



CHRIST THE SAVIOUR ORTHODOX CHURCH

**Celebrating 45 years of Proclaiming
the Truth of Orthodox Christianity**

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Rev. Stephen Vernak, Pastor (svernak@hotmail.com)

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V. Rev. Dr. Michael G. Kovach, Associate

V. Rev. Neal J. Carrigan, Assistant

Sunday May 4, 2008

St. Thomas Sunday. Tone 1 — Virgin Martyr Pelagia of Tarsus in Asia Minor. The Albanov brethren: Ss. Nikita, Kirill, Nikifor, Clement, and Isaac, of Novgorod. Hieromartyr Erasmus, Bishop of Formia in Campania. Hieromartyr Albian, Bishop of Anæa in Asia Minor. Hieromartyr Silvanus, Bishop of Gaza, and with him 40 Martyrs. Ven. Nicephorus of Mt. Athos.

Epistle: **Acts 5:12-20**

Gospel: **John 20:19-31**

UPCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS:

May 4, Sun: ST. THOMAS SUNDAY – 45th Anniversary Celebration

His Grace, Bishop TIKHON, presiding. Responses sung by St. Tikhon's Mission Choir. Bishops Entrance - 9:30am; Divine Liturgy - 10am; Anniversary Dinner - 12pm.

May 4, Sun: Softball team plays at Veterans Park— 7:30pm.

May 5, Mon: Altar Guild Mtg – 6:30pm

May 6, Tue: Akathist Hymn to St. Alexis of Wilkes-Barre – 7pm

May 7, Wed: Pirogi Making – 8am; **Christian Education (resumes)** – 6pm

May 8, Thu: **Pan-Orthodox Bible Study (resumes)** – 7pm

May 10, Sat: Vespers and Confession – 6pm

May 11, Sun: Holy Myrrhbearer/ Mothers Day – Church School and Adult Education – 9am; Divine Liturgy – 10am; Fellowship – 12pm; Grave Blessings (weather permitting) to follow.

May 13, Tue: Softball team plays at Veterans Park – 8pm.

- **Christian Education Class** meets every Wednesday, 6pm in the Church.
- **Pan-Orthodox Bible study** meets every Thursday, 7pm @ Holy Trinity Camp Hill
- **Orthodox Radio** on 720 AM Radio every Sunday at 8 am
- **AncientFaithRadio.com** - 24 hour Orthodox Internet Radio

Welcome to our visitors!!! Please join us for fellowship in the Church Hall and be sure to sign our guest registry in the vestibule before you exit the church. **Please note:** Only those guests who are Orthodox Christians and have properly prepared themselves through fasting, prayer, and confession may approach to receive the Eucharist.

Prayer List: Please remember the following persons during your daily morning and evening prayers. **Names will be listed for 2 weeks unless otherwise requested.** Submit names to the office by Wednesday for inclusion.

Those Ailing: Marie Angstandt (Ann Cole's cousin); Mary Young; Paul Pellegrini; Ruth Mazurek (Joe's wife); Eli and Anthony Hancher (Ron's brothers); Jenny Sysak (Harry's sister in law); Christine Demchak (Suzanne's sister); Susan Strenski (Janet Kuzupas' sister); Pelagia Szewczyk; Bobbie Heberle (Jean Dotsey's mother); John Fatich (Janet Kuzupas' brother); Alexander Kalenak (Anna Doray's brother); Theodore Bacha (Lydia Mantle's brother); M. Olga Kovach



Health and well-being of: Eric and Elise Mosser and their newborn son Evan (Apr 22); Dan Cain (Doug & Barbara's son); Alexei Schmidt ('adopted' Seminarian) [CATECHUMENS] Mark, Christina, Gabriella Yerke [IN IRAQ]: Fr. George Hill (Orthodox Army Chaplain); SFC Bill Donner (Libby Hancher's Nephew); Nicholas Serio; Steven Hampson (Krempasky family friend); Brandon John Onufer (Evelyn's grandson); Andrew Zuzulock (Kathy Pankiw's nephew)

Newly Departed from This Life: His Eminence Archbishop GREGORY – Apr 15; Thomas White (Jerry's brother) – Apr 3; Robert Stadulis (Paul Pellegrini's nephew) – Mar 28; Thomas Delewski (George Hatolowich's uncle) – Mar 27; Archpriest Eugene Vansuch – Mar 23;

Anniversaries of Those Departed from This Life: Nicholas Demitron, May 7 – 11th; Olga Lobak, May 7 – 2nd; Stella Delewski, grandmother of George Hatalowich, May 8 – 33rd; Michael Samuel Yannone, May 9 – 28th; Serge Pankow, cousin of Evelyn Krempasky, May 9 – 3rd; Nicholas Philapovich, father of Millie Wolfe, May 10 – 50th; Anna J. (Dolly) Mallick, wife of Adam Mallick and mother of Michael Mallick, May 10 – 9th; Infant Luke Mosser (1yr); Ivan and Nadiya Golub; Michael Hadginske

Candle Offerings: For information on how to purchase commemoration candles, please go to the candle desk or speak with one of the vestrymen.

Seven Day Eternal Memory Votive is offered for the health and salvation of

Many Years: Names will be accepted for each week. Please submit to ctsocahbg@aol.com by the preceding Wednesday for inclusion in the Sunday bulletin.

The Newly Baptized and Illumined: Tatiana Thonus (May 2nd)

Birthdays: Paul Drebot Jr. - May 10

Anniversaries: Richard and Sandra Wood –May 8; Peter and Patti Taleff – May 8

TODAY'S NEWS

WELCOME: To His Grace, Bishop TIKHON, Fr. Michael Dahulich, and members of the St. Tikhon's Mission Choir who will be singing the responses at the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy this morning.

