

# ПАНТЕЛЕИМОНСКИЙ ЛИСТОК

A Newsletter for the Russian Orthodox Parish of Saint Panteleimon, Gosford

~ Number 39, 30 January 2005 ~

## 2005: THE YEAR AHEAD

2005 is the fifth year of existence of our community here on the Central Coast, and the first full year in which we have had a church of our own. The process of building our church and parish centre has now effectively been completed and we have as of last November a new and united parish council. There have been a number of encouraging activities already this year: our Christmas service and ёлка on 8/1, christenings on 16/1 and 22/1, services for the great feast of Theophany on 18/1 and 19/1, followed by the blessing of homes around the parish, and a successful second fishing competition on 22/1 and 23/1 (for more information on some of these things, see below). We look forward this year to a period of consolidation and growth, with the commencement of our parish school on 5/2, a robust schedule of services during Great Lent (with a service of some kind every weekend during the fast, and one during most weeks), and another concert at the Russian club in late May. We pray that God will continue to bless us and help us as we strive to live our Orthodox Christian lives here on the Central Coast.

## CHRISTMAS SERVICE & ЁЛКА

Our Christmas service on the second day of the feast (8/1) was very well attended, as was the ёлка that commenced immediately after the service. All enjoyed dancing around the Christmas tree (especially some of our older parishioners!), singing festive songs, and a visit from Father Christmas. Over 30 children were present to receive gifts, and at least as many adults, with all enjoying lunch in the shaded area beside the church afterwards. Many thanks to all who helped make the day a success!

## NOTE: SERVICE AND FESTIVE LUNCH IN GOSFORD NEXT WEEK

As there has been five Sundays in January, we have services here in Gosford today (the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month) and also next week (the first Sunday). Next Sunday is the commemoration of the Holy New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia and of **Blessed Xenia of Saint Petersburg**, the patron saint of our energetic ladies' committee. In honour of this occasion there will be a moleben immediately after Divine Liturgy, followed by **a festive lunch in honour of our parish ladies**. To give the ladies a well-earned break on the day, lunch will be prepared and served by the men while the ladies sit down and relax. Even more importantly, the men will be cleaning up and washing the dishes! Arrangements for this will be put into place this weekend and during the week. The men of the parish should all prepare to make a salad or help in some other way!

## **REPOSE IN THE LORD OF FYODOR TIALSHINSKY ВЕЧНАЯ ПАМЯТЬ!**

On the afternoon of 8/1 Father James received that sad news that one of our parishioners, Fyodor ("Ted") Tialshinsky, had passed away suddenly that morning. He and his wife Antonina were frequent worshippers back at the Narara Community Centre but had been prevented by illness from attending services in recent months. Father James served a pannikhida that evening, and again during the week at the nursing home where Antonina now resides. The funeral was served on Friday January 14<sup>th</sup> at the church of Saint George in Carlton, with Archpriest Michael Konstantinoff, Father James, and Protodeacon Boris Evstigneev all taking part. Prior to moving to the Central Coast, Mr and Mrs Tialshinsky were active for many years in the Carlton parish, with Ted serving for a long period as the parish secretary. Over recent months he had shown great care for his wife in her illness, visiting her and comforting her each day without fail. We pray that God will grant him rest with the saints, and that he will give strength and consolation to his wife Antonina, son Val, daughter-in-law Kim, and granddaughter Alexandra. And may his memory be eternal!

### **SPECIAL COLLECTION ON JANUARY 8<sup>th</sup>**

In the last newsletter we announced that there would be a collection on 8/1 for suffering children in Russia and the countries of the former Soviet Union. Unfortunately Father James forgot to announce the collection, and so it was not taken. Many would have had the opportunity to make a contribution to the collections taken in other churches of our diocese on Christmas Day, however. Those who did not, and who wish to contribute, may make a contribution through the Diocesan Office or directly to Orthodox Action - Sydney, the charitable fund dispensing the monies collected. Please see the notice about Orthodox Action - Sydney below for more information.

