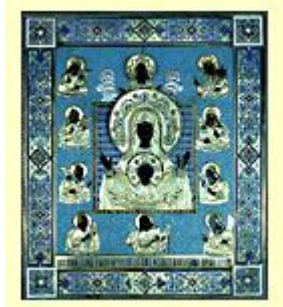


ПАНТЕЛЕИМОНСКИЙ ЛИСТОК

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

Number 1, 21 July 2002

METROPOLITAN LAURUS VISITS AUSTRALIA WITH THE KURSK-ROOT ICON OF THE MOTHER OF GOD



On Wednesday 10th August Metropolitan Laurus (Лавр) arrived in Australia on his first visit to our diocese as First Hierarch of the Russian Orthodox Church outside Russia. Vladika Laurus brought with him the wonder-working Kursk-Root Icon of the Mother of God. He was welcomed at Sydney airport by Archbishop Hilarion and a number of Sydney clergy and faithful. The metropolitan presided at an akathist before the icon that evening at Strathfield Cathedral. The icon has since been present at the feast-days of the Saints Peter & Paul Cathedral at Strathfield and the Church of All Saints of Russia in Croydon. Although Vladika Laurus will soon return to the United States, the icon will remain in Australia until October this year. Vladika's visit has coincided with an international Russian Orthodox Youth conference. Bishops Gabriel of Manhattan & Alexander of South America have also been in Australia.



SUCCESSFUL GARAGE SALE!

On July 6th a garage sale & sausage sizzle was held at the home of Rick & Nina Golovin at Avoca Beach. Helping Rick & Nina were Arnie & Anna Clark, Olga Petroff, Tammie Golovin and Craig Koppman. A total of \$608.30 was raised, the proceeds to go towards our parish feast day on 11th August. Many thanks to Rick & Nina and those who helped them, and to those who donated goods for sale.

THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL ARE ASKED FOR:

The sick: Metropolitan Vitaly, Archbishop Alypy, Priest Boris, George, Julia, Tatiana
Expectant mothers: Matushka Marie, Manefa

Special needs: David, Katherine, Constantine, Tatiana, Christine (orthodox); George & Natalie & their new baby (non-orthodox)

Preparing for marriage: Paul & Ksenia, Matthew & Irene, Peter & Svetlana

FOUNDING OF MONASTERY CHURCH & ORDINATION OF FATHER JOHN

Many will recall the visit of Archbishop Hilarion to our community during Great Lent this year, and the ordination of Monk John (Macpherson) to the diaconate. Many will also be aware of Father John's plans for a monastery. His plans moved closer to fruition on June 24th, the second day of the feast of Pentecost, when Vladika Hilarion visited the monastery site at Monkerai (near Dungog). Vladika conducted the service for the founding of the church, afterwards serving Divine Liturgy in the open air. Fortunately, the weather was fine! During the Divine Liturgy, Hierodeacon John was ordained to the priesthood. As well as Father James & Father Christopher, Father Gabriel Makarov from Brisbane served together with Vladika. Vassily (Bill) Reid and Con Yakimov and his nephew Alex from our community were also present. Father James and others have photographs from the day if anyone is interested. Father John will continue to serve in our community until the completion of his monastery. Many years to the newly-ordained hieromonk John! More information about the monastery can be obtained from Fr John.

GEORGE KRAIUHIN

At the last service, Father James asked for the prayers of the faithful for George Kraiuhin, a great friend and supporter of our community. It was George, many will recall, who made the beautiful candlestands which now adorn our "church". George has been very sick these past few weeks with a serious gastro-intestinal illness, twice undergoing surgery. He is now back at home, but has still not fully recovered. Please continue to remember him in your prayers.



COMING EVENT: BESEDA

On July 25th at 7.30PM there will be a beseda (or discussion group) at Vic & Irene Krikunov's home at 16/21 Goonak Parade, Narara. Father James will be talking about "What it means to be an Orthodox Christian". All are welcome!

