

Give Rest With the Just, O Savior



Fr. John Reeves, the first pastor of Holy Trinity, fell asleep in the Lord on Monday, August 22. May he find rest with the saints and may his memory be eternal!

Site Survey: The Time for Us to Act

It is often pointed out that there are two Greek words that are commonly translated as “time” in English. The first, *chronos*, refers to time as we most typically conceive of it, a linear succession of minutes, days, weeks, years, decades, eras, etc. The second, *kairos*, refers to a special time, an “appointed time,” a proper time, “the right time,” the time when action is desirable or necessary, a time that oughtn’t be missed. Such, my dear brothers and sisters, is the time we have come to today as a parish community.

Our site survey is now underway, and we have already had a team from K&W Engineers and Hoffman Leakey Architects tour and inspect our parish facilities. One architect from Hoffman Leakey has also visited us for Sunday worship in order to get a sense of what unique things we are trying to do in our worship space, and a

team has been assembled to research zoning codes and regulations for us. The next major step is **community input**. With this in mind, I am very pleased to announce that on Saturday, September 17, at 11 am, we will hold a parish-wide “design charette,” facilitated by K&W Engineers, which will set the course for the remainder of our site survey and architectural design process: both of the subsequent October and November community meetings depend intimately on the feedback we will provide K&W during this first one in September.

Therefore, this is the appointed time, and absolutely every available and able-bodied Orthodox Christian in our community has a responsibility to be at this meeting. In it we will discuss, as a whole parish family, what we think our calling, future, and vision is and should be. We will identify our goals and priorities as a community, and

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Schedules

	COFFEE HOUR	GREETERS	TELLERS
Sept. 4	Potluck	M. Fedkin & K. Bazilevskaya	G. Cattell & H. Torbic
Sept. 11	A. Stickles & J. Miranda	J. Houser & D. Swisher	K. Cattell & M. Fiori
Sept. 18	L. Georgiou & K. Oleynik	A. Stickles & J. Houser	M. Fedkin & H. Torbic
Sept. 25	H. Torbic & A.T. Pelikan	J. Carrier & K. Oleynik	G. Cattell & C. Johnson
Oct. 2	Basic Coffee Hour	M. Fedkin & K. Bazilevskaya	M. Fiori & M. Fedkin
Oct. 9	C. Swisher & S. Hunter	J. Houser & D. Swisher	K. Cattell & H. Torbic

■ FROM THE RECTOR’S DESK

Site Survey (con’t)

help K&W and Hoffman Leakey understand how we plan to grow as a parish and what ministries we wish to improve on or aspire to undertake. As such, everyone needs to be on hand for this, and I would also like to expressly invite college students, older children, teenagers, inquirers, and non-Orthodox friends of the parish to attend. For those who have younger children, we will have a team available to provide child care in the parish hall during the meeting. It should probably go without saying, but the feedback of parents is very important in planning the future of our parish.

Our presence and participation in this charette should be understood as an offering to God and an act of love for one another and for the world. In God’s providence, it is very possible that you will see something the rest of us are missing or that God will put a word into your heart that the rest of us need to hear. Do not deprive God of the opportunity to use your speech for His glory, for our common salvation, and for the spiritual health and salvation of our neighbors.

If, however, there is anyone who knows in advance that he will not be able to attend and would like to write a very brief vision statement for the consideration of the whole parish, these can be submitted to me in person or by email at *frignatius@holytrinity-oca.org*. May God, through the prayers of the Theotokos and of all the saints, guide us, give us peace, protect our hearts, grant us wisdom, and make us instruments of His great mercy and His abundant salvation. Amen. ■

— Fr. Ignatius

■ MEMORY ETERNAL

Memory Eternal: Fr. John Reeves

The beloved first pastor of Holy Trinity, Fr. John Reeves, fell asleep in the Lord on August 22, 2022. The following is his biography as printed on oca.org.

John Miller Reeves was born in Kerrville, Texas on September 3, 1950. His early years were spent in a modest farmhouse built by his parents, the late Royce E. Reeves and Dora Juanita Miller Reeves Maples. “JM” or “Butch,” as he was known by his relatives and childhood friends, was formed by the things he loved: the Texas Hill Country, the scriptures, and his family.

John graduated from Tivy High School in Kerrville, Texas in 1968. He began his college career at Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas. There he met his wife of 52 years, Linda Joyce Zerr Reeves. In 1969, John transferred to the University of Texas at Austin, where he was accepted into the Plan II Honors Program. This interdisciplinary curriculum program encapsulated the essence of who John was, an avid learner of literature, the sciences, philosophy, and society as a whole. How these disciplines interconnected would inform his ideas and approach to church ministry.

