

THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
St. Peter & St. Paul Orthodox Church
Orthodox Church in America
6980 S. County Line Road—Burr Ridge, IL 60527
Fr. Herman Kincaid, Rector



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<http://stpeterandstpaulorthodoxchurch.com>

Produced by the adjunct committee on Evangelization, Outreach and Parish Stewardship (EOPS). Our hope is to concentrate on information, people and events. Information should be given to Shirley Bryar, Dorothy Koncel, or Fr. Herman. Back copies of all Newsletters can be viewed in our library. *This issue can be viewed on our website in color.*

FALL 2014

“Celebrate, O righteous; rejoice greatly, O heavens; dance for joy, mountains, for Christ is born; and like a cherubim the Virgin makes a throne, carrying at her bosom God the Word made flesh. Shepherds glorify the new-born Child, Magi offer the Master gifts. Angels sing praises saying: Lord past understanding, glory to Thee!” (Praises of Nativity Matins)

We once again find ourselves in the days leading up to our Lord’s Nativity according to the flesh, or Christmas. As Orthodox Christians, we cannot help but notice the vast difference between how the Church instructs us to prepare for this joyous event and the manner in which the secular world celebrates this time of year. We can say, without hesitation, that the two approaches are complete opposites of one another.

For most Americans, the period from before Thanksgiving up to December 25th is a time of feasting. Parties are held, gifts are exchanged and rich, delicious foods are consumed. We are inundated with commercials, decorations and holiday music (which usually begins shortly after Halloween!). It is no surprise to see on December 26th Christmas trees placed at the curb for garbage pickup, lights turned off and the holiday music silenced. By this point, everyone is moving ahead to New Year’s celebrations.

Contrast this secular approach to the manner of preparation given to us by the Church. She (for the Church is our Mother) calls us into a 40 day, penitential fast. Her hymnography does not include any carols or festive music. Parties and rich foods (meat, dairy & alcohol) are forbidden. There is a call to increase prayer, almsgiving and attendance at divine services. With the exception of St. Nicholas’ feast, gifts are not exchanged among family members. We are called to approach Holy Confession in order to prepare a place (our heart) for the new-born Savior to rest. The secular world would probably think we are missing the “spirit” of the season by submitting ourselves to such asceticism. Regardless of their opinions, the Church sets the proper tone before any feast, so that when we arrive at that special day, the fullness of the feast is experienced. As one of my brother priests once said about the stricter fast experienced during Great Lent, “If you really commit yourself to the fast of the Church, when the time comes to even eat a piece of fish, it will be like feasting on a steak.” This priest truly encapsulated the tangible joy afforded to us if we would only follow the spiritual prescription given to us by the Church.

It is my fervent prayer that we remain true to the teachings of our Church. The hymn above is full of joy, instructing us to celebrate with great energy. However, that celebration should come only after a proper preparation. We cannot expect to bask in the light of the Resurrection without first going through the sacrifice of the Cross. Let us heed the Church’s call to prepare properly so that the joy of our Lord and Creator entering this world for our salvation will truly fill our hearts and minds with uncreated light.

In expectation of the Feast: Christ is born! Glorify Him!

Fr. Herman Kincaid



HOLY SYNOD FALL SESSION



His Grace, Bishop Irene was elected to the vacant Episcopal See of Ottawa and Canada and Igumen Paul (Gassios) elected to the vacant See of Chicago and the Midwest. Igumen Danial (Brum) was elected Bishop of Santa Rosa and Auxiliary to

His Eminence Archbishop Benjamin of San Francisco and the West.



Fr. Paul Gassios, our new Diocese Administrator celebrated Divine Liturgy with Fr. Herman on August 29th. He then joined us for refreshments and fellowship. We enjoyed talking to him and hearing a little about his life before moving to Chicago. In October he was elected to be the new Bishop of Chicago and the Midwest.

His consecration and enthronement will take place in Chicago on December 26th and 27th. AXIOS!

