

# THE VEIL

The Monthly Journal Covering The News at St. Mary



## PILGRIMAGE TO THE DORMITION MONASTERY

By Subdeacon Nicholas Jones

Pilgrimage is a part of our Orthodox lives. With our destination as the Kingdom of God, everyday of our life is a journey, not just towards "a" holy place, but towards "the" holy place. As a Church, we travel together, and sometimes that journey to the Kingdom includes a physical trip over land, sea, or air. Recently, three of us received the blessing of joining the nuns of the [Dormition Monastery](#) in Rives Junction, MI for their Patronal Feast Day, along with His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon and His Eminence, Archbishop Nathaniel. It was a long drive with only a quick stay...but, oh, was it worth it!

The traveling team consisted of Patricia and Subdeacon Nicholas, along with Majd of Sts. Peter and Paul (Potomac, MD). We left on Thursday afternoon, August 13, arriving late that night at the Monastery. The grounds of the monastery are gorgeous, and quiet. There was much tangible peace in the air upon our arrival; not just quietness, but peace. For us city dwellers, there was also an abundance of stars, enough to increase the sense of wonder at the beauty and mystery of God's creation.

Friday morning began with 5am services, then preparations of the grounds for the 600+ expected pilgrims over the next two days. We were brought specifically to chant...so we were told to rest up, due to our late arrival. But, there is a large amount of work that goes into these festal services, so extra help is always welcome! After lunch, we assembled some of our choir members to practice the many pages of music we'd be chanting during the services. We then sat down with Mother Gabriella and one of the sisters, to make sure we had our chanting plan organized; since we were chanting antiphonally with the nuns, good order is necessary (they were the lead right choir; we were the left choir).

Shortly after dinner, the Vigil (Vespers + Matins) began, lasting a little over 4 hours. The time flew by, and just listening to the nuns chant as a single voice with a

timeless pace is enough to calm the soul. We tried our best, of course, to glorify God and continue their pattern. In addition to the normal Vespers and Matins service, the Feast of the Dormition also includes Lamentations to the Mother of God and a procession around the Church, in imitation of the Holy Friday Evening service. The Church itself was packed, and nature contributed some impressive thunder, although everything was dry for the procession (with some ominous, dry lightning continuing in the distance).

The next morning began with an Akathist for the Dormition, followed by a procession to the outdoor Chapel with the Hierarchs, clergy, monastics, and faithful. We were already set at the Chapel to welcome the Hierarchs with hymns to the Mother of God. While the Divine Liturgy continued as most Divine Liturgies do, there is a certain fullness to the service when you see dozens of serving clergy, five deacons, and hundreds of faithful. Both before and during the beginning of the Liturgy, there were a few clergy stationed on the sides to hear the confessions of those in need of cleansing; this too is an amazing scene. It is a great equalizer when you see people of all ages, humbling themselves in the open to be washed clean by the act of repentance. When it was time for the Eucharist, we had a lot of music prepared; the line just kept going, and we just kept chanting. The Bishops would periodically come to the various chalices to see if anyone needed more of the Body and Blood of Christ. It was a great time of patience for both the faithful and for us, the chanters, but also a wonderful moment of Orthodox solidarity. It is not every day that you gather with hundreds of faithful to worship the triune God.

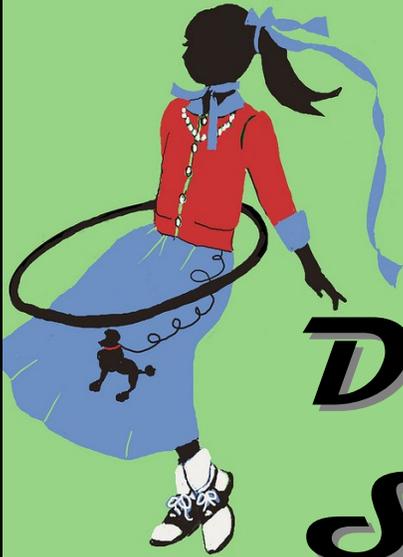
After Liturgy, we chanted the post-Communion prayers, had lunch, and then went off with the blessing of the Mother of God, and some gift bags from Mother Gabriella. At Nick's request, we also stopped for ice cream at "The Parlour" in Jackson, MI. It is definitely a necessary stop on the pilgrimage...one scoop is the size of a softball!



