

THE VEIL



MAY-JUNE 2008

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

HAVE YOU BEEN EXPELLED?

By Rev. Father David Subu

Recently I indulged myself with a night out at the movies and caught the release of Ben Stein's "*Expelled: No intelligence allowed*". Some of you may have heard of it. It is a film which has already been characterized from brilliant documentary to Michael Moore-style propaganda piece. I suppose how you feel about its findings will determine which one you think it favors. The basic premise is that today in the scientific community there is an active bias against any mention of the possibility that life, the universe, and everything had an intelligent designer (such as, but not limited to, God) and that to propose it will get you, in essence, expelled: discredited, scorned, even black-listed. The source of this lies with the unyielding and dogmatic defense of Darwin's theory of evolution which has been represented for decades as Gospel truth.

Over the last few years I have made a point to discover what these Intelligent Design folks (ID for short) have been about. I had been happy to think that basically it was all right to think of God as the absent clock-maker who wound up the universe and let it unwind along the evolutionary lines as presented by Darwinists. But in doing my own research, I discovered that such an explanation does not sufficiently account for all the evidence we actually have. I have also found that such a bias against ID does exist at least within the culture. I have been told to my face by a friend's wife, who is an avowed atheist, that "ID is nothing more than a glossed over fundamentalist Creationism". This same person also admitted to not having actually read any ID

materials but, she told me, she certainly didn't need to! Besides, even if there were flaws with Darwin's 19th century ideas, certainly scientists had solved them by now and knew what they were doing! To which I thought, "O woman, great is your faith!"

In another instance, I also received a very cold reception from a biology teacher who was a professed Christian when I suggested that maybe, just maybe, we should re-evaluate *scientifically* the theory of Evolution and see what the evidence really proves. But I can't blame him. Biology teachers are not biologists, strictly speaking. They are only taught to teach us what *they* were taught, rather uncritically. So basically, just the criticism of Evolution *without* even having mentioned ID marked me as anti-scientific and "one of those people."

It doesn't help that of course I am known to be a Christian. But isn't the very definition of close-minded prejudice to assume that a believer in God can't possibly understand the complexities of biology and be able to debate them reasonably? This is the problem that Ben Stein, himself a Jew, sought out to unravel in "*Expelled*". And I have to say, I think he did a really admirable job. So I unreservedly recommend that you take yourself and especially any person you know who may be struggling with these issues to see it as soon as possible.

Why? Because it is clear to me, which the film demonstrates quite clearly, that a certain philosophical approach that informs Darwinian Evolutionary biology has been part and parcel of an undermining of faith in a Creator for many young people, and unnecessarily so. I know this to be true because that was exactly the case for me and for many of my peers in school. This is because the many scientists who have hidden

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

behind the bastion of science are engaging in what is actually theology, not experimentation nor science. One of the most chilling scenes in the film is when some of the interviewed scientists forthrightly give their witness to how they lost their faith in God because of the way they were taught, and now embraced what was complete nihilism ("Eat, drink, for tomorrow we die and are no more!")

Classic Darwinian Evolution, or *macro*-evolution, (the development and differentiation of new species through natural selection, as opposed to *micro*-evolution, or changes within one species such as by breeding, selection, or separation which no one debates) is still only a theory, though it is presented as established fact even by those who call themselves scientists. Their argument against ID is that it cannot be tested scientifically, therefore, it is inherently unscientific. This logic works well for them when one on hand some of these establishment types will say "show me the scientific evidence and research you have done using ID and I will believe you," while on the other hand saying, "we don't recognize your research because you used ID, which we have already deemed to be false science." Well, which way is it? This kind of prejudice is what Ben Stein artfully reveals from their own mouths.

