

THE VEIL

The Monthly Journal Covering The News at St. Mary



WASH AND BE CLEAN

By Rev. Fr. David G. Subu

"And [Naaman's] servants came near and spoke to him, and said, 'My father, if the prophet had told you to do something great, would you not have done it? How much more then, when he says to you, 'Wash, and be clean'?" --2 Kings 5:13

We have all heard the saying, "Cleanliness is next to Godliness," an archaic idea that has found expression in English literature since at least the time of Francis Bacon and then John Wesley. This month at St. Mary's we are pleased to announce that we are taking this saying seriously, but perhaps in a different way than you might expect. We focus a lot at church on spiritual cleanliness—but now is the time to make sure our Father's house is clean and presentable.

It has long been held at our parish that the area in most need of a renovation has been the bathrooms. Your Parish Council and its Bathroom Committee has spent the last few years slowly investigating the issue, meeting with contractors, with the county (to determine permit issues), debating, discussing, etc. The process has been slower than anyone would have liked to be sure. However, after much research and considerations for future needs, **we are very pleased to announce that the restrooms will undergo a complete cosmetic renovation starting this Fall.** Bathrooms will be remodeled one room at a time. Plans are in place so that one bathroom remains available for use inside the building in consideration for the children especially. Porta Johns will most likely be needed to get us through the renova-

tion of the women's room, since there is only one stall in the men's room. Specifics as to dates and accommodation plans will be announced later in the month.

After looking at several bids with a wide range of prices, the Parish Council has gone ahead with a contractor to renovate the two bathrooms for a combined total of approximately \$30,000.00. A generous donor has already pledged \$5,000.00 as a matching pledge. **With this announcement following our Parish Anniversary, we humbly ask that you consider a special offering of at least \$200.00 in addition to your regular giving to help us with this project.** If you are on a budget, that's about \$20.00 per week extra until Christmas—a small and manageable stretch for most of us. Every gift received this year towards this project helps the parish move further forward toward the next phase of addressing other needs concerning the building.



BEFORE*

AFTER*

May God bless your commitment and generosity, and may He continue to make St. Mary's a vibrant and welcoming home to those in search of truth, tradition, and hospitality in Northern Virginia!

**Bathrooms depicted are completely fictional and no way represent real bathrooms at St. Mary.*

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



WHAT IS THE BENEDICT OPTION?

By Patricia Balzer

A few years ago, Rod Dreher read, "After Virtue" by Alasdair MacIntyre. MacIntyre wrote that we are in a moment that's akin to the fall of the Western Roman Empire when the West descended into chaos. One Roman, Saint Benedict of Nursia left Rome, went into the woods to pray, and after discerning God's will, founded a monastic community that over the next centuries kept the faith alive throughout Europe. They laid the groundwork for the rebirth of Christian society in the former Western Roman Empire.

MacIntyre also wrote, "We're waiting for a new and doubtless very different Saint Benedict to bring those who want to live the moral life together in community to survive through this current darkness." The Benedict Option is response of each Christian through prayer and discussion to figure out how to structure their lives, their family, and their church given that traditional Christianity is being relegated to the despised cultural margins.

As part of the discussion, there will be two opportunities in the Washington DC area to hear Rod Dreher present his thoughts, inspired by the cultural diagnosis of philosopher Alasdair MacIntyre, on the Benedict Option.

The Benedict Option? A Conversation with Rod Dreher and Ken Myers

In partnership with the John Jay Institute, the Tocqueville Forum of Georgetown University is hosting what promises to be a fascinating conversation between New York Times bestselling author, Orthodox Christian, and prolific blogger for The American Conservative Rod Dreher and the founder and host of Mars Hill Audio, Ken Myers. Rod will present his thoughts, inspired by the cultural diagnosis of philosopher Alasdair MacIntyre, on what he has termed the "Benedict Option." The event is open to the public.

When: Saturday, October 10, 2015, 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Where: Gaston Hall, Georgetown University 3700 O St. NW

Rod Dreher is a senior editor at The American Conservative. He has written and edited for The New York Post, The Dallas Morning News, National Review, and The Washington Times. Rod's commentary has been published in The Wall Street Journal, Commentary, The Weekly Standard, and Time, among other publications, and he has appeared on NPR, ABC News, CNN, Fox News, MSNBC, and the BBC. He is also the New York Times bestselling author of three books, Crunchy Cons, The Little Way of Ruthie Leming and How Dante Can Save Your Life. He lives in St. Francisville, Louisiana, with his wife Julie and their three children.

