



The Veil

The Divine Masquerade

This year's Dinner/Dance theme is "Masquerade Ball," a tradition that is better known to us from the Italian Renaissance but also was popular for a time in colonial America. In Venice, public masquerades became tied to the Carnival, the celebration before Lent. And of course, the wearing of masks and costumes in America is intimately bound with the celebration of Halloween. In traditionally Orthodox countries like Romania, there are similar folk traditions involving costumes and masks (cf. Romanian *Calusari*, hobby-horse dancers) that are of similar debatable origin. Not surprisingly then, it has not always had the best reputation. One might even ask if wearing masks can be a Christian practice, since it tends to effect a type of deception. But things are not always as they seem on the surface...

The idea of masking, or covering the face, is very ancient, almost a universal human practice. But we can even find it, in a sense, in Scripture. Quite literally, Moses had to cover or veil his face after descending the mountain:

Exodus 34:29-35: ²⁹ Now it was so, when Moses came down from Mount Sinai (and the two tablets of the Testimony were in Moses' hand when he came down from the mountain), that Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone while he talked with Him. ³⁰ So when Aaron and all the children of Israel saw Moses, behold, the skin of his face shone, and they were afraid to come near him. ³¹ Then Moses called to them, and Aaron and all the rulers of the congregation returned to him; and Moses talked with them. ³² Afterward all the children of Israel came near, and he gave them as commandments all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. ³³ And when Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face. ³⁴ But whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with Him, he would take the veil off until he came out; and he would come out and speak to the children of Israel whatever he had been commanded. ³⁵ And whenever the children of

Israel saw the face of Moses, that the skin of Moses' face shone, then Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with Him.

Proximity to holiness demanded a covering. The holy of holies and the altar were also covered with a special veil, to divide "the Holy from the Most Holy" (or "Holy of Holies"). In other cases we see that the Hebrews understood the danger of holiness—that to see God could be fatal (cf. Manoah in Judges 13:22). Indeed, the word Apocalypse, which we now associate generally with major calamity, only means "Unveiling" or "Uncovering." This imagery also comes full circle at the Transfiguration, when Christ is revealed (or rather, *unveiled*) before his disciples. It was almost unbearable, and they threw themselves to the ground before the revelation of His glory. Transfiguration literally means "changing of the face," which is how it is translated into Romanian (*Schimbata de fata*). Throughout the Old Testament, God is hidden through what we call *types* and *figures*, masks, if you will, of His divinity. These types and figures and revealed in the New Testament in the person of Jesus Christ.

Now the process of revelation is reversed because "when one turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away." (2 Cor. 3:16) Or rather, there is a new Veil through which we pass: "a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh..." (Heb. 10:20) We, who once could not see God who was masked from us, now clothe ourselves in Christ through baptism, "and have put on the new *man* who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him..." (Col. 3:10).

At the turn of this month we will begin celebrating the feast of the Protection of the Mother of God, of her Protecting Veil, which she holds up in prayer over the faithful. Let us take this time of celebration to give thanks for the unveiling love of her Son and our God, the Lord Jesus Christ, forever, amen.



Church School News

Another year of learning and growing is starting for the Church School. The first day of classes is Sunday, September 18. The teachers are dedicated and eager to welcome the children from pre-K to 12th grade.

Please register at the church picnic on Sunday, September 11!

Irene Liu and Renee Lerner
co-directors



God Grant You Many Years!

Bob and Paula Yuskavage will be celebrating their 39th wedding anniversary September 3, 2016.

Names Day : Rosemary Lorentz - St. Rose of Sardinia (September 1)

Birthday : Rosemary Lorentz (September 2)

Church Family Mask Making Party! Bring your kids!

Saturday, September 24th in the Church Social Hall

Liturgy 10 am

Brunch 11:00-11:30 am

Mask Making 11:30 – 1:00 PM



Traffic and Love of Neighbor

Subdeacon Nicholas Jones

Traffic congestion can be a huge source of frustration and anger for much of society, and us Orthodox Christians are not immune to its impact. As I have been given more and more opportunities to sit in traffic over the past few years, I have begun to ponder why this frustration occurs, and how do we overcome it? Or, can we overcome it? Let us ponder this dilemma for a moment.

