



HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX Parish Church RESTON Newsletter

Future Site: Potomac View Road (behind NoVa). November 2010

NOVEMBER—DAY 10 HOURS, NIGHT 14

- 7 Sun 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy—**Coffee Hour: Doyle**
- 14 Sun 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy—**Coffee Hour: Ellmore**
- 15 Mon *The day after St. Philip—Begins the 40-day pre-Christmas Penitential Season, the austerities of the season, such as they be, falling—according to the Typikon—on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.*
- 20 Sat 🍷 *Food Pantry—Leesburg*
- 21 Sun 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy—**Coffee Hour: Hawkins**
- 25 Thu *Thanksgiving Day*
- 28 Sun 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy—**Coffee Hour: Honshul**

DECEMBER—DAY 9 HOURS, NIGHT 15

- 5 Sun 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy—**Coffee Hour: Kisa**
- 6 Mon ↑ *St. Nicholas, Wonderworker, Bishop of Myra in Lycia*

THE WEEKS OF LUKE BRING US TO THE FEASTS OF LIGHT

Reflecting on the Divine Manifestations of the Lord Jesus Christ: Life from God (December 25), Life with God (January 6), Encountered in the Sacramental Life of the Church (February 2)

- 12 Sun 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy—**Coffee Hour: Lepnew**
- 13 Mon *27th anniversary of the death of Fr. Alexander Schmemmann*
- 18 Sat *Food Pantry Leesburg—10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.*
- 19 Sun **SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY**
9:45 a.m. Common Confession Rite (*in conjunction with the penitential season*)
10:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy—**Coffee Hour: Lynch**
- 24 Fri **EVE OF THE NATIVITY (Luke 2.1+)**
🍷 4:30 p.m. *Vespers with the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil*
- 25 Sat **NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST**
NOTE: Between Christmas and Theophany—what was long ago called by some the Dodekaímeron or Twelve Days—there is no Wednesday/Friday abstinence.
- 26 SUN **SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY—SYNAXIS FOR THE THEOTOKOS**
10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy—**Coffee Hour: Matyuf**

JANUARY 2011—DAY 10 HOURS, NIGHT 14

- 2 Sun **SUNDAY BEFORE THEOPHANY**
10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy—**Coffee Hour: Morrow**
- 6 Thu **THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST (Mark 1.1–11)**
We will keep the feast on the 9th.
- 9 Sun 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy—**Coffee Hour: Smith**
- 15 Sat *Food Pantry Leesburg—10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We give you thanks, O Christ our God, * for your earthly gifts! * Do not deprive us of your heavenly kingdom: * but as you came among your disciples, O Saviour, * giving them your «Peace!» * come also among us and save us.

—From the Book of Hours
(New Skete translation)

SanktHubertus Fundraiser 2010.

Burt and Maria Hawkins' 18th annual always-wonderful dress-up St. Hubertus Day Venison Dinner for 20 diner-donors is on for Saturday, November 6, the beneficiary being the building fund of Holy Trinity Church. Cocktails at 6:30 p.m., with dinner being served at 7:30 p.m., the main course is, as always, roast venison—Nelson Ellmore has already culled the herd—marinated in red wine accompanied with mushrooms and sundry veggies, homemade *Spätzle* with sour cream gravy; and a range of desserts (Maria's hazelnut Arborio-rice pudding is a perennial favorite).

Saint Hubertus, of course, was an errant hunter who changed his ways—no more hunting on Holy Friday—and rose to become the bishop of Liege, Belgium. The buck that confronted him is always depicted on the bottles of *Jägermeister*.

For a place at her splendid table, call Maria at 703.430.2289. *Guten Apetit.*

Participate in the Common Confession Rite on Sunday, December 19.

Come on time. Come in the right frame of mind. Winter festivals have been with us since the Stone Age. Celebrating the Christian mystery is something separate and sacred.

A word about our new altar cross.

The old one—we made it back in 1979 out of rosewood—was on the verge of falling apart. The new arrived in the nick of time.

