

Saint Panteleimon Russian Orthodox Church, Gosford

ПАНТЕЛЕИМОНСКИЙ ЛИСТОК

PARISH NEWSLETTER

~ Number 46, August 2005 ~

PARISH LIFE: FEAST-DAY CELEBRATIONS AUGUST 6TH-9TH

Despite Vladika Hilarion's absence, we were able to celebrate our patronal feast of Saint Panteleimon with great joy earlier this month. As in previous years, the parish council decided that the main observance of the feast would be on the weekend closest to the commemoration of Saint Panteleimon, thereby allowing many parishioners and friends to be present. On Saturday 6th August, vigil with the blessing of loaves was served. Protodeacon German Polorotov of the Fairfield parish assisted Father James at this service. On Sunday 7th, the lesser blessing of waters and Divine Liturgy were served. Joining Fathers James and German were Hieromonk John (Macpherson) of Newcastle and Deacon Vadim Gan of the Croydon parish, the latter visiting our parish for the first time. About 120 people were present in church. After the serving of a moleben to Saint Panteleimon, the clergy and approximately 100 parishioners and guests proceeded to the Narara Community Centre for a festive lunch. As usual, the parish Ladies' Committee prepared a lovely meal. A number of cakes were auctioned, and the feast-day raffle/guessing competition prize winners were announced. The names of the prize winners are listed elsewhere in this newsletter.

On the evening of Monday 7th August, Father James served Matins for Saint Panteleimon. Over 40 people were in church to mark the feast-day the following morning. Father James served Divine Liturgy alone. The choir sang beautifully, and all present stayed afterwards for a "cup of tea".

Mysteriously, a quantity of very beautiful gold church fabric turned up in the sanctuary on the Sunday of the festal celebrations. Father James has so far been unable to find out where it came from. If anyone knows the origin of this beautiful material, please let him know as soon as possible. Nobody is willing to do anything with it until they are sure that it is ours to make use of!

Many thanks to all those who made these days of celebration a success in every way. May the Lord bless you!

PARISH LIFE: SPRING 2005 SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

A new schedule of services covering the Spring months (September, October and November) will be available in church from Sunday August 21st. Copies are also available on our website. As usual, there will be services on the first, third and fifth weekends

of each month. This year, we will also serve vigil and Divine Liturgy on Monday 26th & Tuesday 27th September to mark the Great Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross (Воздвижение). Other special services of note include the commemoration the patron saint of our school, Saint Innocent of Alaska, in early October; **Archbishop Hilarion's visit on Sunday 16th October**; and Divine Liturgy in English on Sunday 30th October.

DIOCESAN LIFE: SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST SKETE, KENTLYN

Many people are unaware of the existence of Saint John the Baptist Skete in Kentlyn, a small monastic establishment for men. Located a short distance from the Kazan Icon Convent, the skete was founded with the blessing of the ever-memorable Archbishop Sava in 1956. Although the skete was abandoned and fell into disrepair in the 1980s and 1990s, it was re-established in 1999 by Hieromonk Joachim. Father Joachim has been given the use of the old convent church of All Saints, and on Sundays and major feast days he serves Divine Liturgy there in the English language. Father Joachim is also the editor of the excellent English-language Orthodox publication, 'The Voice'. He now hopes to undertake modest extensions to the skete. A leaflet with more details of the history of the skete, Father Joachim's current activities, and his future plans is on the noticeboard in the parish hall.

A small but energetic group of friends of the skete, 'Saint John the Baptist Auxiliary', are assisting Father Joachim by organising a number of fundraising activities. These include:

- An inter-parish cooking competition to be held at the Cabramatta parish hall on Sunday September 18th;
- A photo competition, with prizes for the cutest baby shot, the cutest pet shot, and a captured moment shot; and
- A cash raffle/guessing competition, with a single prize of \$500.00.

The photo competition will be judged and the raffle prize drawn at the cooking competition on 18.9.2005. Details of each of these activities have been posted on the noticeboard in the parish hall. Alternatively, information is available from Auxiliary members on 4620-4813 or 4869-3913. All parishioners are encouraged to support these worthy activities.

CHURCH LIFE: HOLY CROSS HERMITAGE MARKS THE 1700TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MARTYRDOM OF SAINT PANTELEIMON THE GREAT MARTYR

A news item from the Synod website: "On Sunday, August 7th, the brethren of Holy Cross Hermitage, a podvorie [branch] of Holy Trinity Monastery in Jordanville, NY, marked the 1700th anniversary of the martyrdom of Saint Panteleimon the Healer and Great Martyr. A Divine Liturgy was celebrated along with a moleben with a procession of the cross, and on the eve, all-night vigil with a litia and polyeleos, attended by an

enormous gathering of worshippers. At the end of the services, the worshippers were afforded the opportunity to venerate an icon of Saint Panteleimon containing a part of his holy relics, and then to renew their physical strength by participating in the monastic repast”.