Ken Myers is the host and producer of the MARS HILL AUDIO Journal, a bimonthly audio magazine that examines issues in contemporary culture from a framework shaped by Christian conviction. He was formerly the editor of This World: A Journal of Religion and Public Life, a quarterly journal whose editor-in-chief was Richard John Neuhaus. Prior to his tenure at This World, he was executive editor of Eternity, the evangelical monthly magazine. For eight years, he was a producer and editor for National Public Radio, working for much of that time as arts and humanities editor for the two news programs, Morning Edition and All Things Considered. Mr. Myers serves as a contributing editor for Christianity Today, and his published writings include All God's Children and Blue Suede Shoes: Christians and Popular Culture, and (as editor) Aspiring to Freedom: Commentaries on John Paul II's Encyclical "The Social Concerns of the Church". He has also written for numerous periodicals, including The Wilson Quarterly, TableTalk, Discipleship Journal, World, Crisis, First Things, The Washington Times, and The World & I. He is a graduate of the University of Maryland, where he studied film theory and criticism, and of Westminster Theological Seminary in Philadelphia. He is married and has two children, and lives in central Virginia.

Rod Dreher at Christ the King, Sunday, October 11
And if you cannot make the Tocqueville Forum event, Rod will also be speaking at Christ the King Anglican Church on Sunday, October 11 immediately following their worship service. It is anticipated that he will speak from roughly 11:30AM - 12:30 am. This event is open to the public.



LOVE PEOPLE, BE COURAGEOUS and WORK HARD

By Protodeacon Peter Danilchick

"He longed to preach the Gospel to those who had not heard it." So one historian described Saint Nikolai of Japan, Equal-to-the-Apostles, who planted Orthodox Christianity in Japan in the late 1800s. I was very fortunate to serve from 1977 through 1979 at Tokyo's Holy Resurrection Cathedral, known to the public as Nikolai-Do, the "house of Nikolai."

Saint Nikolai was assigned in 1860 as the Russian consular chaplain in Hakodate, on the island of Hokkaido in northern Japan. He could have had a very comfortable life ministering solely to the needs of the Russian people there. But he did not. He turned his efforts to evangelizing the people of Japan. Saint Nikolai's missionary principles were threefold — love the people by first understanding who they are, be courageous in sharing the faith, and work hard and continuously.



- He visited Buddhist monasteries to understand their beliefs. In fact, at one monastery, he engaged in such intense discussions that the monks thought he wished to convert
- Educate people in words and concepts that they can understand. We emphasized Christ, the daily life of prayer, reading the Bible, good works, kindness, generosity and forbearance. In Singapore, potential converts from Buddhism first read the Gospel of Saint Mark, being the simplest, shortest and most direct of the four. (Recall that Saint Mark's Gospel was the one which Metropolitan Anthony Bloom, as

a non-believer, read and discovered the presence of Christ.) Our church in Singapore was quite small, simple, and intimate. Teachings were directed at the needs of the people. One of our American expats said that she regretted the day that she had to return to her large church in America and would miss the closeness and sharing of the community in Singapore.

- Be models of Christian behavior for those to whom we are missionizing. Love others in practical ways. Welcome all visitors warmly. Ensure they're included in the life of the Church. Learn about their families, their hopes, their troubles. Pray for them. No matter the size of the parish or mission, assign people, clergy and laity, to ensure others are continuously looked after. When you look upon the congregation, see not just the "regulars," but also the people who are not there, known and unknown. Engage the ones who should be there, who need the saving message of the Lord Jesus Christ. Love people, be courageous, and work hard.

Source: OCA website <http://18aac.oca.org/love-people-be-courageous-and-work-hard/>

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Rev. Fr. Ted Paraskevopoulos

Ascetic Themes found in Joss Whedon's "Angel" TV Series.



John Granger
The Biblical Scaffolding of J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter Series.



Fr. Ernesto Obregon

Using Discernment when engaging in Sci-Fi/Fantasy

DOXAICON MEETS Harry Potter

November 13-14, 2015
Washington, DC



Session and Panel Speakers



Mitchell Balan



Brenda W. Clough



Deacon Nicholas Dujmovic



Peter Fendrich



Dr. Jonathan Jacobson



Leah Libresco



Matthew Silver



John C. Wright

Youth Track



Ben Anderson



L. Jagi Lamplighter



Fr. David G. Subu

Book Signings



John Granger



Ben Anderson



Kh. Frederica Mathewes-Green



Leah Libresco

TICKETS ON SALE NOW! Join us for an engaging weekend of Christian fellowship and positive exploration of the Science-Fiction and Fantasy genre! Ticket price includes two days of fantastic speakers and topics, fully catered lunch, entrance to our "Feast at Hogwarts" closing dinner and free on-site parking! Visit www.doxacon.org/dc for more information!

