

ST. NICHOLAS WEEKLY BULLETIN OCTOBER 19, 2014 THIS WEEK'S NEWS

A PITA DOUGH ROLLING SESSION is scheduled **NEXT SATURDAY, October 25th**, 9am to 12pm. We need a crew of 10 -14 people, — we already have 10 people committed! The last session really helped to build our supply. No experience necessary. We'll teach you to roll out the dough, how to butter/fold the dough, and package it for freezing. **Please speak with Chris Toda or Deb Sedares.**

PARISH CLEANING. This Tuesday, October 21st, 9:00 am. Please see **Christine Masterjohn!**

PARISH LUNCHEON AND "CAKE BUFFET" originally schedule for this Sunday has been cancelled.

THANKS TO THE MUSTARD SEED VOLUNTEERS! Those who cooked and those who served the meal this past Friday! The Mustard Seed is a Catholic Worker home providing dinner to about 150 people in need each day. Our next scheduled meal is **December 19th**. Contact Fr. Nick if you'd like to help.

PARISH LUNCHEON CANCELLED

THE FALL SEMESTER of Religious Education Classes for children has begun. As a reminder, quiet space to hold Religious Ed classes is limited. It takes very little to disrupt a class of children from lessons their teachers have

**GREETERS TEAM 3:
EVANS TSOULES AND
TOM FITZPATRICK**

ALL ALTAR SERVERS INVITED



THE TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

EPISTLE: GALATIANS 1:11-19 ☩ GOSPEL: LUKE 7:11-16

(JESUS RAISES THE SON OF THE WIDOW OF NAIN)

TONE 2 ☩ MATINS GOSPEL: 8

prepared. **We ask for your cooperation during the time after communion, and during the sermon and coffee-hour.** Please remain in the Church and do not disrupt classes by walking in the coffee hour area, hallway or going to the kitchen.

A BIBLE STUDY LECTURE sponsored by the Eastern Orthodox Council and hosted by St. Mary's, will feature **Fr. Paul Tarazi**, retired Professor of Old Testament at St. Vladimir's who will speak on **St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians**. The lectures are open to the public and will start at 9:00 am **THIS Saturday, October 25**, ending at 5:00 pm. Registration fee is \$20.00 which includes lunch and all coffee breaks. All students are free. A flier with all the details is available at the candles. **Information: smc.worc@gmail.com.**

E-RECYCLING, Saturday, November 1st from 9:00am to 2:00pm. A few folks are needed to help set up traffic cones and direct folks who are dropping off items. Please

let **Gerry Belba** know how you can help. (Even for just an hour or two at either end!)

COFFEE HOUR SPONSORS NEEDED

for the coming weeks. Please talk to Presvytera Maria.

HOLY TRINITY NEWS

Holy Trinity Nursing & Rehabilitation Center & Holy Trinity Hospice are Orthodox Charities and rely on your donations to continue the mission of providing the best care possible.

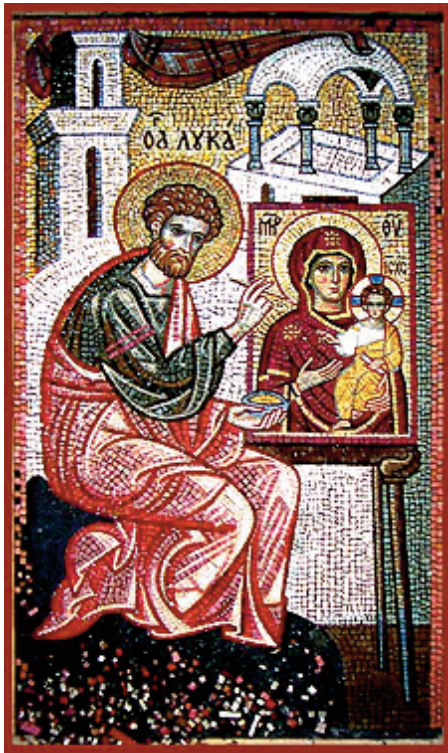
DATES TO REMEMBER

- Sat, Oct 25 Pita Dough Rolling, 9am
Bible Study w/ Fr. Paul Tarazi, 9am-3pm
- Sat, Nov 1 e-Recycling, 9am-2pm
Staff Orthodox Food Pantry 9am-12pm
- Fri, Nov 14 Nativity Lent Begins
- Sat, Nov 22 Thanksgiving Bake Sale/Holiday Mktpks
- Dec 6-7 Feastday Celebration

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A Parish of the Romanian Orthodox Archdiocese in the Americas



APOSTLE & EVANGELIST LUKE (October 28)

The Holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke, was a native of Syrian Antioch, a companion of the holy Apostle Paul (Phil.1:24, 2 Tim. 4:10-11), and a physician enlightened in the Greek medical arts. Hearing about Christ, Luke arrived in Palestine and fervently accepted the preaching of salvation from the Lord Himself. As one of the Seventy Apostles, St Luke was sent by the Lord with the others to preach the Kingdom of Heaven during the Savior's earthly life (Luke 10:1-3). After the Resurrection, the Lord Jesus Christ appeared to Sts Luke and Cleopas on the road to Emmaus.