Ironically, there is also no way to scientifically test through experimentation for macro-evolution as one would for micro-evolution. The fact is, all opinions aside, is that Evolution is only a theory, an inference, albeit a very intriguing one, which attempts to best explain how things got to be the way they are. It cannot be equated with Newton's laws of physics. That would be, simply, unscientific, not to mention intellectually dishonest. Also ironically, the great pioneers of science such as Newton, Koeppler, even ill-treated Galileo were men of faith who understood their science as revealing the mechanics of God's creation, not replacing its Creator. The atheist looks at the similarity of biological structures in the fossil record and says, "See. No God needed here!" while the theist looks and says, "How

marvelous are Your works O Lord! In wisdom You have made them all!" Neither uses different evidence or different science. But they do use different theological pre-suppositions, which inform their *interpretations* of the data.

What I found most powerful and unexpected about "*Expelled*" was the solid connection Ben Stein is able to make between the (dogmatic) insistence on a fundamental materialism in science and the rise of evil in the world, especially Nazism and eugenics. It is historically true and verifiable that governments whose moral vision (or lack thereof) were rooted in atheistic materialism, rather than a belief in a Creator or the inherent dignity of human life, have caused the worst atrocities in history. By willfully undermining the natural human recognition of our Creator, atheism is not helping mankind but hurtling us faster towards the abyss of self-destruction. For example, in the movie Mathematician David Berlinski makes the brilliant point that while Darwinism is not a sufficient cause of Nazism, it is a necessary one—i.e., all Darwinists do not become Nazis but all Nazis first had to accept Darwinism. This should give us pause.

Most importantly, you need to take your kids to see this (or buy it for them when they are starting biology classes in middle and high school) and really think it through with them. The greatest gift we have is freedom and the greatest freedom we have is to think for ourselves. "*Expelled*" challenges all of us to become critical thinkers and not to just accept what we are being handed. Only in an environment where freedom of thought is allowed can true human progress and fulfillment be achieved. If you prefer not have your own assumptions challenged with uncomfortable new information, to hide behind walls of protective prejudice and intellectual laziness, perhaps *Expelled* is not for you. Otherwise—go see it!

For more information:
www.expelledthemovie.com

MINISTRIES IN FOCUS:

A monthly look at programs that enrich our parish and communities

"Go Into All the World- Part 3"

By
Debra Hile, Parishioner

As I prepare for my OCMC mission trip to Romania July 16 to August 7 to assist the bishop there in a middle school and a high school youth camp, I realize I cannot go without your support. First and foremost, I need your prayers before, during, and after the trip. Please pray for the entire team:

BEFORE

- For our hearts to be prepared to love and serve the Romanians we meet
- For the myriads of details of shots, packing, preparation
- For the team leader
- For fundraising
- For protection (in past trips I've noticed there is generally a lot of interference prior to the trip to try and sidetrack participants and even prevent them from going)

DURING

- For the team to come quickly together and to pray and work well together
- For safe travel
- For hearts open to share the love of Christ with all we meet
- For me to have grace in my interactions with middle school and high school age folks as most of my experience is with the elementary age
- For great flexibility as we encounter a different culture
- For health and strength

AFTER

- For readjustment on return to the US (trips tend to be major life experiences and folks come home changed and need to find

ways to allow that change and excitement to remain while returning to "normal" routines)

- For positive ways to share the experience with others that God may be glorified

Please email me at debbiehile@aol.com if you would like to receive prayer updates online. I'm not sure yet whether I'll be able to send updates from the field.

If you would also like to make a financial contribution, please make your checks payable to OCMC with **Debra Hile-Romania II** on the memo space. You may either hand them to me to mail in or you may mail them directly to:

OCMC
PO Box 4319
St. Augustine, FL 32085-4319

The cost of the trip is \$3,525 from Jacksonville. There are many other incidental expenses with any trip of this nature.

Thank you so much for your prayers and support.

