

25 YEARS

THE VEIL

The Monthly Journal Covering The News at St. Mary



OCTOBER 2013

**25 YEARS UNDER HER PROTECTION**

By Rev. Fr. David G. Subu

*Today the faithful celebrate the feast with joy,
illuminated by your coming,
O Mother of God.*

Thus we sing throughout the year from the hymn of our Parish's patronal feast-day, the Protection of the Mother of God. When the founders of the parish sought for mission status from Archbishop Nathaniel those many years ago, and suggested that it be named in honor of Mary the Mother of God, there were many possibilities for patronal feast days—Dormition (August 15) or Nativity (September 8) for example. But His Eminence reasoned that there were at that time no parishes dedicated to the Protection of the Mother of God celebrated on October 1st. It was a practical choice as there were already well established churches named St. Mary in other cities in the Episcopate. But this choice has been in so many ways appropriate for our community, for our metropolitan area, as well as for our diocese.

The Protection is a feast which commemorates the appearance of the Theotokos in the Church of Blachernae in Constantinople in the 10th century. A number of people, including two saints, saw her praying over the people, lifting her veil over them and the entire city. The relics

of her robe, belt and veil were kept in that church. In response to her prayers, Christ preserved the capital city from calamity and the attack of a barbarian fleet of the Rus—later to be known as Russians, Ukrainians, etc.

Ironically (and providentially), the Rus would later convert to Orthodoxy and the feast of the Protection (Pokrov) would become one of the most beloved feasts in the Slavic churches, starting as early as the 12th century. Did you know the most famous Orthodox Church in the world is dedicated to the Protection? Westerners know it somewhat erroneously as St. Basil's Cathedral in Red Square in Moscow. With the establishment of St. Mary Orthodox Church in Falls Church, just outside Washington D.C., the tradition of seeking the Virgin Mary's intercessions for the capital and by extension the entire nation has been continued and preserved—even if we are still a young and growing parish.

In 2007, not long after the repose of the very beloved Fr. George Calciu, St. Mary's was unexpectedly gifted with a number of relics acquired by St. John the Baptist Russian Orthodox Cathedral. Among the relics was a fragment of that very veil that used to be kept in the Blachernae Church in Constantinople! What a wonderful blessing. The relic is now enshrined in the icon of "Our Lady of Washington" in the parish sanctuary, open to veneration for all the faithful. That is the icon which inspires the name of our newsletter and if featured in the watermark beneath it—the Veil of the Virgin being held above

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

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the city in prayer. Thus, I believe our parish has a special vocation in the life of the city and by extension the whole nation.

A key component of our parish mission has been to share the light of Orthodoxy in an English-language liturgy, embracing American diversity, and offering prayers especially for our nation and those who serve. Even though our parish belongs to a pre-dominantly Romanian diocese, its character is embracing and inclusive, celebrating the best traditions of all historically Orthodox nations as well as those customs and commemorations of the United States worthy of a baptism. Sometimes it is easy to forget

our mission to all who have come and may yet still come through the doors at 7223 Roosevelt Avenue because we can get so wrapped up in our own individual earthly cares.

As we pause to celebrate our 25th anniversary I fervently hope and pray that our community remembers and recommits to service and prayer for others as our "reasonable worship." (cf. Rom 12:1). In doing so, we can then thank God for the blessings He has given us, and pray with an illumined heart for many years more to come!



COUNCIL CORNER

COFFEE HOUR POWER

Although it is neither a sacrament of the church nor canon law, Coffee Hour is the timeless American church tradition of receiving our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ with love and hospitality – breaking the fast together as a community. It is seen as an extension of the Divine Liturgy ("work of the people"), so in that sense, Coffee Hour is a rather important ministry to offer.

Your Parish Council recognizes that in our growing community, it might be time to try a new approach in organizing Coffee Hour so it is not such a burden to individual hosts – in both money and time. We would like to broaden and maximize participation – especially for those who may have not been involved previously with hosting duties and spread the work more evenly amongst our parishioners as follows:

1. A clip board with available Sundays will be made available before, during, and after liturgy for sign up. Consider this another kind of offering. If not enough people sign up for a given Sunday, then you may receive a phone call from a council member asking for your help.

