

THE VEIL

The Monthly Journal Covering The News at St. Mary



APRIL 2012



ROAD TO PASCHA

By Rev. Fr. David G. Subu

A Brief Summary and Explanation of the Holy and Bright Weeks:

Holy Week: The complete week dedicated to the remembering of our Lord's Passion, Crucifixion, Entombment, and glorious and life-giving Resurrection on the Third Day.

- Holy Week begins with **Palm Sunday** with a special liturgy during which we bless palms and pussy-willow branches and our Sunday School children will sing selected hymns of the Liturgy.
- Then the first four nights we serve the beautiful **Bridegroom Matins**, remembering the Lord's last teaching to His apostles in Jerusalem before the Passion. The first three mornings we celebrate the last of the pre-sanctified liturgies for the year, also with readings from the Gospels.
- Wednesday night we also serve **Holy Unction** or Anointing for the healing of soul and body, remembering the sinful woman who came and anointed the feet of Jesus. A shortened version of the service is held in the morning especially for families with small children.
- **Holy Thursday**, we celebrate the Vespertal Liturgy of the Last Supper, the day on which we also prepare the reserve Sacrament for the rest of the year that will be taken to the sick, hospitalized, and homebound. Later that night, we remember the Passion of the Christ through the reading of twelve special Gospels and the

procession with the Cross to the center of the church.



- **Holy Friday** we decorate the tomb of the Lord with flowers during the day, preparing a fitting place for Him to fulfill the ultimate Sabbath day of rest. In the evening we remember His entombment at the Vespers service and then at matins we offer Him our Lamentations with the Mother of God, and journey to Hades with Him in the threefold procession around the Church. That night parishioners are invited to take a shift of guarding his tomb and keeping Vigil with psalms and scripture reading.

(Continued on page 2.)

- **Holy Saturday** we celebrate the Vespertal Liturgy of Pascha, the "liturgy of the Angels" during which the purple of the Passion is replaced by the white of the Resurrection. 15 readings from the Old Testament recount the Lord's prophecy of victory over death from Genesis to Daniel. This is an excellent service to attend for those who are unable to attend the late night service.



Bright Week: In ancient times, Orthodox Christians not only kept the entire Holy Week with solemnity, but also celebrated the Lord's resurrection for a week straight by attending services everyday of Bright Week. In the Byzantine Empire the whole week was a holiday for everyone.

- Begin on Pascha afternoon itself with the special Paschal Vespers during which we read the Gospel of Thomas' doubt in as many languages as we have speakers!
- Continue the celebration of Pascha in this day with the Bright services of the Paschal liturgy on Monday and Tuesday, Vespers on Wednesday and Thursday.
- Complete Bright week with a special liturgy on Bright Saturday.

Blessing of Graves: Honor your beloved by your faith in the Resurrection by having their graves blessed with a short memorial service at graveside on or shortly after St. Thomas Sunday. Please speak with Fr. David to set up a time.

Fr. David Subu

In the evening we begin our prayers with the reading from the Acts of the Apostles. Come and take a turn to read a chapter before midnight in complete darkness... and great anticipation!

At Midnight, the Lord's Pascha is proclaimed with the special services that are beyond description and the heart of our Orthodox Liturgical life! The Midnight service begins at 11:30 in the darkened church, ending just before midnight in complete darkness... and great anticipation! At Midnight the Lord's Pascha is proclaimed with the special services that are beyond description and the heart of our Orthodox liturgical life!

Following the very merry and robust service, join us downstairs for the blessing of the Pascha baskets and partake in the Agape meal, breaking the fast with your fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. This is a potluck meal. A sign up sheet will be posted in the parish hall bulletin board as to what to bring ... primarily anything to do with meat, cheese and dairy.

**"The Veil" Monthly Journal
Protection of the Holy Mother of God
Orthodox Church
Romanian Orthodox Episcopate, OCA**

Archbishop NATHANIEL of Detroit, Hierarch
Rev. David G. Subu, Pastor
Protodeacon Peter Danilchick, Parish Deacon
Eugene Huang, Parish Subdeacon
Nicholas Dujmovic, Parish Subdeacon
Christopher Thomas, Parish Council President
Eleni Woglom, Choir Director
Jon Jacobson, Sunday School Principal
7223 Roosevelt Avenue,
Falls Church, Virginia 22042
www.stmaryorthodox.org
Contact: newsletter@stmaryorthodox.org
703-280-0770 (Office) 703-254-8914 (Cell)

Editor-in-Chief: Fr. David Subu, Pastor
Circulation: Lori Jacobson/Ellen Robinson
Layout & Graphics: Psa. Stephanie Subu



PRESIDENT'S PAGE

By Christopher Thomas

In January we gathered in our annual assembly and approved a budget and a new slate for the parish council.

