

# St. Peter and St. Paul Orthodox Church

ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA  
6980 COUNTY LINE ROAD—BURR RIDGE, IL 60527  
FR. HERMAN KINCAID, RECTOR

<http://stpeterandstpaulorthodoxchurch.com>

This is the thirty-eight issue of the St. Peter and St. Paul Orthodox Church Quarterly Newsletter. The format may change, but we hope that the contents will be interesting and newsworthy. It is being produced by the adjunct committee on Evangelization, Outreach and Parish Stewardship (EOPS) with the blessing of our Rector. EOPS is entirely responsible for the content, and solely responsible for any inaccuracies. Our hope is to concentrate on information, people and events. Information and articles should be given to Shirley Bryar, Dorothy Koncel, Mike Palandech, or Fr. Herman. Back copies of all Newsletters can be viewed in our Library. This issue can be viewed on our website.



EOPS QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2013

VOLUME 10 - NUMBER 3

## Fr. Herman Takes on Additional Role as Military Chaplain Ceremonial Navy Commissioning



Rev. Herman receiving oath administered by V. Rev. Andrew Harrison, Ret. Chaplain USAF.



Pledge Allegiance and Star Spangled Banner. Recited by all present.



Duke Jovanovich, DCDR 37 USCG Aux. Ret Chaplain Fr. Harrison, New Chaplain Fr. Herman, Ret. Col. Don Palandech, USAF (son of Mike Palandech)

## PASTOR'S CORNER

**"Ready now. Anytime. Anywhere."**

*(U.S. Navy Reserve Force Motto)*

Christ is among us! He is and ever shall be!

The Gospels teach us that our earthly lives are a preparation for eternal life. We are in a constant process of working out our salvation (being saved). This process (our life) can end at any moment; therefore we must be watchful concerning our souls. Our watchfulness and care for the soul comes in the form of repentance: the changing of our ways to conform more and more to Christ. As a motivation to offer sincere repentance to our Lord, the Fathers of the Church remind us to be mindful of death: to understand that it can happen at any time. Our Lord Himself reminds us of this idea of constant preparation for our entrance

into eternal life when He says, "You fool, your soul is required of you this night" (Luke 12:20). Have we spent the time given to us on this earth wisely? How have we prepared for eternity? Our preparation is constant; the call to eternal life can come at any moment. Let us use the time wisely, growing in our Lord.



Rev. Herman Kincaid, LTJG CHC USNR, with his wife, children, and parents.

This same notion of preparation is the motto for my newest ministry as a Chaplain in the U.S. Navy Reserves. We never know when the call to serve will come, so we must always be in a state of preparation. "Ready now. Anytime. Anywhere." When the call comes to serve, we can't delay it and ask for more time to prepare. Included below are the specific duties of a U.S. Navy Chaplain. This was taken from the navy.:

*"Navy Chaplains are the religious leaders responsible for serving the diverse spiritual needs of military service members – offering counsel, guidance, moral support and worship opportunities to Sailors, Marines, Coast Guardsmen and their families. Chaplain positions are open to over 200 religious backgrounds (including Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist and many others), and more than 100 different faith groups are currently represented.*

*In this role:*

- *Provide religious ministry and support to those of your own faith*
- *Facilitate the religious requirements of those from all faiths*
- *Care for all service members and their families, including those subscribing to no specific faith*
- *Advise the command to ensure the free exercise of religion*

*It is important to note that Navy Chaplains are officially considered noncombatants and not authorized to bear arms."*

It is my great joy to serve this wonderful nation and the members of the U.S. Navy, Marine Corps, & Coast Guard. May our Lord bless this nation as we serve Him!

*Fr. Herman*

## Choir Director Celebrates 60 Years

At a gala dinner on July 7, John Sutko celebrated his 60 years as the St. Peter and St. Paul's Church choir director.

When our church was in Chicago, John lived within walking distance to the church. He got involved with the many activities at the church, and it almost became a second home to him. He began as an altar server in his service to the church but, his deep voice and love of music caught the attention of Fr. Nicholas Semkoff who urged him to join the choir.

John not only had a love of music, he loved the church, and he had a knowledge of the Slavonic language.

We had two services at that time, one in English and one in church Slavonic. When John was 18 years old, Fr. Nicholas asked him to direct the choir for the Slavonic service. At age 20 John began directing both liturgies.

