

THE VEIL



OCTOBER 2007

The Monthly Journal Covering the News at St. Mary's

TABLE MANNERS

By Fr. David & Psa. Stephanie Subu

Whether raised by mothers, grandmother, aunts, or Godmothers, we all agree that one of the essential daily living elements taught by them is minding our manners and hospitality, especially at the dinner table. We are told to not talk with our mouths full, make rude noises, politely ask to be excused, and to eat everything on our plate! When we are in church, we too are at a dinner table, getting ready to taste the most wonderful food of all, the body and blood of Christ!

Just like at home or as a guest of another's, there are certain mannerisms that everyone should practice when worshipping during the Divine Liturgy. Most importantly, we need to remember that we do not sit at the table alone, but with each other as one family, or body, in Christ. Therefore, it is important that each one of us, as a sum of a whole, be mindful of how we conduct ourselves when at this table and everyone shows cooperation. Following is some "table etiquette" we can all put into practice that will make not only our mother, but our Heavenly Father, pleased:

- 1.) **"Come to Dinner on Time"**- Divine Liturgy begins immediately after Matins is over, at 10:00 AM on Sundays. Enter the Church during Matins so you are not late. There is no such thing as *early*.
- 2.) **"What, Were You Born in a Barn!?"** - The Lord was, but I bet you weren't! When entering or exiting the church, no matter by which door, please open it and close it gently and quietly!

Attention is drawn away from the service when doors are slammed shut or if left open to the sounds of the busy world outside. If someone has left a door open, please close it... quietly.

- 3.) **"Don't Talk with Your Mouths Full"**-*"Let our mouths be filled with Thy praise, O Lord, that we may sing of Thy glory!"* we sing in the Divine Liturgy. Therefore, with the exception of a whispered polite greeting to welcome each other and especially guests and visitors, please refrain from idle chat in the narthex. The high ceiling amplifies noise, which carries into the sanctuary. Also refrain from conversation in the sanctuary while communion is being received and during the veneration of the cross following dismissal.
- 4.) **"Know When to Be Seated"**- Should you need to leave the service at some point, please be aware when it is and is not appropriate to enter or leave the sanctuary during Divine Liturgy. In particular, please do not enter the church to be seated during the readings, the sermon, or the Anaphora (i.e., the consecration of the Holy Gifts).
- 5.) **"Don't Play at the Table"** - Please do not bring hard toys of any kind to church. This includes cell phones, Blackberries, and Bluetooth's for the adults and cars, hard plastic dolls, coloring supplies, or anything that will make a noise if hit against the pew or dropped on the floor. If a toy will help "to keep the peace", we suggest soft books, small stuffed animals, or cloth dolls only. Remember that we want to teach the children to learn to be engaged in the Liturgy, not in play time. If despite your best efforts, a child is being disruptive, *(Continued on page 2.)*

("Table Manners", cont.)

please try to leave as discreetly as possible. We must be mindful of those around us and how our behavior (as well as our child's) impact on them. When exiting with your child, please refrain from discipline or discussion until fully downstairs or outside. A television broadcasting the Liturgy is located in the Pre-School room for your viewing while you are comforting small children.

- 6.) **"Be Polite"** - On that note, it is in poor manners to "stare" at the parent taking the child out of the sanctuary. The parent knows they are expected to make a "quick exit" and do not need to feel shunned at this fact. Likewise if anyone has transgressed any of the above rules of etiquette, *"you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted."* (Gal. 6:1)
- 7.) **"Don't Spoil Your Dinner"**-NO FOOD OR DRINK IN CHURCH! With the exception of a bottle for nursing infants, remember that this table is reserved for receiving the food from Christ. If a small child is in desperate need of a "snack" or an adult needs a little food/drink for health reasons, with Father David's blessing, please eat *before* coming to church. To eat in church or even in the fellowship hall during services confuses others and creates a temptation for those who did fast to yearn for earthly food rather than spiritual food. This includes coffee and even water.
- 8.) **"Take Turns"**- *"Let all things be done decently and in order"* (1 Cor. 14:40). When it is time for communion or to come forward for the dismissal, please allow the rows of people in front of you to come forward first. The exception to this is Choir members who must take turns coming up for communion while singing, so please accommodate them.
- 9.) **"Clean Up After Yourself"**- The Church is not a restaurant, it is "our heart's true home," so there are no busboys. We need to make sure that we handle the Holy Bread reverently, leaving no crumbs behind on the floor or in the pew, and taking our bulletins with us. Likewise in the fellowship hall and downstairs, do your best to keep things clean.