Donation Envelopes: Please consider making a donation in support of Orthodox theological education at St. Tikhon's Seminary. Your offering will help raise new pastors for our Church in America, and one day, *who knows*, one of these men will offer the love of Christ and the Sacraments of His Holy Church to you or one of your loved ones. Council members will take your offering envelopes or other loose donations at the door at the end of the service.

APPRECIATION: Fr. Dan and Mat. Theodora wish to thank all those who were able to attend their 50th wedding anniversary luncheon April 20. They are grateful for the greeting cards, messages, gifts, and checks that will benefit the St. Tikhon's Student Housing Project. A 4-minute video of their wedding day has been posted on www.YouTube.com. Type in **RESETAR** and click on **50th**.

Softball Results and Upcoming Games: The team won its first set of double-headers decidedly this past Thursday. This evening, May 4th, they play defending champion Devonshire UB, starting at 7:30pm at Veterans Park (off Elmerton Ave.) Upcoming games start at 8pm on May 13th and 6pm on May 18th.



OTHER NEWS

Fellowship Hour Schedule: Parishioners are asked to help by bringing at least 48 servings of baked goods and to serve them during their assigned fellowship hour. Please check the dates below and mark your calendar accordingly. **The complete list through next May 2008 is available at the parish hall.** If you won't be at church on your scheduled date, contact Nadzia Schilling at 652-2759.

May 11:	Betty Pellegrini	Donna Bretz
May 18:	Barbara Norato	TBD
May 25:	Kathy Kuchwara	TBD

Sonia Mioff Memorial Scholarship: Please see Fr. Stephen for more information regarding this \$500 scholarship that is awarded to a deserving **High School Senior**.

East Harrisburg Cemetery (2260 Herr Street, Hbg): Is opening an additional 36 acres. There is a possibility of creating an "Orthodox" section for our parishioners. If you are interested, please contact Fr. Stephen, so he knows if this is something we should pursue. **Our church members are being offered a price of \$520 per plot, which is over a 40% discount.**

Altar Servers Retreat: Please "save the date" of the afternoon of Sunday May 25th for an Altar Servers Retreat following the Fellowship Hour. Any who would like the opportunity to serve in the Holy Altar, are welcome to come and inquire at this meeting.

"Shut-ins" and "Lapsed" Parishioners:

- ❖ If you know of a parishioner who is no longer able to come to church due to a medical condition or any other circumstance, please give their name, telephone number and address to Fr. Stephen.
- ❖ Also... if you haven't seen some one in a while and were curious about their well-being, please call them and invite them to come back to the church. Please feel free to give them my telephone number or vice versa and I would be happy to make contact with them.

St. Alexis of Wilkes-Barre

Confessor & defender of orthodoxy in America

Our Holy Father Alexis, the defender of the Orthodox Alexis was born into a poor Carpatho-Russian family on March 18, 1854, in Austro-Hungary. The Toth family was Eastern Rite Catholic in the Uniate Church. His father and brother were priests, and his uncle was the Bishop of Presov. Alexis received an excellent education and spoke several languages, including Russian, Greek, Latin, and German.

Alexis was ordained priest on April 18, 1878. Soon after, his wife Rosalie died, followed by their only child, an infant daughter. In May, 1879, Fr. Alexis was appointed secretary to the Bishop of Presov. He was placed in directorship of an orphanage there, as well as given teaching duties at Presov Seminary. In 1889, Fr. Alexis and seven other Uniate priests arrived in the USA for mission work. He was assigned to St. Mary's Parish in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

When he presented himself to the local Roman Catholic authority, Archbishop John Ireland, he was greeted with hostility, and refused recognition. This was against the terms of agreement of the Unia. The American Catholic bishops wanted Rome to recall the ten Uniate priests then serving in American parishes, because they feared the Uniates would undermine the "Americanization" of European immigrants by fostering their ethnic parishes and non-Latin rites. Uniate Bishops in Europe did not respond to the priests' pleas for help. Fr. Toth's parishioners urged him to contact the Russian Orthodox Bishop Vladimir (America at that time was under the Russian Bishop's omophor). Bishop Vladimir subsequently received Fr. Toth and 361 of his parishioners into the Orthodox Church, the Church of their ancestors. In 1892, the Holy Synod of Russia recognized and accepted the parish into the Diocese of Alaska and the Aleutians. However, there was much turmoil in the new parish, and Fr. Alexis went to work as a baker to sustain himself.

Eventually, Bishops Vladimir, Nicholas, St. Tikhon and Platon recognized Fr. Toth's special gifts, and sent him forth to preach and teach wherever there were people of Slavic heritage. Fr. Alexis visited many Uniate parishes, traveling by horse and buggy, explaining the differences between Orthodoxy, Protestantism, Roman Catholicism, and Uniatism. He was instrumental in the return of 17 Carpatho-Russian and Galician Uniate parishes in America to Holy Orthodoxy, and also started 15-20 new parishes. Fr. Alexis' work extended beyond education in the faith. He also undertook the cause of miners' widows and orphans, since there was no welfare or insurance. He organized an insurance lodge in 1895, which is still headquartered in Wilkes-Barre. He received a jeweled miter from the Holy Synod, as well as the Order of St. Vladimir and the Order of Saint Anna from Czar Nicholas II. In 1907, he declined an episcopal office due to his deteriorating health. Fr. Alexis fell asleep in the Lord on May 7, 1909. He was canonized in 1994, his holy relics rest at St. Tikhon's Seminary in South Canaan, PA.

AKATHIST TO ST. ALEXIS WILL BE HELD THIS TUESDAY (May 6th) AT 7PM