I wake up on time to get to work under perfect conditions, but alas there is traffic on my route. Now this is a problem, because I did not plan for the traffic. There are hundreds of cars sitting between me and where I need to be; they are blocking the road, and not moving quickly while doing so! What is my best option? First, I could try to swerve in and out of traffic, making incremental advances and cutting off my neighbor. Second, I could take some back roads, which inevitably are also quite crowded by cars trying the same tactic. Third, I could pay for the Express Lanes, if they are available, and make a quick bypass of much of the traffic; but the Express Lanes are often going well below the speed limit, which is quite troublesome, as well... Fourth, I could just sit in the traffic, but what do I do between braking and applying the gas?

It seems to me that our difficulty with traffic stems from our love of neighbor, or lack thereof, and our connection to society as a whole. We often have a desire to live an isolated life, separated from those around us, but as I have sat there, I have come to realize that it is Christ in each car around us. Each car has a beginning, and each car has a destination. We are all in this pilgrimage together, and each day is a journey towards salvation. Yet, on the road, it seems like we are individuals, fighting against each other to get the upper edge. There have been many times when I place my blinker on, as I get closer to the exit, and no one will let me in;

interestingly, the other lane isn't going any faster, either, yet the path remains closed to my car and me. Often this path remains closed, because if I let someone in, they will delay my own journey, and that is the journey I am concerned about.

If we remain as individuals, we won't let anyone in, and shouldn't do so. This is a war, and I will hold my ground! However, let us change the picture. We are a family, all here to help each other out. Everyone is trying their best. When we see a blinker, we jump for the opportunity to assist our neighbor, because they are in need. While we may not be able to help our brethren begging on the sidewalk due to our busy schedules, can we at least help our brethren on the roadway, begging for a little assistance? If someone cuts us off, let us thank the Lord that they made it safely, since they seem to have somewhere important to go. If the path in front of us opens up, why do we rush to close it, increasing our speed, when we could accelerate more slowly, easing the burden on someone trying to cross four lanes of traffic to get to the imminently approaching exit ramp?

Everyone in the cars around us is our neighbor. Together, we make a family. Everyone is in need of assistance and help, and we are given countless opportunities to minister to our brothers and sisters. Do we harness the opportunity? Every moment, we are given a chance to serve our neighbor, but it can often be cloaked by the metal automobile around us, or the rush we are in. But we have a great calling to sanctify the road around us, and bring peace to those sitting in traffic with us. Let us be that beacon. Let us transform the world. Let us commend ourselves and each other, and our whole life, every aspect of it, unto Christ our God.



Masquerade Ball

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2016, DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 PM

WHERE: ST. LUKE ORTHODOX CHURCH , 6801 GEORGETOWN PIKE, MCLEAN, VA 22101

ATTIRE: SEMI-FORMAL OR THEMATIC ATTIRE REQUESTED.

TICKETS: \$50 EACH. REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.STMARYORTHODOX.ORG OR CONTACT DIONNE MANOS AT 703-674-6145. PROCEEDS GO TO THE ARCHITECTURE FUND.

Schedule of Events

10:00 A.M. LITURGY FOR FEAST OF THE HOLY PROTECTION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD, ST. MARY'S

7:00 P.M. DINNER IS SERVED, PRAYER BY FR. DAVID SUBU

5:00 P.M. EVENING VESPERS, ST. LUKE'S

7:30 P.M. DESSERT FRENZY AND BEST MASK COMPETITION

5:30 P.M. DINNER DANCE! DOORS OPEN AND SILENT AUCTION BEGINS, ST. LUKE'S

9:00 P.M. SILENT AUCTION CLOSES





Dessert Frenzy – Live Auction!



Crepes Suzette
Crepes with orange flambéed sauce
By Subdeacon Nick Jones



Paleo Flourless Chocolate Cake with Raspberry Apricot Glaze
By Doris Schepian

Silent Auction

A Sample of Donations



86 Days till Christmas!
A series of Advent and Christmas feast day ornaments for your tree!



Singaporean Malaysian Dinner
Service for up to 8 people



Pretty in Pink and Pearls
Metal with low embossing, painted gold leaf porcelain, crystals and pearls.



Hanly & Mansome
Receive this package filled with all things manly



It's Who You Know
Comprehensive college advising from Jonathan Jacobson, Ph.D



Exclusive Wine Tour
Tour wineries Zephaniah and Cassanel Vineyards

And much more! Interested in becoming a sponsor? Contact Stephanie Elko at s.elko1290@gmail.com



ST. JULIANA FELLOWSHIP ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE

Proceeds will support church handicap access renovations

Saturday, September 10, 2016 **9:00AM – 1:00PM** St. Mary's Fellowship Hall

Clean out those closets! It is time once again for St. Mary's to turn your unused items into treasure!