Last year I apologized for not doing a better job of keeping you informed on the churches business activities. In response the council honored and rewarded me with the position of President.

The business of the council is just that, business. We are blessed to have Father David and Father Deacon Peter leading us spiritually. The choir is exceptional and seems to get better every Sunday. The Ladies Guild sponsors fund raising and retreats. The council gets to work on maintenance for our facilities, paying bills, checking on the rental properties. Responding to issues that arise with the rental properties is always challenging. The last thing we want to do when we come to Church is to "business" decisions dealing with our renters. I appreciate the compassion and care each of the council members puts in to our work.

Jon Jacobson accepted the position of Treasurer. Each month he makes sure that the mortgage is paid, lights stay on, the water keeps running, and deposits are made to our bank account.

Lets talk a little on our current financial position. In approving the budget we obligated the members of the parish to donate \$178,000. That comes out to about \$15,000 a month and about \$3,500 each week. At the end of February we had received \$22 thousand in donations, including a single \$7,600 donation from one family. Donations year to date leave us about \$8 thousand below the rate we need to reach our \$178,000 goal.

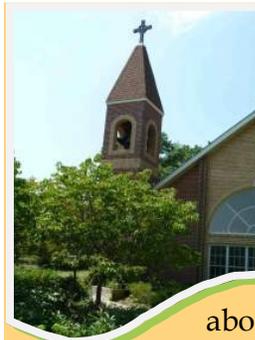
Father Deacon Peter said something at our last Parish Council meeting that made a lot of sense. In my retelling I will not do it justice, but what I heard was that there are many very generous people in our community. When our parents tithed to an organization, their local church was the beneficiary. Today, we have a broad array of choices.

At the retreat we raised about \$2,500 for the new monastery. During the last two Sunday's we have collected for a priest and his family who lost their home to fire. At the soup luncheon our Ladies Guild will be raising money for missions groups.

You have always been very generous givers. But, at the end of the day, you are the only ones who will allow us to meet our operation goal for the year. I am not asking you to give less to other good causes. Only asking you to consider how your generous funding can also help YOUR parish, meet our target.

Your Servant in Christ,

Christopher Thomas



MONASTERY ROAD TRIP FRIDAY, APRIL 6

On March 10, our parish was blessed with the visit of Mother Abbess Aemiliane, who spoke at our retreat about monasticism, the spiritual life and her new community, Entrance of the Theotokos Monastery, located near Libertytown, Maryland.

Father David is inviting the faithful to caravan with his family to attend their Pre-Sanctified Liturgy, which is at 9:00 a.m. Father will depart from St. Mary's at 7:00 a.m.

Please RSVP with Father David of your attendance, so he can notify the monastery of the number of pilgrims they expect to receive. This is an excellent opportunity for children who are on spring to visit the monastery's 130 acres that include 3 large fishing ponds and lots of room for running around!





5th Annual

PASCHA LAMB ROAST EXTRAVAGANZA

Sunday, April 15

2:00-5:00 P.M.

Once again, Hans & Marshall will be preparing and keeping vigil over TWO delicious, fresh lambs roasting all night long in celebration of Pascha! Side dishes (both hot and cold), Hot Dogs, Greek Salad, Bread and Ice Cream will be served.



\$10 per adult (Lamb or no lamb)

\$5 per child (Ages 10 and under)

(Proceeds to cover cost of entire event)

RSVP to psastephanie@stmaryorthodox.org by April 7th.*



Agape Vespers at 1:00 P.M.-Come and hear the good news that Christ is Risen in various languages: Romanian, Greek, Chinese, French, Slavonic, Spanish and more! If you speak a unique language, please see Subdeacon Eugene to be added to the readers list.

Egg Hunt at 2:00 P.M.- All children welcomed! Parent supervision needed. Please RSVP so we have enough eggs.

Lamb Dinner served at 2:30 P.M.

Trivia Challenge at 3:30 P.M.- Teams of 2-4 know-it-all's can take on Subdeacon Eugene's challenging questions to win a prize!



