



EPARCHIAL NEWSLETTER

Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Van Nuys

Pastoral Center 8105 N. 16th Street Phoenix, AZ 85020

Phone: (602)-861-9778 Fax: (602)-861-9796

www.eparchy-of-van-nuys.org

Glory to Jesus Christ!

Slava Isusu Christu!

Vol. XII, No. 3

June/July/August 2003

THREE DEACONS, READER ORDAINED IN VAN NUYS EPARCHY GOD GRANT THEM MANY YEARS!

BISHOP ORDAINS TO HOLY ORDERS



*Laying on of Hands:
Bishop William, Seminarian
Michael O'Loughlin*

A candidate for the Priesthood, **Seminarian Michael O'Loughlin**, was ordained Reader on Sunday, May 11, in his home parish, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Albuquerque, NM. He enters third year studies at SS. Cyril and Methodius Seminary in the fall.

After completing a four-year course of study at SS. Cyril and Methodius

Seminary in Pittsburgh, PA, three men were ordained to the Sacred Order of the Diaconate by the hand of Bishop William Skurla in their respective Churches.

John Montalvo, III was ordained to the Sacred Order of the Diaconate on Saturday, May 3. A reception followed in the parish hall attended by parish family and friends. Deacon John and his wife, Teri and their six children are members of the Pro-Cathedral of St. Stephen, Phoenix, AZ.

In Olympia, WA, the ordination of **Joseph Wargacki** took place at St. Martin's Abbey Church on May 24, 2003. A reception followed at the Norman Worthington Conference Center, St Martin's College Campus, Lacey, WA. Deacon Joseph and his wife, Lori Ann are blessed with six children.

They are parishioners of St. George and reside in Olympia.

Our Lady of Wisdom Church, Las Vegas was the site of the diaconal ordination of **Stephen Casmus** on June 7. Deacon Stephen and his wife, Karen reside in Las Vegas and are parishioners of Our Lady of Wisdom.

Ordination ceremonies were celebrated by His Grace, Bishop William Skurla, and concelebrated by the pastors of the Deacons' home Churches. These pastors include: Rev. Christopher Zuggar, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Albuquerque, NM, Rt. Rev. Stephen Washko, St. Stephen Pro-Cathedral, Phoenix, AZ, Rev. Lee Perry, St. George, Olympia, WA and Rt. Rev. Francis Vivona, JCL of Our Lady of Wisdom, Las Vegas, NV.

The Lord grant to His Servants, Deacons John, Joseph and Stephen and to Reader Michael, peace, health and happiness for many happy and blessed years! *Mnohaja L'ita!*



Transfiguration of Our Lord

AUGUST 6 - Feast Day

Noteworthy...

Father Anthony Hernandez, Administrator of **St. Basil the Great Church** in Los Gatos, was given an additional appointment as Administrator of **St. Philip the Apostle Church**, Sacramento, CA. This appointment was made effective July 1, 2003.

Father Januarius Izzo, OFM, was relieved of his responsibilities as Administrator of St. Philip Church, Sacramento. He is appointed Administrator of **Holy Protection Church**, Denver, CO beginning August 1, 2003.

Brother Michael Sullivan, BBSF of St. Francis Monastery in Redlands, CA celebrated his 40th Anniversary in religious life as a Franciscan on July 18, 2003. Congratulations and God Grant you many happy years!

E-mail Updates:

GoodShepherdMonastery@mail.com

Father Jon Jensen with the brothers at Good Shepherd Monastery reports this new e-mail address change

