

ST. NICHOLAS WEEKLY BULLETIN NOVEMBER 1, 2015 THIS WEEK'S NEWS

WE'D LIKE TO WELCOME FR. DEAN PAELOGOS who celebrated the Divine Liturgy with us today! Fr. Nick is away at an Archdiocesan meeting.

OUR HOLIDAY BAKE SALE, LUNCHEON & MARKETPLACE will be held on **Saturday, November 21st**. Please look at the detailed announcements in the Bulletin.

OUR NEXT PITA BAKING SESSION is **Saturday, November 14th** beginning at **9am**. Assistance is needed with setting the hall, the pita making and baking, cleaning the hall and kitchen and then resetting the hall for church on Sunday. Plenty to do for bakers and non-bakers, alike, and all to support our church. We need everyone's support in this effort so please see or contact **Chris Toda** and let her know if you will be able to participate. **No experience necessary!**

THE FEASTDAY RAFFLE is in the works. We need help with stuffing and sealing envelopes to get the mailing ready. We also have tickets to sell, apart from the mailing. Dean Valoras is heading up this effort, please see him in Coffee Hour.

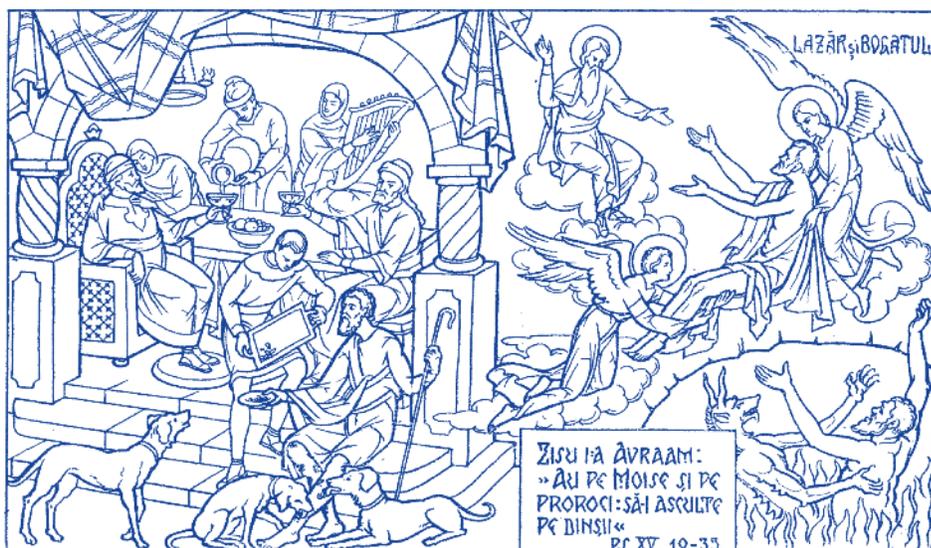
GREETERS TEAM 2:

ARTIC GAVALA AND CĂLIN GALERIU

COFFEE HOUR CLEAN-UP CREW D:

ILIANA & SEAN FAHEY,
DIMITRI SAFFRON,
CHRISTOS & SPIRO SPYROU

ALL ALTAR SERVERS INVITED



THE TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

EPISTLE: GALATIANS 6:11-18 ☩ GOSPEL: LUKE 16:19-31

(THE PARABLE OF THE RICH MAN AND LAZARUS)

TONE 5 ☩ MATINS GOSPEL: 11

COFFEE HOUR SPONSORS ARE NEEDED for the coming weeks. Please speak with Presvytera Maria if you would like to sponsor one.

COFFEE HOUR this week is sponsored by **Randy and Janice Samara** for the health of all our church family.

UPCOMING

AN ELECTRONICS/ WHITE GOODS, ETC. RECYCLING day is set for **Saturday, November 14th**. If you're able and willing to help, please speak with Gerry Belba.

FEASTDAY FELLOWSHIP

POTLUCK LUNCHEON,

Sunday December 6th after

Liturgy. Before we plunge into

the frenzy of the holidays, let's

pause for a moment and

gather for a few hours to enjoy

a relaxing potluck luncheon.

Please speak with Lisa Miel-

nicki or Chris Toda for details.

HOLY TRINITY NEWS

Holy Trinity Nursing & Rehabilitation Center & Holy Trinity Hospice are Orthodox Charities and rely on your donations to continue the mission of providing the best care possible.

