Baking Workshop with Mka. Brenda., 10am @ Rectory, 140 Old Orchard Dr., Beavertown	Tuesday 27 Choir Rehearsal, 6:30pm
	Wednesday 28 Presanctified Liturgy, 6pm
	Saturday Mar. 3 Great Vespers, 6pm Confessions

February 2018