

# ST. NICHOLAS WEEKLY BULLETIN OCTOBER 28, 2018

## THIS WEEK'S NEWS

**HOLIDAY BAKING ORDERS** need to be placed in the next weeks! In order for us to properly fill all of your **Thanksgiving orders these should be in by next Sunday, November 4th.** Questions? see **Betty Anderson or Chris Toda.**

**OUR HOLIDAY BAKE SALE, LUNCHEON & MARKETPLACE** is coming up! Please check the list of announcements on the last page. Especially review the one regarding the **Gift Basket Raffle, that has a deadline today.**

**STS. ANARGYROI MARLBOROUGH,** will be celebrating its Feastday of the Holy Unmercenaries Cosmas and Damian with **Great Vespers on Wednesday, October 31st at 7:00 PM** and Matins and Divine Liturgy on Thursday morning starting at 9:00 AM.

**THANKS TO THE MUSTARD SEED VOLUNTEERS!** Those who cooked and those who served the meal this past Friday! The Mustard Seed is a Catholic Worker home providing dinner to about 150 people in need each day. Our next scheduled meal is **December 21st.** Contact Fr. Nick if you'd like to help prepare the meals or underwrite the costs.

### GREETERS TEAM 4:

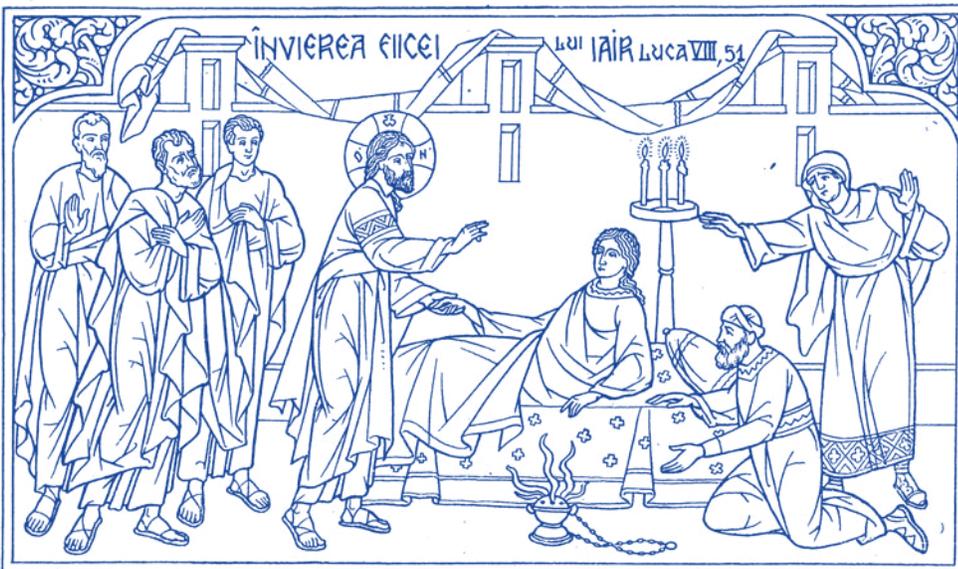
DIMITRI SAFFRON AND SEAN FAHEY

### COFFEE HOUR CLEAN-UP:

HELP NEEDED

PICK UP A CUP - LEND A HAND

ALL ALTAR SERVERS INVITED



## THE TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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

TONE 5 ☩ MATINS GOSPEL 11

The July-September issue of the Archdiocesan quarterly **CREDINȚA / THE FAITH** is available at the candles. **Pick one up and take it home!**

**AN ANTHOLOGY** of Metropolitan Nicolae's Pastoral Letters and other writings has been published by the Archdiocese celebrating the Fifteenth Anniversary of His Eminence's Archpastorate. Entitled: **On the Path of Salvation with Christ, from the Nativity to the Resurrection**, it is available at the candles for a donation of \$10.00.

