

St. Mary's Orthodox Church
217 First Street – Coaldale Pa 18218-1602
Phone.....570-645-2772

OUR WEBSITE...www.stmarysnativity.org

Rector: V. Rev. James Weremedic
Retired Attached: V. Rev Paul Ropitsky
Choir Director: Wash King

Sunday, July 18, 2021
4th Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Fathers of the First Six Ecumenical Councils

Glory Be to Jesus Christ!

Glory Be Forever!

Sunday, July 18	9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy
Sunday, July 25	9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy
Sunday, August 1	9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy (Procession of the Holy Cross) Start of Dormition Lent!
Friday, August 6	9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy (Transfiguration of our Lord)
Sunday, August 8	9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy
Sunday, August 15	9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy (Dormition of the Theotokos)

Candles (July 18)

7-Day Vigils/Altar: For the Health of Matushka Lovey Ropitsky offered by Vera Timko
Altar Candles: In memory of Lillian Yelsh offered by William Yelsh
Eternal Lamp: In memory of Mary & Andrew Yelsh offered by William Yelsh
Vigil Crosses: For the Health of Matushka Lisa Weremedic offered by Vera Timko
7-Day Vigils/Tetrapod: For the Health of Teddy Bogosh III offered by Ted Bogosh
Decorated Candles/Tetrapod: In memory of Ronald Yurchak, Sr. offered by Marie Yurchak

If anyone is in need of a priest, please call Father James Weremedic at 570-645-2772.
Visitation of the Sick and Infirm: If you are going into the hospital for any reason, please inform Fr. James at the Rectory. Emergency Calls: Please call the Rectory (570-645-2772) anytime (day or night) in an emergency.

CONFESSION

Confessions have resumed with minor modifications.

Please call the rectory at 570-645-2772 and talk to Father James for a reservation. Call between 9:30 AM and 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday. Individual schedule times will be spread out during the week. Husband and wife can be scheduled together. Anyone wanting to have a confession, but has concerns of COVID-19, should contact Father James to make the appropriate accommodations.

4th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Fathers of the 1st Six Ecumenical Councils.
Martyr Emilian of Silistria in Bulgaria. Martyr Hyacinth of Amastridea. Ven. John the Long-suffering of the Kiev Caves. Ven. Pambo, Recluse, of the Kiev Caves. Ven. Pambo, Hermit, of Egypt. Monastic Martyrs Grand Duchess Elizabeth and Barbara (1918).

Troparion — Tone 8

You are most glorious, O Christ our God, / You have established the Fathers as lights upon the earth, / and through them, You have guided all of us to the true Faith! / O greatly compassionate one, glory to You.

Kontakion — Tone 8

The preaching of the Apostles and the dogmas of the Fathers sealed the one Faith of the Church; / and clad in the garment of truth woven of theology from on high, / it teaches aright and glorifies the great mystery of piety.

Prayer List:

Matushka Lovey Ropitsky, Matushka Lisa Weremedic,
Andrew Balliet, Michael Birosik, Clark Bogosh, Theodore Bogosh, Emmalyn Buchanan, Evanna Buchanan, Stephanie Chmel, Raymond Danchak, Ilene Devine, Julia Forte, John King, Michael Kulick, John Kushnir, Olga Kushnir, Nancy Lorchak, MaryAnn Macenka, Mary Maholick, Mildred O'Shura, Anna Pisko, Olga Sidoriak, Martha Stafiniak, Martha Teno, Michael Teno, Elizabeth Warcholak, Russell Wishousky, Russell Yallas, & Marie Yurchak.

July Birthdays: 2- Mary Taylor, 11- Geri Vavra, 15- Sami Vavra, 17- Althea Shellock, 20- John Evetushick, 22- Michael Ropitsky.