We featured John Sutko as our "Someone You Should Know" in the fall 2007 issue of this publication on file in our church library, which covered his education and teaching career.

During the 60s, Mr. Sutko began a 10 year long project that benefited not only our church, but all the OCA churches. He adapted all the Vesper verses for the major and minor feast days in four parts and in their proper tones. It was released by the Liturgical Dept. of the OCA, as "Adapted by John Sutko."

When asked if there were difficulties directing a choir such as divas, or were there outstanding voices or exceptional years? John said, "we always had a good choir, and we always strove to make it better."

He is proud of establishing a children's choir at our church. Of the 60 churches in our diocese, only four have children's choirs. We also want to thank him for the long time, really interesting publication, he publishes "The Choir Quarterly."

On a personal level, as a singer, he has sung with the Russian Male Chorus for 10 years. He also sings with the Pan Orthodox Choir, and he organized the Orthodox Concert Choir. He also sang with the Rockefeller Chapel Choir. A high point of his singing career was when he was asked to be the lead soloist and chanter for the Bach Society of St. Louis, Missouri in their presentation on Rachmaninov's "Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom." (He got to sing the priests part in that presentation, and got to wear white tie and tails.) He has also taken the basso profundo parts (he has been known to hit lower G) at Northwestern University and the University of Chicago choirs during their presentations of the vigils of Rachmaninov, Gretchaninov, and Kalinnikov.

High points of John's directing career include the services for His Holiness Pavle, Patriarch of Serbia, and His Holiness Alexy II, Patriarch of Moscow and of all Russia.

Mr. Sutko has acted as an ambassador for our church attending the meetings and functions of the OCMC, the "O" Club, Synergy, and the IOCC.

Through the years, in Chicago, or in Burr Ridge, our church seems to have remained John Sutko's second home. We are proud of his accomplishments. He has always given 100%, and expects no less from the singers.

We wish John Sutko "many years." Stay in good voice, take care of yourself, and your lovely wife Alice. Their daughter Cynthia sings in the choir. They also have a son named David, and among his grandchildren, a grandson Reader Alex Koranda, who is studying at the seminary. John's brother, Nick, is a long time choir member, reader, and our first English Choir Director. When Nick went into the Marines, John took over both services. Nick also has the distinction of presenting John with his first tuning fork.

Thank you John for all the services, the highlights, and the special memories of these many years.



## The Gala Affair

The banquet, held at Aviana Banquet Hall, was attended by 250 parishioners, friends, family, and clergy, from Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia.

The Chairman of the affair was JoAnn Frigerio, assisted by Alice Sutko, Cynthia Koranda, and Amy Belair. Violinist, Patrick Rustani, serenaded the crowd before dinner. Nick Sutko served as the Master of Ceremony for his brother's special event.

There were several speeches made extolling John's work, his dedication to our church, his assistance, his expertise, and of the love and sacrifices made by his family so that John could devote his life to the music of our church.

Fr. Herman's amusing presentation tied John Sutko's famous sayings with events in the Bible. Johns words were displayed on the walls, and also were on our invitations.

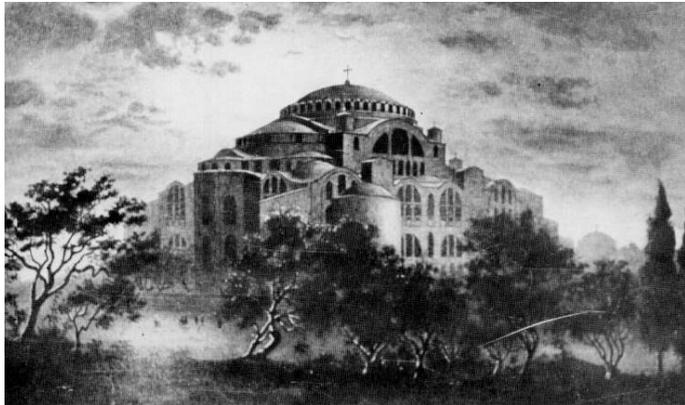
After a delicious dinner, and a speech by John where he recalled many memories of, choir members, and priest's he had worked with, he acknowledged the clergy who were present, and his fellow choir directors, many of whom were also present.

A special presentation was made from Metropolitan Tikhon acknowledging John's service to the church. Our parish also presented Mr. Sutko with a gift.