* Lamb not guaranteed unless you RSVP. "Walk-Ins" must wait until RSVP guests go through line.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Mary of Egypt • 10am - 11:40am Divine Liturgy 	<p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4:30pm - 6:30pm Office Hours 	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4:30pm - 6:30pm Office Hours • 7pm - 8pm Pre-Sanctified Liturgy with Lenten Dinner 	<p>5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4pm - 7pm Office Hours/Confessions 	<p>6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7am - 1pm Monastery Visit (Libertytown MD) w/Pre-Sanctified 	<p>7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lazarus Saturday • 10am - 11am Liturgy • 11am - 2pm Church School Retreat/ Parish Clean-Up • 5pm - 6pm Great Vespers • 6pm - 7pm Group Confession
<p>8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Palm Sunday • 9am - 10am Matins with blessing of Palms/Willows • 10am - 11:40am Divine Liturgy • 7pm - 8pm Bridegroom Matins 	<p>9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holy Monday • 10am - 11am Pre-Sanctified Liturgy • 7pm - 8pm Bridegroom Matins 	<p>10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holy Tuesday • 10am - 11am Pre-Sanctified Liturgy • 7pm - 8pm Bridegroom Matins 	<p>11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holy Wednesday • 10am - 11am Pre-Sanctified Liturgy • 11am - 11:30am Holy Unction (abbrev.) • 7pm - 8:20pm Holy Unction • 8:30pm - 9:30pm Matins of Holy Thursday 	<p>12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holy Thursday • 10am - 11:30am Vespers (Last Supper) • 7pm - 9pm Passion Gospels 	<p>13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holy Friday • 6pm - 7pm Vespers (Burial) • 7pm - 9pm Matins (Lamentations) • 10pm - 10am Vigil at the Tomb 	<p>14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holy Saturday • 10am - 12:30pm Vespers (Pascha) with Chrismations • 10pm - 11:40pm Reading of Acts • 11:40pm - 12am Nocturne
<p>15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12am - 2am Paschal Matins and Liturgy • 2am - 4am Agape Meal • 1pm - 2pm Paschal Vespers • 2pm - 5pm Lamb Roast/ Egg Hunt 	<p>16</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bright Week • 10am - 11am Bright Liturgy • 7pm - 7:30pm Bright Vespers 	<p>17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bright Week • 7am - 8am Bright Liturgy • 7pm - 7:30pm Bright Vespers 	<p>18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bright Week • 10am - 11am Bright Liturgy • 7pm - 7:30pm Bright Vespers 	<p>19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bright Week • 7am - 8am Bright Liturgy • 7pm - 7:30pm Bright Vespers 	<p>20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bright Week • 10am - 11am Bright Liturgy • 7pm - 7:30pm Bright Vespers 	<p>21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bright Saturday • 5pm - 6pm Great Vespers
<p>22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Thomas • 9am - 10am Matins • 10am - 11:40am Divine Liturgy 	<p>23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. George • 10am - 11:30am Divine Liturgy @ St. George, Bethesda, MD • 12pm - 2pm Clergy Council • 4pm - 7pm Office Hours 	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Mark • 10am - 2pm Office Hours • 4pm - 7pm Office Hours • 7pm - 7:30pm Vespers • 7:30pm - 9pm Adult Education 	<p>26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10am - 2pm Office Hours 	<p>27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10am - 2pm Office Hours 	<p>28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Jason • 5pm - 6pm Great Vespers
<p>29</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Myrrh-bearers • 9am - 10am Matins • 10am - 11:40am Divine Liturgy 	<p>30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4pm - 7pm Office Hours 	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10am - 2pm Office Hours • 4pm - 7pm Office Hours • 7pm - 7:30pm Vespers • 7:30pm - 9pm Adult Education 	<p>3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10am - 2pm Office Hours 	<p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10am - 2pm Office Hours 	<p>5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Irene • 5pm - 6pm Great Vespers

GOD GRANT YOU MANY YEARS!



April Birthdays

Alexander Athanasaw
 Anna Lerner
 Anna Psitos
 April Elizabeth Masick
 Aristotelis Psitos
 Daniel Athanasaw Sr.
 Hazel Lorentz
 James Thomas
 James Woglom
 Joe Henry
 John Thomas
 Michael Thola
 Philipp Andrew Miroy
 Svantje Swider
 Virginia Hope Miroy

April Anniversaries

1 Anniversary of Fr. David Subu's ordination to the priesthood (2000).

April Saint's Name Days

23 Great Martyr St. George: George Woglom
 24 St Elizabeth the Wonderworker: April Elizabeth Masick

HOLY BREAD BAKER



Denise Manos

EPISTLE READER



MARCH COFFEE HOUR SPONSORS



March 25: LENTEN SOUP LUNCHEON

Delicious Soup is available for dining in or "take out". Proceeds benefit OCMC missions in Romania and Albania.