In 1972, John started the Divinity Program at The University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee. Well before graduate school, ministry, evangelism, and serving Christ in his Church had always been John’s passion. His mother, a devout Presbyterian, provided him a Christian foundation through church services and youth programs. As an eighteen year old convert to the Episcopal Church, John felt called to the Priesthood: a vocation which never wavered throughout his life.

John was ordained an Episcopal priest in 1975, and from that day forward, he would be known as Father John by the many to whom he would minister over the next

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■ NEWS & NOTES

Teaching Liturgy Series

This fall, with the blessing of His Eminence, Archbishop Melchisedek, Fr. Ignatius is going to use the Sunday liturgies on September 11th, September 18th, and October 2nd as "teaching services." On September 11th, Father will discuss pre-communion prayers and clergy vesting. On September 18th, Father will prepare the Holy Gifts in the center of the church and offer commentary. Finally, on October 2nd, Father will pause the liturgy itself for instruction. Come early on these three Sundays and prepare to learn more about the Divine Liturgy: the central worship act of the Orthodox Christian Church!

Fall 2022 Inquirers Class

Holy Trinity’s traditional “Orthodoxy 101” and “Orthodoxy 102” fall inquirers classes are returning at 7 pm on Wednesday evenings, beginning on September 21. Sessions will be led by either Fr. Ignatius or Anna Stickles. They are free and open to all, and can serve as a perfect bridge point for introducing our friends and neighbors to the Orthodox faith. “Come and see!”

Orthodoxy 101

September 21 – The Orthodox Doctrine of God
September 28 – Introduction to Orthodox Worship
October 5 – The Saving Work of Jesus Christ
October 12 – “How do I ‘get saved?’”

Orthodoxy 102

October 19 – The Bible, Scripture, and Tradition
October 26 – A Timeline of Church History
November 2 – Mary, the Saints, and the Veneration of Icons
November 9 – Orthodox Practices of Piety
November 16 – Orthodox Ethics

September Adult Education

On Saturday, September 24th, at 10AM, our own Fr. Ignatius will speak on early Christian views of abortion. Please, come join us for this timely topic!

■ MEMORY ETERNAL

Fr. John (con’t)

interest and importance. Father John began an ambitious text in college on the Reeves family history. Later in life, his thirst to learn more and understand his roots compelled him to seek out his ancestral homestead and cemetery in Blandford Forum, England. A deeper understanding of the self and its relationship with others was a lifelong quest on which he gladly embarked.

Father John’s life and love transformed many communities and individuals over his thirty-five years in ministry. An excerpt from his journal sums up the essence of how he led is life:

You may mourn a while, don’t be mournful.
Grieve, but don’t be grief stricken.
I fear not my end.

It is only the beginning as the Apostle Luke said:
“For me to live is Christ and to die, gain.
So, thanks be to God who giveth us the victory.” ■

40 Day Memorial for Fr. John

On Friday, September 30th, we will hold a 40-day memorial pannikhida for Fr. John at Holy Trinity. Please bring a dish to share and join us for a potluck after the service!

Welcome back to Sunday School!

On Sunday September 11th we look forward to welcoming back our returning students and look forward to engaging with all our new students (enrollment is for students in grades K-12). As always, the Sunday school is intended to only supplement the instruction of the parents which takes place in the home each day. Along with weekly instruction from September through May (classes begin at 9:00 AM in the parish hall) there will additional opportunities for learning and fellowship for both our students and parents. We look forward to a successful year! If you are interested in becoming a teacher (we strive to have 2-3 teachers in each classroom) or if you have questions, please contact Pdn. Mark.

■ MEMORY ETERNAL

Fr. John (con’t)

2009; and a member of the special investigation committee of the OCA.

Father John’s skills were utilized both domestically and abroad. In the United States, he lectured and hosted many Church Growth and Evangelism conferences for multiple Orthodox jurisdictions, some in conjunction with his esteemed colleague and friend, the late Archpriest Peter Gillquist. As a result, he was appointed by the Orthodox Church in America as one of its representatives to the board of the Orthodox Christian Mission Center (OCMC) from 1994-2000. Throughout the 1990s, with the blessing of the late Patriarch Teoctist (Arăpașu), he was part of various missionary trips to respond to the rise of sectarianism in post-Communist Romania. Archimandrite Joseph, Abbot of the Holy Monastery of Xeropotamou (Mount Athos) invited Father John in 2004 to deliver a paper at the School of Pastoral Theology at The Aristotelian University (Thessaloniki, Greece) during a conference on the Orthodox Church and the Ecumenical movement. Father John authored several articles on these topics. In addition, he contributed to the Old Testament study notes of the Orthodox Study Bible (2008). Parishioners would attest to the love Father John had for the Old Testament as he would seize any opportunity to preach on them when appointed to be read during services.

