

25 YEARS

Volume 27, Number 3

MARCH 2013

THE VEIL

The Monthly Journal Covering The News at St. Mary



CELEBRATING 25 YEARS: THE FIRST GENERATION

Joe & Susan Kumbera

Many thanks to Fr. David and Psa. Stephanie for asking Joe and I to share our memories of our time at St. Mary on the occasion of the 25th year celebration. We are truly honored. Last month we were so touched to read Sarah Zimmerli's interview and it brought back so many memories of the parish's beginning and all the wonderful people we met.

I think we might be counted among a sort of "first generation" of parishioners: those that were able to add to and enjoy the hard work of the founders of St. Mary, but at a time before we had our own permanent church home. Joe and I were not only new to the DC area having lived here only a few years but also relatively new to the Orthodox Church. I was happy to find an Orthodox church that was close to our house and I could get there alone since in those days Joe worked on many Sundays. After my first visit, I knew I had found our church home. I was warmly greeted by many members during the coffee hour, enjoyed interesting discussions and several people even offered rides if I needed help getting to church!

In the early years there were many needs but far fewer parishioners so there were varied opportunities for service. This turned out for us to be one of the best ways to become connected to others in the parish and a way to grow in our faith. During our time at St. Mary we were able to assist and learn a great deal from George and Martha Codrea, who both worked so lovingly to maintain the church and offer hospitality to visitors and members. Joe was also able to assist Mario Panlillio with the sacristan duties and eventually becoming Sacristan when Mario saw he had developed the next generation. I had the opportunity to join the Ladies Guild to help with all their wonderful ministries. I was so inspired and honored to work with these dedicated

women of the parish who often had few resources to make wonderful things happen. Also, during this time, I was asked by Fr. Alexander to teach the Jr. High Church School class (in later years we had teams). This was a challenge for me since I had little teaching experience but I learned so much from the other teachers but especially from my students. It has been a blessing to see them grow up and keep in touch with me as friends. It was also at this time the Parish Library started to come together. We didn't have a place to store the books then, so we kept them at home and brought requests in each week from a list. The Parish Library, with a dedicated Library Committee, support of the Parish Council and the members of St. Mary has continued to grow into a great resource, so much more than I could have ever imagined when we started it!

After some years of preparation and renovating the building, we were able to celebrate the Consecration of the church. As Sarah noted in her article, we needed a lot but didn't have much in the way of money but we had dedicated people to do so much of the work ourselves to save on expenses. Seeing the parish working together to prepare the sanctuary, fellowship room and grounds, arranging the beautiful music, the dinner and all the numerous other arrangements to make it such a memorable milestone was something we will always remember with joy.

We enjoy reading the newsletters to see how much St. Mary has grown, how many new ministries and projects have been started, and how many of the older ministries continue to grow! What a blessing it has been to be a part of the St. Mary Church, where we have been welcomed and supported through all kinds of ups and downs, embraced into families, honored to be Godparents and sponsors and encouraged to grow in so many ways in our faith.

May God bless you all as St. Mary Church continues with great care the work started by those dedicated founders 25 years ago.

With love and thanks,
Susan, Joe, Sunny and Joy Kumbera

Protection of the Holy Mother of God Orthodox Church in Falls Church, VA
An English Speaking Parish Community of the Romanian Orthodox Episcopate, OCA

PROTECTION OF THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD ORTHODOX CHURCH PRESENTS

DOXA CON

Where Faith and Truth meet Science Fiction and Fantasy

July 19-21, 2013
Springfield, VA

DOXA CON is an opportunity for Christian fans of the sci-fi/fantasy genre to engage in positive exploration of themes held in common between Christianity, Fantasy and Science Fiction. If you enjoy engaging in meaningful dialogue on these topics then this is the convention is for you! Spend the weekend just outside the Nation's Capital in prayer and fellowship with other Christian fans of the sci-fi/fantasy genres! There will be engaging keynote speakers who are authorities on the Christian response to the sci-fi/fantasy genres. Besides the keynote speakers there will be topic specific presenters throughout the day and in the evening social events where you can meet your fellow nerds and geeks.