April 1: Young Adult Kollektive

Daniel Silver and Lea Halim

April 8: The Beranek Family

April 15: PASCHA LAMB ROAST & EGG HUNT! (see article)

April 22: The Spita Family

1 year memorial for husband and loving father, Marion Spita.

April 29: AVAILABLE

OCMC BENEFIT BANQUET GUEST SPEAKER FR. MARTIN RITSI



APRIL 28, 2012

"He who has ears, let him hear-Preaching where the Word is not heard" is the topic at this year's annual OCMC fundraiser.

Where: St. Katherine's Greek Orthodox Church

Time: 5:00 p.m. Vespers
 6:00 p.m. Hors d'oeuvres
 7:00 p.m. Dinner Presentation

COST: \$50 per person
 (ages 18 and over)

Contact Gregory McKinny at dintym@hotmail.com

Reservation deadline is April 25.



AROUND THE COFFEE URN

News and events percolating at St. Mary's

PASCHA FLOWER DONATIONS NEEDED

We are accepting donations, both great and even greater, to help defray the cost of purchasing beautiful, colorful flowers for decorating the church for decorating around the tomb of Christ, as well as liven up the church for the Pascha service. Please see Sarah Zimmerli to know how you can help!

BYZANTINE CHANT COURSE OFFERED AT ST. MARY

Reader Nick Jones offers a 1-hour class on Byzantine Chant and Notation at St. Mary's on Saturday evenings after Great Vespers, around 6:30pm.

The class is open to anyone who is interested (including other local Churches), and no musical background is required. Materials will be provided and the class will also be webcast online. Please contact Nick (jones.nicholas.j@gmail.com) to help determine the number of copies needed.

PASCHA BREAD SALE PALM SUNDAY!

The Pascha bread sale fundraiser is scheduled for Palm Sunday after Liturgy. Stephanie Kozemchak makes the bread following her grandmother's Ukrainian recipe. The bread is similar to challah and contains dairy, and raisins but no nuts. She has not adapted the recipe for gluten free flour as of yet, but will try if someone pre-orders it.

If people want to order bread without raisins, or to place an order to ensure that they get a loaf, they can contact her at: skozemchak@verizon.net



WE ARE ALL STARS!

Our parish has been listed on Constant Contact's "2011 All-Stars". Only 10% of their 500,000 users make this list! Thank you to our parishioners and supporters for consistently reading our e-mails at high rates, forwarding events to friends and taking advantage of signing up for our newsletter through our website. This tool is invaluable for communication and parish growth, so keep on reading!

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!

Holy Week and Pascha are always the most beautiful time of the church year. However, it is also our busiest and to make everything go smoothly, we need volunteers in the following areas:

Lazarus Saturday Retreat: We are recruiting cooks and arts/crafts volunteers for the children's retreat taking place that day. If you have an activity you would like to share or would like to help prepare food, please speak with church school director Jon Jacobson. While the children are having their retreat, adults are encouraged to stay and help prepare the church for the service by cleaning the sanctuary, liturgical appointments and help with yard work. Please see Father David about jobs available.

Agape Meal Clean-Up: The Agape Meal is the food that is served immediately following the Pascha service. We invite the faithful to bring their baskets to be blessed. It is tradition at St. Mary's to bring food, potluck style, so everyone has something to nibble on before driving home in the wee hours of the morning. A sign up sheet will be in the church hall bulletin board. Most importantly, we need some kind souls to help clean up afterwards and help prepare the hall for the Lamb Roast dinner. Please see Lukas and Lea Halim, coordinators, for more information.

Children's Egg Hunt: This event is during the Lamb Roast on Pascha Sunday. We are looking for volunteers to help stuff eggs ahead of time with goodies, as well as help with hiding them before the event. To know more, please speak with Psa. Stephanie.

Lazarus Saturday Children's Retreat

The Greatest Rescue

Saturday, April 7

10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m

This annual children's retreat will explore through bible study, song and craft, how God rescued His people from their enemies: the Jewish Passover, the raising of Lazarus, and the Pascha of Christ! Please RSVP your child(ren) with Jon Jacobson by April 4.



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7223 Roosevelt Avenue
Falls Church, Virginia 22042