

ПАНТЕЛЕИМОНСКИЙ ЛИСТОК

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

~ Number 20, 16 November 2003 ~

PARISH LIFE: UPDATE ON PROPERTY PURCHASE

In the last newsletter it was reported that we had been successful in securing finance for the purchase of premises for our new parish centre. We have now received the mortgage documents from the bank, and are at present making arrangements for parish office-bearers and representatives of the Russian Orthodox Church Property Trust to sign these documents. Contracts have been exchanged, and as reported, we have been negotiating through to final settlement. We hope to be able to settle the matter late this month or early next month. Bill Reid continues to work hard to coordinate this part of the process, and many thanks are due to him for his labours.

Rick Golovin will be coordinating the fitout of the new centre in accordance with the plans already circulated. Rick & Father James have also spoken to Katya Rubbo in regard to the possibility of some decorative painting in the traditional Russian style within the church. Katya is at present considering designs.

Sunday 15th February (the feast of Сретение, The Meeting of the Lord) is now definitely the planned "opening day", and Vladika Hilarion has promised to attend. God willing, Vigil will be served at 6.00pm on the evening of the 14th February. A lesser blessing of water is planned for 8.00am on the day of the feast, followed by the welcoming of Vladika, a lesser blessing of the church & hall, hierarchical Divine Liturgy with blessing of fruit, a moleben of thanksgiving, and a festive lunch.

CABRAMATTA FUNDRAISER & OTHER DONATIONS

On Sunday 9th November, the Intercession of the Holy Virgin Church in Cabramatta kindly held a fundraising BBQ & raffle to benefit our parish. A number of our parishioners were able to be present at what was evidently a very successful fundraiser: earlier this week, Maria Panov, one of the organizers, handed the sum of **\$2945.70** to Father James. Many of our younger parishioners grew up in the Cabramatta parish, and it is a joy to see their parents so zealous for the building up of our young parish. This fundraiser is certainly a great help to us, and we are very thankful to all at Cabramatta for their generous support.

We also continue to receive a number of donations, especially following a recent article in the Russian newspaper, «Единение» (Unification). A similar article & appeal is to be

printed in the next issue of «Церковное Слово» (Word of the Church). May God bless all of our benefactors for great their kindness!

2003 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Общее Годовое Собрание Прихожан

As planned, our first parish Annual General Meeting was held this year on November 2nd, following Divine Liturgy. The meeting heard reports from Fr James, the Starosta, and the Treasurer, and elected a parish council for the year to come. The following were elected to the parish council and auditing committee:

STAROSTA: Alexander Yakimov

SECRETARIES: Olga Petroff (Russian) & Katya Marcotrigiano (English)

TREASURER: Nina Golovin

MEMBERS: Bill Reid, Don Kobeleff, Rick Golovin, George Fomin, & Katya Rubbo

The responsibilities of the Parish Council include (a) The adornment of the parish church and the care of the entire church property; (b) The maintenance of the clergy; (c) The collection of membership dues; (d) The keeping of the parish books and of the lists of those making confession; (e) The care of organizing the church choir under the direction of an experienced director; (f) The care of the educational and charitable work of the parish; (g) Representing the parish before civil authorities in connection with all matters involving the parish; and (h) The maintenance of the diocesan and central church administrations in proportion to the parish resources.

The Parish Council should meet monthly, and will schedule regular monthly meetings soon.

The head of the Ladies' Auxiliary also holds membership of the Parish Council. Together with Father James, the Ladies' Auxiliary will meet soon to elect a "head sister".

Those elected to the AUDITING COMMITTEE are Nestor Petroff, Sophie Kfoury, and Paul Pereboeff.

The duties of the Auditing Committee really only begin in the lead-up to the Annual General Meeting each year. These duties include (a) The verification of all areas of the Treasurer's accounting and of the report compiled by her on the status thereof to the Annual Parish Meeting and the Church Parish Council; (b) The preparation of a report on the findings, accounting audit, and of the report referred to in section (a); (c) The submission of the findings referred to in section (b) to the Annual Parish Meeting; (d) The recommendation to the Annual Parish Meeting regarding any desirable changes in the method of the keeping of the Treasurer's accounting.

Vladika Hilarion has ratified the minutes of our AGM and in doing so has confirmed the positions of all those elected to the Parish Council. In ratifying the minutes and elections, Vladika wrote:

«Господь, по молитвам Его Пречистой Матери и Святаго Великомученика и Целителя Пантелеимона, да благословит и укрепит вашу новую общину в мире и благочестии».

("May God, through the prayers of His Most Pure Mother and the Holy Great-Martyr & Healer Panteleimon, bless and strengthen your new community in peace and piety").

PARISH LIFE: A BAPTISM!