- 10.) **"Ask Permission to be Excused"** - Please do not leave the church until the service is truly over, which is not when communion is being received, but after the dismissal and receiving the blessing of the Holy Bread at the Veneration of the Cross from Father. It may be his only chance to greet you that day. Would we leave our own home without at least kissing goodbye the ones we love and wishing them a good day?

And for after Liturgy...

- 11.) **"Do not start eating until every person is served"**- We break bread together as a community. Please wait to eat the food served for coffee hour until everyone is downstairs and a prayer is said. This is especially true when a family holds a memorial service and offers the meal for coffee hour. It is in poor manners to eat their offering on behalf of their beloved departed without praying with the family for them first. The exception to this is the Sunday School students who pray together with their teachers and receive their food first on the way to class. Also, please be considerate of Fr. David and Dn. Peter as they are usually the last to go downstairs, so please reserve a portion of food for them as well.

"The Veil" Monthly Journal

*Protection of the Mother of God
Orthodox Church*

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

By Jon Jacobson

While September 1 marked the start of the New Year for the Orthodox Church. The start of a new calendar year is customarily a time in which each of us considers making a resolution. As we move forward into a new ecclesiastical year this fall, let me encourage you to resolve to do one of two things, if you are able:

1. Identify an area of ministry within our parish community in which you are not presently serving but are willing to serve in 2007-2008, **or**
2. Identify an area of ministry within our parish community in which you are *already* serving, but in which you can invite *another* person to serve alongside you.

As the Scripture says (Ecclesiastes 4:9-10, RSV), *Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow; but woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to life him up.* And (Galatians 6:2), *Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.* Here are several ministry areas in the life of our parish--and corresponding passages from Holy Scripture--for your prayerful consideration:

Liturgy, Music, and Iconography

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as you teach and admonish one another in all wisdom, and as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs with thanksgiving in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him. (Colossians 3:16-17)

- Contacts: Fr. David Subu, Derek Power (choir), Rdr. Eugene Huang and Anna Caraveli (Chanters), Nadine Thola and Anna Caraveli (Icon Project).

Ministries for Men and Women

Do not rebuke an older man, but exhort him as you would a father; treat younger men as brothers, older women like mothers, younger women like sisters, in all purity. (1 Timothy 5:1-2)

- Contacts: Fr. David Subu and Jonathan Jacobson (Men's Fellowship), Carolyn Pritchuk (St. Juliana Ladies' Guild), Anastasia Gullette and Eleni Woglom (Women's Bible Study), Psa. Stephanie and Lisa Robertson (Women's Prayer Group).

Ministries for Children and Youth

Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it. (Proverbs 22:6)

- Contacts: Marilyn Thomas (Church School), Fr. David Subu and Kathy Miroy (American Romanian Orthodox Youth), Kami Cleary (MOOPS/Mothers of Orthodox Preschoolers).

Hospitality, Literature, and Communications

Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. (Hebrews 13:2)

- Contacts: Lisa Robertson (Fellowship Hour Signup), Eleni Woglom (seasonal "Fast-Free Friday" events & New Year's Party), Dsa. Tanya Danilchick (Parish Bookstore), Elisabeth Hall (Church Office and Library), Psa. Stephanie Subu ("The Veil" Newsletter), Patricia Balzer (Parish Website).

Charitable Activities and Outreach

...the rendering of this service not only supplies the wants of the saints, but also overflows in many thanksgivings to God. Under the test of this service, you will glorify God by your obedience in acknowledging the Gospel of Christ, and by the generosity of your contributions for them and for all others. (2 Corinthians 9:12-13)

- Contacts: Eleni Woglom (F.A.C.E.T.S./Our Daily Bread), Joseph Cox (International Orthodox Christian Charities), Jonathan Jacobson (Orthodox Christian Mission Center).

Building and Grounds

...work with your own hands, as we charged you, so that you may command the respect of outsiders, and be dependent on nobody. (1 Thessalonians 4:11b-12)

- Contacts: Rdr. Nicholas Dujmovic (Lawn Care Signup), Sarah Zimmerli (Rental Properties), Joseph Cox (Sacristan).

Parish Council

For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness. (Romans 12:4-8, NKJV)

- Contacts: Fr. David Subu, Dn. Peter Danilchick, Jonathan Jacobson (President), Sarah Zimmerli (Vice President), Christopher Thomas (Treasurer), Stephanie Kozemchak (Secretary).

