

ST. NICHOLAS WEEKLY BULLETIN SEPTEMBER 23, 2018

THIS WEEK'S NEWS

ST NICHOLAS CHURCH SCHOOL and our Youth are a central part of our parish. We need you! If you are interested in teaching or assisting with Church School this year and/or working with the Youth of our parish on activities and programs geared to them, please see **Valarie Stamoulis**. The first day of Church School is **Sunday, October 7th. Every child is welcomed!** **PARENTS:** please complete the **REGISTRATION FORM** found at the candle stand. If you would like more information, speak with Valarie. Providing vibrant and meaningful opportunities for our Youth to learn about their Orthodox Faith and traditions, and work and play together is key to ensuring that our Orthodox Faith and the community of St. Nicholas remains vital for generations to come.

PITA BAKING. This **Thursday, September 27th, 9:00 am until noon.** **Questions? Chris Toda.** Remember: There's a job for everyone! Tell **Chris or Betty** if you're able to come and help.

THE PASTRY CONCESSION AT "START ON THE STREET" was a real success. Our parish realized about \$700. And just as importantly, we

GREETERS TEAM 4:

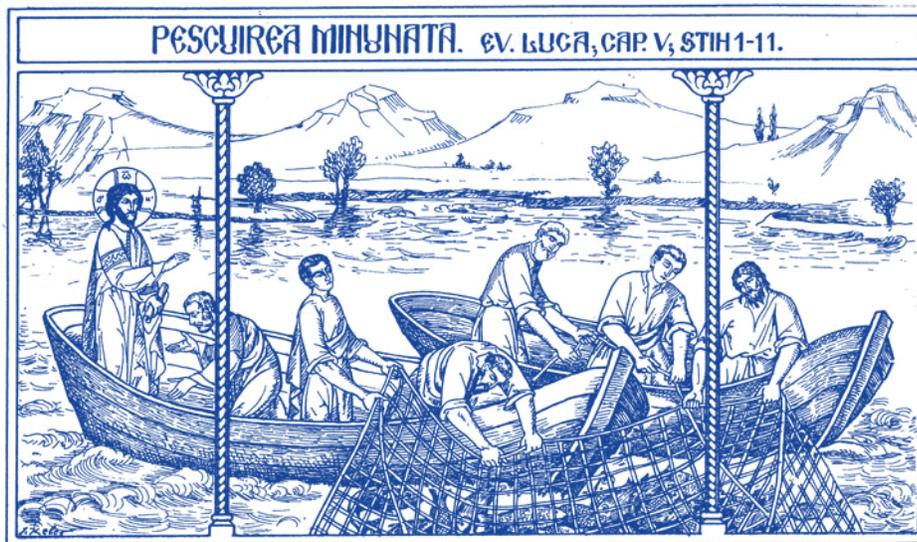
DIMITRI SAFFRON AND SEAN FAHEY

COFFEE HOUR CLEAN-UP:

HELP NEEDED

PICK UP A CUP - LEND A HAND

ALL ALTAR SERVERS INVITED



THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

APOSTOLIC READING: 2 CORINTHIANS 9:6-11 ☩ GOSPEL: LUKE 5:1-11

(THE MIRACULOUS CATCH)

TONE 8 ☩ MATINS GOSPEL: 6

raised interest in our many baked goods for the upcoming holiday season.

COFFEE HOUR SPONSORS are needed in the coming weeks. If you and your family would like to sponsor one, please check the Calendar and speak with Presvytera Maria.

TODAY'S COFFEE HOUR is sponsored by **Janice Samara**.

COMING-UP

CALLING ALL VENDORS!!! A HOLIDAY MARKET PLACE will once again be a part of our annual **Thanksgiving Bake Sale and Luncheon on Saturday, November 17th.** We are seeking Vendors to rent table space. We would like to include a variety of vendors and ensure there is no duplication of products or services. If you or a vendor you know is interested in participating, please contact: **Tim Rucho**.

HOLY TRINITY NEWS

HOLY TRINITY HAS A NUMBER OF JOB OPPORTUNITIES:

- **Director of Rehabilitation Services** (Full Time – Salary). Assumes responsibility for managing Respiratory Therapy, (per facility policy). Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy and Speech Therapy services.
- **Director of Dietary Services** (Full Time – Salary). The Dietary Food Service Director has the responsibility for leading the dietary service team members toward customer satisfaction with our Resident Centered Fine Dining experience. The essential functions and key tasks include planning, organizing,

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Thurs, Sept 27 Pita Baking, 9:00 am-noon
- Sat, Oct 6 Staff Orthodox Food Pantry, 9am-noon
- Sun, Oct 7 Religious Ed Classes begin
- Fri, Oct 19 Mustard Seed Meal, 5:00 pm

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 Metropolia of the Americas

developing, and directing the overall operation of the Dietary Department. Directs the preparation and serving of regular and therapeutic meals. Catering experience and a Mediterranean cooking background is beneficial.

• **LSW - Licensed Social Worker** (Part Time 26hrs). Assists the Director of Social Services. Reviews and monitors the Social Services provided in the facility, provide advice, and consultations regarding the personal, social, emotional, financial and environmental issues affecting the residents of the facility.

• **RN, LPN, and C.N.A.s** are always encouraged to apply.

— **To apply** please complete an application for employment at our facility located at 300 Barber Ave., Worcester, MA 01606 or fax to: **Michele Williamson**, Director of Human Resources 508-854-1622. Applications are available on our website www.htnr.net

DIVINE LITURGY is celebrated every Wednesday morning at 9:30am. And please always keep Holy Trinity Nursing Home, it's staff, directors, residents, and families in your prayers. And remember: you can always visit!