In the October 5th newsletter we reported the arrival of baby Phillip, the first child of our parishioners Victor & Susie Bendeovski of Bateau Bay. Yesterday, Saturday 15th November, Father James baptised baby Phillip at the Intercession of the Holy Virgin Church in Cabramatta, Victor's home parish. Many years to the newly baptised servant of God, the infant Phillip, to his parents, and to his godparents, Paul & Irina.

ANOTHER BABY ARRIVES!

Also proud parents of a new baby boy are Alex & Tanya Dmitrieff, regular worshippers in and members of our parish. They have named their son Nicholas. He is to be baptised next Saturday at the Saints Peter & Paul Cathedral in Strathfield. We offer our warmest congratulations to Alex, Tanya & their daughter Anna, a proud big sister! May God grant them & baby Nicholas many years!

A WEDDING

On October 25th, Father James, together with Hieromonk John, served at the wedding of iconographer Michael Galovic and his wife Silvia. Michael has been a regular worshipper in our parish, and last year generously painted and gave to the parish an icon of Saint Panteleimon. Michael's work is very well known and adorns a number of Sydney churches. We congratulate Michael & Silvia and wish them many years of happiness together!

PARISH LIFE: VIDEO OF RUSSIAN TRIP

Many will recall that Katya Rubbo, together with her husband Michael & their daughter Elena, traveled to Russia earlier this year. They filmed a great deal of their trip, particularly the Holy Trinity-Saint Sergius Lavra, one of the great spiritual centers of the Russian Orthodox Church. Those interested in watching the edited video footage of their trip are invited to do so at the home of Rick & Nina Golovin following our next service, 7th December 2003. Rick & Nina's home is at 232 Avoca Drive, Avoca Beach (tel: 4382-2307). Those interested should make their way to over after the service.

FROM THE HOLY FATHERS

Kindness

Concerning kindness, St. Nilus of Mt. Sinai writes: "My son, always strive to be simple and kind. Do not have one thing in your heart and another thing on your tongue for this is a ruse and a lie. Be truthful and not false for falsehood is of the evil one. Do not return evil for evil but if someone does you evil, forgive him so that God may also forgive you. If you are tormented by the remembrance of evil thoughts, pray to God for that brother [the evil doer] with your entire soul and the remembrance of evil thoughts will flee from you." It is told how a young man decided to serve a very eccentric old man so that God would forgive him of his sins. He endured twelve years in this most difficult service and presented himself to God. A great spiritual man saw the soul of the young man in Paradise as he was praying to God for the evil old man: "Lord, as You had mercy on me because of him, have mercy on him according to Your great goodness and because of me Your servant." After forty days this eccentric old man died and, again, that spiritual man saw the soul of that old man reposing in the Kingdom of Heaven. What a most beautiful and miraculous kindness of this patient youth in truth, miraculous!"

Saint Nikolai Velimirovic, from "The Prologue of Ochrid"

KID'S CAMP 2003

The Intercession of the Holy Virgin parish at Cabramatta is once again holding an end-of-year kid's camp for children aged 7 and over. This year's camp, like last year's, will be held at the Ozanam Youth Camp in Kincumber. Commencing on Thursday 11th December, it will go a full week, finishing on Thursday 18th December. A number of the clergy of our diocese have been invited to attend. Children from all our parishes are welcome. The cost is \$180.00 per child. More information can be obtained from Angie Kargin on 9823-2921 or Fisia Semenov on 9604-9595. Registration closes November 30th.

CHURCH LIFE: 39TH ANNUAL YOUTH CONFERENCE

"Save yourself and a thousand around you will be saved"

The 39th Annual Youth Conference (for those aged 15 and over) will be held this year from Sunday 21st December 2003 to Friday 26th December at the Crosslands Youth & Convention Centre Galston NSW. The theme of the conference is based on the words of Saint Seraphim of Sarov, the anniversary of whose glorification we celebrate this year. Leaflets with more information are available on the diocesan website (www.rocor.org.au) or from Fr James. Keynote Speakers will be **Father Andrew Phillips** from England and **Dr. Dimitri Conomos** from Oxford University, also in England. As usual, a number of the clergy of our diocese will give talks and conduct workshops.

Father James tries to prepare this newsletter to coincide with each service at Gosford. You can call him about it on 02-9721-2659 or email him at fr.james.carles@rocor.org.au.

ПАСТЫРСКОЕ СОВЕЩАНИЕ АВСТРАЛИЙСКОЙ ЕПАРХИИ

В среду 29 октября в резиденции правящего архиерея Австралийско-Новозеландской епархии в Кройдоне состоялось пастырское совещание духовенство Австралийской епархии. Из 55 клириков епархии на совещании смогло присутствовать 24 человека.

