



ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM ORTHODOX CHURCH

SUMMER 2009

**I greet you with the love of Christ,
our Lord and Savior!**

Two very important and beautiful Great Feasts take place in the month of August:

The Transfiguration of Christ, Преображение

Tues, Aug 18, 6 pm, Vigil service

Wed, Aug 19, 9 am, Liturgy.

The Dormition of the Mother of God, Успение Thurs, Aug 27, 6 pm, Vigil service—
Fri, Aug 28, 9 am, Liturgy.

We show our love for Christ, and His Mother, by attending these services. If, because of work, you cannot come in the morning for Liturgy, please attend the Vigil service in the evening before Liturgy. For the feast of Transfiguration, it is the tradition to bring grapes and other fruits to be blessed at the end of liturgy.

I also encourage all of you to come to church for Confession (исповедь) and Holy Communion (причастие). This is very important for cleansing our sins, and strengthening our bodies and souls. You can make your confession at the vigil service, or by appointment with the priest.

Please feel free to call or email me with any questions, or to meet with me in person.

May God grant you health and strength, both spiritual and physical, in the months ahead!

In Christ,
Fr. Christopher Stade, Pastor
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✠ Baptismal Font ✠

The church is still in the process of raising money to purchase a new baptismal font. After some very generous initial donations, and a fundraising rummage sale, we have collected a total of \$1,187.00. The cost for a new font will be approximately \$4,000.00. Please remember that besides baptisms, the font is used to bless water throughout the year. Our current font is too small for baptizing infants, and the interior surface is deteriorating. Please help with your contributions, and make sure to mark either the envelope or check "Baptismal Font." Thank you!

Church News

Recent Marriages . . .

On May 24th, 2009 the long-awaited wedding of Steven Daniel Prokopenko and our own Elizabeth Stade took place. Congratulations to the very happy couple, and may their new life together in New York be very blessed.

Births . . .

May 28, 2009 - to Rdr. Thomas and Claire Carroll, a daughter, Mary Anne.

June 5, 2009 - to Theophan and Cecily Thompson, a daughter, Damaris Irene.

July - to Andre and Veronica Levkovsky, a son, Maxim.

and Baptisms . . .

Ioann Loban, son of Andrey and Yelena Loban, on January 17th. His godparents are Rdr. Constantine Stade and Cecily Thompson.

Vladislava Milova, son of Simon and Olesia Milova, on April 11th. His godparents are Larisa Zhurav and Denis Melnikov.

Militsa Djarimbetova, daughter of Olga Djarimbetova and Ziemowit Patralski, on April 25th. Her godparents are Volha Osipava and Valery Kryvaduh.

Michael Slauson, son of Jeffrey and Alexia Slauson, on May 9th, His godparents are Mark Wiebenga and Jennifer Franklin.

Daniel Gauze Chakvetadze, son of Akaki Chakvetadze and Maria Gauze, on May 16th. His godparents are Andrey Loban and Katherine Nevidonskaya.

Alexander Larkin, son of Allen and Tatiana Larkin, on June 28th. His godparents are Ronald and Kimberly Berscheid.

Damaris Thompson, daughter of Theophan and Cecily Thompson, on July 21st. Her godmother is Catherine Shawk.

Mary Anne Carroll, daughter of Rdr. Thomas and Claire Carroll, on July 21st. Her godmother is Genevieve Park.

New Parish Directory

The time has come to update our parish directory. Efforts are already underway to gather new names, addresses, telephone numbers and e-mails. A new "correction" copy of the directory will be put in the coat room at church for all parishioners and friends of the parish to check. Please take a few minutes to make sure that your own information is correct, and write down any friend's info that has changed. Many people have expressed an interest in having photographs of parishioners printed in the directory. We will schedule a couple of Sundays in September for this purpose. If anyone would like to volunteer to take photos with their own digital camera, please contact Kristen Vogt at 636-376-3039 or at info@chrysostompress.org. Thanks for your help!

Sunday School Teachers

This congregation is blessed with many teachers - elementary, high school, and university, home-schoolers, tutors, trained, natural, and by necessity - but only one Sunday School teacher. In the past, we have had two, sometimes three, but due to marriage, babies, and lack of commitment, the number has dropped to one.

Both our patriarch and our metropolitan have spoken often about the necessity for teaching the young about Christ and His Church. Our children need religious instruction much more than they need secular instruction!

We have three classes - the first, the oldest, is for children 12 and older; the second, for those 9 - 11; and the third, for 6 - 8 year olds. These age limits are guidelines, and presuppose that the child has sufficient religious education to keep up with the rest of the class. Intellectual and emotional maturity are also taken into account. Just as in a secular school, children are expected to attend classes, and to do the homework assigned.

We need committed teachers who realize the importance of the task, and are willing and able to prepare these little ones for their spiritual lives. The time spent is so small, while the rewards are so splendid. And how shall we answer our Saviour for the neglect of so great a task?

Please call Matushka either at home (636-274-1478) or on her cell phone (636-328-4824) if you can be part of this great work. Team teaching can also be done, with two people alternating weeks, if necessary. Curricula, advice, and support can all be provided.

“The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few . . .” (Luke 10:2)



Men's Work Day - August 8th

Our women are doing excellent service, in cooking and serving tasty and abundant meals for trapeza, and in keeping the church clean. Now it is the men's turn. Saturday, August 8th, is scheduled for a men's work day. Mark Wiebenga has an interesting list of varied and necessary (and some long overdue) work on the property and its buildings. Please be at the church at 9 a.m., and bring a sack lunch. Women are also invited!

A few of the tasks that need attention:

- * **Storage room behind the office needs cleaning out**
- * **The red shed needs a new roof**
- * **The parking lot and blacktop road need sealing**
- * **All gutters and downspouts need cleaning**
- * **The gardens all around the church need weeding and pruning**

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