(Continued on page 3)

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

*Rock Around the Clock as we celebrate our  
Parish Feast Anniversary!*



**1950s**

***Dinner Dance &  
Silent Auction***

Bust out the poodle skirts, saddle shoes and leather jackets and enjoy an evening 1950s music and nostalgia! Enjoy appetizers, fully catered dinner, dessert and themed beverages!

**Live DJ! Entertainment! 50/50 Raffle! Dessert Frenzy!**

***Saturday, September 26***

6:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m.

Hosted at St. Luke Orthodox Church  
McLean, VA

21 and over only. Semi-formal or thematic attire.  
Suggested Donation \$50/person

**Paid Reservations Required by September 13**  
Please contact organizer Eleni Woglom at  
[elenibw@yahoo.com](mailto:elenibw@yahoo.com)

There were many observations over the few days, so we wanted to highlight a few. The first thing to note is the amazing hospitality of the nuns, in the midst of such a busy few days. They gave all of us a place to sleep and food to eat, and were very appreciative of our presence. They were all wonderful to be around. And the food was delicious...the fasting food was just as good, if not better, than the non-fasting food.



To match their hospitable character, the church, guesthouse, and grounds are beautiful. It is such a wonderful environment to be in, and it compliments their life so nicely. The Church Iconography was of particular note (even though it is not completely finished, yet). Everything was artfully done, with delicate planning; the balance of the male and female saints was educational, and motivational. For a more detailed description of the iconographic layout, talk with Patricia.

Continuing with hospitality, Archbishop Nathaniel invited Metropolitan Tikhon to join in the festal services. While this is not anything specifically of note, we don't always get to see Abp. Nathaniel serve with other bishops. While he may be the oldest and longest serving of the bishops in the OCA, Metropolitan Tikhon is still senior to him liturgically. It gave us a unique opportunity to see His Eminence play a less dominant role. While he is still a bishop, there was humility in every action, as the position of honor is transferred to Metropolitan Tikhon. Archbishop Nathaniel's role was one of "brother bishop". At the end of the Vigil, he still anointed himself, but he was *given* the brush by His Beatitude. At the Eucharist, he still communed himself, but it was at the invitation to the table by His Beatitude. As Metropolitan Tikhon mentioned in his sermon, everyone (in Orthodoxy) is in obedience to someone else. Even if you're the "head", you're still in obedience. In fact, as he noted, the leader is in obedience to all, beyond just his spiritual director. Similarly, when serving by themselves, our priests commune themselves; but, when serving with the Bishop, the Bishop communes them, since he is our father in Christ.

Speaking of humility and obedience, as we were finalizing our musical plans, the Metropolitan's Deacon

stopped by to finalize a few things of his own. That's when the service became truly American! Since we all were coming from different traditions, the service structure began to morph into a hybrid Romanian/Russian/Greek/Antiochian practice, and it became evident that it is not the service structure or practice that is of foremost concern, but the true worship of God! While many of us ponder what a unified American Orthodoxy will look like, it was very neat to participate in a Festal service that began to iron out some of those tiny differences.

The pilgrimage was definitely worth it. God willing, we will make it back again some day, and we would definitely encourage everyone to try to make a trip up to the Monastery, for the Feast Day or any day. In the meanwhile, Metropolitan Tikhon reminded all of us pilgrims that the internal spiritual journey is also a pilgrimage. And it is this internal pilgrimage that is of utmost importance. The external pilgrimage is not the goal, but a helper, to reinvigorate the soul and reestablish a Godly zeal that may have waned a bit. Let us journey together to the Garden of Paradise in the Kingdom of God, realizing that every step is a part of that journey, even if we don't recognize it as the beautiful pilgrimage that it is.

By the way...did you know that the origin of the term "parishioner" comes from the Greek word for "sojourner"? Our role in the Church is not "static" but always moving forward!