An impromptu gathering of choir singers sang, as Mr. Sutko conducted this illustrious group. May God grant you many years John.



## HAGIA SOPHIA (HOLY WISDOM)



Patricarchal Basilica and religious center for Eastern Orthodox Church for nearly 1000 years.

Built in 537 A.D. under sponsorship of Emperor Justinian and designed by Arthemius and Isidorus, it was famed for the soaring Dome which rose 180 feet. It changed the history of architecture.

It also changed the history of the Russian people when in 988 Prince Vladimir's delegates reported on the liturgical beauty at Hagia Sophia. They said: "They knew not if they were in Heaven or earth."

Vladimir chose Orthodoxy and ordered a mass baptism in the Dneiper River. The Greeks brought their clergy in for this mass baptism. A further link was made with Byzantium when Vladimir chose Princess Anna, the emperor's sister, as his wife.

Christianity spread rapidly through out the land. There are many Orthodox churches throughout the world named, St. Sophia, even one in Harbin, China, which is the largest Orthodox Church in the Far East.



In 1453 Constantinople was invaded by Ottoman Turks and the Church became a Mosque, and the city was renamed Istanbul.

The Church bells, iconostas, and sacred vessels were removed and many mosaic icons were plastered over. (A 20th century renovation exposed many of the icons.)

Islamic features were added such as a Mihrab, Mimbar, and four minarets you can see depicted in the photo above.

It was made into a museum in 1935 by order of Mustafa Ataturk, the first president of the Republic of Turkey.

## Princess Olga Enters Royal Doors Hagia Sophia



Prince Vladimir and his grandmother Olga, a principal influence in his decision to embrace Christianity, were canonized as Saints of the Orthodox Church.



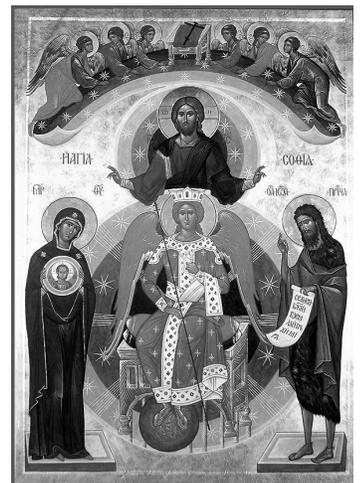
### SAINT SOPHIA

There are several Saints who bear this name. Here is the most well known: Sophia with her three daughters: Faith, Hope, and Love (sometimes called Agape, or Charity). Martyrdom came under Emperor Hadrian.

Commemorated on Sept. 17.  
Sophia, Sonia,  
Sonja, Sonya

### SOPHIA represented as HOLY WISDOM ICON

Sophia means Wisdom in Greek. Here Wisdom is represented as a Queen, an Angel seated on a Throne. The Throne recalls the Temple. Her Royal Crown humility, the ribbon in her hair symbolizes Chasity, her clothing signifies age and Royal Priesthood. Mary, is on the left, John the Baptist on the right, Christ above, and the ancient of days is at the top.



# BASICS OF LITURGY CLASSES

## CLASS 1 -- Proskomedia, Service of Preparation

Fr. Herman explained how the bread was made, then cut, and what special prayers were said. See page 17 of Divine Liturgy book.

## CLASS 2 -- Vestments worn by the Priest

Fr. Herman donned each article and explained their significance.



The cast iron baking pan with seal.



Only the center of the bread is used for communion.

Fr. Herman begins cutting the Lamb.



Our Paten



There is a prescribed ritual to the cutting of the Lamb.

## SACRED VESSELS USED IN THE DIVINE SERVICE



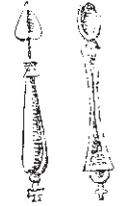
Chalice



Paten



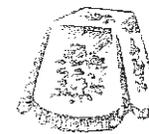
Star (Asterisk)



Spear Spoon



Book of the Gospels



Chalice Cover



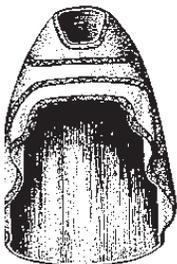
Cup



Censer

## VESTMENTS

The vestments of a priest include the under-vestment or sticharion, the epitachelion (stole), the belt, the cuffs, and the phelonion.