In 2010, Father John had the unique experience of taking a much deserved sabbatical to Finland, Russia, and Alaska, following in the footsteps of Saint Herman of Alaska’s missionary journey to America. Some of his fondest memories from this time were serving as a supply priest in Alaska. He made a point to return in this capacity with parishioners from Pennsylvania to assist in constructing the floor of Saint Michael the Archangel Russian Orthodox Church in Marshall, Alaska. This pilgrimage truly typified Father John’s years as a priest as he always endeavored to pattern his life and ministry

after Saint Herman and other missionaries of the Church.

Father John also had an affinity for music. Opening up the piano bench in his house one could attest to the wide variety of music he loved. Inside were scores ranging from old Protestant hymns to Joni Mitchell, country music to Stravinsky’s “Symphony of Psalms.” He would gather his family around the piano—sometimes to their chagrin—and coax them into singing and freely harmonizing whatever score was on the piano music stand. John dabbled in the banjo, loved Scott Joplin, and was a great admirer of the Blues, especially the music of Bessie Smith. His baritone voice and other musical talents were used for many purposes and venues, from a community chorus to church services.

As a celebrant in the Holy Mysteries and preacher of the Gospel, Father John saw an intimate connection between divine services and sacred scripture as they applied to the actualization of the Christian community. His approach to parish life was greatly influenced by the missiological imperative to the poor, imprisoned, infirmed, and spiritually hungry found in the New Testament, the Liturgies, and the writings of the Church. He was convinced the Church did not express herself fully if Christ’s commission to “go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit” was not a foundational principle—and acted upon—in every parish. Father John strove to realize this vision in his communities by instructing many catechumens, baptizing and chrismating seekers, spending countless hours hearing confession, and honing his rhetorical skills to craft impactful sermons to form his flock in Christ’s image and likeness. His love of music, language, and history synthesized into a ministry for a diverse congregation of myriad ethnicities and cultures, both within and outside of the Orthodox world.

Next to God, family was paramount to Father John. He found so much joy in visiting his relatives in the Texas Hill Country. He loved reminiscing about his rearing and family history, as genealogy was of great personal

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■ MEMORY ETERNAL

Fr. John (con’t)

three decades. He served as the assistant rector at Saint John’s Episcopal Church in McAllen, Texas.

In 1977, Father John felt called to a different ecclesial path. After many inquiries about reception into Orthodoxy, his wife, Linda, received a phone call from the late Archbishop John (Shahovskoy) of San Francisco, who welcomed her family to the Church. In faith, Father John and his young family moved from the Rio Grande Valley of South Texas to the northern plains of the state. Dallas became their new home; there the family was catechized and received into the Church at Saint Seraphim Cathedral (Orthodox Church in America).

From 1979-1995, first as a layman, then as a priest, Father John and his family moved back to South Texas. There he founded Saint George the Great Martyr Church in Pharr, Texas, serving the faithful in both English and Spanish. He was ordained to the Diaconate and Priesthood in 1981 and elevated to the rank of Archpriest in 1995 by the late Archbishop Dimitri (Royster), the hierarch who helped lead him and his family into the Orthodox Church. While in Pharr, he oversaw the purchasing of church property, supervised two building projects within a four-year span, and took up the challenge of forming a community in a region of the nation with few Orthodox Christians. In addition, he was the President of the Board at Comfort House (Hospice Ministry) in McAllen, TX from 1992-1996. It was during these years that he dedicated his efforts to understand, both academically and practically, domestic mission work.

In 1996, Father John and his family left Texas and headed to State College, PA to begin a new chapter in his ministry as the first pastor of Holy Trinity Orthodox Church. Tapping into his missionary research and firsthand experience, Father John guided the nascent mission church into a fully self-supporting parish in three short years. During his tenure, he oversaw the

expansion of the parish by increasing its worship space, acquiring an administrative and educational building (Trinity House), and founding a new mission in 2008 (The Chapel of the Holy Spirit).

Seeking to minister to college students, Father John became the chaplain of the Pennsylvania State University chapter of the Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF). The dedication he had to students was evidenced by leading bible studies, establishing an office space on campus, creating an OCF administrative position, dedicating office space in the parish itself, and sponsoring the countless “Penn State Dinners.” Father John and Matushka Linda made it their personal mission to provide a home cooked meal once a month for the student body seeking fellowship in the Orthodox Church. Their combined witness inspired many students to pursue a seminary education, ordination, and, in some instances, the monastic life.



