



russian orthodox
church of
saint panteleimon
gosford

ПАНТЕЛЕИМОНСКИЙ ЛИСТОК PARISH NEWSLETTER

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PARISH LIFE: MARCH-MAY 2010

Much has happened in parish life over the past few weeks as we have completed Great Lent and celebrated the Resurrection of Christ. The last of the Lenten services were held late in March and, although relatively quiet, a number of different people attended them and took the opportunity to pray. The major church clean up in preparation for our Holy Week and Easter services, held on Saturday March 20, saw many people assisting with necessary tasks. The service of general anointing or 'Soborovanie' on Sunday March 21 was very well attended, as was the beautiful service on Lazarus Saturday. For this day, Pussy-willows were prepared by the Ladies' Auxiliary, with palms adorning the church prepared by Katya Marcotrigiano and Claudia Kraiuhin. Beautiful services were held every night during Holy Week.

The Midnight Paschal service was attended by a great many people, with the church overflowing during Midnight Office and at the beginning of Matins. After Liturgy, a festive meal was shared by a large number of parishioners and friends. Easter Sunday's Paschal Vespers at 11am was a much quieter service, but nevertheless attended by a good number of adults and children, with Easter baskets being blessed afterwards.

On Bright Monday, Father James and Father Martin served at the church of All Saints of Russia in Croydon, with Metropolitan Hilarion presiding at Divine Liturgy. On Bright Wednesday, also the Feast of the Annunciation, Father James served at the Sts Peter and Paul Cathedral in Strathfield and was awarded the right to wear the kamilavka for "diligent pastoral service to the Holy Church of Christ".

On Sunday 18 April 2010, Annabelle Rowan, the daughter of Ricky and Anna Rowan of Lisarow, was baptised by Father James at our church in West Gosford, receiving the name Anna, like her mother. She received Holy Communion for the first time on Sunday 2 May. Congratulations to the newly-baptised Anna, to her parents Ricky and Anna, and to her godparents Valentyna, Alexey, Sandra and Darren.

On Sunday 9 May 2010, Zac Barton, the son of Michael and Michelle Barton, was baptised by Father James at home in Woongarra. Zac is of Serbian Orthodox heritage, his family having long been associated with the Serbian Orthodox parish of Saint Naum of Ochrid in Broadmeadow, Newcastle. Congratulations to the newly-baptised Zac, to Michael and Michelle, and to Zac's godparents Adam and Karen.

PARISH LIFE: AGM POSTPONED

A new date for the AGM will be announced shortly, with it likely to be in July. There has been a delay as the Annual Report is yet to be completed, and some parish accounts still need to be reviewed by the Auditing Committee.

PARISH LIFE: KIDS' FISHING DAY AT BUDGEWOI

On Sunday May 2, a beautiful sunny autumn day, nearly 70 parishioners and friends gathered after church at the Budgewoi Lions Club Reserve for our Kids' Fishing Fun Day. The park is a beautiful one on the edge of Lake Munmorah, with many large shady trees, a playground, picnic shelters, and a footbridge across to a small island. The island was a particular favourite with the children, many of whom spent a great deal of time on it later in the afternoon playing team hide-and-seek.

There was not a lot of success in fishing, but Stephanie Iliuk's catch earned her the medal for the "Outstanding Fisherman" on the day. In a lucky dip after the prize-giving, Phillip Bendeovski and Nick Shchelokov won a fishing rod and a tackle box respectively, and Katie Carles and Peter Iliuk (the younger) won fishing nets.

All present had a lovely time, enjoying the opportunity to socialise and relax with others from our lively church community. Many thanks to Paul Pereboeff for his work in organising this day, and to Victor Bendeovski and Peter Iliuk (the elder) for helping him. Photos from the day are available for viewing on the parish website at: www.gosfordrussianchurch.org.au

COMMUNITY LIFE: A RUSSIAN FILM NIGHT FOR CHARITY IN AVOCA BEACH

On the evening of Friday April 9, Bright Friday, there was a Russian film night at the Avoca Beach Picture Theatre. Organised by our Russian-born parishioner Katerina Rubbo, the fundraiser was held so as to raise awareness of and money for the Vladimir Children's Fund, a charitable organisation long supported by our parish, by Katya and her husband Mike Rubbo, and by our diocesan charitable organisation, Orthodox Action - Sydney.

The proprietors of the Avoca Beach Picture Theatre, Norman and Beth Hunter, are great friends of Russia, having travelled there many times to participate in charitable work, and so eagerly supported the evening.

The event was a great success, with more than \$1400.00 dollars raised on the night. The film shown was The Last Station, an account of the last years of Russian writer Leo Tolstoy. Everybody enjoyed the film. Also popular were the beautiful Russian pirogi prepared by Nina Golovin, and the raffle prizes donated by local businesses.