### **PARISH LIFE: CHRISTENINGS ON 16/1 and 22/1**

We have had two services of Holy Baptism already this year, with five new Christians received into the Holy Orthodox Church. On Sunday January 16<sup>th</sup> Father James baptised Anthony Eugene Dennis Baker, the infant son of Dennis and Elena Baker of Wyoming. Baby Anthony's godfather was his uncle Valentin, visiting from Romania, and he received Holy Communion for the first time on Wednesday January 18<sup>th</sup>, the feast of Theophany. On Saturday January 22<sup>nd</sup> Father James baptised - to the great joy of all present - Vlad Golovin's wife and children Fiona (Faina), Jake (Jacob), Isobel (Elizabeth) and Hope (simply Hope, or Nadezhda in Russian). God willing, they will all be in church to receive Holy Communion for the first time today. Standing as godparents for Fiona were Rick and Nina Golovin, and for the children Vlad's sister Natasha and his cousin Alex Elgin. May our Lord Jesus Christ grant His newly enlightened servants Anthony, Faina, Jacob, Elizabeth and Hope health, salvation and many years!

## PARISH LIFE: 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL FISHING COMPETITION

As planned, the parish's second annual fishing competition was held over the weekend of 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> January. Although the rain subdued things a little on the second day, the competition was a great success, with 51 people present, not including the organisers. 42 were competitors. A grand total of \$2122.10 was raised, with the organising committee wisely asking that this be directed towards the reduction of our mortgage. Prizewinners were as follows:

### **Heaviest fish excluding crustaceans and eels**

Prize: Individual trophy and name on perpetual trophy

**Vitali Teterin** Jewfish 1.86kg 58cm

### **Flathead by weight**

Prize: Beach combo donated by Otto's Fishy Business, Drummoyne

**Michael Shahmatov** 0.50kg 46cm

**George Pereboeff** 0.26kg 38.5cm

### **Jewfish by weight**

Prize: Rod and reel donated by Baits R Us, The Entrance

**Vitali Teterin** Jewfish 1.86kg 58cm

**Vova Ostasevich** Jewfish 1.82kg 62cm

### **Bream by weight**

Prize: Rod and reel donated by Alex Pereboeff, Cooma

**Andy Pucovski** 0.48kg 33.5cm

**Nick Belonogoff** 0.38kg 30cm

### **Kingfish by weight**

Prize: Boat combo donated by Otto's Fishy Business, Drummoyne

No winner Auctioned for \$171 to **Tom Arne Welde**

### **Whiting by weight**

Prize: Junior combo donated by Otto's Bait and Tackle, Drummoyne.

No winner Awarded to **Jacob Henderson** for his commendable catch

### **Other Fish by weight excluding the above categories and crustaceans and eels**

Prize: Junior combo donated by Baits R Us, The Entrance

**George Talavikoff** 1.54kg 52cm Bonito

### **Smallest legal fish**

Prize: Junior combo donated by Baits R Us, The Entrance

**Nick Ostin** 0.22kg 25.5cm Bream

**Fred Lelekov** 0.22kg 25cm Bream

### **Lucky door prizes**

1<sup>st</sup> ticket drawn: Live bait keeper donated by Baits R Us, The Entrance  
Bob Belonogoff

2<sup>nd</sup> ticket drawn: Body board donated by Otto's Fishy Business, Drummoyne  
Erin Henderson

### **Raffle**

1<sup>st</sup> ticket drawn: 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Jim Beam set donated by Kemps Creek Liquor Master  
Paul Kargin

2<sup>nd</sup> ticket drawn: Camping Chair donated by George Pozdeev  
Ivan Aleksandrov

Tackle Box donated by Baits R Us, The Entrance  
Auctioned for \$250 to **Andrei Yakimov**

Some pictures from the weekend should be up on the website soon. Letters of thanks have been prepared for all those businesses and individuals who generously donated prizes and food. Special thanks are also due to Paul Pereboeff, George Karmadonoff, Victor Bendevski, and Gabriel Tonkikh for all their hard work to make the competition a social and financial success.