2. The sign-up sheet will be divided into various categories: 1-2 volunteers to make the coffee/tea and set up plates/utensils in the morning, 2 volunteers to provide the snacks and beverages for the Church School students (30-40 children); 4 volunteers to provide the food and drinks for the adults in the fellowship hall (60-70 adults; volunteers discuss among themselves what to provide); and finally 2 volunteers for clean-up (trash, sweeping, emptying coffee pot, etc.) You can certainly sign up for more than one task! The purpose is to give sponsors flexibility.
3. When signing up, you ALWAYS have the option to sponsor a coffee hour in its entirety – especially for special events such as an organization fundraiser, memorial meal, or birthday celebration. If you request a date, we will not circulate a sign up sheet for that date.

THOSE WHO SIGN UP WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ARRANGING THEIR REPLACEMENT IF THEY CANNOT KEEP THE COMMITMENT.

We thank you in advance for helping out with this "experiment."

The Parish Council



Our Daily Bread Program Asks for Our Help!

By Jeff Beranek, Coordinator

"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'"

"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'" – Matthew 25:37-40

Sign Up Now for Our Daily Bread

Each Fall, St. Mary parishioners "adopt" 15 families by shopping for a week's worth of groceries and personal-care products, then delivering them to the families' homes on our church's assigned day. **This year, our delivery is scheduled for Sunday, November 17.**

Even in prosperous Fairfax County, there are many people struggling to keep themselves and their children fed, this year more than ever. Through Our Daily Bread, an

interfaith ministry based in Fairfax City which provides supplemental groceries for up to three months to needy families, we have an opportunity to reach out and help.

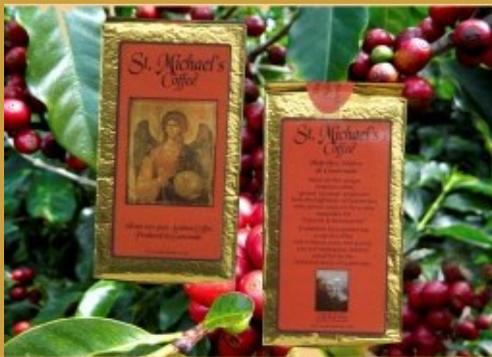
Chris Garris, the ODB Food Coordinator, has been working towards moving the food program towards more food gift cards. She believes that the cards allow parents to practice newly acquired financial management skills in getting the most out of every dollar they spend for food.

See Jeff Beranek to sign up, or call at 703-875-3090 or email to jmberanek@msn.com.



BREW SOME CHARITY

St. Michael's Coffee is now available for purchases through our parish bookstore!



\$12 per pound. Discover this unique Arabica Coffee grown by small producers from the highlands of Guatemala, with utmost concern for quality especially for "Casa de la Misericordia". In addition to experiencing a cup of coffee rich in flavor, body and aroma, you are helping the children cared for by the Orthodox Nuns of Guatemala. To learn more about Hogar Rafael Ayau, visit:

<http://hogarrafaelayou.org/cms/pages/who-we-are.php>

"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
Renee Lerner & Irene Liu, Sunday School

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SMALL GROUP MINISTRIES ARE HERE FOR YOU



Our parish ministries are back in full swing! Our ministries are offered through the love and care of our laity. Please read below the groups available to get involved with! This is an excellent way for our brothers and sisters in Christ to get to know one another! Don't be shy! Join!

Adult Education

When: Wednesday evenings following Vespers at 7:00 p.m.
What: Father David Subu leads a series of topics for adults to have their opportunity to further study and examine their Orthodox faith. Consider it Church School for adults. Topics vary through out the year. This group is open to all.

Byzantine Chant Class

When: Monday evenings at St. Mary
 7:00 p.m. Advanced / 8:00 p.m. Beginners
What: Subdeacon Nick Jones teaches how to learn the tones and read notations associated with Byzantine Chant.

St. Juliana Guild:

When: Next meeting is Sunday, October 13
What: The St. Juliana guild is made up of parishioners who come together to organize fundraising events for charitable organizations and the needs of St. Mary. This group is open to all. To learn more, please speak with St. Juliana Guild President, Ellen Robinson.