**TODAY'S COFFEE HOUR** is sponsored by **Bill & Katina Cocavesis.**

## HOLY TRINITY NEWS

**A RECENT SHORT-TERM RESIDENT** wrote us to say: "I chose Holy Trinity because they all care about the patients here. We all get good care; if you need anything they are

there when you need them. I came here because the care for me is excellent and when I need to talk to someone, they are always there for me and other patients. Stay as sweet as you are. You make me feel very safe here! I would tell all my friends and loved ones to come here!"

### COME AND JOIN THE FUN AT HOLY TRINITY!

♦ On **Wednesday, October 31st**, at 2:00PM there will be a Halloween Party in the Main Dining Room. Music will be provided by Joe Cariglia. Feel free to come to the event!

**JOB OPENINGS:** There are a number of employment opportunities available at

## DATES TO REMEMBER

- Sat, Nov 3 Staff Orthodox Food Pantry, 9 AM-NOON
- Wed, Nov 14 Christmas Fast begins
- Sat, Nov 17 Holiday Bake Sale, Luncheon, and Marketplace, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
- Sun, Dec 9 Feastday Celebration

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A Parish of the Romanian Orthodox Metropolia of the Americas

Holy Trinity. For the latest postings, check out: [www.htnr.net/careers](http://www.htnr.net/careers).

**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!



THE HOLY GREAT-MARTYR  
DIMITRIOS  
(October 26)

Saint Demetrius was a Thessalonian, a most pious son of pious and noble parents, and a teacher of the Faith of Christ. When Maximian first came to Thessalonica in 290, he raised the Saint to the rank of Duke of Thessaly. But when it was discovered that the Saint was a Christian, he was arrested and kept bound in a bath-house. While the games were under way in the city, Maximian was a spectator there. A certain friend of his, a barbarian who was a notable wrestler, Lyaeus by name, waxing haughty because of the height and strength of his body, boasted in the stadium and challenged the citizens to a contest with him. All that fought with him were defeated. Seeing this, a certain youth named Nestor, acquaintance of Demetrius, came to the Saint in the bath-house and asked his blessing to fight Lyaeus single-handed. Receiving this blessing and sealing himself with the sign of the precious Cross, he presented himself in the stadium, and said, "O God of Demetrius, help me!" and

straightway he engaged Lyaeus in combat and smote him with a mortal blow to the heart, leaving the former boaster lifeless upon the earth. Maximian was sorely grieved over this, and when he learned who was the cause of this defeat, he commanded straightway and Demetrius was pierced with lances while he was yet in the bath-house. As for Nestor, Maximian commanded that he be slain with his own sword.



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## NAMEDAYS

### October 20

*The Great-martyr Artemius*  
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  
Dimitraqi Lolo  
Dimitri Michael Saffron  
James Seferi  
James Evan Stamoulis  
James Trakadas  
James Vlamis

### A PRAYER OF FR. LAURENCE

LET US PRAY TO THE LORD,

**L**ORD, 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.

## BREAKING DOWN WALLS THAT DIVIDE

**T**HIS is the twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost. The Epistle Lesson is taken from St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians 2:14-22. In these verses we hear St. Paul explain how the division and tension between Jew and Gentile are healed and reconciled in Christ. Keep in mind, Ephesus, as well as the other early Christian communities, was composed of both Jewish followers of Jesus and pagan converts. Generally, Jews did not associate with Gentiles, if they could possibly avoid it, and certainly not in worship. Here St. Paul describes how the two separate 'peoples' are now become one in and through Christ.

"For he is our peace, who has made us both one, and has broken down the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in his flesh the law of commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby bringing the hostility to an end" (v. 14-16). This first sentence is long and complicated. It contains many important ideas. Let's address each one in turn.

Christ is not only the herald of peace; he is peace itself. He carries in his person the means and power to heal and resolve differences and separation. He was a perfect Jew for the Jews, but also reached out and ministered to those who were not Jews.