COMMUNITY NEWS

NOTRE DAME ACADEMY'S ENTRANCE EXAM will be held on Saturday, November 7th at 8:30 am. Pre-registration is required for the exam. Please register for the exam on their website: www.nda-

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Sat, Nov 7 Orthodox Food Pantry, 9am-12pm
- Sun, Nov 8 Thanksgiving Orders Deadline
- Sat, Nov 14 Pita Baking, 9:00 am
- e-Recycling, 9:00 am-2:00 pm
- Sat, Nov 21 Holiday Bake Sale, Luncheon & Marketplace
- Sun, Nov 22 Shrewsbury Ecu Thanksgiving Service
St. Mary RC Church, 7:00pm
- Dec 6 St. Nicholas Feastday Celebration

34 GOLD STREET, SHREWSBURY, MA 01545-6238 ♦ VOICE: 508.845.0088 ♦ FAX: 508.845.8850

E-MAIL: FRNICK@STNICHOLASCHURCH.ORG ♦ WEB: WWW.STNICHOLASCHURCH.ORG

A Parish of the Romanian Orthodox Archdiocese in the Americas

worc.org by October 26th, Also, all current eighth grade students are invited to Spend-A-Day at NDA. If you are interested in spending an academic day at NDA, please contact their Office of Admissions at 508-757-6200, Ext. 229 or email: admissions@nda-worc.org. NDA is the only Catholic college preparatory school for young girls in grades 9-12 in Central Massachusetts.

A HOLIDAY BAKE SALE sponsored by The Women's Guild at **St. Mary's Assumption on Salisbury St** will be held on **Sunday, November 22nd** at 12:00 pm. Kutures, baklava, and kurabia galore! Plus cakes, cookies, cupcakes, pies ... *just in time for Thanksgiving!*

AN ECUMENICAL THANKGIVING SERVICE, sponsored by the Shrewsbury Clergy Association will be held on Sunday, November 22ns at 7:00 pm at St. Mary Roman Catholic Church.

A PRAYER OF FR. LAURENCE

LET US PRAY TO THE LORD,

O LORD who desires the best for us: We constantly speak about peace and harmony among people, but very frequently we ourselves are animated only by aggressiveness and hostility of one sort or another. Much of this comes from our being overly sensitive and irritable, so we need your calming presence to help us avoid harming others with this attitude. Give us patience together with understanding and kindness, that we may bring peace rather than enmity into the lives of our brothers and sisters.

For you are a God who works wonders, and we give you glory, Father Son, and Holy Spirit: now and forever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.



COSMAS & DAMIAN THE HOLY UNMERCENARIES OF ASIA, & THEIR MOTHER THEODOTA
NOVEMBER 1

These Saints were from Asia (that is, Asia Minor). After the death of their father, their Christ-loving mother Theodota reared them in piety and in all manner of virtue, and had them instructed in every science, especially that of medicine. This became their vocation, and they went about healing every illness and malady, bestowing healing freely on both men and beasts alike; because of this, they are called "Unmercenaryes." And thus, having completed the course of their life, they reposed in peace.

KONTAKION OF COSMAS & DAMIAN
O glorious, wonderworking physicians, having received the grace of healing, you reach out and restore health to those in need. But also, by your visitation you cast down the arrogance of the enemy, healing the world through miracles.

NAMEDAYS

November 1

The Holy Martyrs Cosmas and Damian

Kosmas Karadimitriou

November 8

The Holy Archangel Gabriel

Inva Gabriela Durmillari

Gabriela Gavala

The Holy Archangel Michael

Kenneth Michael Anderson

Michael Bourisk

Michael Walter Clem

Mihai Gavala

Michaela Ionete

Michael Keimig

Mikel Lolo

Corey Michael Maynard

Scott Michael Maynard

Tyler Michael Maynard

Michael Anthony Prizio

Michael Soter

Michael Spataro

Michael Peter Toda

The Holy Archangel Raphael

Raphaela Zaruha

The Holy Bodiless Hosts

Angela Demake

Angeliki Soter

FINANCIAL FACT

"Burning the Mortgage"

Our mortgage started October 2002 with a principal balance of \$794,500.

As of April, our balance is \$513,015

EVEN IF SOMEONE SHOULD RISE FROM THE DEAD

THE Gospel lesson this week is taken from St. Luke (16:19-31). It is the parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus. This parable is unique in a number of ways. First, it appears only in the Gospel of Luke. Second, it gives us an important insight into the “next life,” and the judgment to come. And third, we learn something about names—how our very identity is captured in our name.

Very few places in the whole of the Bible tell us so clearly of the judgment to come and the nature of Heaven and Hell. While there are many places in the Gospels where the Lord urges us to be virtuous and speaks to us of the importance of choosing correctly between the comforts of this life and the rewards of the world to come, here we clearly see the consequences of our choices. Lazarus rests in the bosom of Abraham with the righteous. The Rich Man is tormented in Hades.

