

ST. NICHOLAS WEEKLY BULLETIN

OCTOBER 29, 2017

THIS WEEK'S NEWS

FOOD PANTRY. Help is needed to staff our monthly responsibility at the Orthodox Food Center **next Saturday, November 4th, from 9 am - noon.** About 4 people are needed. Likewise, donations of food are always needed, and may be dropped off at the Food Pantry housed at St. Spyridon Cathedral. If you can help in this worthwhile ministry, please speak with **Lisa Mielnicki or Nicole Apostola.**

DEADLINES!

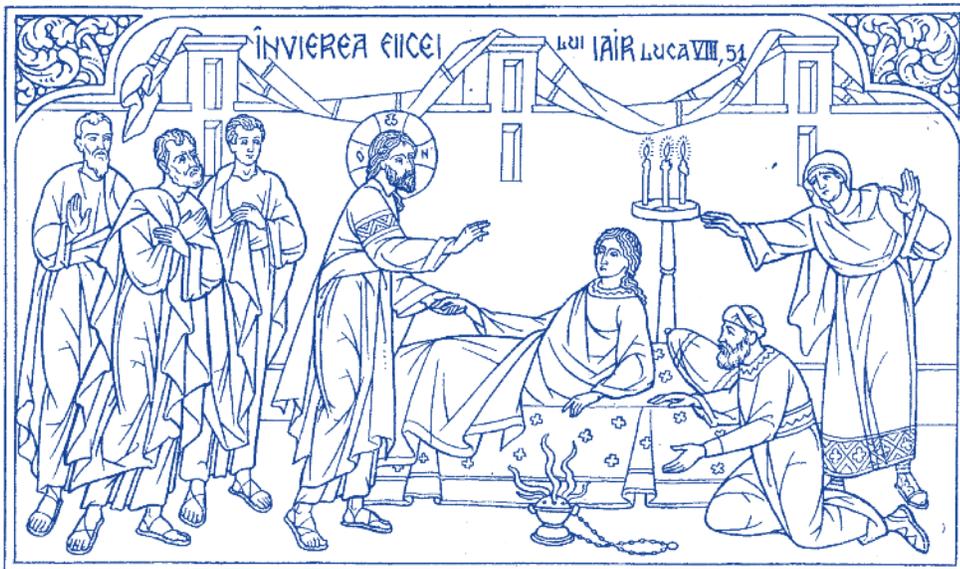
CALLING ALL MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT ...

Want to help with hurricane relief? We are joining with Sts. Anargyroi Church to assist the International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) in their Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria response. We will be creating "clean up buckets" to assist those in need. These buckets will be used to help the IOCC replenish their supply of buckets to respond as quickly and effectively to areas of need as they arise. **Join us Friday, November 10 at 6:30pm at St. Nicholas Church** for pizza and discussion about this service project. Please RSVP to Valarie Stamoulis at Valarie.stamoulis@gmail.com, 617-803-3798; or

GREETERS TEAM 3:
EVANS TSOULES AND TOM FITZPATRICK

COFFEE HOUR CLEAN-UP CREW:
HELP NEEDED!!!

ALL ALTAR SERVERS INVITED



THE TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

EPISTLE: EPHESIANS 2:14-22 ☩ GOSPEL: LUKE 8:41-56
(JESUS HEALS THE WOMAN & RAISES JAIRUS' DAUGHTER)

TONE 4 ☩ MATINS GOSPEL 10

Deb Sedares at dsedares@pinehills.com, 508-509-6678

ANOTHER ELECTRONICS/WHITE GOODS, ETC. RECYCLING day is set for **Saturday, November 11th.** If you're able and willing to help, please speak with **Gerry Belba.**

THE FEASTDAY RAFFLE TICKETS are in the mail. We'll also be distributing more tickets for our parishioners to sell directly. See **George Demake** for tickets and ways to help: gdemake@charter.net or 774-535-2821.

OUR ANNUAL HOLIDAY BAKE SALE, LUNCHEON AND MARKETPLACE is coming up on November 18th. Check out the detailed announcements below!

THANKS TO THE BAKERS!