ЗАВЕРШИЛАСЬ ПОЕЗДКА ПО СВЯТЫНЯМ РОССИИ ПАЛОМНИКОВ ВО ГЛАВЕ С АРХИЕПИСКОПОМ ИЛАРИОНОМ

«Православные русские люди за границей и в России духовно едины,
и мы чувствовали это в течение всей нашей поездки»

Сегодня (16 августа 2005 г.) завершилось паломничество по России священнослужителей и мирян во главе с Архиепископом Иларионом.

«Поездка оставила незабываемое впечатление. Мы прошли почти половину России и получили возможность не по рассказам и не по книгам составить впечатление о святынях Русской земли, а своими устами прикоснуться к чудотворным иконам и мощам, своими глазами увидеть места, где являли чудеса святые угодники Божии», - сказал архиепископ Иларион.

«Православные русские люди за границей и в России духовно едины, и мы чувствовали это в течение всей нашей поездки», - подчеркнул владыка. В ходе своей поездки, которая продолжалась с 25 июля по 16 августа, паломники молились на месте мученической кончины Царской Семьи в Екатеринбурге и на месте убиения преподобномучениц и великих князей в Алапаевске, посетили такие известные обители, как Троице-Сергиева лавра, Курская-Коренная пустынь, Толгский, Ипатьевский, Санаксарский монастыри, побывали в Тобольске, Дивееве и Задонске.

Предпоследний день паломничества был посвящен знакомству с храмами и монастырями Москвы.

<http://www.russianorthodoxchurch.ws/01newstructure/pagesru/novosti2005/endpalom.html>

GUESSING COMPETITION PRIZE WINNERS

The following people were the winners of prizes in our Guessing Competition:

1st prize, a \$150.00 voucher generously donated by Alla Brusentseva:

Protodeacon German & Matushka Marina Polorotov (Ticket № 4)

2nd prize, an Orenburg shawl: Subdeacon Dr Kon Moshegov (Ticket № 492)

3rd prize, an amber necklace and bracelet:

Protodeacon German & Matushka Marina Polorotov (Ticket № 127)

4th prize, a jade ring: Anya Shatrov (Ticket № 540)

5th prize, a set of three plates: M. Fomina (Ticket № 191)

6th prize, a coffee set: Protodeacon German & Matushka Marina Polorotov (Ticket № 3)

7th prize, a basket of wine: E. Tidenberg (Ticket № 655)

8th prize, a jade horse: V. Golovin (Ticket № 437)

9th prize, a tablecloth: Deacon Vadim Gan (Ticket № 196)

10th prize, a lasagne dish: M. Fomina (Ticket № 684)

11th prize, a diary/organiser: Mrs Sulimovsky (Ticket № 757)

12th prize, a decorative plate: Mrs Strelkov (Ticket № 52)

Many thanks to all for their kind support, both those who donated prizes and those who purchased tickets!

PARISH LIFE: IN GENERAL

Our new baptismal font was used for the first time on Saturday July 29th when Father James baptised the infant Alexander, first child of Vladimir and Jasmin Tohadze of North Strathfield. On Saturday August 13th the infant Kallista, the second child of Dmitri and Olga Lusin (our parish website designer), was baptised. Congratulations to the parents and godparents, & may God grant many years to the newly-baptised servants of God! ~ July 30th saw another first: the first wedding in our West Gosford church. Phillip & Katrina Dankworth of Gosford were married on Sunday after Liturgy. Congratulations to the newly-weds, and may God grant them many years of happiness together. ~ Observant parishioners will have noticed a new icon on the left-hand side of the church, one of the Holy New Martyrs of China, donated by a friend of the parish. An account of these martyrs was included in the June 2005 newsletter. Some other icons, donated by Simon and Olga Polorotov earlier in the year, have been framed and have been placed on the iconostasis. ~ A nice addition to the hall has been a shelf displaying beautiful Russian wooden handcrafts. An idea of Olga Petroff's, the display was arranged by Katya Rubbo. ~ Our parish Russian School continues to function on Saturday mornings, with the children studying Russian language and the Orthodox Christian faith and worship. The school has tentatively extended activities, with a number of adults from outside the church community now attending Russian language classes on weeknights. These classes are also open to parishioners. A school project well underway is the publication of a Russian-English children's book, 'A Little Bird Told Me...' («Сорока на хвосте принесла»), beautifully illustrated by Katya Rubbo.



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Our parish newsletter will be published monthly. If you wish to receive it by post or email, please talk to Father James (0428-639156) or Katya Marcotrigiano, the parish secretary (4369-1765).