Going out on your behalf,

Debra Hile

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Romanian Orthodox Episcopate, OCA
Archbishop NATHANIEL of Detroit, Hierarch
Rev. David G. Subu, Pastor
Dr. Dn. Peter Danilchick, Parish Deacon
John Ziu, Parish President
7223 Roosevelt Avenue,
Falls Church, Virginia 22042
<http://www.stmaryorthodox.org/>
info@stmaryorthodox.org
703-280-0770 (Office) 703-254-8914 (Cell)

Editor-in-Chief: Fr. David Subu
Circulation: Lori Jacobson
Layout & Graphics: Psa. Stephanie Subu

Annual Rummage Sale

Saturday, June 14th

9:00 A.M – 3:00 P.M

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! If you would like to donate items, please bring them in after church on Sunday, June 8, or Wednesday 6/11 and Thursday 6/12 from 11 a.m. - 9 p.m. You must check in all items with a Ladies Guild member. This year, donors must adhere to the following list since many unsold items are no longer accepted by other re-sale venues after our sale:

Will Accept	Cannot Accept
Clothing (<i>no holes, stains</i>)	Christmas or other holiday decorations
Toys (must work & have all parts)	Hotel Toiletries/Old Make-up
Baby Gear	Puzzles/Games (unless sealed/complete)
Strollers and Joggers	Car Seats or Cribs
Working Electronics/ Appliances	Computer Monitors or Computer Parts
House wares/Small Furniture	TVs
Coats/Jackets	Shoes/Underwear/Bras
DVD’s/Books/CD’s (<i>tasteful please</i>)	Encyclopedias, Dictionaries, Textbooks
<i>If you wouldn’t give it to your picky relative, don’t bring it here!</i>	

We are in need for volunteers to work in small shifts to answer questions, keep piles organized and cashiering. We will also be selling cool summer treats as well. If anyone speaks Spanish, that would be a very useful gift! We also need helpers to sort, tag, and organize the items prior to the sale.

Questions? Call Sarah Zimmerli at (703) 978-5425

Protection of the Holy Mother of God Orthodox Church

MAY 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><u>27</u> Pascha of the Lord! 12 AM - 2 AM Paschal Service 2 AM - 4 AM Agape Meal 1 PM - 1:30 PM Pascha Vespers 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM Lamb Roast</p>	<p><u>28</u> 7 AM - 8 AM Bright Liturgy 7 PM - 7:30 PM Bright Vespers</p>	<p><u>29</u> 10 AM - 11 AM Bright Liturgy 7 PM - 7:30 PM Bright Vespers</p>	<p><u>30</u> 7 AM - 8 AM Bright Liturgy 7 PM - 7:30 PM Bright Vespers</p>	<p><u>May 1</u> 7 PM - 7:30 PM Bright Vespers</p>	<p><u>2</u> 7 AM - 8 AM Bright Liturgy 7 PM - 7:30 PM Bright Vespers</p>	<p><u>3</u> 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Baptism: Maria Lerner 5 PM - 5:45 PM Vespers</p>
<p><u>4</u> 9 AM - 10 AM Baptism: Anna Korsunsky 10 AM - 11:45 AM Divine Liturgy</p>	<p><u>5</u> 3 PM - 6 PM Office Hours</p>	<p><u>6</u> 9 AM - 12 PM Office Hours 3 PM - 6 PM Office Hours</p>	<p><u>7</u> 7 PM - 7:40 PM Vespers</p>	<p style="background-color: #ffcc00;"><u>8</u> 9 AM - 12 PM Office Hours 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM Parish Council</p>	<p><u>9</u> 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM MOOPS</p>	<p><u>10</u> 5 PM - 5:45 PM Vespers</p>
<p style="background-color: #ffccff;"><u>11</u> Mother's Day 10 AM - 11:45 AM Divine Liturgy</p>	<p><u>12</u> 3 PM - 6 PM Office Hours</p>	<p><u>13</u> 9 AM - 12 PM Office Hours 3 PM - 6 PM Office Hours</p>	<p><u>14</u> 7 PM - 7:40 PM Vespers</p>	<p><u>15</u> 9 AM - 12 PM Office Hours</p>	<p><u>16</u></p>	<p><u>17</u> 5 PM - 5:45 PM Vespers</p>
<p><u>18</u> 10 AM - 11:45 AM Divine Liturgy</p>	<p><u>19</u> 3 PM - 6 PM Office Hours</p>	<p><u>20</u> 9 AM - 12 PM Office Hours 3 PM - 6 PM Office Hours 7:30 PM - 9 PM Women's Bible Study</p>	<p style="background-color: #ccffcc;"><u>21</u> Mid-Pentecost 7 PM - 7:40 PM Vespers</p>	<p style="background-color: #ccffcc;"><u>22</u> 7:30 PM - 9 PM Men's Bible Study</p>	<p><u>23</u> 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM MOOPS</p>	<p><u>24</u> Visit of Abp. Nathaniel 5 PM - 5:45 PM Vespers</p>
<p><u>25</u> Visit of Abp. Nathaniel 10 AM - 11:45 AM Divine Liturgy 12 PM - 12:20 PM Memorial Service BBQ LUNCHEON</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"> Memorial Day</p>	<p><u>27</u> 9 AM - 12 PM Office Hours 3 PM - 6 PM Office Hours</p>	<p><u>28</u> 7 PM - 7:40 PM Vespers</p>	<p><u>29</u> 9 AM - 12 PM Office Hours</p>	<p><u>30</u></p>	<p><u>31</u> 5 PM - 5:45 PM Vespers</p>
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat

Protection of the Holy Mother of God Orthodox Church

JUNE 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>9 AM - 10 AM Baptism: Joseph Coleman Jr.</p> <p>10 AM - 11:45 AM Divine Liturgy</p> <p>12 PM - 12:20 PM Parastas: G. Ivascu</p>	<p>2</p> <p>3 PM - 6 PM Office Hours</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9 AM - 12 PM Office Hours</p> <p>3 PM - 6 PM Office Hours</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Leave-taking of Pascha</p> <p>7 PM - 8 PM Great Vespers with Litya</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Ascension</p> <p>7 AM - 8 AM Divine Liturgy</p> <p>9 AM - 12 PM Office Hours</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9:00 A.M. Men's Fellowship Breakfast</p> <p>5 PM - 5:45 PM Vespers</p>
<p>8</p> <p>10 AM - 11:45 AM Divine Liturgy</p> <p>11:45 AM - 12 PM Memorial: Maxim family</p>	<p>9</p> <p>3 PM - 6 PM Office Hours</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9 AM - 12 PM Office Hours</p> <p>3 PM - 6 PM Office Hours</p>	<p>11</p> <p>7 PM - 7:40 PM Vespers</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9 AM - 12 PM Office Hours</p> <p>7:30 PM - 9:30 PM Parish Council</p>	<p>13</p> <p>10:30 AM - 12:30 PM MOOPS</p>	<p>14</p> <p>RUMMAGE SALE 9 AM - 3 PM 5 PM - 5:45 PM Vespers</p>
<p>15</p> <p>Holy Pentecost</p> <p>10 AM - 11:45 AM Divine Liturgy</p> <p>11:45 AM - 12:05 PM Kneeling Vespers</p>	<p>16</p> <p>3 PM - 6 PM Office Hours</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9 AM - 12 PM Office Hours</p> <p>3 PM - 6 PM Office Hours</p> <p>7:30 PM - 9 PM Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>18</p> <p>7 PM - 7:40 PM Vespers</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9 AM - 12 PM Office Hours</p> <p>7:30 PM - 9 PM Men's Bible Study</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>5 PM - 5:45 PM Vespers</p>
<p>22</p> <p>All Saints Sunday</p> <p>10 AM - 11:45 AM Divine Liturgy</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Apostles Fast until June 29</p> <p>3 PM - 6 PM Office Hours</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9 AM - 12 PM Office Hours</p> <p>3 PM - 6 PM Office Hours</p>	<p>25</p> <p>7 PM - 7:40 PM Vespers</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Priest Vacation June 26-July 3</p>	<p>27</p> <p>10:30 AM - 12:30 PM MOOPS</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>Ss. Peter and Paul</p> <p>10 AM - 11:45 AM Divine Liturgy</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Office closed June 26-July 20</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Episcopate Congress-July 3-6</p>	<p>4</p> <p> Independence Day Episcopate Congress-July 3-6</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Episcopate Congress-July 3-6</p>