Women's Bible Study

When: Once per month (usually Tuesdays) at 7:30 p.m.
What: Our longest running small group ministry, WBS is an opportunity for women to come together in prayer, bible study, and fellowship. We meet at the home of Eleni Woglom. Bring a friend! To learn more, please speak with Eleni Woglom.

Y.A.K.- Young Adult Kollektive

When: Various meet ups throughout the year.
What: This is a very active group designed to engage the young adult community to interact with another through social and charitable activities. If you would like more information, please speak with Daniel Silver.

Young in Faith

When: Sunday, October 20
What: A casual group meeting once per month, that discusses various topics to help those new to the Orthodox Church to understand and learn more about our faith. For more information, please speak with Ken and Irene Liu.



CHURCH SCHOOL BULLETIN

By Renee Lerner and Irene Liu
 Church School Coordinators

The Church School is off to an enthusiastic start this year with 42 students registered, and fourteen devoted and knowledgeable teachers. The apple-picking outing September 28 was a huge success, with many apples and pumpkins gathered, a hayride, much jumping in straw, and general good fellowship.

Many thanks to the teachers, and to the parents for encouraging the children to learn about God. The teachers have mapped out the curricula, which include types of Christ in the Old Testament for the Pre-K/Kindergarten class, the ten commandments for grades 1 and 2, and key gospel episodes in grades 6-8. We are fortunate that Reader Nick Jones will be leading the children's choir this year, with Mrs. Justina Mubangu assisting.

On Saturday, December 7 the Church School will have a Nativity Retreat; Also, in keeping with tradition, the children will be performing a Nativity Pageant. Please stay tuned for further details on the practice schedule and how parents can get involved.

Thinking about marriage? Engaged? Newly married?



Pre-Marital Education Classes

Saturday, October 19

Saturday, October 26

3:00 p.m. — 4:30 p.m.

- What is the Orthodox understanding of marriage?
- Does marriage involve only 2 people?
- The role of sponsors
- Explanation of the service, meanings, and various traditions.

Please speak with Father David about enrolling or with any questions.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>29</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9am - 10am Choir / 9:30 Akathist • 10am - 11:30am Divine Liturgy • 11:30am - 12:30pm Fellowship/ Church School • 1pm - 2pm Baptism: Henderson 	<p>30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4pm - 7pm Office Hours • 7pm - 8pm Great Vespers with Litya 	<p>1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protection of the Mother of God • 10am - 11am Divine Liturgy 	<p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Justina • 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 • 12pm - 1pm Book Study 	<p>5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4:30pm - 5:15pm Vespers (early) • 6pm - 10pm 25th Anniversary Dinner/Dance
<p>6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Innocent/ Apostle Thomas • 9am - 10am Choir / 9:30 Akathist • 10am - 12pm Hierarchical Divine Liturgy • 11:30am - 12:30pm Fellowship/ Church School 	<p>7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4pm - 7pm Office Hours • 7pm - 8pm Byzantine Chant Class • 7:30pm - 8:30pm Peer Depression Ministry 	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Tikhon • 10am - 2pm Office Hours • 4pm - 7pm Office Hours • 7pm - 7:30pm Vespers • 7:30pm - 9pm Adult Education 	<p>10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10am - 2pm Office Hours 	<p>11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10am - 2pm Office Hours • 12pm - 1pm Book Study 	<p>12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12pm - 1pm Baptism: Stanton • 5pm - 6pm Vespers with confessions
<p>13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8am - 9am 7th Ecum. Council • 9am - 10am Choir / 9:30 Akathist • 10am - 11:30am Divine Liturgy • 11:30am - 12:30pm Fellowship/ Church School 	<p>14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Paraskeva/ Columbus Day • 10am - 11am Divine Liturgy • 4pm - 7pm Office Hours • 7pm - 8pm Byzantine Chant Class • 7:30pm - 8:30pm Peer Depression Ministry 	<p>15</p>	<p>16</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>17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10am - 2pm Office Hours • 7pm - 7:30pm Great Vespers • 7:30pm - 9pm Parish Council 	<p>18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Luke • 10am - 11am Divine Liturgy • 11am - 11:30am Memorial service • 12pm - 1pm Book Study 	<p>19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Memorial Saturday • 3pm - 4:30pm Pre-Marital Education • 5pm - 6pm Vespers with confessions
<p>20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9am - 10am Choir / 9:30 Akathist • 10am - 11:30am Divine Liturgy • 11:30am - 12:30pm Fellowship/ Church School • 12:15pm - 1:15pm DOXACON meeting • 6pm - 8pm Young in Faith 	<p>21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4pm - 7pm Office Hours • 7pm - 8pm Byzantine Chant Class • 7:30pm - 8:30pm Peer Depression Ministry 	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apostle James, Brother of the Lord • 10am - 2pm Office Hours • 4pm - 7pm Office Hours • 7pm - 7:30pm Vespers • 7:30pm - 9pm Adult Education 	<p>24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Joy of all who sorrow" Icon • 10am - 2pm Office Hours 	<p>25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10am - 2pm Office Hours • 12pm - 1pm Book Study 	<p>26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Demetrius • 10am - 11am Divine Liturgy • 3pm - 4:30pm Pre-Marital Education • 5pm - 6pm Vespers with confessions
<p>27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9am - 10am Choir / 9:30 Akathist • 10am - 11:30am Divine Liturgy • 11:30am - 12:30pm Fellowship/ Church School 	<p>28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4pm - 7pm Office Hours • 7pm - 8pm Byzantine Chant Class • 7:30pm - 8:30pm Peer Depression Ministry 	<p>29</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Anastasia 	<p>30</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>31</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priestmartyr John Kochurov • 10am - 2pm Office Hours 	<p>1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10am - 2pm Office Hours • 12pm - 1pm Book Study 	<p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5pm - 6pm Vespers with confessions