He "has broken down the dividing wall of hostility." St. Paul meant for his readers to understand this 'dividing wall' in two ways. The first was spiritually; the ways in which Jews and Gentiles were separated one from the other in faith and lifestyle. The other was in a very physical sense, an actual wall.

Josephus, a first century Jewish historian, tells us that there was in the Jerusalem Temple a stone wall of three cubits high (five feet), separating the inner court from the outer. On this wall

were signs prohibiting any non-Jew from going any farther, on pain of death. It was like the Berlin wall, an actual wall, but with deeper symbolic meaning. One of the reasons the crowd in Jerusalem wanted to kill Paul (cf. Acts 21:28-31) was that they thought he had brought Trophimus, an Ephesian Gentile, into the Temple to defile it. Like the dividing wall, the hostility it represented was very real. The wall was a symbol for the way in which the Jews understood themselves: as God's people, a people separate, apart, and dedicated only to Him.

Having this 'dividing wall of hostility' as background, we can truly hear the depth of St. Paul's proclamation that Jesus "came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father" (v. 17-18). The Gentiles were 'far off' not just in distance, but more importantly in faith. They worshiped pagan gods and often lived immorally. Perhaps the Jews were 'nearer,' but because of their inability to fulfill the Law they were also distanced from God.

In the person of Jesus Christ both Jew and Gentile are united as one people. It is not that the Gentile now becomes a Jew, but rather both are transformed into a new creation. The Holy Spirit who rests on the Son now rests on us as well. Both become sons and daughters of our Heavenly Father through the spirit of adoption. We become heirs with Christ. (cf. Romans 8:14-17) We have 'access' to the Father the same way any child is able to approach their parents.

We are accustomed to referring to God as our Father, so it might be difficult to fully appreciate how radical these words sounded to St. Paul's listeners. God was not thought of in familial terms. Gods generally were to be feared and placated. It was our Lord Jesus him-

self who taught his disciples to address God as "Abba" — "Daddy;" that we could approach God with love and trust. He allows us to address Him in the most affectionate and loving way. This is Good News! If we understand and trust God's Word, it will transform our lives.

We are "no longer strangers and sojourners, but ... fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God" (v. 19). We no longer have to feel lost and alone. We no longer have to feel displaced and abandoned. We have a true family, an eternal home, with the saints. We are members of God's household.

Look at the image St. Paul paints for us. We are not only members of the household of God, we are also His Temple. This household and temple are "built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord" (v. 20-21). His words echo St. Peter who calls us to be "like living stones," allowing ourselves to "be built into a spiritual house" (1 Peter 2:5).

The image given is one of a building, and this can help us understand how all of the pieces — the building blocks — need to fit together for the structure to stand. However, it is not a physical building that is being talked about, nor is it stone and brick that are to be the materials. It is we together with all the saints from all eternity that are the pieces for this structure that God is building. We are asked to become part of this project, to be "built into it for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit" (v. 22).

The Church, the place where God dwells, is not made of bricks and mortar. It is made of us, brothers and sisters of one Father.

FR. NICHOLAS APOSTOLA



## *HOLIDAY BAKE SALE, LUNCHEON & MARKETPLACE*

**Saturday, November 17**  
**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 by Thursday November 15th. People will be there all day Thursday.
- **We also need volunteers to help on Thursday, November 15 with set up and packaging of items for sale,** and with staffing on Saturday, Nov 17. 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 4th**, for pick-up Sat/Sun November 17 & 18.
- **Christmas Orders** must be in by **December 2nd**, for pick-up Sat/Sun December 15 & 16. 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:**

- **A GIFT BASKET RAFFLE** will be part of our **Holiday Bake Sale & Luncheon on November 17th.** We are asking for donations of new items all centered on a theme to be assembled into gift baskets. Cash donations are also welcomed. We want to give parishioners the opportunity to purchase raffle tickets prior to the event so **all items/donations must be received by October 28th.** **Questions?** e-mail: [tjruch@gmail.com](mailto:tjruch@gmail.com)