Orthodox Action-Sydney later added to the funds collected on the night, giving Katya \$2600.00 to pass on to the Vladimir Children's Fund. Our congratulations to Katya and all who helped her to make the evening such a success. Katya has asked that her

thanks be extended to all in the Russian and Australian communities who supported this event.

DIOCESAN LIFE: EPISCOPAL ARRANGEMENTS

Metropolitan Hilarion arrives back in Australia on 3 June 2010. He will remain in Australia until 21 June 2010, presiding in Croydon for the fiftieth anniversary of the parish on the feast of All Saints of Russia. He will also be visiting parishes interstate. He will not then return to Australia until the end of the year. Details of the celebrations at Croydon are on the Diocesan website.

On 8 July 2010 His Eminence Bishop Agapit (Gorachek) of Stuttgart in Germany, the Vicar of the Diocese of Berlin and Germany, will arrive in Australia. He will remain here until 7 November 2010, visiting parishes and participating in diocesan life.

PARISH LIFE: OUR WINTER SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

The winter schedule of services is now available in church and on the parish website.

We will have a service on June 6 for the feast of All Saints of Russia, the day on which Croydon will celebrate its fiftieth anniversary. Father Martin will represent our parish at the services, and it is expected that a number of the laity will also attend.

Our feast-day of Saint Panteleimon will be celebrated this year on Saturday 7 August 2010, with Bishop Agapit presiding. Lunch afterwards will be at a hall in Niagara Park, the hall at Narara being unavailable. We will also have services that month for St Seraphim of Sarov, the Transfiguration of the Lord, and an English Liturgy for the Afterfeast of the Dormition and the Icon of Christ "Not-Made-By-Hands".

CHURCH LIFE: LITURGICAL MUSIC SEMINAR

The singing conference planned for Brisbane in May has been cancelled. In its place, a Liturgical Music Seminar will be held at the Church of the Protection of the Holy Virgin in Cabramatta from Thursday 27th May to Sunday 30th May, 2010. The Seminar will feature lecturers, coaches and conductors from around Australia. Choir directors, singers, and those with an interest in Russian sacred choral music from all Orthodox Local Churches and jurisdictions are welcome to attend and participate. For further information please contact Andrei Laptev: andreilaptev@yahoo.com.au or 0411028343.

EXHIBITION: THE ART AND HERITAGE OF ICON PAINTING

The exhibition, 'The Art and Heritage of Icon Painting', opened on 8 May 2010 in the Museum at Mary MacKillop Place, Mount Street, North Sydney, and will continue until 8 June 2010. There are 12 icons in the exhibition, all of them the work of Michael Galovic, a well-known local iconographer and a regular worshipper at our parish in West Gosford. The icons displayed show a range of techniques and effects. The opening hours are 10am - 4pm daily, with entry free of charge. Metered parking is available outside the Museum, which is also within walking distance of North Sydney Station.

Two of Michael's icons can be found in our church at West Gosford. The icon of Saint Panteleimon in the corner of the church hall is Michael's work, as is the large icon of the Transfiguration (Preobrazhenie) of the Lord that hangs on the wall above the choir. Both were gifts to our parish. Those wishing to know more about Michael and his work can visit his website: www.michaelgalovic.com. Greetings cards with some of his icons on the front are available in the parish bookstore.

The Museum in which the exhibition is being held is dedicated to the life, work and spirituality of Mary MacKillop, the Australian nun who is to be canonised by the Roman Catholic Church in October 2010. It stands alongside the church in which she is buried. The Museum is large and well-organised, and a visit there gives an interesting insight into the veneration of Mary MacKillop within the Roman Catholic Church.

COMMUNITY LIFE: EASTER ART SHOW AT THE RUSSIAN CLUB

The artwork of children from our parish was displayed in an Easter art show at the Russian Club in Strathfield. A gift of chocolate eggs from the organisers will be distributed to participants.

THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL ARE ASKED FOR:

The sick: Subdeacon Vitaly (Lupish); our parishioners Victor (Manjetny), Natalia, Irene, Michael, Tatiana, Nina, Nestor and Nun Euphrosyne.

Expectant mothers: Lydia, Catherine, Natalia, Maria, Vassiliki, Anastasia.

Departed: Patriarch Alexis, Metropolitan Vitaly, Metropolitan Laurus, and former parishioners and benefactors Vladimir (Dmitrieff), George (Fomin), Irina (Kamenev), Nun Maria, George (Kraiuhin), Theodore & Antonina (Tialshinsky), Lyubov (Smieska), Victor (Pulkownik), Olga (Timohina), Alexander (Dikan), Elena (Yakupova), Lydia (Ustimko).



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