The cross itself is a treasure, sand-cast in bronze in the beginning of the 1800's. We acquired it in Helsinki in 1988 from Koru-Kivi Spectro Gems, a store specializing in Russian antiques, religious and secular. (It is thus a memento of our participation through Fr. Paul in the celebration of the millennium of the baptism of Rus'.) There is some damage to the enamel highlights which we, at one point, thought of repairing, but we learned that today's enameling is very different from the cross's. We thought of gilding it, but the argument was made that it would change—perhaps even harm—its character and value.

We consulted with a specialist in the manufacture of such items as processional crosses who explained the difficulty of attaching a heavy bronze piece to a metal pole. He could not guarantee it would not break. And there would be loss of detail at the bottom of the piece which would be unacceptable.

Fr. Laurence's brother Norman Mancuso—a PhD with a woodworking side-interest—felt it could be mounted to wood. One problem with that would be the fact that the sand-cast cross is not flat. The solution: mounting the bronze to a piece of plastic with a high-tech mastic and using the intermediary to attach mounting bolts. The result is a perfect pairing of bronze and wood with no hint of the interface or irregularities and with no loss of detail on the cross. The masterpiece is completely visible.

Norman chose an exotic dark brown wood called Wenge which comes from Zaire, Cameroon and Gabon. It's texture is hard and coarse—hard to saw and sand. Its luster and grain and color can be appreciated only up close. Norman says the wood is so dense it's almost too heavy to float. Its scientific name is *Millettia laurentii* (*Laurentii* meaning "of Laurence"—a detail Norman discovered only after the fact, but adding a touching note to the fact that Norman Mancuso decided to donate his work to

ABC News reports charitable giving across our country is down 25%. Reverend Schuller's Crystal Cathedral in California is bankrupt. And The Fairfax Times tells readers poverty is on the rise in our affluent area—hard to believe. On the other hand, we pray every Sunday in our Thanksgiving for those "who remember the poor"—certainly a complement larger than ourselves but one in which we should be found.... And, when it comes to making contributions to the Loudoun Interfaith Food Pantry we could do better. Will anyone disagree? None needs to go and buy a whole bunch of different things. If Giant, say, is selling 10 cans of soup for 10 bucks, buy that. Someone else could buy a half dozen cans of beans. Or tomatoes. Or baby food. Or anything else on the list. A bunch of one thing.... Bring it to church and we'll get it to the Pantry. It's true that the need is year-round. But we are coming into the Winter-season celebration of plenty that makes people in need feel their unfor-tunate circumstances more keenly. Lord, help.

FOOD PANTRY WISH LIST

This time of year the Food Pantry—in addition to the following—is looking for holiday food items, the sort that fill the Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year table.

Canned items—Peanut butter, Jelly, **Juices (100% fruit)**, Vegetables, **Canned fruit**, Canned beans, Tomato products, Stews, Soups. **Boxed Items**—Macaroni and cheese, **Cereal**, Pasta, Rice, Potatoes, Crackers. **Other Items**—Sugar, Powdered milk, Coffee, Tea bags, Dry beans. **Needs for the Homeless**—Pop-top canned foods, Individual serve items, Can opener. **Infant Needs**—Diapers (all sizes), Baby personal hygiene. **Personal Hygiene**—Deodorant, Shampoo and conditioner, Bath/hand soap, Tissues, Tooth paste, Toothbrush, Laundry soap, Women's hygiene products, Shaving cream and razors. **Distribution Center Supplies**—Ziploc bags (all types), Paper towels, Disposable gloves, Disinfectants, Bleach, Window cleaner, Antibacterial hand soap, Copy paper (white and colors), File folders.

Holy Trinity in memory of Fr. Laurence). The light wood is Red Oak, a domestic wood, the density of which pairs well with the Wenge.

The cross is not the first thing Norman has done for our community. Collaborating with the monks of New Skete those many years ago, he fashioned our three candlestands made of solid Ash. The brass work is worth much more than what we paid for the stands. (Thank you, Norman.)

In future the altar cross will be paired with the ikon of the Resurrection we commissioned years ago, and Norman will give some thought to designing and making a seven-branch candle such as has a place behind the altar table in so many Orthodox churches.



Photo: Sheryl Belinsky