brmike_7@msn.com

is the correct e-mail address for St. Francis Monastery in Redlands, CA

Bishop's Appeal 2003: Final Report

PARISH (PASTOR)			GOAL	AMT. REC'D	REBATE
Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Albuquerque, NM (Rev Zugger)	83	\$ 16,600	\$ 12,240	\$ 0	
Church of the Annunciation, Anaheim, CA (Msgr Vida)	101	\$ 20,200	\$ 12,500	\$ 0	
St. Nicholas of Myra, Anchorage, AK (Rt Rev Izer)	45	\$ 9,000	\$ 14,723	\$ 4,417	
Holy Protection, Denver, CO (Rev Frank)	56	\$ 11,200	\$ 11,420	\$ 3,426	
St. Nicholas of Myra, Fontana, CA (Rev Hutsko)	35	\$ 7,000	\$ 7,000	\$ 2,100	
St. Thomas the Apostle, Gilbert, AZ (Rev Acquaro)	50	\$ 10,000	\$ 5,150	\$ 0	
Our Lady of Wisdom, Las Vegas, NV (Rt Rev Vivona)	40	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,185	\$ 2,456	
St. Gabriel the Archangel, Las Vegas, NV (Rev Pipta)	91	\$ 18,200	\$ 19,255	\$ 5,776	
St. Basil the Great, Los Gatos, CA (Rev Hernandez)	25	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 1,500	
St. George, Olympia, WA (Rev Perry)	33	\$ 6,600	\$ 6,750	\$ 2,025	
St. Stephen Pro-Cathedral, Phoenix, AZ (Rt Rev Washko)	133	\$ 26,600	\$ 42,445	\$ 12,733	
St. Irene, Portland, OR (Rev Burnette)	21	\$ 4,200	\$ 4,270	\$ 1,281	
St. Phillip the Apostle, Sacramento, CA (Rt Rev Izzo)	23	\$ 4,600	\$ 4,900	\$ 1,470	
Holy Angels, San Diego, CA (Rev Rybarczyk)	74	\$ 14,800	\$ 15,405	\$ 4,622	
St. Anne, San Luis Obispo, CA (Rev Idranyi)	42	\$ 8,400	\$ 10,450	\$ 3,135	
St. John Chrysostom, Seattle, WA (Rt Rev Stanichar)	84	\$ 16,800	\$ 18,362	\$ 5,509	
St. Mary Cathedral, Sherman Oaks, CA (Msgr Moran)	100	\$ 20,000	\$ 25,730	\$ 7,719	
SS. Cyril & Methodius, Spokane, WA (Rev O'Brien)	35	\$ 7,000	\$ 7,650	\$ 2,295	
St. Melany, Tucson, AZ (Rev Rankin)	52	\$ 10,400	\$ 10,910	\$ 3,273	
TOTAL:	19 Parishes	1123	\$224,600	\$ 244,595	\$63,737

TUCSON HOSTS BYZANTEEN YOUTH RALLY

The annual summer Eparchial youth rally, "On Holy Ground," was hosted recently by St. Melany Church in Tucson. The rally was held at St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church facility from June 25 to 29. Administrator, Reverend Robert Rankin of St. Melany reported that 55 youth attended from eight parishes of the Eparchy.

The theme, "On Holy Ground" included two sessions, "Being on Holy Ground" and "Prayer & Gifts of the Holy Spirit." Ice breaker activities



Teens enjoy working as a group

preceded the presentations. Activities with smaller groups included making collages using representative materials depicting the "Gifts of the Holy Spirit" and journal reviews.

The Divine Liturgy was celebrated at St. Melany on Sunday. The main celebrant was Most Rev. William Skurla. Concelebrating priests were: Rev. Robert Rankin, Administrator of St. Melany, Rev. Robert Pipta, St. Gabriel, Las Vegas and Rev Joseph Hutsko, St. Nicholas of Myra, Fontana, CA and Deacon John Montalvo.

During his homily, Bishop William called attention to the many white stones scattered around the palm trees in front of St. Melany Church. He directed the youth to each "find one white stone to take home." He continued, "By taking a small stone home from this holy ground, be reminded that you are not alone! Someday, when things get rough, you will remember that there are 54 other white stones scattered out there somewhere!"



Bishop William, ByzantTEENS gather after Liturgy at St. Melany

Despite the Mt. Lemon "Aspen" fires burning nearby, highlights of the Tucson rally included a visit to Tumacacori Historical State Park and Mission San Xavier del Bac. Liturgy was celebrated at San Xavier, which is known as the "White Dove of the Desert." The group spent "cool" time in the pool at Udall Park and musician John Schoonmaker from Adrian, MI performed on two evenings.



Facilitators and Chaperones

The youth, chaperones, facilitators and priests anticipate the next youth events which includes a winter retreat, being planned for late December.

The Eparchy of Van Nuys will host the ByzantTEEN Metropolitan Youth Rally next year in 2004, at Camp St. Nicholas, Frazier Park, CA. Teens from Parma, Pittsburgh, Passaic and Van Nuys Eparchies will meet at Camp St. Nicholas from June 24 through June 27, 2004. For more information: www.byzanteen.com.