Phelonion



Epitachelion



Under-vestment



Pectoral Cross

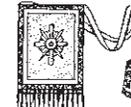


Kamilavka

Skoufia



Gold Pectoral Cross



Nabedrennik



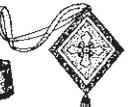
Cuff



Belt



Cuff



Palitsa

## CLASS 3 -- The Sanctuary The Holy of Holies. The Altar contains the Tabernacle, Vigil Lamp, The Gospel, the Antimension, and a seven branch candelabra.

Behind the Iconostasis is an icon known as "Not made by Hand."



Tabernacle, on the Altar, the reserved Sacrament is kept here. A Vigil Lamp burns perpetually.



Preparation Table North East corner of the Sanctuary.



Fully vested Fr. Herman explained the set-up of the Church and Altar during Class 4. Classes were held during Lenten 2013.

## 2013 LENTEN RETREAT



On April 6, we began the day at our church attending Soul Saturday Divine Liturgy, followed by an "O" Club sponsored Lenten luncheon.

Following lunch, we heard two presentations from our guest speaker Eric Jobe of Christ the Savior Church in Chicago. The first talk was entitled "Between Exodus and Exile: Patterns of Repentance in the Old Testament" and the second was "Job: God's Training Camp of Theosis."

Both topics were of interest and presented in an exceptional manner. Mr. Jobe is a PhD candidate in Old Testament and Classical languages and teaches within the Diocesan Late Vocations Program. He is also

an iconographer, and brought an example of his work.

The question and answer portions following each presentation were especially enlightening, as they opened paths into the Old Testament that many of us may not have previously explored.

Special thanks to Fr. Herman for our liturgy, and for choosing our guest speaker. Thanks to the "O" Club for your sponsorship, and for organizing the food portion of the day. Thanks to all who brought the Lenten dishes and thank you to Eric Jobe for expanding our knowledge of the Old Testament.

## Chrismation of Michele and Jennifer



On Saturday, May 4, Michele O'Connor and Jennifer Sustersic were received into the Orthodox faith in a moving ceremony.

Michele is engaged to Greg Spontak and Jennifer is engaged to Will Stevens. Dorothy Koncel was Michele's sponsor, and Jennifer's sponsor was Will's mother Carla Stevens. Jennifer took the name Juliana after her patron saint. We wish them many years.

Jennifer and Will were married on June 8 in Ohio by Fr. Herman.



## Holy Pascha

Sunday, May 5, just after midnight, the outdoor procession consisted of the choir, the altar servers, and the faithful. They marched around our church three times proclaiming the Resurrection of Our Lord.

## St. Seraphim of Sarov

A unique individual and a link to all the great ascetic Fathers throughout the centuries of Orthodox monasticism. After living a life of solitude and prayer, he devoted his last years to comforting others. It is ironic that by abandoning the ways of the world, the world came to him, seeking his help. Born 7-19-1759, died 1-2-1833. Canonized by church of Russia 7-19-1933.



## Recent Doings

Fr. Herman, John Sutko and Shirley Bryar attended the recent IOCC Charity dinner.

The main speaker was His Grace Bishop Gregory of Nyssa, the newly elected Primate of the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese of the USA. His Grace spoke of the great work that was done by IOCC in New Orleans, that he witnessed when he was Dean of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral in New Orleans. He is a very powerful speaker.

## High School Recognition Day

Lia Benes, Aaron Koranda, and Natalia Ogurkiewicz all graduated from high school and are on their way to college. All hope to get into the field of medicine. Lia is off to Emory, Aaron to NIU, and Natalia to the U of I, Chicago. Our best wishes to all three.

Natalia thrilled us all at coffee hour when she played her harp. Thank you for the beautiful music.

## A Surprise Award

Michael Sutko, a sophomore at Oak Lawn High School was selected as "Sportsman of the Year" from the fishing club.

## Church School

On June 9th, we celebrated the end of our church school with hot dogs for all at fellowship hour. A brief presentation followed to acknowledge the students and teachers of this past year. The teachers then presented Matushka Jessica with a beautiful flowering plant to thank her for her leadership. Later, those students who had perfect attendance were invited to Sky High Sports in Naperville for some trampoline fun.

