

**HOLY TRINITY
SERBIAN
ORTHODOX
CHURCH**

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Church Hall Manager-

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The News of the Holy Trinity is sent out monthly.

Please contact Father Ljubomir or the Church office with any suggestions for future articles. All ideas are certainly welcome

Пут Крста - Вести Цркве Свете Тројице

The Way of the Cross—Holy Trinity News

www.serbianchurchstlouis.org

O C T O B E R 2 0 1 7

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Matthew 5:5

Many people confuse “meekness” with “weakness.” The world will say, in response to this Beatitude, that “being meek and mild is okay for a ladies’ aid croquet match, but that’s not where it’s at in the real world. You’ve got to be tough to make it, to even survive.” The world tells us that meekness is a lack of strength and vitality, to lack backbone or spirit. Christ teaches us that it means nothing of the sort.

In Greek, the word “Praotes” means gentleness. When I have a true view of myself in terms of poverty of spirit and mourning because of my sinfulness, then I am meek. The meek are those who give soft answers to harsh questions—they do not offer harsh for harsh. Meekness is regularly contrasted with pride because it is the opposite of arrogance. Here are some places where we find

“Praotes” (meekness/gentleness) in the Bible:

Galatians 5:22 *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, meekness, self-control; and 6:1:Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself, lest you also be tempted.*

2 Corinthians 10:1: *Now, I, Paul, myself am pleading with you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ—who in presence am lowly among you, but being absent am bold toward you.*

Meaning “Tender spirit” in 1 Corinthians 4:21: *Shall I come to you with a rod, or in love and a spirit of gentleness?*

Meaning “Unselfishness” in Ephesians 4:2: *Walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, with all lowliness and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love.*

Meaning, “Forgiving spirit” in Titus 3:2: *Speak evil of no one, be peaceable, gentle, showing all humility to men.*

Meaning “Humble spirit” in James 1:21: *Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.*

Meekness is considerate of others. Meekness admits its faults to others. Meekness is not weakness. Christ was meek, not weak. Because He had the infinite resources of God at His disposal. The truly strong are the meek because they depend on the inexhaustible resources of God.

Meekness is obedience to God—which is difficult. It is doing the Godly thing, but maintaining control of emotions, though not suppressing them. So a meek person can become angry.

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Jesus turned over the tables in the temple and threw out the money changers. Moses broke the tablets of the Ten Commandments. But their anger was not destructive and sinful. It was righteous and purposeful anger. Meekness is quick to listen, quick to forgive, slow to anger. The meek person doesn't look for a fight, but does the right and Godly thing, which is sometimes a powerful witness. A meek person can be a powerful person, a human bulldozer. Mother Teresa did lots of Godly things but was not afraid to chastise the church, or politicians, for their moral stands.

How does one become Meek? Jesus said (Matthew 28:18) "All Authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me." But also said I am meek and lowly in heart." Meekness is power under control. Two oxen under a yoke are still very powerful creatures, who use that power to pull a heavy load down the road. To be meek is to be yoked to the greatest source of power, the Lord. In Matthew 11:29-30, Jesus said, "take my yoke upon you and learn from me; for I am meek and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for our souls. For my yoke is easy and burden is light."

Jesus showed us the most excellent example of meekness. When his own people picked up stones to hurl at him, He threw none in return. When He entered Jerusalem, He entered on a donkey, but was seen as a king. When His enemies came to arrest Him, He meekly gave Himself up like a lamb led to the slaughter and He asked God to forgive them.

The meek do inherit the earth in the finest and truest sense. For to inherit the earth, it is not necessary that one literally possess it. The selfish cannot inherit the earth. The small bit of the earth they possess, rather possesses them and makes them its slave, while the wealth that is not theirs tends to make them restless by exciting their envy.

Lord, thank You for your example of humility and meekness. Thank you for showing us that true strength is found in gentleness and humility. Help me not to be selfish. Help me to manage angry thoughts. Help me to be gentle in my spirit, that I may be humble before You, and gentle to my neighbors. Amen.

Be meek today—be gentle to others!

+Fr. Stavros

Vuk and family send greetings to all St. Louis friends!



Our parishioner Bob Dimitrijevich made a stop to visit VUK....word is he is improving each day!!!!