REGISTRATION

For more information and to register for Doxacon go to <http://www.stmaryorthodox.org/events/doxacon/51>.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Metropolitan Savas Zembillas

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburg, Pittsburgh, PA

His Eminence Metropolitan SAVAS of Pittsburgh was elected to succeed Metropolitan Maximos in November 2011 and served on Holy Patriarchal Synod in Constantinople in 2012. Prior to his election, he was the Chancellor of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America until 2009, when he was named Director of the Archdiocesan Office of Church, Society and Culture. As an active presence on the Internet, he has been in the vanguard of engaging issues of contemporary societal and cultural realities from an Orthodox Christian perspective. He further serves as a member of the Board of Trustees for both Holy Cross/Hellenic College and St. Vladimir's Theological Seminary. He is also an Adjunct Professor of Dogmatic Theology at St. Vladimir's, teaching courses on topics such as "Looking for God in Popular Culture."



Dr. Thomas Bertonneau

Professor of Literature, The State University of New York, Oswego, NY

Thomas F. Bertonneau, co-author of the book, "The Truth is Out There: Christian Faith and the Classics of TV Science Fiction", earned a Ph.D. in Comparative Literature from the University of California at Los Angeles in 1990. He has taught at a variety of institutions, and has been a member of the English Faculty at SUNY Oswego since 2001. He is the author of three books and numerous articles on literature, art, music, religion, anthropology, film, and politics. He is a frequent contributor to Anthropeotics, the ISI quarterlies, and others.





Department of
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
ORTHODOX CHURCH in AMERICA

Getting Our Facts Straight

On March 5th is the feast day of Saint Mark the Ascetic, who was revered for his gentleness and for his ability to write with clarity about the "facts" of the Christian faith.

There is not much information about Saint Mark's life, but he lived in the fifth century and knew many of the great Church leaders of that time, including Saint John Chrysostom, who was probably his teacher and mentor. At the age of forty he was tonsured a monk, and spent the next several decades as a hermit in the desert of the northwestern Nile Delta in Egypt.

He prayed with the Scriptures so closely that he learned them by heart. But, studious as he was, he did not ignore the living creatures around him. He paid attention to what was happening to them.

That is why he once noticed that the offspring of a hyena was blind, and wept for it. Because of his compassion the young animal's sight was restored.

"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, Rector
Protodeacon Peter Danilchick, Parish Deacon
Eugene Huang, Parish Subdeacon
Nicholas Dujmovic, Parish Subdeacon
Christopher Thomas, Parish Council President
Eleni Woglom, Choir Director
Anna Rij, Sunday School Principal
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Layout & Graphics: Psa. Stephanie Subu

The mother hyena, in gratitude, brought him a sheepskin. While understanding the mother's gift, he made it clear to her that she was never to kill the sheep of the poor people who lived in the neighboring villages.

Saint Mark produced many writings, and in these we see his concern that people should have true knowledge, real facts, about the Christian life. So among his words are these: "Even though knowledge is true, it is still not firmly established if unaccompanied by works. For when we have totally neglected to practice something, our knowledge of it will gradually disappear." He is stating a basic fact: Just as God acted for us by becoming man and overcoming death, He wants us to have an active faith, not just an intellectual one.

In our own time, many people claim to state the facts about Christianity with certainty, but they are completely wrong. In a recent issue of the "New Yorker" Magazine, Adam Gopnik has an article about Galileo. In the article, Gopnik, who is not a Christian, writes that the Church's teaching is that "the omnipotent ruler of the universe could satisfy his sense of justice only by sending his son here to be tortured to death..." This is the example of someone who only writes about but does not act or live the Christian life, and therefore doesn't get his facts straight.

Gopnik's description of the reason why Jesus Christ became Man completely ignores the true, factual reason why He did so: to save us, His creatures. As Christians, we have a duty to insist that people who write about our faith get their facts straight.

This is why saints like Mark the Ascetic are so valuable. He not only wrote about the Christian faith but lived it. His words are true because they were "accompanied by works." A reading for this day tells us to do the same: "Little children, let us not love in word or speech, but in deed and in truth" (I John 3: 18).

(This bulletin insert complements the curriculum published by the Department of Christian Education of the Orthodox Church in America. This and many other Christian Education resources are available at <http://dce.oca.org>.)

ST. JULIANA'S LADIES GUILD ANNUAL LENTEN RETREAT

"BULLYING: LOVE THYSELF AS THY NEIGHBOR"

KHOURIA JANET SHADID

Saturday, April 13, 2013
St. Mary Orthodox Church
Falls Church, VA

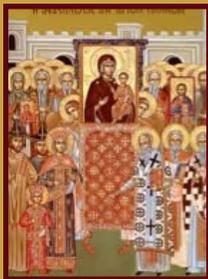


Khouria Janet is a licensed social worker and counselor in the Pittsburgh area.

We will be taking a collection for scholarships to Antiochian Village, where Kh. Janet counsels during the summer. RSVP at retreat@stmaryorthodox.org.

SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY

Pan-Orthodox Vespers
5:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.
Sunday, March 24



Sts. Peter & Paul Orthodox Church
Potomac, MD

Join the Orthodox clergy of greater
Washington D.C. to proclaim our faith!

Lenten Soup Luncheon Sunday, April 7



The St. Juliana's Ladies guild is offering
Lenten soup to dine in or take out.
Proceeds benefit OCMC missions.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publican and Pharisee 9am - 10am Choir Practice 10am - 11:30am Divine Liturgy 12pm - 1pm Doxacon Meeting 	<p>25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (Fast-free week) 4pm - 7pm Office Hours 7pm - 8pm Byzantine Chant Class 	<p>26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (Fast-free week) 7:30pm - 9pm Women's Bible Study 	<p>27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (Fast-free week) 4pm - 7pm Office Hours 7pm - 7:40pm Vespers 7:30pm - 9pm Adult Education 	<p>28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (Fast-free week) 10am - 2pm Office Hours 	<p>1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (Fast-free week) 10am - 2pm Office Hours 12pm - 1pm Book Study 	<p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2pm - 5pm Wedding: Kim-Lee 5pm - 6pm OCMC Vespers at St. Luke (McLean) 6pm - 9pm OCMC Banquet (McLean)
<p>3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am - 10am Choir Practice 10am - 11:30am Divine Liturgy 	<p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4pm - 7pm Office Hours 7pm - 8pm Byzantine Chant Class 	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am - 2pm Office Hours 4pm - 7pm Office Hours 7pm - 7:40pm Vespers 7:30pm - 9pm Adult Education 	<p>7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am - 2pm Office Hours 	<p>8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am - 2pm Office Hours 12pm - 1pm Book Study 	<p>9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2pm - 3pm Wedding: Stanton 5pm - 5:45pm Vespers with confessions
<p>10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MEATFARE 9am - 10am Choir Practice 10am - 11:30am Divine Liturgy 11:30am - 12:30pm Doxacon Fundraiser 	<p>11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4pm - 7pm Office Hours 7pm - 8pm Byzantine Chant Class 	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am - 2pm Office Hours 4pm - 7pm Office Hours 7pm - 7:40pm Vespers 7:30pm - 9pm Adult Education 	<p>14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am - 2pm Office Hours 	<p>15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am - 2pm Office Hours 12pm - 1pm Book Study 	<p>16</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2pm - 3:30pm ACM Board Meeting (Annapolis) 5pm - 5:45pm Vespers with confessions
<p>17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CHEESEFARE 9am - 10am Choir Practice 10am - 11:30am Divine Liturgy 11:30am - 11:50am Mutual Forgiveness 	<p>18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CLEAN MONDAY 7pm - 8:30pm Great Canon of St. Andrew (Great Compline) 	<p>19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm - 8:30pm Great Canon of St. Andrew (Great Compline) 	<p>20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am - 11am Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 7pm - 8:30pm Great Canon of St. Andrew (Great Compline) 	<p>21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm - 8:30pm Great Canon of St. Andrew (Great Compline) 	<p>22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:30am - 11:30am Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 12pm - 1pm Book Study 6pm - 7pm Akathist 	<p>23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5pm - 5:45pm Vespers with confessions
<p>24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sunday of Orthodoxy 9am - 10am Choir Practice 10am - 11:30am Divine Liturgy 5pm - 6:30pm Pan-Orthodox Vespers (Potomac) 	<p>25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annunciation 7pm - 9pm Vespers Liturgy 	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am - 2pm Office Hours 7pm - 9pm Pre-Sanctified Liturgy with Lenten Dinner 	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am - 2pm Office Hours 10:30am - 11:30am Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 12pm - 1pm Book Study 6pm - 7pm Akathist 	<p>30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5pm - 5:45pm Vespers with confessions
<p>31</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (Western Easter) 9am - 10am Choir Practice 10am - 11:30am Divine Liturgy 	<p>1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm - 8pm Byzantine Chant Class 	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am - 2pm Office Hours 7pm - 9pm Pre-Sanctified Liturgy with Lenten Dinner 	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am - 2pm Office Hours 10:30am - 11:30am Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 12pm - 1pm Book Study 6pm - 7pm Akathist 	<p>6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5pm - 5:45pm Vespers with confessions

GOD GRANT YOU MANY YEARS!