GOD GRANT YOU MANY YEARS!



October Birthdays

- Mihai Boicu
- Andrea Boicu
- Marissa Cheplick
- Samuel Cheplick
- Carrie Compton
- Joe Cox
- Nicholas Dujmovic the Younger
- Paul Koory
- Kyra Kozemchak
- Christina Kozemchak
- Denise Manos
- Stephen Miroy
- Jerry Rij III
- Tina Scala
- Claudia Spita

October Anniversaries

- 12 Todd & Elizabeth Sweet
- 21 Robert and Kristine Lorentz
- 23 Stephen and Kathy Miroy

October Saint's Name Days

- 3 St. Dionysus-Denise Manos
- 14 St. Parascheva-Petka Lorentz
- 23 St. James (Iakovos), Brother of the Lord: James Woglom

SAVE THE DATE!

New Member Sunday, November 17

Each year, Parish Council formally recognizes those who have made a commitment to officially join our parish and become a voting member of our community. A special coffee hour will be hosted in their honor!

A member of parish council will contact those who joined since last November to get information on you, your family, and anything else you would like us to know!

OCTOBER COFFEE HOUR CALENDAR



PLEASE SEE THE ARTICLE ON PAGE 2 TO LEARN ABOUT THE NEW COFFEE HOUR SIGN UP PLAN. BELOW ARE DATES FOR COMMUNITY OR SINGLE SPONSORSHIP.

October 6— PARISH COUNCIL
Silver Anniversary Banquet

October 13-- SIGN UP LIST

October 20-- SIGN UP LIST

October 27-- Claudia Spita
Memorial Meal

(Below is a sample of what the sheet will look like. Each sheet will be dated for a specific Sunday.)

COFFEE HOUR SPONSORS

Please select one or more of the options for the coffee hour date below. If you wish to sponsor the entire coffee hour, please check the box below and write your name on the line. The sheet will be removed from circulation. If you cannot attend a Sunday you are scheduled for, DO NOT sign up. Please call a council member with more info to parishioners to fill in the areas where we need help. Thank you!

SUNDAY: I would like to sponsor the entire coffee hour. Please remove this sheet from being circulated.

NAME:	NAME	NAME	NAME
NAME	NAME	NAME	NAME
NAME	NAME	NAME	NAME
NAME	NAME	NAME	NAME
NAME	NAME	NAME	NAME

COFFEE/PODS/SET UP
Must complete sign up card with appropriate beverage. All items provided by parish.

CLEAN UP
If you volunteer, help arrange coffee and use of appropriate music. If empty this will be assigned.

CHURCH SOCIAL-SNACKS AND BEVERAGES
Do not include. Please do not leave anything with parishioners.