July Wedding Anniversaries: 9- David & Chris King, 16- Dorothy & Joseph Macenka, 18- John & Dorothy King

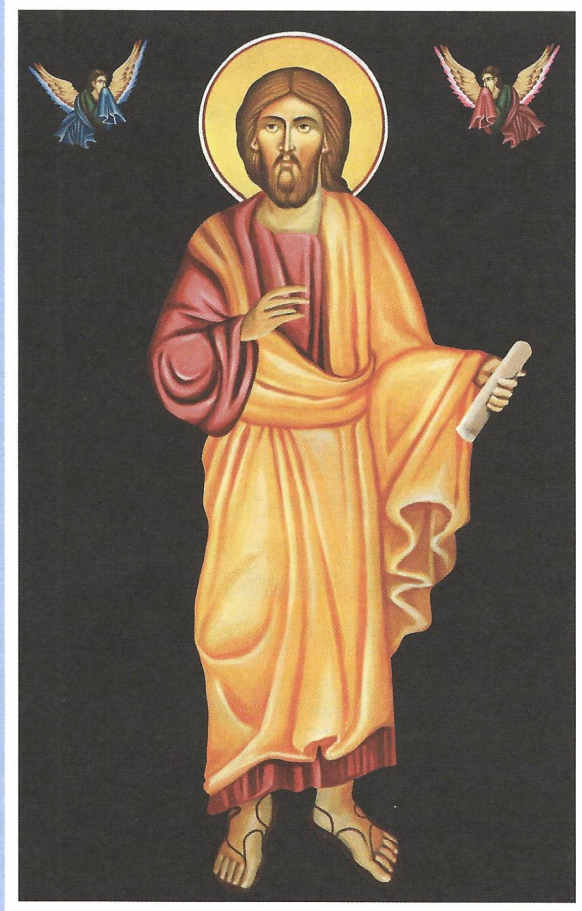
Financials 7/11/21: *Operating Acct:* Candles 48 - Altar Candles 20 - Offerings 839 – Non-Envelope 150 - Holy Days 24 = Total \$1,081.00. – Building Fund 21, Charity Fund 5.

Please continue to keep filling your church envelopes. Thank you!

Please use Amazon Smile when ordering from Amazon. When you shop for gifts or merchandise at smile.amazon.com, Amazon Smile will donate a portion of your eligible purchases to St. Mary's Orthodox Church at no cost to you!

If you have any Redner receipts, please call or get them to Helen King. Please use your Boyer's card when shopping at Boyers; if you need one call Helen King.

HE IS A COUNSELOR



Prophets throughout the ages have foreseen many things. The ancient Prophet Isaiah announced the birth of Jesus centuries before the actual event. As written in Isaiah 9:6, he also revealed the many NAMES our Lord would be referred to as: The Prince of Peace, Everlasting Father, The Mighty God and also as Counselor. Today, we explore the many ways Christ qualifies as our BEST COUNSELOR.

To begin, Christ became AVAILABLE. This speaks to His wisdom. We all find it worthless when knowledge is either not available or not applicable to real life. Our Lord came down from Heaven in the shape of a man. Jesus walked amongst us,



experiencing exactly what you and I go through on a daily basis. He was accessible to all: rich and poor, children and adults, and especially to sinners in need of His help.

Christ came to us with ANSWERS. During his childhood, He sat in the temple in the midst of Church teachers. As stated in Luke 2:46, Jesus both listened and answered questions. After cleansing the temple of money-changers (John 2:18-19), He was asked by His critics, "What sign do you show us . . ." He answered "Destroy this temple and in 3 days I will raise it up", foreshadowing His death and resurrection. Christ answered questions on the promise of Heaven (John 14:1-6) and the perils of Hell (Luke 16:19-31).

Our Counselor came with ASSURANCES, especially for the hopeless sinner. Jesus brought a message of love, as witnessed by many; among them the Samaritan woman, the tax-collector Zacchaeus and finally the dying thief on the cross. He brought a message of hope to those who had no hope.

How refreshing it is to celebrate our Saviour today. His answers are relevant to every need of every age. Bring your burdens to Him. Christ, the Counselor, will guide you through them all.



Silent Prayer before reading the Holy Scripture:

Illumine our hearts, O Master Who lovest mankind, with the pure light of Thy divine knowledge. Open the eyes of our mind to the understanding of Thy gospel teachings. Implant also in us the fear of Thy blessed commandments, that trampling down all carnal desires, we may enter upon a spiritual manner of living, both thinking and doing such things as are well-pleasing unto Thee. For Thou art the illumination of our souls and bodies, O Christ our God, and unto Thee we ascribe glory, together with Thy Father, Who is from everlasting, and Thine all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen

Romans 6:18-23 (Epistle)

And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness. I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves of righteousness for holiness.