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

Archbishop NATHANIEL of Detroit, Hierarch  
Rev. Fr. David G. Subu, Pastor  
Protodeacon Peter Danilchick, Parish Deacon  
Nicholas Dujmovic, Parish Deacon  
Eugene Huang, Parish Subdeacon  
Nicholas Jones, Parish Subdeacon  
Marian Maxim, Parish Subdeacon  
Ken Liu, Parish Council President  
Eleni Woglom, Choir Director  
Renee Lerner & Irene Liu, Sunday School Principals  
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Layout & Graphics: Psa. Stephanie Subu

# DOXACON MEETS Harry Potter

November 13-14, 2015  
Washington, DC



John Granger



Ben Anderson



Mitchell Balan



Brenda W. Clough



Deacon Nicholas Dujmovic



Peter Fendrich



Dr. Jonathan Jacobson



Rev. Fr. Ted Paraskevopoulos



Fr. Ernesto Obregon



L. Jagi Lamplighter



Leah Libresco



Matthew Silver

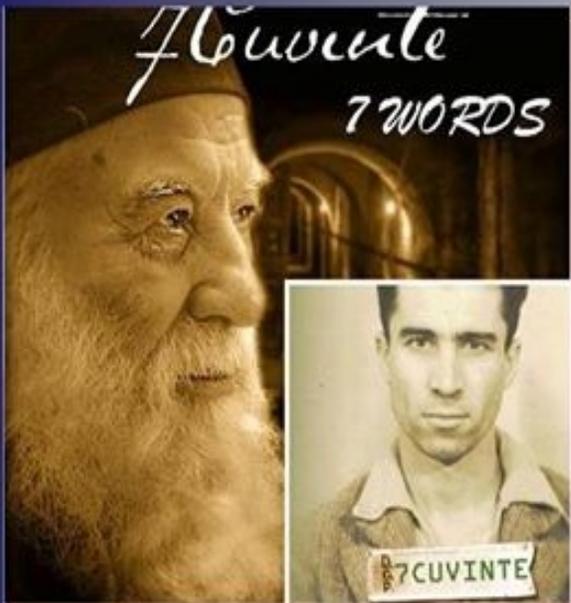


Fr. David G. Subu



John C. Wright

Register by September 30 to receive early-owl pricing! All ticket sales end October 31!  
Tickets will not be sold at the door. Visit [www.doxacon.org/dc](http://www.doxacon.org/dc) to register online or by mail!



## "7 WORDS" MOVIE PREMIER

Saturday, September 19th, 2015  
ST MARY ORTHODOX CHURCH

( 7223 Roosevelt Ave, Falls Church, VA 22042 )

5:00 P.M.-9:00 P.M.