### **PARISH LIFE: TWO VISITORS TODAY**

Many will notice two visitors in church today: a visiting priest, Father George Robinson, and a visiting conductor, Julia Lapteff. Father George lives in Queanbeyan and serves the Saint Stephen of Perm Mission in that city. He is in Gosford to see something of the life of our parish and to learn something of the way we do things. Julia, who is well known to us, is filling in this week for Olga Ivanovna, who is travelling abroad. Olga Ivanovna will also be away next week and on the feast of the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple. Next weeks' conductor will be Ioanna Alexovski, another regular visitor to our parish. We extend a warm welcome to all our guests!

### **CHURCH LIFE: DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY & CLERGY CONFERENCE IN MARCH 2005**

On Friday March 25<sup>th</sup> and Saturday March 26<sup>th</sup> (Australian Easter weekend) this year there will be a Diocesan Assembly at Strathfield. The clergy and an equal number of lay people from each parish attend Diocesan Assemblies. The Assembly considers matters of significance for the whole Diocese and elects a Diocesan Council to oversee the affairs of the Diocese for the next 3 years. As we have only one member of the clergy we will have only one lay delegate. A special general meeting of parish members must elect this person by 1/3/2005. This means that we will have to meet briefly for this purpose on 20/2/2005. Further information will be provided in the next issue of the newsletter.

Immediately preceding the Diocesan Assembly will be the usual Lenten gathering of clergy from around the Diocese. At this gathering the clergy usually concelebrate at the Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts, a service conducted only during Great Lent. This year's clergy conference will be held at Croydon on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> and Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March. Lay people are welcome to attend the services (Lenten matins 6.00pm Wednesday & Divine Liturgy at 8.00am Thursday).

### **PARISH LIFE: SERVICE SCHEDULE CHANGES**

The Diocesan Assembly and clergy conference both make it necessary to cancel so of the services scheduled for March. The following services have been cancelled:

23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Wednesday	Great Compline	7.00 pm
25 <sup>th</sup> March	Friday	Matins	7.00 pm
26 <sup>th</sup> March	Saturday	Commemoration of the Departed Divine Liturgy General pannikhida	8.00 am

Notices reminding people of the cancellation of these services will be out up in the church and hall closer to the date.

### **TSUNAMI: NATIONAL DAY OF MOURNING AND REFLECTION ON 16/1**

Many will recall that Prime Minister Howard declared Sunday 16/1 a 'National Day of Mourning and Reflection' in response to the terrible loss of life and destruction that occurred on Boxing Day as a result of the Asian earthquake and tsunami. During our service on 16/1 we prayed that God would have mercy and compassion on his servants, all those who had suffered and were suffering because of the tsunami. After Father James encouraged all present to make private donations to assist in relief and reconstruction, many in church seemed to place additional contributions in a basket marked 'For the needs of the church'. In view of this, the Parish Council decided to donate \$200.00 to the Australian Red Cross for tsunami relief. Please continue to pray for all who have suffered and who suffer, and for those involved in the great work of relief and reconstruction. Continue also to give, sharing with those less fortunate the material blessings that God has given us.

### **PARISH COUNCIL NEWS**

The Parish Council held its' regular monthly meeting on Tuesday January 4<sup>th</sup>. Apart from routine business (financial reports, correspondence, business arising from previous minutes, and so on), the Council discussed: the printing of parish stationery featuring a logo designed by Tamara Chernih; Russian school plans (see below); parish activities in January; insurance and security issues; and meeting dates for the rest of 2005. The council is due to meet next on Tuesday February 1<sup>st</sup>.

