



russian orthodox  
church of  
**saint panteleimon**  
gosford

## ПАНТЕЛЕИМОНСКИЙ ЛИСТОК PARISH NEWSLETTER

~ Number 100, February 2011 ~

### *100<sup>th</sup> edition!*

The first issue of the **ПАНТЕЛЕИМОНСКИЙ ЛИСТОК** was published on 21 July 2002. Beginning in the time before there was a permanent parish in Gosford, it was initially prepared by Father James to coincide with services held every third Sunday at the Narara Community Centre.

Over the last eight years, the parish newsletter has undergone some changes in appearance, but the intention of informing, instructing and edifying parishioners and friends has remained unchanged.

All readers are encouraged to send suggestions, feedback, news, and requests for prayers to either Father James or the newsletter editor, Kira Paznikov Barry, at [newsletter@gosfordrussianchurch.org.au](mailto:newsletter@gosfordrussianchurch.org.au).

### **PARISH LIFE: JANUARY – FEBRUARY 2011**

On January 17-18 we had services at West Gosford for the Eve of Theophany as Father James was serving in Wallsend on the day of the feast itself. According to custom, water is blessed on the Eve as well as the feast, and this was done at the end of Divine Liturgy on Tuesday 18. Father James afterwards blessed homes in and around Gosford before making his way to Wallsend for the festal vigil. Homes across the Central Coast and in Hornsby were blessed on Wednesday evening and on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. A few more were blessed on the weekend of January 29-30, and again on the afternoon of February 15.

The two blessings of water are intended to be different, with the blessing on the Eve of fresh water in church, and the blessing on the feast following a "procession to the Jordan", with water being blessed at a river, spring, lake, or at the seaside. God willing, an opportunity will arrive for us to have such a "procession to the Jordan", perhaps the shore of Brisbane Water, at some time in the future.

On Sunday January 30 Hieromonk Panteleimon Lake and Protodeacon Christopher Henderson joined us at Divine Liturgy. Hieromonk Panteleimon, a priest of the Indonesian Orthodox Church, had been in Australia for some time so as to observe parish life and deepen his liturgical knowledge. Father Christopher, a long-time friend of our parish, is one of the organisers of Friends of Indonesia – Australia, a Sydney-based group supporting the work of the Indonesian Orthodox Church. After Divine Liturgy, Father Panteleimon and Father Christopher spoke about Orthodox Christian life in Indonesia. Many people gave donations to assist Father Panteleimon. Our parish "money box" collection during Great Lent this year will assist the Indonesian Orthodox Church.

On the same day, many years was sung to all the Tatianas and Ninas in our parish, the feast-days of the Martyr Tatiana and Saint Nina, Equal-to-the-Apostles having fallen a few days beforehand. Father James also noted that 26 January 2011 had been the third anniversary of Father Martin's ordination to the diaconate. He congratulated Father Martin on the occasion and commended him for his faithful service. As a token of the parish's appreciation, he presented Father Martin with an English-language Gospel Book. We wish Father Martin many more years of service to our parish and to the Holy Orthodox Church.

On Tuesday 1 February we received the happy news that a baby girl, Daria, had been born to Brian and Kira Barry. Daria is a younger sister for Theodore, who will be two years old this year. Our warmest congratulations to Brian and Kira! Following Daria's birth, Kira, our newsletter editor, is on maternity leave from her editorial duties.

Parish Council met for the first time in 2011 on Tuesday 8 February. In a long meeting, those present carefully reviewed the draft 2010 Annual Report and considered the implications for the parish of certain recommendations of the Diocesan Governance Committee. These recommendations related to taxation, child protection, guidelines for volunteers, and awards for service to the church. The draft Annual Report was amended and endorsed, and it was agreed to seek further information from the Governance Committee before fully implementing its recommendations.

We had services on Monday 14 February and Tuesday 15 February for the Great Feast of the Meeting of the Lord, or Сретение Господне. Our Slavonic Choir sang at both services. On Tuesday after Divine Liturgy we had the customary blessing of candles and - as in many of the parishes of our Diocese - fruit.