There have been so many stalwart people who have been baking over the past months. **God bless them!** We're com-

ing up to our busiest season for all of our baked goods, including our Bake Sale/Marketplace coming up in three weeks. **Lots more help will be needed.** Please consider how you can help out. **Questions?** talk to **Chris Toda, 508-832-6271.** Also, let her know if you'll be coming. **Remember: There's a job for everyone!**

MANY THANKS TO MAILING VOLUNTEERS! We've been sending out a number of large mailings for our fall events. A loyal team has lent their talents and time to help make the work lighter. **God bless them!**

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Sat, Nov 4 Staff Orthodox Food Pantry, 9am-noon
- Fri, Nov 10 Teen IOCC Hurricane Project, 6:30 pm
- Sat, Nov 11 e-Recycling, 9am-2pm
- Tues, Nov 14 Christmas Fast begins
- Sat, Nov 18 Holiday Marketplace, etc.!
- Sat, Dec 2 Staff Orthodox Food Pantry, 9am-noon
- Sun, Dec 3 Feastday Celebration

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A Parish of the Romanian Orthodox Metropolia of the Americas

WE CELEBRATE A MEMORIAL today for the servants of God **Dino and Elizabeth Sotiropoulos**. May their memory be eternal!

TODAY'S COFFEE HOUR is sponsored by the **Sotiropoulos and Cavanaugh families** in memory of Dino and Elizabeth Sotiropoulos.

UP-COMING

OUR ANNUAL FEASTDAY CELEBRATION will be held on **Sunday, December 3rd**. We will again have a catered luncheon, and are **seeking donations to underwrite that cost**. If you have it in your heart to contribute towards that effort, please speak with Fr. Nick or any member of the Parish Council.

COMMUNITY NEWS

STS. ANARGYROI MARLBOROUGH, will be celebrating its Feastday of the Holy Unmercenaries Cosmas and Damian with **Great Vespers on on Tuesday, October 31st** at 7:00 pm and Matins and Divine Liturgy on Wednesday morning starting at 9:00 am. we will have our vesper service for the feast day

ST. MICHAEL SOUTHBRIDGE will be celebrating its **Feastday with Great Vespers on Saturday, November 4th** (6:00 pm), and **Liturgy and a Dinner on Sunday, November 5th**, with **His Eminence Metropolitan Nicolae** celebrating. Please mark your calendars!

HOLY TRINITY NEWS

HOLY TRINITY'S 11TH ANNUAL FOOD AND WINE FEST fundraiser was a great success! Fun, Friends, Fabulous Food and Drink were enjoyed by all!

HOLY TRINITY IS DEDICATED TO NURSING. Did you know that Holy Trinity Nursing and Rehabilitation Center offers more nursing care than many, many other facilities? On average, we provide 3.5 hours of nursing care to each resident per day. This allows us to respond more quickly to our residents' call lights and bed and chair alarms, as well as, assist them with other needs. **Read Holy Trinity Administrator Jerry Shaffe's message** on patient safety at In The News on www.htnr.net/in-the-news.html.

REMEMBER: Holy Trinity Nursing and Rehabilitation Center is an Orthodox Charity and relies on your donations to continue its mission of providing the best care possible.



A PRAYER OF FR. LAURENCE

LET US PRAY TO THE LORD,

LORD, whose all-seeing eye beholds all that is: Our society is so blind that we do not see the myriad of evils with which we live. We beseech you: Give us, who have dedicated ourselves to you, the wisdom and strength to resist these influences. Let us stand up for those who have no one to take their part. Let us refuse to engage in half-truths, prejudices, and illusions. And let us reject cynical, callous, and cruel ways of conducting ourselves.

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

NAMEDAYS

October 20

The Great-martyr Artemius of Antioch

Artemie Gavala
Artemis Gouvelis

October 26

The Holy Great-martyr Dimitrios of Thessalonika

Rev. Fr. Dimitri Moraitis
Dimitri Soterios Apostola
Dhimitra Belica
Dimitri Daniel Christo
James L. Christo
James Demake
Dhimitri Disho
Dimitraq Lolo
Dimitraqi Lolo
Dimitri Michael Saffron
James Seferi
James Evan Stamoulis
James Trakadas
James Vlamis

GIVING TO EACH WHAT IS NEEDED FOR SALVATION

THE GOSPEL LESSON THIS WEEK is from St. Luke (8:41-56). He tells us of two miracles that while separate and distinct have an inner spiritual unity. They complement one another.

The story opens with the leader of a local synagogue, Jairus, coming to meet Jesus. Falling at His feet, he begs Jesus to come to his house because his twelve year old daughter was dying (v. 41-42). St. Matthew adds that he asked Jesus to “come and lay your hand on her, and she will live” (Matthew 9:18). This is an important detail.

At the same time, amidst the stifling thrust of the crowd, a woman who had been suffering for twelve years from constant hemorrhaging came up and touched the fringe of his garment (v. 43-44). According to ancient sources this woman was very wealthy. The Gospels say that she had spent a great deal of money on physicians who could not cure her. Her final hope was in Jesus whom she knew little about.

