

ST. NICHOLAS WEEKLY BULLETIN OCTOBER 7, 2018

THIS WEEK'S NEWS

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR OUR YOUTH will begin **THIS Sunday, October 7th**. We will have an opening prayer at the end of Divine Liturgy. **Every child is welcomed!** If you have questions, please contact Valarie Stamoulis (617-803-3798).

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHIES to the family of **Vasilika Lolo** who fell asleep in the Lord this past Tuesday, October 2nd. **We pray that our good and loving Lord will rest her soul among the righteous.**

PITA BAKING. This **Thursday, October 11th, 9:00am until noon.** **Questions? Chris Toda.** Remember: There's a job for everyone! Tell **Chris or Betty** if you're able to come and help.

CONGRATULATIONS to **Dimitri Safron and Maclynn Trojan!** The happy couple was married on Saturday, September 22nd here at St. Nicholas. **May our Loving Lord grant them many years!**

OUR NEXT MUSTARD SEED MEAL is **Friday, October 19th.** We'll need help cooking and serving. **Prep** help needed (3 persons), noon Thursday. **Prep** help needed (2 persons), 1:00pm Friday.

GREETERS TEAM 1:
V. GERALD BELBA & MARGARITE LANDRY

COFFEE HOUR CLEAN-UP:
HELP NEEDED
PICK UP A CUP - LEND A HAND

ALL ALTAR SERVERS INVITED



THE TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
EPISTLE: GALATIANS 1:11-19 ☩ GOSPEL: LUKE 7:11-16
(RAISING OF THE WIDOW OF NAIN'S SON)
TONE 2 ☩ MATINS GOSPEL: 8

Serving help needed (5 persons), 5:30pm Friday. **This month's meal is being sponsored by Maria Kalpidou and Kosmas Karadimitriou in memory of their parents and grandparents, fallen asleep.** If you'd like to help, please talk to Fr. Nick.

THANKS TO THE FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEERS for working the Orthodox Food Center on behalf of our parish yesterday. Our regular commitment is the first Saturday of the month from 9am to noon. About 4 people are needed. If you can help in this worthwhile ministry, please speak with Lisa Mielnicki or Nicole Apostola. Our next Saturday is November 3rd.

TODAY'S COFFEE HOUR is sponsored by **Maria Dumitriu.**

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

THIS TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9 AT 3:00PM there will be a **Classical Music Concert** by two internationally recognized musicians: Hyun-ji Kwon and Sang Young Kim. Everyone is invited!

ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14TH there is a

DATES TO REMEMBER

Sat, Oct 6 Staff Orthodox Food Pantry, 9am-noon
Sun, Oct 7 Religious Ed Classes begin
Thurs, Oct 11 Pita Baking, 9:00am-noon
Fri, Oct 19 Mustard Seed Meal, 5:00 pm
Sat, Nov 3 Staff Orthodox Food Pantry, 9am-noon

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A Parish of the Romanian Orthodox Metropolia of the Americas

book-signing by one of our residents: Nancy Heck. She has published a collection of poems and reflection. Local cable channel 3 interviewed her. You may view the interview at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=gqJiFQlp-wXc.

WHEN THINKING ABOUT YOUR LOVED-ONE'S CARE, you should make sure that you have a quality team to help you. These should include: your family, the primary caregiver, a social worker, and care facilities that will assist you. The professional staff at Holy Trinity is available to advise and guide you through these decisions.

JOB OPENINGS: There are a number of employment opportunities available at Holy Trinity. For the latest postings, check out: www.htnr.net/careers.

DID YOU KNOW THAT: Although some of the variations in older people's health reflect their genetic inheritance, most are due to their physical and social environments, and the influence of these environments on their opportunities and health behavior.

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.

COMMUNITY NEWS

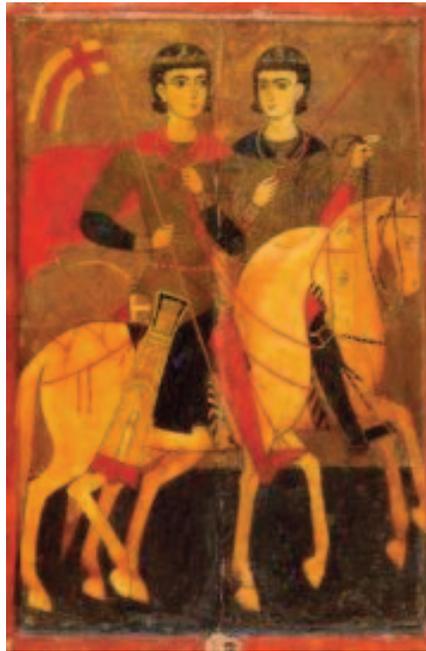
NOTRE DAME ACADEMY is holding an open house on **Sunday, Oct 21st at 7:00 pm** for prospective students (young women grades 7-12). For info: www.nda-worc.org, or call: 508-757-6200 x229.