It is worth noting that we never learn the Rich Man’s name. He is only referred to by his “class.” On the other hand, we learn the poor beggar’s name at the very outset. We live in a culture where names are given and used freely. We address people we hardly know by their first name, where once this privilege was reserved for only our most cherished relatives and friends. To know a person’s name is to know them intimately. When Moses encounters God in the burning bush and God gives him the mission to free the people of Israel from Pharaoh’s bondage, the first thing he asks of God is, “What is your name?” (Exodus 3:13) To know His name is to know something about Him. In fact the name that God gives Moses — “I AM” — reveals a great deal about Himself. He is the Existing One.

The Lord gives us Lazarus’ name so that we might know him. Because we know his name he becomes a real person to us. The Rich Man has no name.



In his greed and selfishness we know him only by these character traits; he is not worthy of a name. Lazarus sat begging every day outside of the Rich Man’s house. While there is no way he could not have noticed him, Lazarus was invisible to him. Now, without a name, the Rich Man is “invisible” to us.

How many people do we see on the streets who look to us for kindness, and yet they remain invisible to us? And while we live in a society where there are various forms of institutional assistance, if we have learned anything from our work at the Orthodox Food Pantry and the Mustard Seed, it is this: it is not only the destitute who are hungry, but also working people who cannot make ends meet on their wages. Even a middle class family can be thrown into the situation of Lazarus by a devastating illness for which they have no medical coverage, the sudden loss of a job, or by a crisis in the economy. In a very real way we all could easily become Lazarus.

Finally, we learn about the nature of repentance. In the picture that the Lord gives us of Heaven and Hell, the one

thing that has always fascinated me is that there is an ability to communicate between the two realms. Each could see and talk to the other. Each knew of the other’s condition. And yet, when the Rich Man asks of Abraham that he send Lazarus to comfort him, we learn of a “gulf” or “chasm” between the two places which cannot be crossed. They could communicate, but no one could pass from one realm to the other. There would be no comfort given to the Rich Man by water on the finger of Lazarus. This is a symbol of the unalterable destiny between the saved and the lost.

But even in this situation the Rich Man has not lost his arrogance. He asks to have Lazarus sent to his brothers so that they might repent before suffering a similar fate. Abraham explains that repentance does not spring from witnessing miracles, but from a true change of heart. He tells him: “They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.” When the Rich Man protests, Abraham replies further, “If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead” (v. 29, 31). Miracles alone will not convince any one of us to believe if our heart is not willing to receive the Word.

A more subtle point that we should note is that the Rich Man, even while he is suffering torment because of his sin, because of his neglect of Lazarus who lay before him all those years, never actually addresses Lazarus, never calls him by name. He speaks to Abraham and through him wants to order poor Lazarus around as though he is nothing. Even in his punishment, the “poor” Rich Man has learned nothing. May God save us from this fate!

FR. NICHOLAS APOSTOLA



HOLIDAY BAKE SALE, LUNCHEON & MARKETPLACE

Saturday, November 21

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

BAKE SALE & LUNCHEON

- **We are asking for donations of home baked goods to sell.** We need to know in advance what you are bringing, and it must be brought to the church during the day on Friday, Nov. 20
- **We also need volunteers to help with set up and packaging of items for sale on Friday, Nov 20** and with the sale and luncheon on Saturday, Nov 21. If you have questions please speak to or email: Chris Toda or Deb Sedares.
- **There is a sign up sheet** on the bulletin board and at the candle stand for donations and for volunteers to help with set up and with the sale.

PITA & PASTRY HOLIDAY ORDER DEADLINES

- **Help is needed with the ongoing baking effort** of pitas and pastries here at the Church and for help with packaging pastries — For specifics, see **Chris Toda and Betty Anderson.**
- **We need everyone's to help to sell our pastries and pitas** to our family, friends, coworkers, and anyone else you can think of — for more information, see **Betty Anderson.**
- **Thanksgiving Orders** need to be in by November 8, for pick-up Sat/Sun November 21 & 22.
- **Christmas Orders** must be in by December 7, for pick-up Sat/Sun December 19 & 20. We are only able

to make a certain quantity of pitas and pastries. To ensure that we will be able to fill your orders do not wait until the last minute to get your orders in. ***Absolutely no orders will be accepted after the order deadline.***

- **You may download flyers** using the links in the e-mail Bulletin or pick up hard copies here.

HOLIDAY MARKET PLACE:

- **A Holiday Market Place** will once again, be part of our annual Holiday Bake Sale and Luncheon. We are seeking Vendors to rent table space at a cost of \$25 per table. If you or a vendor you know is interested in participating, please contact **Tim Rucho.** We would like to include a variety of vendors and ensure there is no duplication of products or services.

GIFT BASKET RAFFLE:

- **Gift-Basket Raffle:** A new feature at our Holiday Marketplace this year will be a raffle of specialty gift baskets to benefit our Church. Donations are welcome! You may be creative and design your own gift basket, contribute complimentary items and we will assemble them into a gift basket, or donate gift certificates, gift cards, or money to purchase needed items. For more information, speak with Tim Rucho.