**MANY YEARS!
MANY CHEERS!**

MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 5 John Ivivic
- 9 John Migyanko IV
- 19 Alice Kass
- 22 Georgia Kazakis
- 24 Bob Yuskavage
- 29 Johnny Gullette
- 31 Michelle Bahumian

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Stanley & Susan Zimmerli Matelski
- 5 Maria and Eric Olsen
- 8 Aristotelis & Sarah Psitos
- 8 Antoinette & Tom Robertson
- 14 Elaine & Jack Devine
- 28 Jonathan Chaves & Anna Caravelli
- 31 Nicholas & April Masick

MAY NAMES DAYS

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

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Psa Stephanie Subu
- 5 Elaine Ivascu
- 6 Michael Gullette Sr.
- 8 Jonathan Chaves
- 11 Gemma Phelps
- 14 John Michael Dujmovic
- 16 Chris Kozemchak
- 17 Grace Subu
- 18 Julia Yuskavage
- 18 Alexander Woglom
- 18 Daniel Martin Jacobson

- 20 Harold Pedersen
- 23 Mark Cherpes
- 24 Stephen Zimmerli
- 24 Rachel Marie Jacobson
- 28 Martha Codrea

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

- 14 Armand & Tina Scala

JUNE NAMES DAYS

- 12 Holy Spirit Day: Grace Subu
- 24 The Nativity of the Holy Forerunner and Baptist of the Lord, John: John Grecco
- 29 St. Peter and Paul: Protodeacon Peter Danilchick

**MAY-JUNE
COFFEE HOUR SPONSORS**

- May 11 Dujmovic
- May 18 Ziu
- May 25 Memorial Day Cookout!
(In honor of His Eminence)
- June 1 Coleman family
(In honor of infant Joseph's baptism)
- June 8 Maxim family
(In memory of family)
- June 15 Deborah Hile
- June 22 Mike and Dotty Ziu
- June 29 SPONSOR NEEDED

HOLY BREAD

- May – Lisa Robertson
- June- BAKER NEEDED

AROUND THE COFFEE URN: Parish news, events, and more!

ST. MARY'S FIRST LAMB ROAST HUGE SUCCESS! NOT BAAAAAD!

First off, a **huge kudos to Rob and Ana Williams**, along with those who helped them, for introducing and following through on a spectacular Lamb Roast! Their hard work and steadfastness, not to mention the wonderful smell, drew in an overall crowd of 70 men, women, and children! Many were visitors new to our parish, from other churches, or friends of St. Mary parishioners.

The day's event began at 1:00 p.m. with a light and joyful Paschal Vespers, with the faithful reading the Gospel in as many languages as possible: Greek, Slavic, Romanian, French, Arabic, Chinese, Spanish, German, and Sign Language! An Egg Hunt followed, wonderfully organized once again by **Lori Layhue**. The children really enjoyed the stickers, treats and other surprises! Those who came to the Lamb Roast brought yummy side dishes of all kinds to compliment the tasty lamb, roasting on a spit, as well as beer and wine. When the lamb was finally ready, it was inaugurated by Father giving the blessing, followed by "Amazing Grace", played on Scottish bagpipes by Ana's brother! Everyone there truly enjoyed themselves, getting to know new faces or catching up with old... the last person left at 6:00 p.m.! We hope to plan for another one next year... and ever after.