Luke accompanied St Paul on his second missionary journey, and from that time they were inseparable. When Paul's coworkers had forsaken him, only Luke remained to assist him in his ministry (2 Tim. 4:10-11). After the martyric death of the First-Ranked Apostles Peter and Paul, St Luke left Rome to preach in Achaia, Libya, Egypt and the Thebaid. He ended his life by suffering martyrdom in the city of Thebes.

Tradition credits St Luke with painting the first icons of the Mother of God. "Let the grace of Him Who was born of Me and My mercy be with these Icons," said the All-Pure Virgin after seeing the icons. St Luke also painted icons of the Apostles Peter and

Paul. St Luke's Gospel was written in the years 62-63 at Rome, under the guidance of the Apostle Paul. In the preliminary verses (1:1-3), St Luke precisely sets forth the purpose of his work. He proposes to record, in chronological order, everything known by Christians about Jesus Christ and His teachings. By doing this, he provided a firmer historical basis for Christian teaching (1:4). He carefully investigated the facts, and made generous use of the oral tradition of the Church and of what the All-Pure Virgin Mary Herself had told him (2:19, 51).

In St Luke's Gospel, the message of the salvation made possible by the Lord Jesus Christ, and the preaching of the Gospel, are of primary importance.

St Luke also wrote the Acts of the Holy Apostles at Rome around 62-63 A.D. The Book of Acts, which is a continuation of the four Gospels, speaks about the works and the fruits of the holy Apostles after the Ascension of the Savior. At the center of the narrative is the Council of the holy Apostles at Jerusalem in the year 51, a Church event of great significance, which resulted in the separation of Christianity from Judaism and its independent dissemination into the world (Acts 15:6-29). The theological focus of the Book of Acts is the coming of the Holy Spirit, Who will guide the Church "into all truth" John 16:13) until the Second Coming of Christ.

The holy relics of St Luke were taken from Constantinople and brought to Padua, Italy at some point in history. Perhaps this was during the infamous Crusade of 1204. In 1992, Metropolitan Hieronymus (Jerome) of Thebes requested the Roman Catholic bishop in Thebes to obtain a portion of St Luke's relics for the saint's empty sepulchre in the Orthodox cathedral in Thebes.

The Roman Catholic bishop Antonio Mattiazzo of Padua, noting that Orthodox pilgrims came to Padua to venerate the relics while many Catholics did not even know that the relics were there, appointed a committee to investigate the relics in Padua, and the skull of St Luke in the Catholic Cathedral of St Vico in Prague.

The skeleton was determined to be that of an elderly man of strong build. In 2001, a tooth found in the coffin was judged to be consistent with the DNA of Syrians living near the area of Antioch dating from 72-416 A.D. The skull in Prague perfectly fit the neck bone of the skeleton. The tooth found in the coffin in Padua was also found to fit

A PRAYER OF FR. LAURENCE

LET US PRAY TO THE LORD,

WE, TOO, are guests in your house for a time, Lord like our ancestors of old. Yet, we forget this, forever abusing your goodness and mercy, as well as all your gifts, taking your hospitality for granted, and never stopping to think on your generosity. This takes its toll of us, without our realizing it. So we ask for the grace of repentance, that we may recover and be healed for our sins.

For yours is the kingdom and the power, and the glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit: now and forever, and unto ages of ages, amen.

NAMEDAYS

October 18

The Holy Apostle & Evangelist Luke

Fr. Luke Veronis

October 20

The Great-martyr Artemius of Antioch

Artemie Gavala

Artemis Gouvelis

October 26

The Holy Great-martyr Dimitrios of Thessalonika

Dimitri Soterios Apostola

Dhimitra Belica

Dimitri Daniel Christo

James L. Christo

James Demake

Dhimitri Disho

Dimitraq Lolo

Dimitraqi Lolo

Dimitri Michael Saffron

James Seferi

James Evan Stamoulis

James Trakadas

James Vlamis

the jawbone of the skull.

Bishop Mattiazzo sent a rib from the relics to Metropolitan Hieronymus to be venerated in St Luke's original tomb in the Orthodox cathedral at Thebes.

THE WIDOW'S SON

THERE is, perhaps, no more heart-wrenching a story in the whole of the New Testament than this week's Gospel lesson, the story of the Widow of Nain's Son (Luke 7:11-17). The Evangelist conveys such depth of human emotion and pain in this very short narrative of only six verses. Yet these few carefully chosen words, the St. Luke tells us volumes.