## RUSSIAN SCHOOL TO BEGIN IN FEBRUARY 2005

On Friday January 14<sup>th</sup> Father James received an ukase from Vladyka Hilarion blessing the foundation of our parish school to be named in honour of Saint Innocent, Metropolitan of Moscow and Apostle to Alaska. The school will operate in the church hall on Saturday mornings from 9.30am, teaching our school-age children fundamentals of the Russian language and our Orthodox Christian faith and worship. The school parents' committee is due to meet for the first time this coming week, and will discuss fundraising, supervision, fees, and other issues of practical concern. It is hoped that a playgroup for preschool age children will also be formed this year. A moleben for the beginning of the school year will be served at 9.00am (not 9.30am, as previously advised) on Saturday February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2005. All parishioners are welcome (and encouraged) to attend this moleben. If you have any questions about the school, please see Father James or call the head teacher, Irina Kuznetsova, on 4329-0046.

## ORTHODOX ACTION - SYDNEY

Newly-pinned up on the board in the hall is a notice about the Orthodox Christian charitable organisation, Orthodox Action - Sydney. The main focus of OA-S is on disadvantaged people, especially children, in the countries of the former Soviet Union, but it also assists other projects. Our parishioners are encouraged to support OA-S by becoming members, participating in fundraisers, and responding to collections. A regular donation to OA-S is something that individuals and families could consider. Please see the notice for further information.

## THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL ARE ASKED FOR:

**The sick & suffering:** Metropolitan Vitaly, our parishioners Antonina Tialshinsky, Zoran, Vladimir & Nestor; Newcastle parishioners Vasili, Alexander, Antonina, Vladimir, Nina, Alexandra; and others known to us: child Ksenia, Ioann

**Special needs:** Maxim & family, Paul, Tatiana, Phillip & family, Katherine, David, Paraskeva, Vera, Matthew, Tamara, Andrew; all victims of the tsunami disaster in South-East Asia

**Departed:** Newly-reposed Fyodor; Maria

## CHURCH LIFE: A REGULAR SESSION OF THE SYNOD OF BISHOPS HELD

On January 27, the winter session of the Synod of Bishops of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia concluded, taking place at the Synodal building in New York under the presidency of His Eminence Metropolitan Laurus. Participating were: His Eminence Archbishop Mark of Berlin, Germany and the United Kingdom; His Eminence Archbishop Hilarion of Sydney, Australia and New Zealand; His Eminence Archbishop Kyrill of San Francisco and Western America; His Grace Bishop Ambroise of Vevey, Administrator of the Geneva and Western European Diocese; and His Grace Bishop Gabriel of Manhattan.

Opening the session, His Eminence Metropolitan Laurus greeted the archpastors on the recent holidays of the Nativity of the Lord and the Theophany and wished everyone good health and God's help in serving the Church and the flock abroad in the New Year. Then, His Eminence reported on his recent trip to the parishes of South America, where he was able to conduct services in all the countries where parishes of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia exist with the exception of Venezuela. For this reason, His Eminence intends to visit Venezuela in April to conduct services in those parishes on the Annunciation and on the following Sunday.

Hearing the report of the Secretary of the Committee on discussions with the Moscow Patriarchate, Protopriest Alexander Lebedeff, the Synod of Bishops considered and approved the documents adopted during the 3rd joint meeting of the church committees in November of last year, and expressed the hope that in the near future, with the consent of His Holiness Patriarch Alexy and the Holy Synod of the Moscow Patriarchate, certain materials will be published which have already been studied and approved by the hierarchies of both branches of the Russian Church.

Then, the Synod of Bishops decided to convene the 4th All-Diaspora Council with the participation of the clergy and laity, tentatively scheduled for the first half of next year at the Cathedral of the Mother of God "Joy of All Who Sorrow" in San Francisco, where the incorruptible relics of St John (Maximovich, +1966) of Shanghai and San Francisco reside; he was a participant of the 2nd All-Diaspora Council. The reliquary containing the miracle-working remains of the saint, known as the "speedy intercessor," is one of the main holy relics of the Russian diaspora. The participants of the coming Council will unite in prayer around him as well as the Miracle-working Kursk-Root Icon of the Mother of God, the Protectress, in the presence of which the saint himself died.

Archbishop Hilarion of Sydney, Australia and New Zealand was appointed president of the Council's Organizing Committee, the first meeting of which will be held on February 8 in San Francisco.