COMING EVENT: OUR FEAST DAY

The commemoration of our patron saint, the Holy Great Martyr & Healer Panteleimon, falls this year on a Friday (9th August). With Archbishop Hilarion's blessing, we will be holding our service in his honour on Sunday 11th August, preceded by our first all-night vigil on Saturday 10th. Archbishop Hilarion will be serving with us on the Sunday. Vigil will begin at 6.00pm Saturday; a lesser blessing of water will be served at 8.00am Sunday, followed by Divine Liturgy at 9.00am. All parishioners and visitors are invited to a festive lunch to be served after the Liturgy. Raffle tickets are being sold in the lead-up to the feast-day; please purchase a ticket or take a book to sell if you can.

ORTHODOX ACTION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Общее Годовое Собрание Православного Дела - Сидней

Members and all interested people are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting of Orthodox Action - Sydney, to be held in the church hall at Strathfield Cathedral on 4th August 2002 at 12.00 midday. Orthodox Action is a charitable organization under the heavenly patronage of Saint John of Shanghai & San Francisco, with a particular commitment to helping the needy in Russia. Apart from the usual reports & elections that take place at AGMs, there will also be an open forum for questions and discussion. Charitable work is the responsibility of all Christians, and those of us who live in a wealthy country like Australia have a particular responsibility to help our less fortunate brothers & sisters abroad, especially those in Russia. Please show your support! Further information: 9674-6693 or 9623-4214.

CHINESE ORTHODOX MISSION

Another worthy charitable organization is the Chinese Orthodox Mission. There are many Chinese Orthodox Christians here in Australia. In 1998, a Chinese Orthodox priest came to Australia at Vladika Hilarion's invitation. Archpriest Michael Li - who celebrates 50 years of priesthood this year - suffered for many years at the hands of the godless Chinese communists, working in a forced labour camp for 20 years. He now heads up the Mission here in Sydney and serves the Chinese Orthodox community. More information can be obtained from Vladika Hilarion, Fr Michael Li (9723-6562 - he speaks both Chinese & Russian), or Father Michael Boikov, the Diocesan Secretary (9747-5892). The needs of the Chinese Orthodox both here and in China are great, so please help as much as you are able.

NEW WEBSITE FOR THE SYNOD OF BISHOPS

The Synod of Bishops of the Russian Orthodox Church outside Russia has a new website with a great deal of interesting news and information. Those with internet access can visit the site at the following address:

<http://www.russianorthodoxchurch.ws>

The main page is in Russian, of course, but there is a link to a "mirror" page in English. The Russian page is generally more up-to-date than the English page. There is a lot of information up on the site at present to do with Metropolitan Laurus' visit to Australia and the International Youth Conference. It's well worth looking at!

AUSTRALIAN SEMINARIAN ORDAINED DEACON

On Tuesday June 25th this year, the third day of the feast of Pentecost (Троица), a young seminarian from our diocese, Seraphim Chemodakov, was ordained deacon. Fr Seraphim is the eldest child of Archpriest Nikita Chemodakov (the rector of St Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church, Fairfield) and his wife, Matushka Ekaterina. He has been studying at Holy Trinity Seminary in Jordanville, NY, graduating earlier this year. His matushka is Anna, a young Russian woman from Canada, the daughter of a priest. We can all feel joy in seeing a young man set out on the path of service to Christ's Holy Orthodox Church. May God grant him & his matushka many years!

GOSFORD SERVICES IN AUGUST & SEPTEMBER

10 August	Saturday	<i>All-night vigil</i>	6.00 pm
11 August	Sunday	<i>Great Martyr Panteleimon Patronal Feast of our community Lesser blessing of water Hierarchical Divine Liturgy</i>	8.00 am 9.00 am
1 September	Sunday	<i>10th Sunday after Pentecost Divine Liturgy</i>	9.00 am
22 September	Sunday	<i>Afterfeast of the Nativity of the Mother of God; Sts Joachim and Anna Divine Liturgy</i>	9.00 am

Father James will be preparing this newsletter to coincide with each service at Gosford. Try and let him know at least a week in advance if there is anything that you would like included (prayer requests, news, announcements). You can call him on 02-9721-2659 or email him at fr.james.carles@rocor.org.au.