Kolo Korner

Dear Sisters in Christ!

The month of September was pretty uneventful for our kolo therefore there is not much to report other than a small group of our parishioners along with Fr Ljubomir made a trip to a recently opened St Michael and all Arch Angels skete near Kansas city with Fr.Alexei Altschull as their monk/priest. We were very honored to be part of their Slava celebration and we had received a warm welcome and met some very nice people. Personally, speaking it was a very spiritual and fulfilling experience. The monastery is very nice but still needs a lot of work but they have a good start and are defiantly on the right path.

I am planning on holding a very short kolo meeting on Sunday October 8th immediately following holy liturgy and the main topic of discussion will be our kolo celebration of Sveta Petka which is scheduled to take place Sunday October 29th after holy liturgy so please mark your calendars. Email reminders will be sent well in advance and I am counting on your support.

Happy belated birthday to our sister Mildred Tobin ! many happy returns and to anyone else who may have celebrated September birthdays that I may not be aware of.

In closing please pray and reach out to our sick sisters and their family. Looking forward in seeing you all soon.

In Christ

Ljubica Acamovic

Преп. Петка – Параксева

Ова славна светитељка беше српскога порекла, рођена у граду Епивату (Пиват, по турски Бојадос, између Силимврије и Цариграда. Родитељи св. Петке беху имућни и побожни хришћани, и осим Петке имајаху и једнога сина, Јевтимија, који се за живота родитеља замонаши, и доцније поста знаменити епископ Мадитски. По смрти родитеља девица Петка, вазда жељна живота подвигничког Христа ради, напусти дом родитељски и оде најпре у Цариград, а потом у пустињу Јорданску, где се подвизавала до старости своје. Ко би могао исказати све трудове, и патње, и искушења демонска, која претрпе св. Петка у току многих година? Под старост јави јој се једном ангел Божји и рече јој: „остави пустињу, и врати се у твоје отчество: потребно је да тамо предаш своје тело земљи, а душом да се преселиш Господу“. Св. Петка послуша глас с неба, остави омиљену јој пустињу, и врати се у Епиват. Ту она, проживе још две године, опет у непрестаном посту и молитви, и онда предаде дух свој Богу и пресели се у рајска насеља. Упокојила се у XI столећу. Мошти њене чудотворне у току времена беху преношене: у Цариград, у Трново, па опет у Цариград, па у Београд. Сада се налазе у Румунији, у граду Јашу. У београдском граду налази се вода (агиазма) св. Петке, која чудотворно лечи све оне болеснике, који с вером у Бога и љубави према овој светитељки к њој притичу.

РАСУЂИВАЊЕ

Примери како светитељи сами откривају људима своје скривене мошти, оправдавају поштовање моштију светитељских, а да и не говоримо о чудотворном дејству тих моштију, које их двоструко оправдава. Гроб св. Петке дуго и дуго нико није знао. Једном се деси да неки морнар умре и тело му би бачено у близину гроба светитељкиног. Када се тело претвори у леш и поче одавати неподносиви смрад из себе, неки монах, који се недалеко подвизаваше, зовну сељаке, те сахранише леш. И деси се, да га сахранише у сами гроб св. Петке. Те ноћи јави се св. Петка у сну једноме од тих сељака, што сахранише леш, Ђорђу по имену. Јави се као нека прекрасна и преукрашена царица, окружена многим и дивним војницима, па рече: „Ђорђе, одмах извади мошти моје и положи их на друго место, јер не могу више подносити смрада од онога леша“. И рече му св. Петка, ко је и одакле је. Исте те ноћи имала је исто такво виђење и једна сељанка из тога места, Ефимија. Сутрадан сељаци оду, почну копати, и заиста нађу мошти св. Петке, необично миришне и, као што се убрзо показало, чудотворне. – О моштима св. Гервасија и Протасија прича св. Амвросије, како су исте њему на сличан начин биле откривене. Једне ноћи јаве се будноме Амвросију два красна младића и један старији, за кога Амвросије мисли, да је апостол Павле. И док су младићи ћутали старији рече Амвросију о њима, да су то Христови мученици, да њихове мошти леже на оном истом месту на коме се Амвросије у то време Богу молјаше, и да ће све остало сазнати о њима из једне књижице, коју ће наћи у гробу. Сутрадан објави Амвросије своје виђење, почну копати и заиста нађу мошти двојице људи, о којима из нађене књижице сазнаше, да се они звају Гервасије и Протасије. У присуству св. Амвросија неки слепац Севир дотаче се тих св. моштију и одмах прогледа.