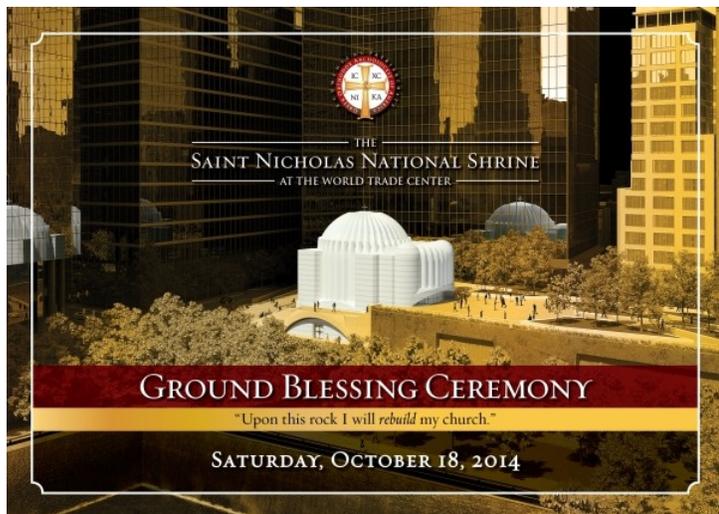


Fr. Herman and our newest altar server, his son Nathaniel, who is 3 yrs. old. We think he looks like a little royal prince.



Our delegates to the Diocesan Assembly Fr. Herman and Mark Sauskojus. They reported that Fr. Paul had been nominated to fill the vacant position of Bishop of the Midwest Diocese at the Special Meeting. Later at the regular meeting, the budget was passed and elections were held for various open positions. Mark's report will be included in documents presented at our church's annual meeting in

February, 2015.



CHURCH DESTROYED IN 9/11 ATTACKS HAS GROUND BREAKING CEREMONY



THE PYPYRUS READS:	ENGLISH TRANSLATION:
1 ΥΠΟ ΤΗΝ ΧΝ	1 BENEATH YOUR
2 ΕΥΣΙΛΛΑΓΧΝΙΑΝ	2 COMPASSION
3 ΚΑΤΑΦΕΥΓΟΜΕΝ	3 WE TAKE REFUGE
4 ΘΕΟΤΟΚΕ ΤΑC ΗΜΩΝ	4 THEOTOKOS OUR
5 ΙΚΕCΙΑC ΜΗ ΠΑ	5 PETITIONS DO NOT DE-
6 ΡΙΑΗC ΕΜ ΠΕΡΙCΤΑCΕΙ	6 SPIE IN TIME OF TROUBLE
7 ΑΛΛ' ΕΚ ΚΙΝΔΥΝΟΥ	7 BUT FROM DANGER
8 ΡΥCΑΙ ΗΜΑC	8 RESCUE US
9 ΜΟΝΗ ΑΓΝΗ, ΜΟΝ	9 ONLY HOLY ON-
10 Η ΕΥΛΟΓΗΜΕΝΗ	10 LY BLESSED

EARLIEST KNOWN PRAYER TO THE THEOTOKOS PYPYRUS IS DATED 250 AD

FR. DAVID RUCKER



On September 21, Fr. David Rucker of the O C M C celebrated liturgy with Fr. Herman. Afterwards, he gave a talk at our fellowship hour to tell us about his conversion to Orthodoxy while serving as a missionary with his wife in China. When they returned to the USA, they

were chrismated into the Orthodox Church in 1995. Fr. David was ordained into the OCA in 2002 and in 2006 he was asked to become the Director of the Orthodox Christian Mission Center.