Перед началом совещания в архиерейской Крестовой церкви протоиереем Михаилом Протопоповым и протодиаконом Борисом Евстигнеем был отслужен молебен перед Харбинской и Ахтырской иконами Божией Матери.

Архиепископ Иларион открыл совещание, объявил тему встречи - вопрос взаимоотношений с Церковью в России (Московским Патриархатом), а также приветствовал почетных гостей - Высокопреосвященнейшего митрополита Лавра, епископа Манхеттенского Гавриила и протодиакона Иосифа Ярощука.

Совещание длилось около 6 часов. Все участники совещания имели возможность высказать свое мнение, задать вопросы и поделиться своими мыслями.

На совещании были затронуты следующие темы: Исторический путь Русской Православной Церкви за границей, положение в Китае в 1938 году, документ принятый на Архиерейском Соборе Московского Патриархата 2000 года - «Социальная доктрина РПЦ», участие Московского Патриархата в экуменическом движении, понятие «Мать Церковь», современная приходская жизнь Церкви в России и участие мирян в церковной жизни.

В конце совещания была принята Резолюция и архиепископ Иларион поблагодарил всех участников за братскую откровенность.

Резолюция Пастырского совещания Австралийской епархии

Мы, духовенство Австралийско-Новозеландской епархии Русской Православной Церкви за границей, собравшееся в среду, 16/29 октября 2003 г. в городе Сиднее, под председательством правящего архиерея Преосвященного архиепископа Илариона и в присутствии Первоиерарха Русской Православной Церкви за границей, Высокопреосвященнейшего митрополита Лавра и Секретаря Архиерейского Синода, Преосвященного епископа Гавриила Манхеттенского, на обсуждение причин созыва предстоящего Всезарубежного пастырского совещания в городе Нью-Йорке, высказали следующие мнения:

1. Мы, члены Русской Православной Церкви за границей, никогда не отделяли и не отделяем себя ни от русского народа, ни от Русской Православной Церкви, но находимся, на основании указа №362 св. Патриарха Тихона и его Синода, во временном самоуправлении.
2. Мы считаем, что наступило время всем частям Российской Поместной Церкви для сближения и возвращения к принципам и духу Всероссийского Поместного Собора 1917-18 гг. путем переговоров.

3. Ввиду того, что со времени Всероссийского Поместного Собора прошло много лет, возникло много проблем, которые нужно тщательно изучить и возвратиться к каноническим нормам соборной церковной жизни. Мы считаем, что этот процесс должен происходить в духе истины, христианской любви и взаимопонимания.
4. Мы молим Господа Бога о успешной работе предстоящих Всезарубежного пастырского совещания и Архиерейского Собора для всеобщей церковной пользы.

† Митрополит ЛАВР

† Архиепископ ИЛАРИОН

† Епископ ГАВРИИЛ

Протоиерей Михаил Клебанский

Протоиерей Иоанн Стукач

Протоиерей Михаил Протопопов

Протоиерей Михаил Константинов

Протоиерей Никита Чемодаков

Протоиерей Николай Карыпов

Протоиерей Гавриил Макаров

Протоиерей Николай Далинкевич

Протоиерей Александр Морозов

Протоиерей Михаил Бойков

Протоиерей Сергей Окунев

Протоиерей Георгий Лапардин

Иерей Борис Игнатъевский

Иерей Владимир Цуканов

Иерей Даниил Метленко

Иерей Иаков Карлес

Иеромонах Иоанн Макферсон

Иерей Георгий Робинсон Протодиакон

Иосиф Ярощук

Протодиакон Борис Евстигнеев

Протодиакон Василий Якимов

Протодиакон Николай

Триантафиллидис

Диакон Вадим Ган

Диакон Иоанн Боц

DIOCESAN LIFE: PASTORAL CONFERENCE OF THE AUSTRALIAN DIOCESE

On Wednesday, 29 October, a Diocesan Pastoral Conference was held at the residence of the ruling bishop of the Australian-New Zealand Diocese in Croydon. Of the 55 clergymen of the Diocese, 24 were in attendance.

Before the beginning of the Conference, Protopriest Michael Protopopov and Protodeacon Boris Evstigneev conducted a service of supplication before the Harbin and Akhtyrka Icons of the Mother of God at the Bishop's chapel.

His Eminence Archbishop Hilarion opened the Conference, stating that the topic of the meeting was the matter of the interrelationship with the Church in Russia (the Moscow Patriarchate), and also welcomed the honorary guests--His Eminence Metropolitan Laurus, His Grace Bishop Gabriel of Manhattan and Protodeacon Joseph Jaroschuk.

The Conference lasted approximately 6 hours. All the Conferees had the possibility to express their opinions, ask questions and share their thoughts.

