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μοναχὸν ἕως

The Saint Sava Serbian Orthodox Church Of McKeesport & Duquesne, Pa
901 Hartman Street, McKeesport, Pa. 15132 **Our Web-site:** stsavapa.org*
***(PLEASE VISIT OUR Newly-designed Website, and We're On Facebook & Twitter!)**
Very Rev. (Stavrophor) Stevan Rocknage, Parish Priest
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JULY 22nd –8th Sunday After PENTECOST – Tone 7
(Commemorating the Saints, Pancratius and Theodore)

Today's Epistle Reading:

EPISTLE: 1 Cor. 1: 10-18

Today's Gospel Readings:

LITURGY: Matthew 14: 14-22

Troparion: "By Thy Cross, Thou didst destroy death; to the thief, Thou didst open Paradise! For the myrrh-bearers, Thou didst change weeping into joy! And Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God, to proclaim that Thou art risen, granting the world great mercy!"

Kontakion: "The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive, for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers! Hell is bound, while the prophets rejoice and cry: 'The Savior has come to those in faith! Enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!'"

Spiritual Food:

The Meaning of Angels

The existence of angels tells us that God is constantly and secretly intervening in the lives of His children to guide, comfort, strengthen, and protect them. Angels tell us that this is not a closed universe but always open to God's loving, caring intervention. Angels tell us that this universe is not just materialistic; there is more than materialism; there is spirit, there is God, there are His ministering angels. Angels tell us that it is not just the devil who exists, going about "as a roaring lion, seeking some one to devour" (1 Peter 5:8). There are also God's angels to protect us along the way. People today are looking for assurance that the devil is not in control. They do not have to be convinced anymore that there is a devil. They know it! They have seen him in the lives of others as well as in their own lives. What they want to know is: Is that all there is? The answer is NO! There are angels, "God's ministering spirits sent forth to serve for the sake of those who are to obtain salvation."

Angels are not only messengers but also protectors. When Daniel was in the lion's den, he was protected by an angel. When Peter was in prison, it was an angel who came to deliver him. One of the functions of God's angels, in addition to praising God, is to protect us.

Today's Special Announcements and Upcoming Events For Our Parish:

- (1) **WELCOME!!!** To our new “**Warrior in Christ**” – **Marko Andres Villa**, son of Joann (Yovetich) and Marko Villa – who will be baptized this morning – Kuma: Angela (Lia) Vogan!
- (2) **DIOCESAN PLEA:** To celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the end of WW I, the Diocese is asking IF anyone has souvenirs (medals, trinkets, symbols, uniform parts, etc.) from that time (1914-1918) to please let Fr. Stevo know, as the Diocese wants to hold a Traveling Exhibit that will go around the Diocesan parishes beginning in September of this year!
- (3) **Please pray for the health and well-being of our following loved ones within our parish:**
Nick Trbovic Donna/Nick Moss-NH Dan Pacura Katie Repasky Lucy Pcholinski
Stella Stipanovich -NH Ann Vunovic-NH Beverly Stipanovich Keith Bedell
Margaret Ivkovich Melva Buzzelli-NH Nick Pavlovich V. Rev. Adam Yonitch
V. Rev. Paul Lazor Wayne Eremic John Walker
- (4) **Also pray for the souls of those fallen asleep in the Lord:**
+ Martha Zivkovich- +Ann Cervo +Helen Lia +Alex Stipanovich +Dan Ikach
+Sophie Vranesevic +Louise Zivkovich +Mimi Pavlovich +Ann Vranesevic
+Nick Pilipovich +Jovan Vujatovich +Kh. Stefanie Yazge +Stoyanka Vranesevich
+Mel Trkula +Mika Rocknage +Sharon Young +Betty Perich +Dorothy Shumkaroff
+AP Stevan Stepanov/+Rastko Trbuhovich,+Vasilije Sokolovic +George Medich
+Arlene Crnkovich +Amy Pacura
- (5) **GROUPS Ministry:** Our Support Group dates for **NEXT MONTH :**
Men – Tuesday the 31st of JULY – and the
Women – Tuesday the 21st of AUGUST – 7 PM!
- (6) **Don't forget: you can help out at the St. Cyril Food Pantry** – any Thursday at 4:30pm!
- (7) **Shadeland Diocesan Day** is Saturday, August 4th – Make your plans to celebrate with us!
(See the Flyer both downstairs and upstairs!)
- (8) **THIS WEEK** – Feast of Archangel Gabriel – THURSDAY – 9:30AM Matins!
- (9) **NEXT Sunday:** Memorial Service for +Ann Cervo – after Holy Liturgy.
- (10) **NEXT Tuesday** (The 31st Of July): Making Palachinke for I.Village – 9 AM!
- (11) **REMINDER:** Please help YOUR Parish by donating items/goods from the List you Received this past week for International Village – the more we have donated, the more success we will have at the Village, ok?

BLESSED ARE THE MEEK

Mount Athos has long been looked upon as a religious center of Orthodox monasticism. This spiritual beacon's light has shone brightly now for more than 1,000 years. Yet, its unlikely founder was not a dynamic bishop or patriarch, but rather a simple, humble monk best known for his meekness: ATHANASIOS THE ATHONITE.

Athanasios was born in Trebizond, and was left an orphan at an early age. He was adopted by a high-ranking army officer, who took him to live in Constantinople. Upon completion of his schooling, Athanasios was tonsured a monk and set off to live on Mt. Kyminas in Bithynia. Soon Athanasios desired to live a life of more severe asceticism, so he moved to Mt. Athos, which was nothing more than a rugged, desolate region at the time. Others, however, were also attracted to this secluded area, and Athanasios embarked upon the task of building a monastery. He was able to convince the Emperor Nikephoros to finance his efforts. The magnificent Holy Lavra, a classic example of Byzantine architecture, was dedicated to the Holy Virgin in 963 A.D. It would be the first of some 20 monasteries that would be constructed on the Holy Mountain. At its peak, it is said that about 50,000 monks lived there, spending their lives in prayer.

The life of Athanasios came to an untimely end in 1003 A.D. While inspecting the construction of his beloved monastery, a wall collapsed, killing the saintly monk in the process. Athanasios was buried "in" the monastery that was so important to him. From this humble monastic came wonderful works. Can we find it within ourselves to do the same?