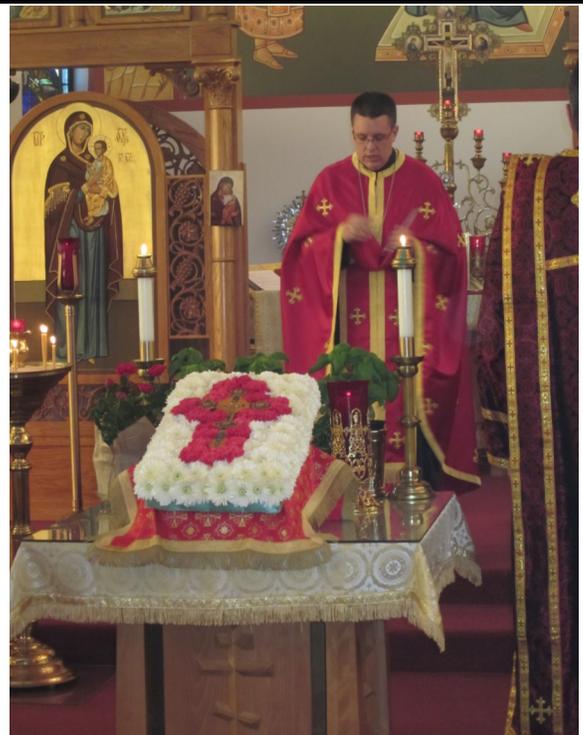
Currently they are assisting in the training of 40,000 new Orthodox Christians in over 100 churches in Guatemala and southern Mexico. They also speak at parishes across the country.

Fr. David and his wife Rozanne, sang a beautiful song for us. Also, they are very special to our parish as their son, Ethan just got engaged to our Marissa Koranda. Congratulations to the happy couple.

FRDAVID@OCM.ORG



This fall Fr. Herman blessed the cars of our parishioners after Sunday liturgy and also later in the week.



**ELEVATION OF THE CROSS
SEPTEMBER 14TH**

“O” CLUB NEWS

On August 24th, there was an outing to see the Windy City Thunderbolts play the Joliet Slammers. A good time was had by all the attendees.

A Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser was held after Divine Liturgy on October 5th. Thanks to all who attended and to all who made this a delicious and successful event. How does Mona make the bacon taste so good?

At the last monthly meeting the “O” Club donated \$100.00 to our church’s “Living Stones” Bell Tower Restoration Capital Campaign.



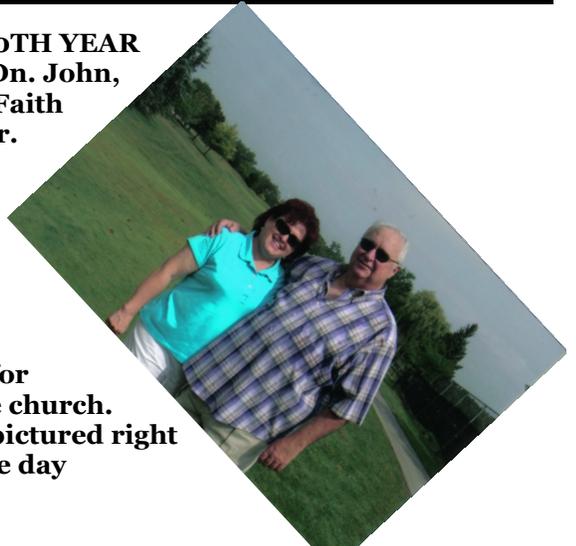
**2014—2015 CHURCH SCHOOL CHILDREN,
TEACHERS AND FR. HERMAN**



CONGRATULATIONS ON THE 10TH YEAR
 Thanks to Dennis Gurnic, Fr. Dn. John,
 Leah Gurnic, Matushka Julie, Faith
 Pommier, Tom Sedor and Fr.
 Herman, Spiritual Advisor
 for your tireless efforts.

The \$2,953.56 profit
 this year brings the 10
 year total to \$37,336.83.
 Special thanks to Fr.

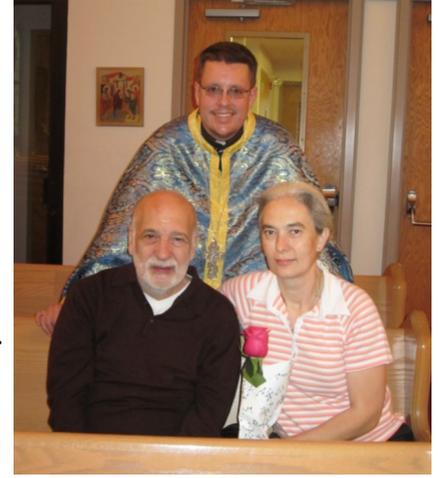
Herman's winning group and
 Dennis Gurnic's winning group for
 donating their winnings back to the church.
 Also, a special thanks to Bob Ciolino pictured right
 with wife Linda for spending the whole day
 photographing the event.