ABOUT MEAL
Please a meal and provide coffee/tea for 10 to 15 people. Volunteers are to assist during the meal and set up will be provided by your parishioners. Clean up will be done by your parishioners. Please call parish hall for extra.



AROUND THE COFFEE URN

News and events percolating around our Orthodox community

Archbishop NATHANIEL to bless Marian Maxim as Subdeacon on Sunday, October 6

His Eminence, Archbishop NATHANIEL, Archbishop of Detroit and the Romanian Episcopate, and his administrative assistant, Mr. Richard Grabowski, will join us the weekend of October 5-6 for our Silver Anniversary weekend. His Eminence and Richard will be staying with the Danilchicks. Please ask Deacon Peter or Dsa. Tanya if they need anything to accommodate our special guests!

Of special note, Reader Marian Bogdan Maxim, son of St. Mary members, Ovidiu and Dorina Maxim, will be blessed to be a Sub-Deacon.

This service takes place at the beginning of the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy. Please arrive to church by 9:30 a.m. to greet His Eminence and pray for Marian!

"Heaven and Earth: Art of Byzantium and Greek Collections" at National Gallery

Beginning October 6, the first-ever exhibition of Byzantine art at the Gallery, some 170 works of art, many never before lent to the United States, will be on view – among them mosaics, icons, manuscripts, jewelry, and ceramics. The works include newly discovered and unpublished objects and reveal the rich and multifaceted culture of Byzantium. Divided into five thematic sections, the exhibition explores the coexistence of paganism and Christianity, spiritual life in Byzantium, secular works of art used in the home, the intellectual life of Byzantine scholars, and the cross-influences that occurred between Byzantine and Western artists before the fall of Byzantium. The exhibit runs from October 6-March 2, 2014.

THE VEIL WOULDN'T EXIST WITHOUT PARISHIONER CONTRIBUTION! DEADLINE FOR NOVEMBER ISSUE:
OCTOBER 25

Sister Deborah To Visit This October

Sister Deborah (Hile) will be a special guest of the St. Nina House for the entire month of October! For those new to our church, Sister Deborah was a lay member of St. Mary, who was actively involved in women's bible study, church school and general parish life participation before entering the monastic life. We are blessed to have her be among us while she is here on sabbatical.

Sister Deborah will arrive Friday, October 4th – just in time to celebrate our patronal feast day! Preoteasa Stephanie would like to organize a reception at St. Nina's to welcome her back "home". Please email her to find out what to bring and time.

St. Nina's welcomes donations of food or grocery store gift cards to help with providing for her needs during her stay. Please speak with St. Nina House Administrator, Patricia Balzer, how you can help!

Local Orthodox Jurisdictions To Come Together In Support of Charities

On October 19, 2013, Orthodox Christians from around the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area will converge on the National Mall for the inaugural Monumental Missions Walk. Sponsored by the Metropolitan DC Orthodox Christian Mission and Outreach Committee, the Monumental Missions Walk is a 3-mile long spiritual stroll past some of the Nation's most important landmarks.

At each designated monument along the route all participants will learn the spiritual significance of the landmark and to provide insight into the role that religion has played in the history of this great country. The Monumental Missions Walk will afford participants the unique opportunity to pause and admire these important places of reflection through the unique lens of faith.

Tickets are \$25 Adults and \$10 for children 12 and under. Price includes a T-shirt. Remaining proceeds benefit OCMC and local DC outreach charities.

To learn more about the Metropolitan DC Orthodox Christian Mission and Outreach Committee, please speak with Patricia Balzer, who is our St. Mary representative. She is happy to tell you how you can get involved!

Protection of the Holy Mother of God

Silver Anniversary

Celebration Weekend! Join Us!

Saturday, October 5 4:30 p.m. Great Vespers at St. Mary with guest
celebrant: Archbishop NATHANIEL

6:00-11:00 p.m. Dinner Dance (SOLD OUT!)

Sunday, October 6 9:30 a.m. Parishioners are to be in church

9:45 a.m. Vesting of Hierarch

10:00 a.m. Hierarchical Divine Liturgy



THE VEIL JOURNAL

St. Mary Orthodox Church

7223 Roosevelt Avenue

Falls Church, Virginia 22042