Donations will be accepted beginning Sunday September 4, 2016.

Items can be placed into the Junior High classroom

Donors **must** adhere to the following list :

WILL ACCEPT	CANNOT ACCEPT
Clothing (no holes, stains and MUST be laundered)	Undergarments
Toys (must work & have all parts)	Large furniture items
Small Furniture	Items that do not work
Small Appliances	Items that are missing pieces/parts
Housewares	Stained and/or torn clothing
Coats & Jackets	VHS and cassette tapes
DVDs/Books/CDs (tasteful please)	Cribs, car seats, bassinets
WE CANNOT ACCEPT ELECTRONICS UNTIL THEY HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY LORI JACOBSON	
Please be mindful of items you plan to donate. If you wouldn't give it to your picky relative, please don't bring it here	

We are in need of volunteers

Any amount of time you can give will be very much appreciated

Accept donations & set up	Wednesday. 9/7/2016; Thursday 9/8/2016; Friday 9/9/2016 11:00 AM – 8:00 PM Sort, tag and organize items for the sale	
Day of the sale; Saturday 9/10/16	8:00AM – 2:00PM	Come for the entire time or for an hour or 2
Sunday, 9/11/16	Following Divine Liturgy	We'll be selling items for an hour
TBD		Clean up

Additional volunteer requests:

- o Do you speak Spanish? Your language talents would be very helpful!

Do you have plastic grocery shopping bags? We need them to pack up our customers' purchases.

Questions or to volunteer your time call Sarah Zimmerli at 703-323-1774 (H) or 703-598-8544 (C)





SEPTEMBER 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9:30am - 11am Divine Liturgy • 11am - 12pm Fellowship 	<p>5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Labor Day 	<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 - 8pm Great Vespers with litya 	<p>8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nativity of Theotokos • 10am - 11am Festal Liturgy • 10am - 12pm Office Hours 	<p>9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sts. Joachim and Anna • 10am - 12pm Office Hours • 12pm - 1pm Book Study 	<p>10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8am - 3pm RUMMAGE SALE • 5pm - 6pm Vespers
<p>11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9am - 10am Choir Practice • 10am - 11:40am Divine Liturgy • 11:40am - 1:10pm Parish Picnic (Tyler Park) 	<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"> • Exaltation of the Holy Cross • 7am - 8am Divine Liturgy • 10am - 12pm Office Hours • 7pm - 7:30pm Vespers • 7:30pm - 8:45pm Adult Education 	<p>15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10am - 12pm Office Hours 	<p>16</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10am - 12pm Office Hours • 12pm - 1pm Book Study 	<p>17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Martyrs Sophia, Faith, Hope, and Love • 5pm - 6pm Vespers
<p>18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9am - 10am Choir Practice • 10am - 11:40am Divine Liturgy • 11:40am - 12:30pm Fellowship/ Church School 	<p>19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7pm - 8pm Byzantine Chant Class 	<p>20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10am - 12pm Office Hours • 7pm - 8pm Financial Peace University 	<p>21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10am - 12pm Office Hours • 7pm - 7:30pm Vespers • 7:30pm - 8:45pm Adult Education 	<p>22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10am - 12pm Office Hours • 7pm - 8:30pm Parish Council 	<p>23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conception of St. John • 10am - 12pm Office Hours • 12pm - 1pm Book Study 	<p>24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sts. Peter and Juvenaly of Alaska • 10am - 11am Divine Liturgy • 11:30am - 1pm Masquerade Workshop • 5pm - 6pm Vespers
<p>25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9am - 10am Choir Practice • 10am - 11:40am Divine Liturgy • 11:40am - 12:30pm Fellowship/ Church School 	<p>26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7pm - 8pm Byzantine Chant Class 	<p>27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10am - 12pm Office Hours • 7pm - 8pm Financial Peace University • 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 - 8:45pm Adult Education 	<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 • 12pm - 1pm Book Study • 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 • 5pm - 6pm Vespers @ St. Luke • 6pm - 11pm DINNER DANCE

Please view the website calendar for the most up to date information





"The Veil" Monthly Journal

Protection of the Holy Mother of God Orthodox Church Romanian Orthodox Episcopate, OCA

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