The Conference considered the following topics: the historical path of the Russian

Orthodox Church Outside of Russia, the situation in China in 1938, the document published by the Council of Bishop of the Moscow Patriarchate of 2000, the "Social Concept of the Russian Orthodox Church," the participation of the Moscow Patriarchate in the Ecumenical movement, the notion of the "Mother Church," contemporary parish life of the Church in Russia and the participation of laypersons in church life.

At the end of the Conference, the following Resolution was accepted, and Archbishop Hilarion thanked all the participants for their brotherly earnestness.

Resolution of the Pastoral Conference of the Australian Diocese

We, the clergy of the Diocese of Australia and New Zealand of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia, having gathered on Wednesday, 16/29 October 2003 in Sydney, under the chairmanship of the Ruling Bishop of the Diocese, Archbishop Hilarion and in the presence of the First Hierarch of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia, His Eminence Metropolitan Laurus, and the Secretary of the Synod of Bishops, His Grace Bishop Gabriel of Manhattan, to discuss the reasons for the convening of the forthcoming All-Diaspora Pastoral Conference in New York, express the following opinions:

1. We, members of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia, never separated ourselves and do not separate ourselves from either the Russian people or from the Russian Orthodox Church, but are, on the basis of Ukase No 362 of Holy Patriarch Tikhon and his Synod, in a state of temporary self-governance.
2. We consider that the time has arrived for all the parts of the Local Russian Church to draw together and return to the principles and spirit of the All-Russian Local Council of 1917-1918 by means of negotiations.
3. In light of the fact that many years have passed since the time of the All-Russian Local Council, many problems have arisen which need to be exhaustively examined and we must return to the canonical norms of conciliar Church life. We feel that this process must be conducted in the spirit of truth, Christian love and mutual understanding.
4. We pray the Lord God for the successful labors of the forthcoming All-Diaspora Pastoral Conference and Council of Bishops for the general benefit of the Church.

+Metropolitan Laurus

+Archbishop Hilarion

+Bishop Gabriel

Protopriest Michael Klebansky

Protopriest John Stukacz

Protopriest Michael Protopopov

Priest Boris Ignatievsky

Priest Vladimir Tsukanov

Priest Daniel Metlenko

Priest James Carles

Hieromonk John MacPherson

Priest George Robinson

Protopriest Michael Konstantinoff
Protopriest Nikita Chemodakov
Protopriest Nikolai Karipoff
Protopriest Gabriel Makarov
Protopriest Nicholas Dalinkiewicz
Protopriest Alexander Morozov
Protopriest Michael Boikov
Protopriest Sergei Okunev
Protopriest George Lapardin

Protodeacon Joseph Jaroschuk
Protodeacon Boris Evstigneev
Protodeacon Basil Yakimov
Protodeacon Nicholas Triantafillidis
Deacon Vadim Gan
Deacon John Bots

THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL ARE ASKED FOR:

The sick & suffering: Metropolitan Vitaly, our parishioners Fyodor & Antonina Tialshinsky, Ioann, Alexander, Nina, Alexandra, child Ksenia

Special needs: Katherine, David, Helen, Marina, Paraskeva, Antonina

Expectant mothers: Tatiana, Anastasia, Irene

Families with new babies: Alexander, Tatiana & baby Nicholas with big sister Anna (Dmitrieff)

Newly-baptised: Baby Phillip (Bendevski), parents Victor & Susannah, & godparents Paul & Irene

Newly-married: Michael & Silvia

Preparing for marriage: Gregory & Heather

Preparing for baptism: Heather

COMING FUNDRAISER: A FISHING COMPETITION

Paul Pereboeff, George Karmadonoff, and Victor Bendevski got together recently and organised a fundraising fishing competition for Saturday 20th December 2003. To be held at Deerubbun Reserve, Bar Point (UBD Map 55, N5), the cost of \$50.00 per person will include lunch (\$15.00 for those under 16 years). Fishing starts from 5:00am to 9:00am, weigh-in and presentation of prizes will be at 12:30 pm, and seafood lunch at 1:00pm. Those planning to attend should call Paul, George or Victor & register before 13th December. All proceeds will go towards our new church.

GOSFORD SERVICES IN EARLY 2004

Services in the early part of 2004 will be as follows: Divine Liturgy at 9.00am on Sunday January 4th, January 18th, and February 1st. All of these services will be at the Narara Community Centre. As mentioned earlier, we hope to be using the new parish centre from February 15th onwards. Note: January 18th is the eve of Theophany, and it is customary to serve a Great Blessing of Water on this day. This will be done after Divine Liturgy. Father James will bless as many homes as he can that afternoon, before travelling to Newcastle for Vigil that evening and Divine Liturgy on the feast-day itself. Those homes not blessed on January 18th will be blessed later in the week.