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| <p>27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9am - 10am Choir Practice • 9:30am - 10am Akathist • 10am - 11:45am Divine Liturgy • 12pm - 12:30pm Church School | <p>28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7pm - 8pm Byzantine Chant Class | <p>29</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10am - 12pm Office Hours | <p>30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10am - 12pm Office Hours • 7pm - 8pm Great Vespers with litya • 8pm - 9pm Reception | <p>1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protection of the Mother of God • 7am - 8am Divine Liturgy • 10am - 12pm Office Hours | <p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sts. Cyprian and Justina • 12pm - 1pm Book Study in Old Town | <p>3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11am - 12pm Baptism: Eichenlaub • 5pm - 6pm Vespers |
| <p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9am - 10am Choir Practice • 9:30am - 10am Akathist • 10am - 11:45am Divine Liturgy • 12pm - 12:30pm Church School | <p>5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7pm - 8pm Byzantine Chant Class | <p>6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10am - 12pm Office Hours | <p>7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10am - 12pm Office Hours • 7pm - 7:30pm Vespers • 7:30pm - 9pm Adult Education | <p>8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Lucian • 10am - 12pm Office Hours | <p>9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12pm - 1pm Book Study in Old Town | <p>10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5pm - 6pm Vespers |
| <p>11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Philip • 9am - 10am Choir Practice • 9:30am - 10am Akathist • 10am - 11:45am Divine Liturgy • 12pm - 12:30pm Church School | <p>12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7pm - 8pm Byzantine Chant Class | <p>13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10am - 12pm Office Hours | <p>14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Paraschiva of Iasi • 7am - 8am Divine Liturgy • 10am - 12pm Office Hours • 7pm - 7:30pm Vespers • 7:30pm - 9pm Adult Education | <p>15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10am - 12pm Office Hours | <p>16</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12pm - 1pm Book Study in Old Town | <p>17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5pm - 6pm Vespers |
| <p>18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Luke • 9am - 10am Choir Practice • 9:30am - 10am Memorial: Scala-Robertson • 10am - 11:45am Divine Liturgy • 12pm - 1pm St. Juliana Fellowship | <p>19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:30pm - 9pm Parish Council | <p>20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10am - 12pm Office Hours | <p>21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Bessarion and Oprea • 10am - 12pm Office Hours • 7pm - 7:30pm Vespers • 7:30pm - 9pm Adult Education | <p>22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10am - 12pm Office Hours | <p>23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. James • 12pm - 1pm Book Study in Old Town | <p>24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Memorial Saturday • 4:30pm - 5pm Memorial: All souls • 5pm - 6pm Vespers |
| <p>25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9am - 10am Choir Practice • 9:30am - 10am Akathist • 10am - 11:45am Divine Liturgy • 12pm - 12:30pm Church School • 5pm - 7pm Young in Faith: Bioethics | <p>26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Demetrius • 7am - 8am Divine Liturgy • 7pm - 8pm Byzantine Chant Class | <p>27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10am - 12pm Office Hours • 7:30pm - 9pm Women's Bible Study | <p>28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10am - 12pm Office Hours • 7pm - 7:30pm Vespers • 7:30pm - 9pm Adult Education | <p>29</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10am - 12pm Office Hours | <p>30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12pm - 1pm Book Study in Old Town | <p>31</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. John of Chicago • 5pm - 6pm Vespers |

GOD GRANT YOU MANY YEARS!



OCTOBER COFFEE HOUR SPONSORS

October Birthdays

- Mihai Boicu
- Andrea Boicu
- Carrie Compton
- Joe Cox
- Nick Dujmovic
- Paul Koory
- Christina Kozemchak-Hardy
- Michelle Lunn
- Denise Manos
- Dorina Maxim
- Stephen Miroy
- Jerry Rij III
- Tina Scala
- Seraphina Popa-Scheifele
- 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

It is time to register for Coffee Hour! According to our online sign up, there are NO hosts for most of October and all of November! People are needed to sign up as a group (not an individual) to sponsor coffee our. All coffee, plates and utensils are provided by the church. We need 2 groups: One for adults and one for Church School (about 25 children) Please visit <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0a4caead29abf49-fellowship> to sign up!

October 4: SPONSORS NEEDED FOR ALL GROUPS!