Father John’s calling to mission work extended beyond the parish. He was Director of Missions for the OCA’s Diocese of the South from 1990-1996; the Director of the Office of Church Growth and Evangelism for the National Church from 1998-2002; a Metropolitan Council Charity Committee Chairperson from 2006-

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Holy Trinity Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28 Divine Liturgy, 10am <i>(Hours, 9:40am)</i> Great Vespers, 6pm	 29 Divine Liturgy for Beheading of St. John, 8am	30	 31 Confessions, 4pm Vespers, 6pm Molieben for the New Church Year, 6:45pm	September 1	 2	3 Choir Rehearsal, 4pm Great Vespers, 6pm Confessions, following
4 Divine Liturgy, 10am <i>(Hours, 9:40am)</i> Memorial for Fr. John Reeves, following	5	6	 7 Confessions, 4pm Vigil for Nativity of the Theotokos, 6pm	8 Nativity of the Most Holy Theotokos Divine Liturgy, 8am	 9	10 Choir Rehearsal, 4pm Great Vespers, 6pm Confessions, following
11 Sunday School, 9am Divine Liturgy, 10am <i>(Hours, 9:40am)</i> Memorial for Fr. John Reeves, following	12	13	 14 Divine Liturgy for the Exaltation, 8am Confessions, 4pm Vespers, 6pm Parish Council Meeting, 7pm ZOOM	15	 16	17 K&W Congregational Charette, 11am Great Vespers, 6pm Confessions, following
18 Sunday School, 9am Divine Liturgy, 10am <i>(Hours, 9:40am)</i> Memorial for Fr. John Reeves, following IOCC Medical Kit Assembly, 12pm	19	20	 21 Confessions, 4pm Vespers, 6pm Orthodoxy 101, 7pm	22	 23	24 Adult Education: "Christianity and Abortion," 10am Choir Rehearsal, 4pm Great Vespers, 6pm Confessions, following
25 Sunday School, 9am Divine Liturgy, 10am <i>(Hours, 9:40am)</i> Memorial for Fr. John Reeves, following Sunday School Family Picnic, 4pm	26	27	 28 Confessions, 4pm Vespers, 6pm Orthodoxy 101, 7pm	29	 30	October 1 Great Vespers, 6pm Confessions, following
2 Divine Liturgy, 10am <i>(Hours, 9:40am)</i>	3	4	 5 Confessions, 4pm Vespers, 6pm Orthodoxy 101, 7pm	6	 7	8 Choir Rehearsal, 4pm Great Vespers, 6pm Confessions, following

Chapel Calendar

All events take place at 145 North Kern Street in Beavertown, unless where noted.

Saturday 3 Great Vespers, 6pm; Confessions following	Sunday 18 Divine Liturgy, 10am; Hours 9:40am; fellowship immediately following; catechesis, 1:30pm
Sunday 4 Divine Liturgy, 10am; Hours 9:40am; fellowship immediately following @ the rectory	Week of 18-24 Beaver Fair
Tuesday 6 Choir rehearsal, 6pm	Saturday 24 Selinsgrove Street Fair, 8am
Wednesday 7 Nativity of the Theotokos Vesperal Divine Liturgy, 6pm	Saturday 24 Great Vespers, 6pm; Confessions following
Saturday 10 Great Vespers, 6pm; Confessions following	Sunday 25 Divine Liturgy; Hours 9:40am; fellowship immediately following
Sunday 11 Divine Liturgy, 10am; Hours 9:40am; fellowship immediately following; catechesis, 1:30pm	Monday 26 Knitting/crocheting "Hats and Blankets for Babies," 6pm
Sunday 11 Get Together @ the Hoffmans (food provided; bring a lawn chair), 4:30pm	Tuesday 27 Choir rehearsal, 6pm
Tuesday 13 Holy Cross Vesperal Divine Liturgy, 6pm	Friday 30 Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos Great Vespers with Litya, 6pm
Saturday 17 Great Vespers, 6pm; Confessions following	Saturday 1 Great Vespers, 6pm; Confessions following

Consult the CHS website or FB page for schedule changes and/or other information

† to join remotely for Zoom, visit holytrinity-oca.org/zoom.
LIVE Please note that at this time, all services at Holy Trinity are being live-streamed. To watch them online, please visit holytrinity-oca.org/YouTube

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

September 2022