Thanks to our hosts -- St. Melany!



*We have no greater help,
no greater hope than you,
O Most Pure Virgin!*

Catechist Day of Prayer

St. Thomas the Apostle parish in Gilbert, AZ is hosting a Catechist Day of Reflection and Prayer. The guest speaker will be Deacon John Montalvo of St. Stephen Pro-Cathedral, Phoenix.

Registration begins at 9:30 AM followed by a Moleben at 10:00 AM. The day will conclude at 3:00 PM with Vespers.

All are invited to attend. For further information, please contact Rev. Phil Acquaro, CSB, JCL, Administrator of St. Thomas, (480) 497-5799.

CLERGY DAYS IN SHERMAN OAKS, CA

Eparchy of Van Nuys' Clergy Days is an annual gathering of the Priests, Religious, and Eparchial Staff to update spiritually, to identify pastoral experiences, and to enjoy a social bonding within the group.

The opening session began with the invocation by His Grace, Bishop William C. Skurla on Tuesday, June 10 at the Cathedral of St. Mary in Sherman Oaks, CA.

The principle speaker, Msgr. Richard A. Loomis, Vicar of Clergy of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, spoke on "The Pastoral Minister & Abuse of Minors—A Strategy." The presentation was informative and relevant in today's conflicts.

To experience group bonding, Rita Guild, Parish Coordinator at Incarnation Church in Glendale, CA guided the group in "Mission and Goal."

James V. Danovich, CPA gave clear, concise information to the group regarding financial assistance, taxation, and social security.

Other pertinent Eparchial matters were presented and discussed during the remaining sessions.

The Cathedral of St. Mary hosted the three day conference, where Very Rev. (Msgr.) Michael Moran is Rector.

Many thanks to all the people of the Cathedral of St. Mary in Sherman Oaks!



Sister Christopher, Sister Celestine and Fr. Mel Rybarczyk, CR, conference attendees

Still available! Call your own...an important piece of Church history! Order today!

The Third Bishop of Van Nuys: Episcopal Ordination and Enthronement - April 22-23, 2002

Most Reverend William Charles Skurla, D.D.

Order through the Pastoral Center at: (602) 861-9778; (602) 861-9796 by FAX; or e-mail: evnsecretary@aol.com. Or mail your order (including check made payable to "Eparchy of Van Nuys") to: The Pastoral Center, Eparchy of Van Nuys, 8105 N 16th Street, Phoenix, AZ 85020.

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RECTORY FOR ST. THOMAS



St. Thomas Rectory
505 West Midland Lane
Gilbert, AZ 85233

Congratulations to Fr. Phil Acquaro, Deacon Doug and the parish community of St. Thomas the Apostle Church, Gilbert, AZ on the acquisition of the new Rectory in Gilbert.

God grant them many happy years!

National Security Forum

Rev. Christopher Zuger of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Albuquerque, NM recently attended the 50th National Security Forum in Montgomery, AL. The Forum took place from May 25-30 at the Air War College. Father Zuger was the first Byzantine Catholic priest invited to participate in the Forum.



Fr. Chris

He was invited by the Secretary of the Air Force because of his work on his book, *The Forgotten: Catholics in the Soviet Empire*. He lectures locally and teaches on Christianity in the Middle East & Central Asian Republics.

Intereparchial Youth Commission

The Intereparchial Youth Commission of the Metropolia announced recently that the ByzanTEEN Youth Rally for 2004 will take place from June 24 - 27, 2004 at Camp St. Nicholas, Frazier Park, CA. The camp is located 75 miles north of Los Angeles.

Registration fee for the Rally is \$250 per person. Youth ages 13-19 are invited to attend.

Visit the ByzanTEEN website at www.byzanteen.com for further information or call the ByzanTEEN Rally Planning Office in Lockport, IL at (708) 645 0241.

The commission also reported the formation of a new ministry for Young Adults (ages 19-35). A retreat was held for the young adults at Mount St. Macrina Retreat Center, Uniontown, PA on Saturday, May 24, 2003. "Growing Up Into Christ" was the focus of the one-day retreat.