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- Dsa. Tanya Danilchick
- Nina Manser
- Renee Lerner
- Robert Lorentz
- Alex Psitos
- Morgan "Marie" Marshall
- Kami Cleary
- Sarah Kathryn Jacobson
- Julie Grecco
- Michael Manser
- Pete Schmalzbach
- Todd Sweet
- John Patrick Cleary
- Natalya Sophia Beranek
- Marilyn Thomas
- Maya Manser
- Asihel Betsuamlak
- Marion Bogdan Maxim
- Demiana Asghedom
- Sophia Dill
- Yvonne Athanasaw
- Nadine Thola

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 Joseph and Mina Coleman
- 8 Forest and Nadine Thola

MARCH NAMES DAY

- 17 St. Patrick of Ireland: John Paul Cleary
- 25 The Annunciation of the Most Holy Theotokos: Morgan "Marie" Marshall

HOLY BREAD BAKER



Genica

FEBRUARY COFFEE HOUR SPONSORS



- March 3:** Devine/ Romanovskya
- March 10:** MEATFARE
Doxacon Committee
- March 17:** CHEESEFARE
Miroy Family
In memory of Winston James
- March 24:** Dujmovic Family
- March 31:** Beranek

NOTE: If you wish to take an available date, please notify Psa. Stephanie as soon as possible. Also, the next time you are at church, please double check that the date published here hasn't been signed up for in the hall, following the date of this publication.

EPISTLE READER



No Assignment

GREETERS



Greeters are needed all this month to welcome our faithful and visitors! Now that Pre-Lenten and Lenten services will soon be here, visitors will be on the increase! The first few seconds will give a visitor a lasting impression! Please see Father David about being part of this essential ministry to church growth and retention!



AROUND THE COFFEE URN

News and events percolating around our Orthodox community

OCA PARISH MINISTRIES CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN ARLINGTON, VA

"Faith in Action: Equipping the Saints for Worship, Learning and Serving," will be the theme of a parish ministries conference to be hosted by four Orthodox Church in America departments on the campus of Marymount University, Arlington, VA, July 10-13, 2013.

Protopresbyter Thomas Hopko, Dean Emeritus of Saint Vladimir's Seminary will offer the keynote address. His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon and His Grace, Bishop Mark of Baltimore plan to attend.

DEPRESSION PEER MINISTRY GROUP HAS NEW SCHEDULE!

The Peer Depression Ministry Group has changed its meeting time from Thursday evenings to Wednesday evenings at St. Mary. The group will meet in the Middle School room following Wednesday evening services. This group is open to all who struggle with depression. To learn more, please contact John Grecco, licensed counselor, at 703-644-0425 or 703-622-0366

VOLUNTEER ROUND-UP! UPCOMING EVENTS THAT CAN USE EXTRA HANDS!

Great Lent and what follows, bring plenty of opportunity to get involved with lots of activities that are good for the soul, for making friends, and make something that could be difficult...FUN!

Sunday, April 6: Lenten Soup Luncheon
Love making soup? This gig is for you!

Saturday, April 13: Lenten Retreat
Help needed for setting tables, decorate and serve lunch in the hall.

Sunday, May 5: Annual Lamb Roast & Egg Hunt
Volunteers needed to set up tables, help prepare the lamb/roast, help with the egg hunt for children, and to prepare side dishes to serve!

June: Annual Rummage Sale
Tag items for sale, take money and table set up.

MANY YEARS TO OUR NEWLYWEDS!

Many years and blessings to Miss Sue Lee and Mr. Ho Kim, who were united in marriage on Saturday, March 2, 2013! Ken and Irene Liu were sponsors for the couple.

THE VEIL WOULDN'T EXIST WITHOUT PARISHIONER CONTRIBUTION! DEADLINE FOR APRIL ISSUE: MARCH 24



LAMB ROAST AND EGG HUNT EXTRAVAGANZA

SUNDAY MAY 5TH 2:00 TO 5:00 P.M.



Once again, Mr. Hans Scheifele will be basting, tending and praying over TWO delicious, fresh lambs roasting on a spit for all to enjoy! Side dishes, salads, desserts and refreshments to be served. If you would like to help with the lamb or sides, please see Preoteasa Stephanie.

\$12 per adult/\$5:00 per child.

RSVP to psastephanie@stmaryorthodox.org by April 25th

Agape Vespers at 1:00 P.M.—Come and hear the good news of Christ is risen in various languages: Romanian, Greek, Chinese, French, Slavonic, Spanish, Japanese, Gaelic, Arabic, and more!



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St. Mary Orthodox Church
7223 Roosevelt Avenue
Falls Church, Virginia 22042