On the evening of Wednesday 16 February we received the myrrh-streaming icon of the Mother of God, "Softener of Hardened Hearts", in our church. Archpriest George Lapardin and the custodian of the icon, Sergei Fomin, arrived with it from Sydney just after 7.00pm, and were met at the church doors by Father James and a number of parishioners and friends. A moleben and akathist to the Mother of God were then served, following which all the faithful venerated the icon, were anointed with the myrrh, and received a copy of the icon as a blessing. For those interested, some photographs of the icon in our church can be seen on the Diocesan website at [www.rocor.org.au](http://www.rocor.org.au). The icon visited the Wallsend parish on Tuesday 1 March 2011.

On Saturday 19 February Alexander Zagozkine, the infant son of our parishioners Ivan Zagvozkine and Natasha Belova, was baptized. Alexander's godparents were Victor Mukhin and Irina Sodol. Baby Alexander received Holy Communion for the first time the following day. Congratulations to Ivan and Natasha, and Victor and Irina!

On Sunday 20 February we had our Annual General Meeting. A report on the meeting is given elsewhere in this newsletter.

The month ended with the baptism, on Saturday 26 February, of the newborn infant Daria Barry. Little Dasha's godmother was Anna Kirpichnikov. Daria received Holy Communion for the first time at Wallsend the following day.

## **PARISH LIFE: ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on Sunday February 20. Our AGMs are usually very brief, and this year's meeting was no exception. The 2010 Annual Report was accepted without question. Those wishing to read the Annual Report can obtain a copy from our website, or (for those without internet access) upon request from Father James.

With long-serving Head Sister and Parish Councilor Olga Petroff retiring, there was a vacancy on the Parish Council. In the end two new members were elected, the AGM deciding to expand the size of the council rather than put the matter to a vote. In addition to Fathers James and Martin, the Parish Council now consists of Vladimir ("Rick") Golovin, Kate Marcotrigiano, Bill Reid, Sophia Kfoury, Paul Pereboeff, Victor Bendevski, Anna Kourbatov, and Ivan Teliatnikov. Congratulations to Anna and Ivan on their election, and to the others on having been returned to the Parish Council.

Long-serving auditors Andrew Kfoury and Sebastian Reid were returned to the Auditing Committee, with Paul Douriguine elected to make up a committee of three. In addition to an audit of finances, it is expected that the Auditing Committee will in 2011 undertake duties that include ensuring parish compliance with taxation and child protection laws, amongst others, as well as church directives in general.

The first meeting of the new council will be on Tuesday 15 March. The first task for the Parish Council at this meeting will be electing office-bearers for 2011-12. Consideration will also be given to attendance at a training seminar for church wardens and parish treasurers to be held at the Saints Peter and Paul Cathedral in Strathfield, on Tuesday, 29 March 2011 at 10.00am. Besides giving key parish officials important information about parish administration, this seminar will also give parish officials from across the Diocese a chance to meet and learn from one another. Although we have a treasurer, our parish has operated without a church warden for some years. In the absence of a warden, it is expected that another member of the Parish Council or Auditing Committee will be chosen to attend.

## **PARISH LIFE: MEMBERSHIP**

Current parish members are reminded once again of the need to renew their membership each year. A number of parish members have not yet renewed their membership for 2011. Membership is for a calendar year, and the established fee is \$20.00. An application form for renewal of membership should be completed and provided together with the membership fee.

Friends of the parish and regular worshippers who are not already members are asked to consider becoming members. As the parish grows and changes it is important to have as many people as possible involved in the process of making decisions about parish life now and into the future. Those wishing to become members should complete the application form that is available in church. Any questions or concerns about parish membership should be raised with Father James.

## **PARISH LIFE: AUTUMN 2011 SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**

As of the weekend of 5-6 March 2011, the Autumn 2011 Schedule of Services will be available in church. Additional copies are available in church, and it is expected to also be available on the parish website soon. Covering the months of March, April and May, the schedule includes all the services in our parish during Great Lent and Holy Week. As in previous years there will be many more services than usual, with Vespers every Sunday evening and Great Compline each Wednesday evening during Great Lent. The services are very different during this time,

and parishioners and friends are encouraged to attend as many of them as possible. At Great Compline there are many opportunities to assist with the reading, and the services in general are instructive and edifying, setting the right tone for our observance of Great Lent as a whole.