Parish Announcements

Birthday wishes go out to **George Amisch, Jr** 86 years young & **Mildred "Tootsie" Tobin** 90 years young...hope you celebrate many more!



40 day parastos for **Maja Matrak** from her family & **Lou Lausevich** parastos for **Zivorad i Cveta Lausevich**. Memory eternal.

Congratulations to the proud parents **Derek & Kelly Glogovac** on the birth of their daughter **Nora**!

Congratulations also to **Cristina Vuynich** on her recent baptism.

A big thank you to our church for donating needed supplies (granola bars, sunflower seeds, etc.) to our 1st responders in the area during this time of crisis. Thank you to Michel Funeral Home for seeing that they got to the right people.

Thank you goes to **Mirko and Jelena Rezak family** for donating the beautiful icon of St. John the Baptist

For Sale

2 DbleX Serbfest Tshirts & 5 XLg\$15.00 each!

September Church Attendance

09/03/17 – 63



09/10/17 – 83



09/17/17 – 92



09/24/17 – 92



Average - 82.5

Concealing our sins from our confessor

I have been a monk for over thirty-five years, and I must say that I can not think of a sin I have not heard before. Not one person has shared anything that was shocking to me, for the human condition is shared by all.

What I have experienced, however, is the joy at hearing a good confession. Seeing the burden of guilt and shame crumble to the floor with a good confession, and seeing the tears of true repentance, brings me joy beyond words.

The fear of being shamed before the priest keeps many from making a good confession, and prevents them from having the burden of sin banished from their consciousness. As sad as it is, the fear of being embarrassed keeps many from making a good confession.

As a priest I can assure you that we do not think less of a penitent who has unburdened themselves of shame and guilt, for we priests are painfully aware of our own sins. Like the heavenly hosts themselves, we priests rejoice when witnessing the lifting of the burden of sin in the Mystery of Confession.

When we fail to do battle against sins that are in need of being confessed, our wounds and sores are inflamed, and the cure that comes with a good confession eludes us. Just as the woman at the well beheld the mercy of Christ, when we make a good confession, and hear pronounced Christ's absolution by the priest, we are touched by this very Christ, Who is the Lover of our souls, and the fountain of immortality.

With love in Christ,
Abbot Tryphon

Message From The Church Board President

Dear brothers and sisters

I would like to thank the stewards who were able to attend the special assembly meeting in September which approved renovation of the storage and barbecue area adjacent to our parking lot. This project is a bit overdue and we should look forward to this improvement.

On Saturday September 23rd we had a church picnic which was held at Sylvan Park. I would like to thank the organizers for their efforts in barbecuing and making fresh homemade sausage. We enjoyed ourselves and the comradery we had. We actually had about 30 participants but it was organized for more than that. I hope to have this again and I would hope that many more would include this in their busy schedule.

Again, I would like to encourage all of you to support our church in all of its endeavors.

Thank You

Dragan Acamovic, President

Holy Trinity Serbian Orthodox Church
Српска Православна Црква Свете Тројице
September/септембар
2017 Calendar/Календар

Sunday 1	10:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy Света Литургија
Saturday 7	10:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy - Memorial Saturday Света Литургија - Задушнице No Vespers
Sunday 8	10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy – Special Assembly – 12:00 pm Света Литургија – Ванредна Скупштина
Saturday 14	10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy – Protection of the most Holy Theotokos Света Литургија – Покров Пресвете Богородице 4.30 p.m. Vespers Вечерње
Sunday 15	10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy Света литургија
Saturday 21	4.30 p.m. Vespers Вечерње
Sunday 22	10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy Света Литргуја
Thursday 26	5:00 p.m. Vespers Вечерње
Friday 27	10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy – The Venerable Mother Paraskeva Света Литургија – Света Петка
Saturday 28	4.30 p.m. Vespers Вечерње
Sunday 29	10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy – Kolo Slava celebration Света Литргуја – Слава Кола Српских Сестара