October 11: SPONSORS NEEDED FOR ALL GROUPS!

October 18: Scala/Robertson Family Memorial Meal (Pomana) in memory of founders Armand Scala and Marie Scala-Ficken

October 25: SPONSORS NEEDED FOR ALL GROUPS!

November 1: SPONSORS NEEDED FOR ALL GROUPS!

November 8: SPONSORS NEEDED FOR ALL GROUPS!

LORD'S PRAYER



GERMAN! This month's prayer leader is Michi Duta. Michi, St. Mary Choir member, is a native of Austria.



AROUND THE COFFEE URN

News and events percolating at St. Mary and communities

New Season of Exciting Educational Opportunities for Youth and Young Adults!

This month we are pleased to announce a new season of YYA Ministries with two programs:

Young in Faith (ages 19 and over) is hosting a 5 month lecture series on **Bioethics**. Open to the public, this lecture series will be co-taught by **Dr. David Fernandez** (PhD. Assistant Professor of Biology at NOVA) and **Fr. David Subu**. Dr. Topics covered included: Stem Cell Research, Euthanasia, Genetic/Eugenic therapy, Vaccines, and Environmental Science. **First class is Sunday Oct. 25 at 5:00 PM at St. Mary's**. Please bring a dish to pass as usual.

We are also pleased to announce the revival of **Youth Group Ministry** (ages 12-18) here at St. Mary! Our first meeting on **Sunday October 18, 5:00 PM at the Liu home** in Vienna for pizza and fellowship. Many thanks to Nicole Wright (former OCF Chapter President at The College of William and Mary) as our lay leader.

We encourage full participation this year to attend these ministries, which will surely enrich your spiritual life!

St. Juliana Fellowship Meeting October 18

The St. Juliana Fellowship will be meeting on Sunday, October 18, following Divine Liturgy. The Fellowship is comprised of men and woman who help with fundraising opportunities to support Orthodox and local charities, as well as any needs of Fr. David and Parish Council. Upcoming activities to plan is the annual Nativity Soup Luncheon, Lenten Retreat, and other activities. New faces are welcomed!

**DEADLINE FOR OCTOBER ISSUE:
OCTOBER 25**

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING "THE VEIL" NEWSLETTER!

After 8 years of publishing "The Veil" newsletter, Preoteasa Stephanie is seeking her replacement for designing and publishing our monthly parish publication. She has entered a new chapter in her life and finds that she no longer has time that is required to produce a quality newsletter each month. With the growing trend in mobile technology, it is time to bring on board persons with fresh ideas as to how to deliver our message and keep parishioners and friends in touch with the events and news of St. Mary. Preoteasa Stephanie is still able to send out the newsletter through Constant Contact and post to our social media pages and website.

If you are interested in becoming the new publisher of "The Veil" newsletter, please speak with the Editor-in-Chief, Fr. David Subu.

Leaders of the Pack at this year's 1950s Dinner Dance and Silent Auction!



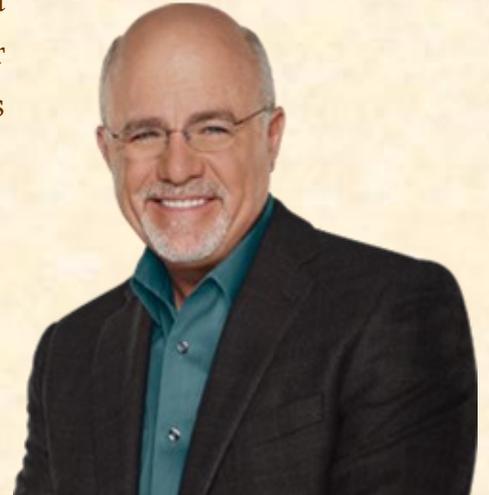
Thank you to all of those who came out for a night of FUNdraising and fellowship! We raised \$6000 to go towards our general fund to improve our facilities at St. Mary!

Financial Peace University: *The Legacy Journey* **Beginning October 28**

[The Legacy Journey](#) is an all-new, seven-week, biblically based class that teaches you how to truly live and leave a legacy for generations to come. This class will lead you deeper into investing, basic estate planning, purposeful living, safeguarding your legacy, and discovering the keys to generational wealth and true generosity. Through video teaching, class discussions and interactive small-group activities, you'll learn a biblical framework for living intentionally now so that later you'll be able to leave a legacy that will secure your family's future and make a lasting impact on the world around you.

Grow it. Live it. Share it.

To sign up, please contact Fr. David Subu



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