A PRAYER OF FR. LAURENCE

LET US PRAY TO THE LORD,

LORD, GOD OF INVINCIBLE POWER AND MIGHT: Grace us with discernment, with keen vision and refined perception. But when it comes to judging others, make us blind and disinterested, totally oblivious to all their faults and failings. Let us look, rather, at our own mistakes and refrain from condemning others for what we see as the mistakes they make and the evils they commit.

For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, Father, Son and Holy Spirit: now and forever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.



THE HOLY MARTYRS
SERGIUS AND BACCHUS

OCTOBER 7

These holy Martyrs were Romans of high rank in the service of the Emperor Maximian, to whom it was re-

NAMEDAYS

October 7

The Holy Martyr Sergius in Syria

Sergis Eleftheriou

Sergiou Eleftheriou

October 18

The Holy Apostle and

Evangelist Luke

Fr. Luke Veronis

October 20

The Great-martyr Artemius of Antioch

Artemie Gavala

Artemis Gouvelis

October 26

The Holy Great-martyr Dimitrios of Thessalonika

Dimitri Soterios Apostola

Dhimitra Belica

Dimitri Daniel Christo

James L. Christo

James Demake

Dhimitri Disho

Dimitraqi Lolo

Rev. Fr. Dimitri Moraitis

Dimitri Michael Saffron

James Seferi

James Evan Stamoulis

James Trakadas

James Vlamis

ported that they did not take part in the festivals of the idols. When he called them into his presence, they confessed their Faith in the one God. He had them arrayed in women's clothes and paraded through the streets in mockery. They were afterwards scourged, from which Saint Bacchus died. This was about the year 296. Saint Sergius was then taken to Resapha in Syria, where he was tortured and beheaded. His tomb in Resapha became a very famous shrine, to which pilgrims came from as far away as Western Europe; Resapha was later renamed Sergiopolis in his honour.

THE WIDOW'S SON

THERE is, perhaps, no more heart-wrenching a story in the whole of the New Testament than this week's Gospel lesson, the story of the Widow of Nain's Son (Luke 7:11-17). It is only six verses, yet in this short narrative the Evangelist conveys such depth of human emotion and pain. With these few carefully chosen words St. Luke tells us volumes.

Jesus is traveling to the town of Nain after he had healed the Centurion's servant (Luke 7:1-10). A crowd followed him, and as they entered the gates they encountered a funeral procession. The dead man on the bier was "his mother's only son, and she was a widow" (v. 12). St. Luke also records that "a large crowd from the town" accompanied her in the funeral cortège.

Look at how much information we've been given in this one verse. We learn that the poor woman was a widow. This likely means she has little, if any, source of income. We learn that this was her only son. This means that the focus of her life is now dead and gone. Moreover, if her son is a "young man" (v. 14), this probably means that she has been a widow for some time. If there were other children (daughters), surely St. Luke would have mentioned them. Given her age it is unlikely she will remarry, especially if she had not up until then. And given the fact that she hadn't remarried, one can surmise that her son was likely the center of her life. You can only imagine how she must have doted on the boy.

The young man and his mother must have been well liked in the town, because "a large crowd" was in the funeral procession. Each of those persons also felt and shared the tragedy of the situation. It is not hard to imagine the grief. All of this and more can be inferred from this one Scriptural verse.



Still, we can learn even more from the text. When Jesus sees him he calls him "young man" (v. 15). This meant that he was in his late teens or early twenties. He was just entering manhood. Young, handsome, and strong, did he fancy some young woman? Or, were there young women who fancied him? What plans or hopes did he have for his future? The prime of his life was before him. How can we not, even two thousand years later, be moved by this scene? It is a story we know all too well.

Jesus encountered this entourage. He saw the poor mother and "had compassion for her and said to her, 'Do not weep'" (v. 13). Do you see how compassionate God is? How He shares our pain? Then he goes up to the bier and touches it and says: "Young man, I say to you, rise!" (v. 14) The dead man sat up and began to speak (v. 15) and Jesus gave him to his mother.

It is hard not to see in this event, in this miracle, a prefiguring of the Lord's own death and resurrection. In a short

while, it is the Theotokos who will be the grieving mother, and Jesus the young man. St. Gregory of Nyssa tells us that the Lord is preparing us to understand the Resurrection from the dead, his own and also ours. He prepares us by raising the daughter of Jairus (Luke 8:41) and now raising this widow's son — who, unlike Jairus' daughter, had been dead for some time and was on his way to the grave. And only days before his own death, Jesus will raise his friend Lazarus, himself four days dead (John 11:1-44).

Jesus rescues this widow's son, like he did the daughter of Jairus, like he did Lazarus, in order to give us hope. Each of them would die again, to await the Resurrection we all have been promised. As for us, we live our lives by faith (cf. Galatians 2:20). We trust in the Son of man, the Son of God, who showed his compassion on the poor widow of Nain. And because of this we know he will be compassionate with us as well.

FR. NICHOLAS APOSTOLA