<http://7wordsmovie.com/>

\* Free Entrance

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>30</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9am - 9:30am Choir/Akathist</li> <li>• 9:30am - 11am Divine Liturgy</li> </ul>	<p><b>31</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7pm - 8pm Byzantine Chant Class</li> </ul>	<p><b>1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Church New Year</li> </ul>	<p><b>2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7pm - 7:45pm Vespers</li> </ul>	<p><b>3</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Episcopate Congress (Cleveland)</li> </ul>	<p><b>4</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Episcopate Congress (Cleveland)</li> </ul>	<p><b>5</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Episcopate Congress (Cleveland)</li> </ul>
<p><b>6</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9:30am - 11am Divine Liturgy</li> </ul>	<p><b>7</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Labor Day</li> </ul>	<p><b>8</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nativity of Theotokos</li> <li>• Parish Hall Reserved</li> <li>• 10am - 11am Festal Liturgy</li> </ul>	<p><b>9</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sts. Joachim and Anna</li> <li>• Parish Hall Reserved</li> <li>• 10am - 12pm Office Hours</li> <li>• 7pm - 7:30pm Vespers</li> </ul>	<p><b>10</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Hall Reserved</li> <li>• 10am - 12pm Office Hours</li> </ul>	<p><b>11</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Hall Reserved</li> <li>• 10am - 12pm Office Hours</li> </ul>	<p><b>12</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9am - 3pm RUMMAGE SALE</li> <li>• 5pm - 6pm Vespers with Group Confession</li> </ul>
<p><b>13</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9am - 10am Choir Practice</li> <li>• 9:30am - 10am Akathist</li> <li>• 10am - 11:45am Divine Liturgy</li> <li>• 11:30am - 1:30pm PARISH PICNIC</li> </ul>	<p><b>14</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exaltation of the Holy Cross (Strict fast)</li> <li>• 7am - 8am Festal Liturgy</li> <li>• 7pm - 8pm Byzantine Chant Class</li> <li>• 7:30pm - 8:30pm NAMI: Family Support</li> </ul>	<p><b>15</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10am - 12pm Office Hours</li> <li>• 5pm - 7:30pm Office Hours</li> <li>• 7:30pm - 9:30pm Parish Council</li> </ul>	<p><b>16</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10am - 12pm Office Hours</li> <li>• 7pm - 7:30pm Vespers</li> <li>• 7:30pm - 9pm Adult Education</li> </ul>	<p><b>17</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sts. Sophia, Faith, Hope and Love</li> <li>• 7am - 8am Divine Liturgy</li> <li>• 10am - 12pm Office Hours</li> </ul>	<p><b>18</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10am - 12pm Office Hours</li> </ul>	<p><b>19</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5pm - 6pm Vespers with confessions</li> <li>• 6pm - 9pm Fr. Calicu Film Premier</li> </ul>
<p><b>20</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9am - 10am Choir Practice</li> <li>• 9:30am - 10am Akathist</li> <li>• 10am - 11:45am Divine Liturgy</li> <li>• 12pm - 12:30pm Church School</li> </ul>	<p><b>21</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7pm - 8pm Byzantine Chant Class</li> </ul>	<p><b>22</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10am - 12pm Office Hours</li> </ul>	<p><b>23</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10am - 12pm Office Hours</li> <li>• 7pm - 7:30pm Vespers</li> <li>• 7:30pm - 9pm Adult Education</li> </ul>	<p><b>24</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All Saints of Alaska</li> <li>• 7am - 8am Divine Liturgy</li> <li>• 10am - 12pm Office Hours</li> </ul>	<p><b>25</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10am - 12pm Office Hours</li> </ul>	<p><b>26</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5pm - 6pm Vespers with confessions</li> <li>• 6pm - 11pm DINNER DANCE</li> </ul>
<p><b>27</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9am - 10am Choir Practice</li> <li>• 9:30am - 10am Akathist</li> <li>• 10am - 11:45am Divine Liturgy</li> <li>• 12pm - 12:30pm Church School</li> </ul>	<p><b>28</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7pm - 8pm Byzantine Chant Class</li> </ul>	<p><b>29</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10am - 12pm Office Hours</li> </ul>	<p><b>30</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10am - 12pm Office Hours</li> <li>• 7pm - 8pm Great Vespers with litya</li> <li>• 7:30pm - 9pm Adult Education</li> </ul>	<p><b>1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protection of the Mother of God</li> <li>• 7am - 8am Divine Liturgy</li> <li>• 10am - 12pm Office Hours</li> </ul>	<p><b>2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10am - 12pm Office Hours</li> </ul>	<p><b>3</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5pm - 6pm Vespers with confessions</li> </ul>

# GOD GRANT YOU MANY YEARS!



## September Birthdays

- Alexandra Boicu
- Brian King
- Daniel Silver
- David Cheplick
- Eva Marie Beranek
- Father David Subu
- John Grecco
- Kathy Miroy
- Matthew Cleary
- Matthew Tan
- Melissa Koltos
- Patricia Balzer
- Phil King
- Rosemary Lorentz
- Sally Apodaca
- Stephanie Czura

## September Anniversaries

- 1 Alexander Yuskavage and Sannon Mok
- 3 Robert & Paula Yuskavage
- 3 John & Nancy Koory
- 7 Hans & Andra Scheifele
- 11 Stephen & Stephanie Zimmerli
- 18 Deacon Nicholas & Cathy Dujmovic

## September Saint's Name Days

- 1 St. Rose of Sardinia: Rosemary Lorentz
- 6 St David of Egypt: Fr. David Subu
- 6 Archangel Michael: Forest (Michael) Thola, Michael Thola
- 9 Righteous Anna, Mother of the Theotokos: Anna Lerner; Anna Rij
- 14 Elevation of the Cross: Nicholas Cleary
- 17 Martyrs St. Sophia and Her daughters Faith, Hope and Love: Nadine (Hope) Thola; Sophia Coleman; Sophia Cleary; Sophia Dill

# SEPTEMBER COFFEE HOUR SPONSORS



It is time to register for Coffee Hour! According to our online sign up, there are NO hosts for the month of September! Aside from the Parish Picnic on September 13, 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. Please visit <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0a4caead29abf49-fellowship> to sign up!