Jesus is travelling to the town of Nain after he had healed the Centurion's servant (Luke 7:1-10). A crowd follows him, and as they enter the gates they encounter a funeral procession. The dead man on the bier was "his mother's only son, and she was a widow" (v. 12). St. Luke also records that "a large crowd from the town" accompanied her in the funeral cortège.

Look at how much information we've been given in this one verse. We learn that the poor woman was a widow. This likely means she has little, if any, source of income. We learn that this was her only son. This means that the focus of her life is now dead and gone. Moreover, if her son is a "young man" (v. 14), this probably means that she has been a widow for some time. If there were other children (daughters), surely St. Luke would have mentioned it. Given her age it is unlikely she will remarry, especially if she had not up until now. And given the fact that she hadn't remarried, it means that her son was the center of her life. You can only imagine how she must have doted on the boy.

The young man and his mother must have been well liked in the town, because "a large crowd" was in the funeral procession. Each of those persons also felt and shared the tragedy of the situation. It is not hard to imagine the grief. All of this and more can be inferred from this one Scriptural verse.



Still, we can learn even more from the text. When Jesus sees him he calls him "young man" (v. 15). This means that he was in his late teens or early twenties. He was just entering manhood. Young, handsome, and strong, did he fancy some young woman? Or, were there young women who fancied him? What plans or hopes did he have for his future? The prime of his life was before him. How can we not, even two thousand years later, be moved by this scene? It is a story we know all too well.

Jesus encounters this entourage. He sees the poor mother and "had compassion for her and said to her, 'Do not weep'" (v. 13). Do you see how compassionate God is? How shares our pain? Then he goes up to the bier and touches it and says: "Young man, I say to you, rise!" (v. 14) The dead man sat up and began to speak (v. 15) and Jesus gave him to his mother.

It is hard not to see in this event, this miracle, a prefiguring of the Lord's own death and resurrection. In a short

while, it is the Theotokos who will be the grieving mother, and Jesus the young man. St. Gregory of Nyssa tells us that the Lord is preparing us to understand the Resurrection from the dead, his own and also ours. He prepares us by raising the daughter of Jairus (Luke 8:41) and now raising this widow's son — who, unlike Jairus' daughter, had been dead for some time and was on his way to the grave. He will days before his own death raise his friend Lazarus, four days dead (John 11:1-44).

Jesus rescues this widow's son, like he did the daughter of Jairus, like he did Lazarus, in order to give us hope. Each of them would die again, to await the Resurrection we all have been promised. As for us, we live our lives by faith (cf. Galatians 2:20). We trust in the Son of man, the Son of God, who showed his compassion on the poor widow of Nain. We know he will be compassionate with us as well.

FR. NICHOLAS APOSTOLA



*HOLIDAY BAKE SALE,
LUNCHEON & MARKETPLACE*
Saturday, November 22
9:00 am - 3:00 pm

BAKE SALE & LUNCHEON

- **We are asking for donations of home baked goods to sell.** We need to know in advance what you are bringing, and it must be brought to the church during the day on Friday, Nov. 21
- **We also need volunteers to help with set up and packaging of items for sale on Friday, Nov 21** and with the sale and luncheon on Saturday, Nov 22. If you have questions please speak to or email: Chris Toda or Deb Sedares.
- **There is a sign up sheet** on the bulletin board for donations and for volunteers to help with set up and with the sale.

PITA & PASTRY HOLIDAY ORDER DEADLINES

- **Help is needed with the ongoing baking effort** of pitas and pastries here at the Church and for help with packaging pastries — For specifics, see **Chris Toda and Betty Anderson.**
- **We need everyone's to help to sell our pastries and pits** to our family, friends, coworkers, and anyone else you can think of — for more information, see **Betty Anderson.**
- **Thanksgiving Orders** need to be in by November 9, for pick-up Sat/Sun November 22 & 23.
- **Christmas Orders** must be in by December 7, for pick-up Sat/Sun December 20 & 21. We are only able to make a certain quantity of pitas and pastries. To

ensure that we will be able to fill your orders do not wait until the last minute to get your orders in. ***Absolutely no orders will be accepted after the order deadline.***

- **You may download flyers** using the links in the e-mail Bulletin or pick up hard copies here.

HOLIDAY MARKET PLACE:

- **A Holiday Market Place** will once again, be part of our annual Holiday Bake Sale and Luncheon. We are seeking Vendors to rent table space at a cost of \$25 per table. If you or a vendor you know is interested in participating, please contact **Tim Rucho.** We would like to include a variety of vendors and ensure there is no duplication of products or services.

PAPOU'S ATTIC:

- As part of the Holiday Marketplace and Bake Sale on November 22nd, we will sell unique "antique shop" type items for the benefit of the Church. **We are seeking donations of new and gently used giftware, knick-knacks, and ornaments.** (To be clear, we are **NOT** looking for the usual "yard-sale" fare, but specialty items.) All things must be dropped off at the Church no later than Sunday, November 16th. For more information, contact Tim Rucho.