If you are willing to serve in any of these areas, please speak to the relevant contact person(s), or e-mail me at president@stmaryorthodox.org, or call me at (703) 237-9409. And please join me in thanking members of our community who serve God and their neighbors in these ways, *and* in important ways I have failed to mention. Let us pray that God will bless these servants of His, both now and in the age to come!

In Christ,
Jonathan Jacobson

MINISTRIES IN FOCUS:

A monthly look at programs that enrich our parish and communities

"Reflections from the OCA Parish Life Conference"

By Debbie Hile, Parishioner and Sunday School Instructor

(EDITORS NOTE: Though normally this column is dedicated to an organized ministry within or outside our parish, such as those mentioned in the President's Page, this beautiful article is an excellent reminder for all of us to reflect on what "ministry" means, and to inspire both seasoned and developing programs to help us become witnesses of Christ and His love.)

I was privileged to attend the Parish Life Conference and hear all about missions and ministry taking place within Orthodox churches across the US and Canada. A highlight for me was hearing and observing Archbishop Seraphim, a holy pastoral leader of Orthodoxy. He reminded us that it is our responsibility as Orthodox to bring Christ's healing to our sick generation as it has always been, so repentance is at the heart of each life in a healthy parish with each member turning around and choosing Christ in everyday life as we live in communion and love with our Lord. He pointed out that a priest should not seek power in which force and manipulation are key, but rather authority which is derived from a relationship of love in Christ and one with that God given responsibility leads others in the direction of God's kingdom.

I am grateful for Father David's and Deacon Peter's authority in our church. Archbishop Seraphim spoke much of the practice of hospitality both at church and in our homes to make all who enter our doors feel welcomed and loved in our Lord. As we come to know ourselves in relationship to our Lord and to one another, we will discover and exercise the gifts God has given us to function as His Body.

Father Morbey and John Rybicki spoke of the parish/priest relationship. They said a parish should expect a priest to be prayerful, liturgical, to teach the Word and live godly lives, and help in the

spiritual growth of those who come. As a parish, we then need to support and pray for Fr. David as he does this and do our part to grow spiritually, love liturgy and the life of the church, and be willing to minister to those we meet each day. As a parish we need to be faithful in attendance at Liturgy as this ministers to God and other people and disciplines the mind, heart, and body as we enter into worship.

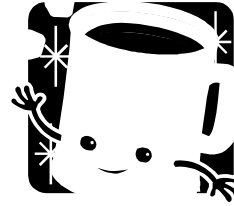
Throughout the conference, the great need of our society today for us as Orthodox to truly live out our faith in the midst of our communities was repeated again and again. We can't buy into the techniques and programs of today's society, but we need to love God and all mankind deeply and fully and spend and be spent reaching out in God's love to all we meet. We can't change folks, that's the job for the Holy Spirit, but we can love. Especially in our society today, the genuine, giving, unconditional love of God is greatly needed.

Some questions I wrote down and am still pondering are ones you may want to consider as well?

- *Is my life in harmony with this calling as a believer and member of Protection of the Holy Mother of God parish?*
- *If our church were to no longer exist, would anyone other than the members be affected? If not, are we any more than a social club rather than a church carrying Christ's Gospel of love and salvation to our community?*
- *Is our parish an island only for ourselves or an oasis where all are invited to come and be refreshed? What are the needs in the community around us that our parish can come together to meet?*

MINISTRY 'MINDERS

- *M.O.O.P.S (Mother's of Orthodox Pre-Schoolers) will meet on Oct. 11 and Oct. 25 at 10:30 A.M. in our fellowship Hall.*
- *Women's Bible Study on Oct. 9th and Oct. 30th at 7:30 P.M. in the home of Eleni Woglom. Please contact her for directions. Newcomers welcomed!*
- *Men's Fellowship Breakfast: Saturday, October 6th at 9:00 a.m. in the home of Jonathan Chaves.*



MANY YEARS! MANY CHEERS!