Because of the scheduled consecration of the St Nicholas Chapel at the Cathedral in Munich, the next session of the Synod of Bishops will be held at St Job of Pochaev Monastery in that city in May of this year, while the autumn session will be held at Holy Trinity Monastery in Jordanville during the celebration of its 75th anniversary, which the Blessed Metropolitan Anastassy (Gribanovsky, +1965) called the "Lavra of the Diaspora" and "our spiritual fortress."

## **СОСТОЯЛОСЬ ОЧЕРЕДНОЕ ЗАСЕДАНИЕ АРХИЕРЕЙСКОГО СИНОДА**

27-го января с.г. завершилась зимняя сессия Архиерейского Синода Русской Зарубежной Церкви, прошедшая в Синодальном доме в г. Нью-Йорке под председательством Высокопреосвященнейшего Митрополита Лавра. В заседании приняли участие Преосвященнейшие архиепископы Берлинский и Германский Марк, Сиднейский и Австралийско-Новозеландский Иларион и Сан-Францисский и Западно-Американский Кирилл и епископы Вевейский Амвросий, Управляющий Женевской и Западно-Европейской епархией, и Манхеттенский Гавриил.

Открывая заседание, Высокопреосвященнейший Митрополит Лавр приветствовал Преосвященных архипастырей с уже прошедшими праздниками Рождества Христова и Богоявления и пожелал всем доброго здоровья и помощи Божией в служении Церкви и заграничной пастве в Новом 2005 Году. Затем Его Высокопреосвященство доложил о своей недавней поездке по приходам Южной Америки, где Высокопреосвященнейшему Владыке удалось совершить богослужения во всех странах, в которых существуют приходы Русской Зарубежной Церкви, кроме Венецуэлы. Поэтому, Его Высокопреосвященство намерен посетить Венецуэлу в апреле с.г. для совершения в тамошних приходах праздничных богослужений в день Благовещения и в последующий за ним воскресный день.

Архиерейский Синод, заслушав доклад секретаря комиссии по переговорам с Московским Патриархатом протоиерея Александра Лебедева, обсудил и одобрил документы, принятые во время 3-й совместной встречи церковных комиссий в ноябре минувшего года, и выразил надежду, что в недалеком будущем, с согласия Святейшего Патриарха Алексия и Священного Синода Московского Патриархата, будут опубликованы некоторые материалы, которые были уже рассмотрены и приняты Священноначалием обеих ветвей Российской Церкви.

Затем Архиерейский Синод имел суждение о созыве 4-го Всезарубежного Собора с участием клира и мирян, который состоится, предположительно, в первой половине следующего года при Кафедральном Радосте-Скорбященском соборе в г. Сан-Франциско, где почивают нетленные мощи Святителя Шанхайского и Сан-Францисского Иоанна (Максимовича; + 1966 г.), участника 2-го Всезарубежного Собора. Рака с многоцелебными мощами святителя-скорого помощника является одной из главных святынь русского рассеяния. Здесь участники грядущего Собора объединятся в молитве вокруг этой великой святыни и Коренно-Курской Одигитрии, перед которой почил святитель.

Архиепископ Сиднейский и Австралийско-Новозеландский Иларион назначен председателем предсоборной комиссии, первое заседание которой состоится 8-го февраля с.г. в г. Сан-Франциско.

В связи с освящением Николаевского придела Кафедрального собора в г. Мюнхене, следующее заседание Архиерейского Синода состоится в Иово-Точаевском мужском монастыре в том же городе в мае с.г., а осеннее заседание пройдет в Свято-Троицком монастыре в Джорданвилле во дни празднования 75-летнего юбилея этой святой обители, которую Блаженнейший Митрополит Анастасий (Грибановский; + 1965 г.) называл «Зарубежной Лаврой» и «нашей духовной крепостью».

Father James tries to prepare this newsletter to coincide with each Sunday service at Gosford. You can call him about it on 0428-639156 or send an email to [info@gosfordrussianchurch.org](mailto:info@gosfordrussianchurch.org).