**September 13:** PARISH PICNIC AT TYLER PARK

**September 20:** Liu: Church School  
**SPONSORS NEEDED FOR ADULTS**

**September 27:** Romanovskya: Adults  
**SPONSORS NEEDED FOR CHURCH SCHOOL AND ADULTS**

October 4: NO SPONSORS

# EPISTLE READER



Eugene Huang



## REGULAR HOURS WILL RETURN

The Dog Days of summer are winding down, but the busy Fall season is soon winding up... as well as our Sunday service schedule!

### BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 13

- 9:00 a.m. Choir Practice
- 9:30 a.m. Akathist
- 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
- 11:30 a.m. Coffee Hour/ Church School



## AROUND THE COFFEE URN

News and events  
percolating at St. Mary's

### GRADUATING CLASS OF FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY FINDING SUCCESS!

St. Mary held its first Financial Peace University course this past May-July on Wednesday evenings. Led by Financial Peace University Coordinator, Col. Doug Matty, students learned about Biblical and practical principles of being wise stewards of money. Founded by money management expert, Dave Ramsey, FPU provided an opportunity for some of our parishioners to learn to get out of debt, cut up credit cards, and live within their means. The goal – "To live like no other to give like no other".

FPU graduate, Dionne Manos, writes: "I'm so thankful for everything I learned through Financial Peace University. Some of the most important skills I gained were budgeting, retirement planning, and 'feeling money' by using cash. Now, I'm able to look ahead with my money and tell it exactly where to go to do the most good. I can invest more into projects I love and build my savings account. I recommend this class to everyone because no matter where you're at in life it's extremely important to be aware of your finances and to understand all of your options."

Father David and Doug are in the process of planning another FPU for beginners, teens, as well as a follow up class for current graduates. If you would like to know more about FPU, please do not hesitate to contact Fr. David or [Doug Matty](#).

### CHURCH SCHOOL REGISTRATION SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

The **St. Mary Church School** is starting a new year of learning about life in Christ. We have an excellent group of teachers who are looking forward to seeing the children with freshly painted classrooms to greet them!

To streamline registration, parents of returning students will receive a roster via email to check for accuracy. Parents of new students should request a registration form from Renee Lerner at [rlerner@law.gwu.edu](mailto:rlerner@law.gwu.edu). The deadline for registration is **Sunday, September 13**. Classes begin after Liturgy on **Sunday, September 20**. The co-directors of the Church School are Irene Liu and Renee Lerner.

## ORTHODOX WOMEN'S RETREAT WITH SISTER REBECCA

Please join Sister Rebecca, of New Skete Monastery in New York, as she reflects on the woman with the hemorrhage in St. Mark's Gospel. This is a beautiful opportunity for Orthodox women to acknowledge their wholeness in Christ and to recognize their gifts to serve God. Sister Rebecca will also be available during her stay at St. Nicholas to see women who seek spiritual direction.

When: Wednesday, Sept. 9 from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM

Where: St. Nicholas **Rectory** (house at 3523 Edmunds Washington, D.C. 20007)

What: "Your Faith Has Made You Whole": Christ's Call to Women to Spiritual Service

RSVP for retreat and/or individual spiritual direction to Mary Jane Maxwell at [maxwell.maryjane@gmail.com](mailto:maxwell.maryjane@gmail.com) or call [\(802\) 342-1823](tel:8023421823)

**September 12 at 4:00 PM:**  
**Reflection on Prayer of the Heart (Silent Prayer)**

When: Saturday, September 11 at 4:00

Where: St. Nicholas Cathedral

Topic: Reflection on Prayer of the Heart: Silent Prayer

**September 13 at 11:00 AM:**  
**Reflection on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross**

When: 11:00 AM during coffee hour

Where: St. Nicholas Cathedral basement

Topic: A Reflection on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

DEADLINE FOR OCTOBER ISSUE:  
**SEPTEMBER 25**

# End of Summer Parish BBQ and Picnic

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13**

**Following Divine Liturgy, we move coffee hour to the great outdoors next door at Tyler Park!**

**HAMBURGERS \* HOT DOGS \* SIDE DISHES  
REFRESHMENTS \* CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES**

**Please look for a sign up sheet in the parish hall for food items to bring. Please see Ho Kim to volunteer for set-up and clean-up.**



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Falls Church, Virginia 22042