Fr. Jack Custer, Dean of SS. Cyril and Methodius Seminary in Pittsburgh addressed the young adults. "A great conversation has got to happen in the Church...and you young people will be a part of that," he emphasized.

Deacon Formation Class Begins

"The word "deacon" comes from a Greek word meaning servant. Men who would become deacons in the Byzantine Catholic Church... know this and accept it readily."

In June, nine Deacon candidates from the Eparchy of Van Nuys and 14 others from the Pittsburgh and Parma Eparchies began studies at SS. Cyril and Methodius Byzantine Catholic Seminary in Pittsburgh. This was the second group of men to enter the Diaconate Formation Program.

The program involves an intensive two-week course over a period of four consecutive summers. The candidates will continue studies throughout the year with distance learning and assigned readings. Required written papers related to their studies will be due periodically. Mentors are assigned to assist each candidate and to monitor their progress.

Excerpt from Joyful Light

Deacons are called to serve the Lord through services within the parish community. The primary duty of the deacon is to assist at liturgical services, announce the Word of the Gospel and bring the Holy Eucharist to the sick.

"I am happy to welcome this new class," said Father John G. Petro, Rector, SS. Cyril and Methodius, "and challenge them to be as motivated and enthusiastic as our first group. When they finish four years from now, they will fill a great need in our Church."

Dormition of the Mother of God



August 15



EPARCHIAL CALENDAR

June 10 - 12	Clergy Days Conference, Cathedral of St. Mary, Sherman Oaks, CA
June 11	Eparchial Consultor's Meeting, Sherman Oaks, CA
June 18 - 21	<i>US Conference of Catholic Bishops Meeting</i> , St. Louis, MO
June 18	Metropolitan Hierarchs Meeting, St. Louis, MO
June 16 - 28	Deacon Formation Program, SS. Cyril and Methodius Seminary, Pittsburgh, PA
June 26 - 29	"On Holy Ground" Eparchial ByzanTEEN Rally, St. Melany, Tucson, AZ
July 8 - 16	Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Novena, Our Lady of Wisdom, Las Vegas, NV
July 23	Ordination of Most Rev. Stephen V. Chmilar, D.D., Eparch of Toronto and Eastern Canada, Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Toronto
July 28 - 31	Liturgical Commission Meeting, Pittsburgh, PA
August 7 - 10	"Alive in Christ: An Ascetical Boot Camp for Byzantine Catholic Young Men," (ages 8 - 17), Upper Nutria, NM, sponsored by the Eparchial Vocation Office
September 6	Catechist Day of Recollection, 10 AM to 3 PM, St. Thomas, Gilbert, AZ
Sep 26 - Oct 3	National Conference of Diocesan Vocation Directors Meeting, Biloxi, MS
Oct 6 - 10	Eparchial Clergy Retreat, Serra Retreat Center, Malibu, CA
November 22	Catechist Formation Workshop, "Using the Bible in Catechesis," St. Thomas, Gilbert, AZ Guest Presenter: Fr. Jack Custer, Dean of SS. Cyril and Methodius Seminary



SUMMER AND FALL PILGRIMAGES

Aug 15 - 17	Shrine of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Pacific Northwest St. George Church, Olympia, WA
Aug 29- Sep 01	Our Lady of Perpetual Help 69 th Annual Pilgrimage, <i>Mary, Wondrous Protection for the Whole World</i> , Mt. St. Macrina, Uniontown, PA
Oct 10 - 12	Pilgrimage to Holy Resurrection Monastery, Newberry Springs, CA in honor of the Mother of God, Searcher for the Lost

ByzanTEEN Youth Rally 2004

Poster Contest



FREE REGISTRATION for Winner!
(A \$250 Value!)

Rally Theme: "MISSION"

Contest Rules:

- 1) Open to members of all Byzantine Catholic parishes from ages 13 - 19.
- 2) Must be original artwork or photos
- 3) Design must include the word "**Missi**on" and:

ByzanTEEN Youth Rally 2004
Camp St. Nicholas Frazier Park, CA
June 24 27, 2004
Planning Office: (708) 645 0241
Website: www.byzanteen.com

- 4) Poster size: approximately 19" x 25"
- 5) Deadline for all entries: Tuesday, September 30, 2003
- 6) All entries must be submitted to:

Rally Planning Office
14610 Will-Cook Road
Homer Glen, IL 60491

