

*Continued from first page*

hurdle for the soul seeking a meaningful relationship with Christ is the challenge of having meaningful relationships with other Christians. But it is in the joy of these friendships that we encounter the face of Christ assuring us of His love for us more concretely than in any other way.

Lastly, for now, Christian Joy must have a noble purpose. The world today promotes the soul to be selfish and seek happiness for its own sake. But this actually cheapens life and makes it less joyful, as we get sick and tired and bored with each new blunt sensation meant to lift our spirits from the meaningless drudgery of a purposeless life. Over and over in the New Testament, beginning with the Gospel of John, we see the idea that God desires that our joy be full, or fulfilled. Our joy is made full when our life is meeting its God directed and given purpose. When we are in communion with God and His life is entwined with our own, our joy cannot be taken away. It is so essential that we each come to know what our own purpose is in this life and that we live to fulfill that joyous destiny that God had prepared for us before even the world was made.

I close with the closing words of St. Paul to the Philippians, whose joy was fulfilled over and over in the ministry of an apostle: "Therefore, my beloved and longed-for brethren, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, beloved....Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice! Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." (Phil 4:1, 4-7).

*- R. Sandt*

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There will be a Ladies Guild meeting after Divine Liturgy on Sunday  
May 6, 2007. All ladies of the parish are invited and encouraged to  
attend. We will discuss plans for the annual yard sale in June. Please  
join this important ministry of our Church. For more information,  
please contact Carolyn Pritchyk at Amyliza@aol.com  
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**Letter from Jonathan Jacobson, Parish Council President**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Christ is Risen!

I've been thinking lately about the concept of delegation. Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary defines the verb "delegate" as "(1) to entrust [authority] to another, (2) to appoint as one's representative, [and (3)] to assign responsibility or authority."

Delegation is an important part of our daily lives, since no mere mortal can do everything by himself or for himself. Parents delegate household chores to their children. Business managers delegate assignments to their assistants. Federal agencies delegate tasks to their contractors. Citizens of the State of Virginia delegate legislative responsibilities to members of the House of Delegates. Voters across the United States delegate

Federal legislative and executive authority to the Congress and President. The President delegates Executive Branch responsibilities to members of his Cabinet and the civilian and military agencies responsible for promoting justice, domestic tranquility, a common defense against our enemies, and the general welfare of the people of our nation.

Delegation is also part of the history and mission of the Church. When our Lord Jesus Christ appeared to His disciples on the evening following His resurrection, He said to them, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent Me, even so I send you." (John 20:21 RSV) Just prior to His ascension, the risen Lord said to His followers, "You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses [Greek, martyres] in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8) When Christ's Apostles (Greek for "those who are sent", which also happens to be the meaning of "delegate" in Latin) determined that "it is not right we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables," they appointed "seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom... to this duty." (Acts 6:2-3) Later, the "Apostles also knew, through our Lord Jesus Christ, that there would be strife on account of the office of the episcopate. For this reason, therefore, inasmuch as they had obtained a perfect foreknowledge of this, they appointed those [bishops and deacons] already mentioned, and afterwards gave instructions, that when these should fall asleep, other approved men should succeed them in their ministry." (St. Clement of Rome, Letter to the Corinthians, 44, A.D. 96)

For the congregation of St. Mary's, our bishop in succession from the Apostles, His Eminence Archbishop Nathaniel, has delegated pastoral responsibilities to our priest, Fr. David, to be the spiritual father, teacher, and liturgical celebrant of our Parish. The Parish Assembly, in turn, has delegated responsibilities to the Parish Council to administer the secular and financial affairs of the Parish in cooperation with Fr. David. Among the ex officio members of the Parish Council are Protodeacon Peter, Ladies Guild President Carolyn Pritchuk, AROY President Marian Maxim, and the lay delegates (Stephen Berg and Stephen Miroy) appointed to attend the annual Episcopate Congress scheduled for June 28 – July 1, 2007. Fr. David has also delegated specific responsibilities to Parish Council members and other lay leaders to serve on ministry teams focused on Liturgy and Music, Hospitality, Education and Church School, Charity and Outreach, Building and Grounds, Finance, the Icon Project, Strategic Development, and Communications.

But it's not only Fr. David and the Parish Council and ministry team members who are delegates. By virtue of our Baptism and Chrismation into the Orthodox Church, all of us have received responsibilities within the Body of Christ: to join where possible in the prayers and services of the Church; to give as we are able of our time, talents, and treasure to God's work; to encourage each other to live for God in a world full of temptations and tribulations; and to reach out in love towards those who are in need, who are suffering in body or mind or spirit, and who perhaps know little of Christ and His Church. Worship, witness, and "waiting on tables" are all important for commending "ourselves, each other, and our whole life unto Christ our God." None of us is sufficient to do all of these things by himself or herself, but working together in synergy with the Holy Spirit, we can perform the work of God's people both during and after the Sunday morning liturgy.

