

OCTOBER 25, 2020

BULLETIN – 20TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST & 6TH OF LUKE

MARTYRS MARCIAN & MARTYRIOS THE NOTARIES

ChurchOffice@ssppaoc.org ♦ (831) 336-2228 ♦ Office hours: 9 am–1 pm, Mon.–Thurs.

Father's office hours: 9 am–3 pm, Mon.–Thurs. or by appt. ♦ (805) 708-6066 ♦ frchristopherdillon@gmail.com

Bulletin Submissions Deadline – 10 am Wed. ♦ church website: <https://ssppaoc.org>

This Week @ Ss. Peter & Paul – Oct. 26–Nov. 1, 2020

10/28 Wed 6:00 pm – Paraklesis
10/31 Sat 6:00 pm – Great Vespers & Compline
7:15 pm – Candy Treasure Hunt
10:00 pm – Turn your clocks back one hr.
11/1 Sun 8:20 am – Orthros
9:30 am – Divine Liturgy – Ss Cosmas & Damian of Asia & 5th Sunday of Luke

Looking Ahead –

November 7 Men's Breakfast
November 14 Saturday morning Divine Liturgy
November 15 Nativity Fast Begins
November 18 Parish Council Meeting
November 25 Akathist of Thanksgiving
November 26 Thanksgiving

COLLECTIONS FOR ROOF REPAIRS & SEMINARIANS

We have an ongoing collection to reach our goal of \$32K for the repair of the north transept roof, and a special collection for the seminaries will be taken on Sunday, November 1.

COMMUNITY DINNER
TODAY
To-Go Meal Served At
2:00 pm

Donations of non-perishable food items and helpers to make and distribute the dinner needed. Please leave food items in the parish hall kitchen marked as such. Contact Kriss Saad at 419-2677 to volunteer.

HARVEST PARTY THANK YOU

Thank you to all who helped make the Harvest Party last Sunday memorable and fun; special thanks to Dn. Dave and Sh. Karla who host this event each year!

Many Years – Birthday

Julian Auldridge	October 25
Jacob Auldridge	October 25
Keidi Lewis	October 26
Sh. Lucia Rivera	October 26
Lynne Moritz	October 30

CANDY TREASURE HUNT

After Great Vespers on Saturday, October 31, there will be a candy treasure hunt for the kids. Participating families please come before the service and bring a bag of candy to contribute so the candy may be hidden before the hunt!

PHOTOS NEEDED FOR WEBSITE

If you have good quality, high pixel images of church events you would like shared on the church website, please send them to Linda Young at linda3young@gmail.com or give them to her at church on a flash drive.

CHURCH OFFICE INFORMATION

- Office hours, numbers, email: Monday – Thursday, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm; (831) 336-2228; ChurchOffice@ssppaoc.org.
- Fr. Christopher: Monday – Thursday, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm (or by appointment); (805) 708-6066; frchristopherdillon@gmail.com.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to the newly-illuminated Markos Elias Salibi, his parents, and extended family. Markos was baptized October 17. May God grant them many years!

ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN

~ We are selling black masks with a gold Orthodox cross for \$15 each as a fundraiser for the AW ministries we support.

~ *Holy Angels* book study begins Tuesday, November 10, 7:00-8:30 pm at Leanne Albers' house.

**Thoughts on Last Week's Epistle:
Colossians 4:5-14, 14-18**

1) "Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer everyone."

This is also how we ought to respond when someone is not gracious to us. It is easy to take offense, and even to create offense where none was intended. In doing this, we merely end up imprisoning ourselves in our resentment.

So let your understanding be gracious also, seasoned with salt.

From St. Paisios: Be the Bee

"If you ask a fly, 'Are there any flowers in this area?' it will say, 'I don't know about flowers, but over there in that heap of rubbish you can find all the filth you want.' And it will go on to list all the unclean things it has been to."

Now, if you ask a honeybee, 'Have you seen any unclean things in this area?' it will reply, 'Unclean things? No, I have not seen any; the place here is full of the most fragrant flowers.' And it will go on to name all the flowers of the garden or the meadow.

You see, the fly only knows where the unclean things are, while the honeybee knows where the beautiful iris or hyacinth is."

Rather than accusing the other of a slight, it is far better to look for a charitable understanding. Be the bee.

2) At the end of the Epistle, St. Paul urges the Colossians to greet several people and read the letters sent to other communities. How often do we skip over these parts in our daily readings or speed through them? If we do, we miss an important lesson.

Christians should not exist in isolation, nor should parishes. St. Paul instructs the churches to share his letters with each other to greet one another and instructs them to receive visitors with hospitality.

We have great resources in our Diocese of Los Angeles and the West and our Antiochian Archdiocese: active men's and women's groups, youth and teen resources, camps, conferences, retreats. With the coronavirus, many of these resources are online and easily accessible. We should take St. Paul's encouragement and

interact with our fellow Orthodox Christians beyond our community.

When we greet each other and share what we have learned with each other, including those from other parishes, we have more opportunities to grow in the faith. It is good to visit other parishes. Vacations offer a great opportunity for this. Or a few times a year visit another church in the area. In this way we can see that truly, "we are one body in Christ, and individually members of it." (Romans 12:5)

+Fr. Christopher

**"Christians, above all men, are forbidden to correct the stumblings of sinners by force... it is necessary to make a man better not by force but by persuasion. God gives the crown to those who are kept from evil, not by force, but by choice."
St. John Chrysostom**

HOW SHOULD WE READ THE BIBLE?

Prayerfully and reverently, for in each word there is another drop of eternal truth, and all the words together make up the boundless ocean of the Eternal Truth. The Bible is not a book but life; because its words are "spirit and life" (John 6:63). Therefore its words can be comprehended if we study them with the spirit of its spirit, and with the life of its life. It is a book that must be read with life—by putting it into practice. One should first live it, and then understand it. Here the words of the Savior apply: "Whoever is willing to do it will understand that this teaching is from God" (John 7:17).

Do it, so that you may understand it. This is the fundamental rule of Orthodox exegesis.

PARISH COUNCIL SNAPSHOT

~ PC decided to continue food and health kit distribution. Food items will be stored in a safe place, not on the parish hall floor. Clothing distribution will be discontinued. Thanks to Fr. George for leading this project!

~ \$4,137 has been donated towards the Roof Repair fund as of October 13. Glory to God!