## Instruction and Discussion

A four part video and discussion group met on consecutive Fridays during Lent following the Akathist Service to the Mother of God. We watched and discussed "The Mysteries of the Jesus Prayer"

## In Sympathy

Our condolences to Mike Palandech's family on the sudden death of his son-in-law Craig Dashut on June 21, 2013. In the last issue of this publication, we printed the wedding photo of Craig and Nancy, in our Church's only double wedding. Craig was only 55 years old when he passed away. We are all very saddened. "Memory eternal!"

## Quad Picnic

Due to heavy rains and a flooded picnic area the festivities were moved to St. Luke's Parish Hall.

## Project Mexico

Barry Koncel, President of our Parish Council, is again volunteering to lead a team to Mexico to build a house for an unfortunate family. St. Innocent's (Orthodox) Orphanage is home base for project Mexico activities. Help support this trip which costs \$500. Any excess donations will be donated to the orphanage.



First Holy Confession class: Fr. Herman, and their teacher Mona Bilas Megan Kornafel, Joshua Smak, Shaylah Marvin, Luke Brown, Madison Hartley, and Caleb Kenny. Not pictured Haley Brown.

## Pot Luck Agape Meal

Following Holy Pascha midnight services and the blessing of the baskets, there was an agape "pot Luck" meal. Usually we all just went home after church and sampled our newly blessed Easter foods.

One parishioner was heard reminiscing about the traditions of our 80+ year old church. Things like admiring the foods displayed in the baskets that each family brought to church to be blessed. We would "ooh" and "aah" at the decorated eggs, and hand sewn basket covers. Then when we got home—how we couldn't wait to dive into a slice of home-made white bread with butter. It was the best taste in the whole world. We also sampled the ham and both smoked and fresh sausages.

When speaking to some long time members of our church, it was surprising to learn that many still make their own horseradish. Also, heard discussions from the long timers, where to get the best sausage, and best ingredients to use. Ceresota unbleached flour was the long time best flour to make Easter bread and prosphora too.

New in this year's basket were fresh flowers, bottles of wine, and boxes of candy. All good things.

At the agape meal there was no home-made bread, no ham, but there were many kinds of sausages to sample. One person did bring "hrutka," or Easter cheese. Usually those who make this cheese love to discuss their variations of this recipe, (remembering Liane Dusek's brother who added bacon bits). For those who are interested, Julia Loveland's recipe is in the "O" Club Cook Book on p. 146. One of John Kotkovich's regrets, as he is recovering from surgery, was not being able to make hrutko this year. Told he could make it later he replied, "it isn't the same as having it for Easter."

So, you see, old traditions mean a lot to some of us. It has always been an activity that engaged the whole family. Who doesn't remember dying and decorating eggs during Holy Week? Making a new basket cover could take a year. The Easter Basket, with its traditional foods, is probably a Slavic tradition, but the Greeks have a tradition too. They have lamb, sweet cookies called Koulorakia, and red dyed eggs. That is what some Greek churches had for their agape meal.

This year's pot-luck meal, consisted of whatever anyone wanted to bring. Some brought the items they were most skilled at making, and some chose to bring what they had been missing most during the long Lenten fast period. All was good.

## CALENDAR

August 6 .....	Holy Transfiguration (Blessing Fruit)
August 15 .....	Feast of Dormition (Blessing Flowers)
August 17 .....	Annual Golf Outing
August 18 .....	"O" Club Hot Dog Sale
September 2 .....	Labor Day
September 8 .....	First Day of Church School
September 14 .....	Elevation of the Cross
September 22 .....	First Day of Autumn
October 7-9 .....	Diocesan Assembly -- Chicago
October 19 .....	Synergy Symposium.
	Speaker: Rev. Dr. George Dragas

## OCA NEWS

St. Vladimir's Orthodox Seminary in N.Y. is celebrating it's 75th year or Diamond Jubilee with a gala banquet on November 7, 2013 at the Glen Island Harbour Club, New Rochelle, N.Y. Contact Deborah Belonick at Deborah@Svots.edu or 914-961-8313 x363 for more information.

Effective April 15, 2013, Bishop Matthias of the Diocese of the Midwest stepped down.

His Grace, Bishop Alexander of Toledo and the Bulgarian Diocese has been appointed by the Holy Synod as Locum Tenens of the Diocese of the Midwest.

## Annual Picnic

St. Peter and St. Paul's annual Kermesh picnic was celebrated on June 30. It was a huge success, and a beautiful sunny day. Photos of the double Slip and Slide will be in our next issue.

## *St. Peter and St. Paul Orthodox Church*

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