Have you noticed someone at St. Mary's who has welcomed you, or offered you encouragement, or who has been generous in giving of himself or herself for the sake of others? Please thank him or her. Do you see an opportunity where you can use your gifts to help others within or beyond our Parish community, following the example of our Lord who humbled Himself (Philippians 2:5-11) and came not to be served but to serve (Matthew 20:28)? Please speak with Fr. David, or a member of the Parish Council, or one of the other leaders in the Parish if you are seeking a concrete way to be of service. (Some fields in need of workers are described elsewhere in this newsletter.) And God bless each of you for building up the bonds of faith, hope, and love that unite us to our risen Lord and to each other.

Your brother in Christ,

*Jonathan Jacobson, Parish Council President*

## ***May Birthdays***

- 5 John Ivivic
- 9 John Migyanko IV
- 14 Nicholas White
- 22 Georgia Kazakis
- 24 Bob Yuskavage
- 29 Johnny Gulette
- 31 Michelle Bahumian

## ***May Anniversaries***

- 3 Stanley & Susan Zimmerli Matelski
- 8 Aristotelis & Sarah Psitos
- 8 Antoinette & Tom Robertson
- 14 Elaine & Jack Devine
- 28 Jonathan Chaves & Anna Caravelli
- 30 Nicholas & April Masick

## ***May Saints' Name Days***

- 4 St Monica: Lori Monica Jacobson
- 21 Sts. Constantine & Helen: Eleni Woglom, Constantine Monos, Brian Constantine Zaporowski

## ***Holy Sweat—Yard Workers Wanted***

Our spiritual home has a yard, too—and your help is needed to keep it looking beautiful. Nick Dujmovic is heading up a team of Beautification Committee volunteers to keep St. Mary's mowed and trimmed. If you can commit to a Saturday or two, please call Nick at (703) 242-1432.



## ***Women's Bible Study***

If you ever have considered attending the Women's Bible Study, this would be an excellent time to begin. Led by Stacy Gulette, the group began studying the Gospel of John last month, and anyone who was there will tell you that this multi-part study will be a deeply meaningful personal journey for everyone who is able to attend. The next meeting is Tuesday, May 15, at 7:30 p.m., at the Woglom home in Fairfax. To learn more about the study, call Stacy Gulette at (703) 925-9247. For directions, call Eleni Woglom at (703) 425-0834.

## ***Women's Prayer Group***

The Women's Prayer Group will meet at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 24, at Lisa Jones' home in Falls Church. In this ministry, the women of the parish come together in faith and love to pray for the sick, the hurting, and anyone in need of God's mercy. To participate, or to add a name to the prayer list, contact Lisa Jones at (703) 849-8824 or [LJONES@erols.com](mailto:LJONES@erols.com).

## ***Men's Fellowship Breakfast***

The men meet for delicious food and manly fellowship on the first Saturday morning of each month. Details will be available soon about the June 2 gathering.







## 2007 Pascha and Pentecost Adult Education

Wednesdays 7:30 PM-9:00 PM after 7:00 PM Daily Vespers  
An 8-week series on Basics of the Bible

May 2 Intro: The Origins and Structure of the Bible  
History of the Development of the Scriptures and Canon  
The Meaning of Septuagint, Masoretic, Vulgate, Apocrypha, Deutrocanonical  
The Meaning of Inspiration and Infallibility, Interpretation, and Tradition  
Historical Criticism, Revisionism, Apologetics

May 9 The Old Testament: The Pentateuch  
The Major Figures and Stories of Genesis  
The Exodus: Moses and the Hebrews  
The Law: Leviticus, Deuteronomy



May 16 The Old Testament: The Histories  
Conquest to Kingdom: Joshua, Judges, and 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel  
Kingdom to Captivity: The Books of the Kings, Chronicles,  
Ezra-Nehemiah  
Righteous Women in the OT: Ruth, Esther, Judith, Suzanna  
Later Histories, 1 Esdras, 1-3 Maccabees, Tobit

May 23 The Old Testament: The Wisdom Literature  
Job  
David and the Psalms  
Solomon: Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon,  
Deutrocanonical: Wisdom of Solomon, Sirach (Ecclesiasticus)



May 30 The Old Testament: The Prophets  
The Major Prophets: Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel  
The 12 Minor Prophets  
The Role of Prophecy in Christian life today

June 6 The New Testament: The Gospels and Acts  
The Synoptic Gospels: Matthew, Mark, and Luke  
The Basic Story of Jesus Christ  
The Growth of the Church through the Acts of the Apostles  
The Genius of John the Theologian

June 13 The New Testament: The Epistles  
The Pauline Epistles (Romans through Hebrews)  
James, Peter, John, and Jude

June 20 The New Testament: The Apocalypse  
The Revelation of St. John the Theologian