OCTOBER COFFEE HOUR SPONSOR LIST

October Birthdays

- 2 Aaron Hojnicky
- 7 Maria Olsen
- 8 Samuel Cheplick
- 8 Joe Cox
- 8 Kyra Kozemchak
- 8 Mario Panlilio
- 8 Tina Scala
- 8 John Ziu
- 10 Elaine Papp
- 12 Nicholas Dujmovic
- 12 Joe Kumbera
- 19 Stephen Miroy
- 20 Marissa Cheplick
- 20 Jerry Rij III
- 22 Bogdan Poplacean
- 25 Reem Asihel
- 26 Christina Kozemchak
- 27 Ovidiu & Dorina Maxim

- October 7th ~ **Jacobson Family**
(In memory of Martin Herold)
- October 14th ~ **Elaine Divine, Tatiana Romanskya**
- October 21st ~ **Ursula Rij**
(In honor of son's, Jerry, birthday)
- October 28th ~ **Ovidiu & Dorina Maxim**
(In honor of their birthdays)

October Anniversaries

- 3 Christina and Ted Bowser
- 10 David and Linda Cheplick
- 20 John and Lisanne Migyanko
- 23 Stephen and Kathy Miroy

October Saint's Name Days

- 23 St. James (Iakovos), Brother of the Lord: James Woglom



OCTOBER GROUNDS KEEPING HELP NEEDED!

We are encouraging PAIRS of volunteers, to make the work go quickly--so sign up, you dads with older sons; you able-bodied retirees, too; and all you hard workers, sign up two by two!

Sign up on the big calendar used for coffee hour and other volunteer opportunities. See **Nick Dujmovic** for details if can lend a 'green thumb' and a mower!

If you see a mistake or know someone is missing, please contact us at: updates@stmaryorthodox.org

Holy Protection of the Mother of God Orthodox Church OCTOBER 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30 St. Gregory of Armenia 9 AM - 10 AM Matins 10 AM - 11:45 AM Divine Liturgy	October 1 Holy Protection of the Mother of God 7 AM - 8 AM Liturgy 6 PM - 7 PM Prayers for our Troops	2 9 AM - 12 PM Office Hours 3 PM - 6 PM Office Hours	3 (fast) 7 PM - 7:30 PM Vespers 7:30 PM - 9 PM Adult Education	4 9 AM - 12 PM Office Hours	5 (fast)	6 9 AM - 11:30 AM Men's Fellowship Breakfast 11 AM - 5 PM Stand in the Gap 2007 5 PM - 5:45 PM Vespers
7 9 AM - 10 AM Matins 10 AM - 11:45 AM Divine Liturgy 12 PM Memorial Service	8 3 PM - 6 PM Office Hours 6 PM - 7 PM Prayers for our Troops	9 9 AM - 12 PM Office Hours 3 PM - 6 PM Office Hours 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM Women's Bible Study	10 (fast) 7 PM - 7:30 PM Vespers 7:30 PM - 9 PM Adult Education	11 9 AM - 12 PM Office Hours 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM MOOPS 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM Parish Council	12 (fast)	13 5 PM - 5:45 PM Vespers 6 PM - 11 PM Parish Anniversary Celebration!
14 9 AM - 10 AM Matins 10 AM - 11:45 AM Divine Liturgy	15 3 PM - 6 PM Office Hours 6 PM - 7 PM Prayers for our Troops	16 9 AM - 12 PM Office Hours 3 PM - 6 PM Office Hours	17 (fast) 7 PM - 7:30 PM Vespers 7:30 PM - 9 PM Adult Education	18 St. Luke 9 AM - 12 PM Office Hours	19 (fast)	20 5 PM - 5:45 PM Vespers
21 9 AM - 10 AM Matins 10 AM - 11:45 AM Divine Liturgy	22 3 PM - 6 PM Office Hours 6 PM - 7 PM Prayers for our Troops	23 9 AM - 12 PM Office Hours 3 PM - 6 PM Office Hours	24 (fast) 7 PM - 7:30 PM Vespers 7:30 PM - 9 PM Adult Education	25 9 AM - 12 PM Office Hours 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM MOOPS	26 St. Demetrius (fast) 7 AM - 8 AM Divine Liturgy	27 10 AM - 5:45 PM Vespers
28 9 AM - 10 AM Matins 10 AM - 11:45 AM Divine Liturgy	29 3 PM - 6 PM Office Hours 6 PM - 7 PM Prayers for our Troops	30 9 AM - 12 PM Office Hours 3 PM - 6 PM Office Hours 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM Women's Bible Study	31 (fast) 7 PM - 7:30 PM Vespers 7:30 PM - 9 PM Adult Education	1 9 AM - 12 PM Office Hours	2 (fast)	3 5 PM - 5:45 PM Vespers
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat

LOOKING AHEAD

October 13 – Parish Anniversary Celebration
November 18 – St. Juliana's Guild Soup Luncheon

November 15 – Nativity Fast Begins
December 8 – Women's Retreat