NEVER FORGET: 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.



Thanks to the Bakers!

Usually, when we send out a "thank you" to the people who work very hard producing all of the baked goods we sell, it's a general, "to all those who helped with the baking." But every once in a while it's important to thank them by name. So here they are. Give each one a personal "thank you" when you see them.

Ken Anderson
 Ted Belba
 Lillian Chachi
 Katina Cocavessis
 Maria Dumitriu
 Eileen Favata
 Phil Favata
 Mary Feeney
 Michael George
 Bessie Kyros
 Margarite Landry
 Vasia Lolo
 Lisa Mielnicki
 Maria Mossaides
 Sandra Nedelescu
 Florence Rucho
 Tim Rucho
 Janice Samara
 Deb Sedares
 Eleanor Sedares
 Carol Soter
 Maclynn Trojan
 Natasha Zhaka

And especially our baking superheros:

Chris Toda
 Betty Anderson

NAMEDAYS

September 14

The Exaltation of the Precious and Lifegiving Cross

Stavri Tanacea

September 17

The Holy Martyr Sophia of Rome

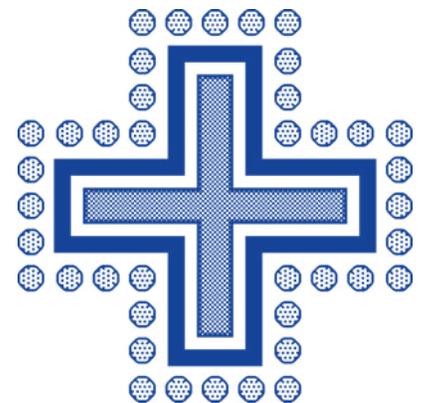
Sofia Apostol

Sophia Amyra Apostola

Carol Fotos

The Holy Martyr Faith, Daughter of St. Sophia

Faith Mayer



A PRAYER OF FR. LAURENCE

LET US PRAY TO THE LORD,

ETERNAL FATHER: Keep our minds from souring and our feelings from growing hard and callous. Let us hold on to compassion and tenderness, to empathy and understanding. Prevent us from becoming cynics because of all the evils we see around us. Let not our own lives be a sham, a great deception; but rather, make us authentic human beings who truly seek to be like you, as your only Son taught us.

By the grace and mercies and love for us of your only Son, this same Lord, Jesus Christ, with whom you are blest, together with your all-holy, good, and life-giving Spirit: now and forever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

DEPART FROM ME FOR I AM A SINFUL MAN

THIS Sunday we begin reading passages from the Gospel according to St. Luke. After the Feast of the Cross, up until Christmas, Scripture selections for Sundays and weekday services are taken from the Gospel of Luke. Just as we began the Gospel of St. Matthew with the call of the disciples (Matthew 4:18-22), so the Holy Fathers who fashioned the Gospel lectionary decided that the first Sunday of St. Luke should also be his account of the disciples' call (Luke 5:1-11). It is a subtle way of telling us that being called is the first "mark" of being a Christian. We are, each of us in our own way, "called" by God. It is our challenge to discern this call, to discover what God wants for and from us.

In Luke's account Jesus has already begun his ministry. He has preached. He has cast out unclean spirits. He has even healed Peter's mother-in-law. There are many signs that precede this encounter by the Sea of Galilee, but now something will be different. He is going to call his disciples, and especially Peter, in a very special way.

St. Luke tells us that a crowd was following Jesus when he was at the Lake of Gennesaret (the Sea of Galilee). He saw two boats there, one of which belonged to Simon (who later would be given the name Peter) (v. 2). Jesus entered the boat and asked him to put out from shore just a little. This was so that he could address the crowd from the boat, since the boat on the water would act like an amphitheater, enabling everyone to hear him.

When he had finished speaking, Jesus asked Simon to put out even farther from the shore and let down the nets in deeper waters. Simon said: "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets" (v. 5). When they

had done so, they caught so many fish that the nets began to break and they had to call to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. Both boats were filled almost to the point of sinking.

Simon Peter's reaction is to immediately recognize the power of God in Jesus. He falls to his knees and says: "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" (v. 8) Notice the difference in how Simon Peter changes the way he addresses Jesus. When Jesus asked him to put out into the deep, Simon calls him "Master" reflecting the respect he had for him, as a teacher or prophet. When he sees the catch of fish he calls him "Lord," in recognition of God at work in Jesus. He asks Jesus to go away from him, for being aware of his own sinfulness, he shrinks back in fear. He knew that for a sinner to be in the presence of God or His angels meant death.

Jesus understood Simon's anxiety and calms him saying: "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people [a fisher of men]." These are also life-altering words for Peter. His life will never be the same. From the original Greek it is clear that the Lord is speaking to Peter directly. St. Luke brings this account of the disciple's call to a close by telling us how they responded. "When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him" (v. 11). This powerful imagery of simple fishermen, now

charged to gather all peoples into their nets, is a central theme in the writings of our Church. As the Troparion for the Feast of Pentecost states, "You made wise men, out of poor fishermen ... and through them you caught all the world."

God calls us from the place that we are, to a life beyond what we can imagine. Simon and his companions clearly knew Jesus before that day at the Lake of Gennesaret. What they didn't know was what Jesus had in store for them. Jesus called them from the simple life they knew, to one in which they would change the whole world. May each one of us strive to hear that call for our own lives, and have the courage to respond.

FR. NICHOLAS APOSTOLA