ARCHBISHOP NATHANIAL TO VISIT ST. MARY'S MEMORIAL WEEKEND

His Eminence, Archbishop NATHANIEL, will be spending **Memorial Weekend** with our parish on **Saturday May 24th and Sunday, May 25th**! We will be calling on volunteers to help with getting the church "show ready". We will also be having an "**Upscale BBQ**" for coffee hour and are asking for anyone who has not fled the Beltway for the weekend, to donate grills and their BBQ mastery for the weekend. Announcements will be made, as well as calls and e-mails, to let you know what needs to be done and how to help. The current schedule is as follows:

Saturday, May 24th:

5:00 P.M: Great Vespers with Litya
(No reception planned at this time)

Sunday, May 25th:

9:30 A.M: Arrival of His Eminence and dressing of the vestments. *(Please arrive BEFORE this to properly greet him.)*

10:00 A.M: Hierarchical Divine Liturgy

12:00 P.M: Memorial Service for those who fought for our country.

12:30 P.M: "Upscale BBQ" Reception Luncheon

Please contact **Eva Beranek** or **Psa. Stephanie** for more information regarding how to help us with the BBQ Luncheon. To help around the church sanctuary or church grounds, please speak with Father David.

FROM THE COUNCIL

We'd like to express gratitude to the members of the community for their generosity to Fr. David and his family this Pascha season and for their contributions toward the door replacement project and the beautification of the church for Holy Week and Pascha.

Flowers donations were made for Holy Week and Pascha in memory of:

- Barbara, Martin, Mary, Anna, Benny, & Luise by the Herold-Jacobson family;
- In memory of Fr. Gheorghe Calciu and departed father Mircea by the Constantinescu family; In thanksgiving for Gheorghe Marius, Ileana Cristina, Alexandra, Viorica, Mituta, Carol Andrei, Beatrice, and Diana by the Constantinescu family;

And by other generous members of our community out of love for God and for His people.

- Jon Jacobson, Treasurer

SAVE THE DATE! VBS CAMP IS COMING!

St. Mary's will be offering **Bible Adventure Camp** for youth of all ages **August 11-15!** **Specifics about this VBS program will be published in the July issue of "The Veil"**. If you would like to be involved in teaching, planning, or better yet... bringing your children, please see Father David.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY IS BACK!

After a long hiatus to observe Great Lent, St. Mary's is happy to announce the return of Adult Bible Study!

The next **Women's Bible Study** will take place on **Tuesday, May 20th at 7:30 p.m.** at **Eleni Woglom's** house. We will be studying from the **7th Chapter of the Gospel of John**. We especially invite women who have not come to our Bible study before to join us! Not only can we come together to drink from the wisdom of Christ's teaching, but we are also there to support one another and enjoy each other's fellowship!

The next **Orthodox Men's Bible Study** group will meet **Thursday, May 22nd at 7:30 P.M.** in **St. Mary's fellowship hall**. All men, of any age, are welcomed! For more information, please see Jon Jacobson, study leader.

GENTAL REMINDER OF NO FOOD POLICY

We would like to remind parishioners that **FOOD and DRINK are not allowed in the sanctuary** for any reason! This includes snacks for little ones and mugs of coffee or bottles of water! Not only does it cause temptation for those who fast to think of earthly food rather than spiritual food, but also creates a mess on our pews and floors! Thank you.

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS IS
JUNE 20th**

**LOOKING FOR FOOD, FUN, & FELLOWSHIP?
Look no further than our**

“Upscale BBQ”

Sunday, May 25th 12:30 P.M Memorial Weekend

**Special Guest: His Eminence, Archbishop NATHANIEL of Detroit
and the Romanian Episcopate.**

Fabulous BBQ Fare * Tasty Side Dishes * Refreshments * Dessert

Please RSVP at rsvp@stmaryorthodox.org or contact Psa. Stephanie or Eva Beranek
how you can help plan this very special event!



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St Mary Orthodox Church
7223 Roosevelt Avenue
Falls Church, Virginia 22042