For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. What fruit did you have then in the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life.

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Hebrews 13:7-16 (Epistle, Fathers)

Remember those who rule over you, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Do not be carried about with various and strange doctrines. For it is good that the heart be established by grace, not with foods which have not profited those who have been occupied with them. We have an altar from which those who serve the tabernacle have no right to eat.

For the bodies of those animals, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin, are burned outside the camp. Therefore, Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people with His own blood, suffered outside the gate. Therefore, let us go forth to Him, outside the camp, bearing His reproach. For here we have no continuing city, but we seek the one to come.

Therefore, by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name. But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

Matthew 8:5-13 (Gospel)

Now when Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to Him, pleading with Him, saying, "Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, dreadfully tormented." And Jesus said to him, "I will come and heal him."

The centurion answered and said, "Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof. But only speak a word, and my servant will be healed.

For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."

When Jesus heard it, He marveled, and said to those who followed, "Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel! And I say to you that many will come from east and west, and sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven. But the sons of the kingdom will be cast out into outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." Then Jesus said to the centurion, "Go your way; and as you have believed, so let it be done for you." And his servant was healed that same hour.

John 17:1-13 (Gospel, Fathers)

Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: "Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him. And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.

I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do. And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.

I have manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me out of the world. They were Yours, You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word. Now they have known that all things which You have given Me are from You. For I have given to them the words which You have given Me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came forth from You; and they have believed that You sent Me.

I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours. And all Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine, and I am glorified in them. Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as We are. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in Your name. Those whom You gave Me I have kept; and none of them is lost except the son of perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. But now I come to You, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves.

Time Management: an Orthodox Perspective, By Albert Rossi, PhD and Julia Wickes, MA

Parish Ministry Resources - Time Management: an Orthodox Perspective - Orthodox Church in America (oca.org)

(Final section, continued from last week's insert)

Push pause

To let the Lord work through us means that we give him space, and, of course, time. All too often we act reactively. Our responses often take the form of a stimulus-response reaction. Too many times we want to say, "Yes" to all the requests that come our way, and they all may have great merit. But then, one can get so overloaded and overburdened. However, it is not always easy to discern to what we should say "yes" or "no." It does require growing closer to the Lord, to hear His voice and His direction. Often, we do not go in the direction to which He has pointed. However, we take comfort in the knowledge that He is the Great "GPS". He is always ready to "recalculate" and reroute us.

One handy suggestion is to push pause as often as we can. We can pause between the stimulus and our response, thereby gaining perspective. The pause itself is usually sufficient to break the reactivity cycle. We can become aware of something else going on besides the unconscious reaction. This is a fine opportunity to try to remember that we are in the holy presence of God.

A way to gain more conscious contact with God is to gently and quietly say, "Jesus." His holy Name is an expression of belief, adoration, expectation of salvation and unity with Him and all the members of His body. His name is sacred and is a power He asked us to use. "Hitherto you have asked nothing in my name. Ask and you shall receive, that your joy may be full." (John 16:23) We need to know that when we use His Name we are acknowledging that we are his disciples. We pause and say His Name, as an act of obedience and surrender of the present moment. We can match this with an awareness of our breathing, centering us more inside our body. We can simply say the one word, "Jesus," to transfigure what is in front of us, or in our minds. The name Jesus can be a filter through which our thoughts, words and deeds have to pass to be freed from their impurities. Needless to say, this is severe spiritual warfare. It requires a forgetfulness of the self, a dying to the negative thoughts the ego wants to indulge.

Conclusion

Time manages us because the Lord lives within the time He gives us. So, it is He, through the reality we call measured time, who manages, leads, nourishes and strengthens us. We don't live life. Life lives us.

Time is our friend, not our burden to endure. We need only remember that we are in the holy presence of God. We can pause and say the Name of Jesus, thereby bringing us into His very life within us. While on earth we have an opportunity to "sanctify time."

Dr. Albert Rossi is a clinical psychologist who teaches classes in pastoral theology at St. Vladimir's Seminary. He has a bi-weekly podcast called Becoming a Healing Presence on Ancient Faith Radio. Julia Wickes earned a master's degree from St. Vladimir's Seminary and currently lives in St. Louis, MO.