Jesus stops and asks: “Who touched me?” Peter and the other disciples respond by saying that the crowd is pressing on all sides, suggesting that He feels that push, not a deliberate contact. Jesus insists, because he noticed that power had gone out of him (v. 45-46). Then, the woman, embarrassed by her illness, falls down before Him trembling and admits in front of everyone why she had touched Him and how she had been healed. The Lord tells her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace” (v. 48).

Meanwhile, someone arrived from Jairus’ house to tell him not to bother imploring the Lord, because his daughter had died. When Jesus heard this He turned to him and said, “Do not fear. Only believe and she will be saved” (v. 50). When they got to the house Jesus would not allow anyone to enter with



him except for Peter, John and James (the same three disciples who would be present at the Transfiguration) as well as the girl’s mother and father. As you might imagine, the house was filled with weeping and wailing, but Jesus told them all to stop because she was not dead, but sleeping. The mourners laughed in response. Suffering the unbearable pain of their loss, and knowing the finality of death, that claim seemed ridiculous. Paying no attention to them, He went to the place where she lay, took her hand and said: “Child, get up!” (v. 54) Her spirit returned to her. Then He told her parents to get her something to eat.

Now, let’s look at how the two incidences complement one another. Jairus comes to Jesus with a weak faith, but mostly out of desperation. He asks Jesus to not only come to his house but to lay His hand on his daughter. (Remember how in the Gospel lesson (Matthew 8:5-13) we heard just a few weeks ago, the Centurion asks Jesus to heal his servant only with His word!) It was while Jairus was asking for Jesus’ help, that the woman with the hemorrhage secretly

touches Jesus in order to be healed.

Jesus, by His question, forces the woman to reveal herself. There are a number of reasons for this. First, Jairus needed his faith strengthened. Remember, Jesus says to him, “Only believe, and she will be saved.” Moreover, Jairus needed a physical sign; he wanted Jesus to come and touch his daughter. Jesus shows how the silent and hidden faith of this woman effected her healing.

The woman needed something else. She touched Jesus surreptitiously, out of shame. He asks her to publicly acknowledge her healing not simply to strengthen the faith of Jairus, but also to comfort her tortured soul. If she had received her healing and gone home silently, would not she have felt as though she had “stolen” God’s grace? Jesus comforts her by prodding her to acknowledge the healing and then telling her that it was her faith that made her well.

Unlike the woman, Jairus, made a public display of his grief and requested a physical sign of Jesus’ power. However, Jesus’ intent is for salvation as well as healing. He makes the secret request public, and the public display secret. He forces the woman to tell all of her healing. He tells Jairus and his wife to tell no one of the raising of their daughter.

What can we learn from this? Even when we are desperate, embarrassed, and ashamed, we can come to the Lord with our pain and He will heal us. Even when we have so little faith that we need outward signs of God’s presence, He will come to us, visit us, lay His hand on us and raise us from the dead. God meets us on our own level, but He urges us upward, inviting us to meet Him on His.

FR. NICHOLAS APOSTOLA



HOLIDAY BAKE SALE, LUNCHEON & MARKETPLACE

Saturday, November 18
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. People will be there setting up all day Thursday (Nov. 16) and Friday (Nov. 17).
- **We also need volunteers to help on Friday, Nov 17 with set up and packaging of items for sale** and with staffing on Saturday, Nov 18. If you have questions please contact: Chris Toda (thetodas@msn.com) or Betty Anderson (bettya16@verizon.net).
- **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** with pitas and pastries here at the Church and also with packaging pastries — For specifics, see **Chris Toda** (thetodas@msn.com) and **Betty Anderson** (Bettya16@verizon.net).
- **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 5th**, for pick-up Sat/Sun November 18 & 19.
- **Christmas Orders** must be in by **December 3rd**, for pick-up Sat/Sun December 16 & 17. 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 fliers** 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 have a record number of Vendors this year that will greatly enhance this event.

GIFT BASKET RAFFLE:

- **Gift-Basket Raffle: As part of our Holiday Marketplace** we will again hold a gift basket raffle. If you have a creative flair, put together a gift basket based on a favorite theme! We are also seeking donations of **NEW** items to be assembled into gift baskets or cash donations are always welcome, but **all donations are needed by November 5th** because baskets must be assembled in advance. **Questions?** contact **Tim Rucho** (tjruch@verizon.net)