Left

Natasha Smak's daughter Polina shown in her costume as the Russian dancer in the Salt Creek production of the Nutcracker. Some of us will be attending the Hinsdale Central performance.



Right

MEMORY ETERNAL

Lou & Elena Adams celebrating their 17th wedding anniversary by attending a rare night out for Lou who has been in and out of the hospital since May. They received a special blessing from Fr. Herman. Sadly, Lou fell asleep in the Lord on November 18th. Our condolences to Elena.

BECOME A "LIVING STONE"

**"Come to Him, that living stone, rejected by men but in God's sight chosen and precious; and like living stones be yourselves built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ."
(1 Peter 2:4-5)**

As many have seen, our bell tower has been undergoing a major renovation. This renovation is the remedy to poor construction methods utilized while our temple was originally built. We are happy to report that this renovation is almost complete. The total cost of this project is approximately \$40,000. To help cover this cost, the Parish Council has agreed to launch an aggressive 5 month fundraising campaign beginning September 1 and ending February 1. This campaign will allow members & friends of our parish to become "living stones" by sponsoring a stone, a row of stones, or a tier of stones for the health or memory of a loved one. Please join us in helping to ease the financial burden of this renovation.

To donate, please fill out the form below and return it to church by February 1, 2015. You are welcome to pledge your offering at this time, while making payment installments. A special service and blessing of the bell tower will be held on Saturday, February 7, 2015, to commemorate all of the names dedicated through this appeal. A copy of all dedications for stones, rows, and tiers will be available on February 7, 2015 for distribution. **With Love in Christ—Fr. Herman & Parish Council Members**

Quantity	Type	Amount	Dedication
_____	Stone	\$100	<input type="checkbox"/> For the health of _____ or <input type="checkbox"/> In Memory of _____
_____	Row	\$500	<input type="checkbox"/> For the health of _____ or <input type="checkbox"/> In Memory of _____
_____	Tier	\$1,000	<input type="checkbox"/> For the health of _____ or <input type="checkbox"/> In Memory of _____

Total
Enclosed

Dedicated by: _____

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP GROUP

This group usually meets once a month after Saturday vesper services for a bite to eat and fellowship. This past year or so, they have gone to a few concerts, went to a book fair at a local church, had a guest speaker at our church and they read Kyriacus C. Markides book "Mountain of Silence".



On September 13, Fr. Anthony Spengler (Fr. Kurt), was our guest speaker. He discussed some of the topics covered in "Mountain of Silence".

In this book the author has many discussions with Fr. Maximos, the charismatic Orthodox bishop and former abbot of Panagia Monastery on the Island of Cyprus. We thank Fr. Kurt for introducing us to this author.

For information on the Women's Fellowship Group, contact Dr. JoAnn Frigerio.

CALENDAR

DEC 7—ST. NICHOLAS THE WONDER WORKER
7—"O" CLUB OUTING, TIVOLI THEATER
21—YOLKA
24—28 SEE WEEKLY BULLETIN FOR CHRISTMAS SERVICES

JAN 6—HOLY THEOPHANY

FEB 2—PRESENTATION IN THE TEMPLE
7—SPECIAL BLESSING OF BELL TOWER
8 - ANNUAL MEETING
22—GREAT LENT BEGINS



Parish White Sox Outing

Family day on July 20th. Absolutely perfect weather, they lost, but a good time was had by all, especially the kids who got to run the bases after the game.

Sadly, after 16 seasons Paul Konerko, the captain of the team, will be retiring this year.

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS
High school students who taught the summer church school program: Larissa Gurnic, Paul Gurnic, Katelyn Kornafel, Brianna Kushta, and Meghan Kenny, as well as their aide Haley Brown.

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