### **PARISH LIFE: FATHER JAMES & FAMILY MOVE HOUSE**

After just six months living in Empire Bay, Father James and family have returned to the Peninsula! On Wednesday 2 March they moved back across Brisbane Water to Woy Woy. Their new address is:

**114 Railway Street  
WOY WOY NSW 2256**

The new home telephone number is **4342-0015**, the same home number that they had at Umina Beach up until September 2010, but as always, Father James remains best contacted on his mobile number, **0428-639156**, or by email at [rev.james.carles@rocor.org.au](mailto:rev.james.carles@rocor.org.au).

### **CHURCH LIFE: PRAYERS AND COLLECTIONS FOR FLOOD, EARTHQUAKE, AND FIRE**

There have been a great many natural disasters across our Diocese over the past two months, with Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria subject to terrible flooding and Western Australia enduring bushfires during January, and the city of Christchurch on the South Island of New Zealand hit by a catastrophic earthquake on 22 February 2011.

In response to the flooding, Vladyka Hilarion issued an Ukase (or directive) on 15 January 2011 that a plate collection to assist those affected be taken up in parishes at the earliest opportunity. The Ukase was distributed on 25 January 2011, and prayers had by this stage already been offered in our parish. Father James had, moreover, encouraged parishioners to make donations through the many avenues publicly available. In view of this, and as money was to be collected for the Indonesian Orthodox Church on 30 January 2011 and as the two Sundays in February were already set aside for other mandatory Diocesan collections, no collection for the relief of flood victims has yet been taken in our parish. Parish Council will nevertheless consider making a contribution. Anyone wishing to respond to this appeal may do so. All donations will be receipted and passed on to the Diocese.

As of 4 March 2011, 163 people had been confirmed dead as a result of the New Zealand earthquake. Amongst those confirmed dead is Tamara Cvetanov, a Serbian Orthodox member of our parish in Christchurch. May God give her rest! Tamara leaves behind a husband, Srechko, and two children, Todor (10) and Ekaterina (8). Archpriest Vladimir Boikov, rector of our Auckland parish and Dean of New Zealand, has initiated an appeal to assist the grieving Cvetanov family. Donations can be made as follows:

#### **Russian Orthodox Church - Benevolent Fund**

ASB Bank

Branch & account: 12-3016-0592796-00

Swift code: ASBBNZZA

Those making a donation should add information that allows Father Vladimir to know what the donation is for and where it came from.

A Romanian Orthodox woman, Tamara Harca, remains amongst the missing, and our priest in Christchurch, Father Arkady Trashkov-Clery, remains without power, water and sanitation ten days after the earthquake. Further information can be obtained from Father Vladimir by

email at [frvlad@xtra.co.nz](mailto:frvlad@xtra.co.nz). We will continue to pray in church for all those affected by these disasters.

## **CHURCH LIFE: EPISTLE OF THE COUNCIL OF BISHOPS TO THE CLERGY, MONASTICS, LAITY AND ALL THE FAITHFUL CHILDREN OF THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH**

The following epistle was adopted by the Council of Bishops of the Russian Orthodox Church on 4 February, 2011. The English text of the epistle is followed by the Russian text.

Beloved in the Lord fathers, dear brothers and sisters, faithful children of the Russian Orthodox Church!

The Holy Council of Bishops, having convened on February 2-4, 2011, in the city of Moscow, invokes upon all of you God's mercy, peace and love, glorifying together with the Apostle our Lord and Creator, Who, "according to his abundant mercy, hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you!" (1 Peter 1:3-4).

By the mercy of the Lord, the witness of the Truth of Christ continues to be manifested. The Church, fulfilling the legacy of her Divine Founder by preaching the Gospel to all of creation (Mark 16:15), turns her voice to the broadest circles of humanity. Striving to manifest the blessed and perfect will of the Almighty, that all people "be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth" (1 Timothy 2:4), she does everything possible that this will be incorporated in human lives and in human communities.

The Council appeals to every Orthodox Christian to remember the words of Holy Scripture, that "faith without works is dead" (James 2:26), and so we must "as every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God" (1 Peter 4:10).

Everything the Church lives by, everything she does is infused with care for the salvation of mankind. Living upon the earth, Orthodox people must strive towards Heaven. Concerned by events in society, expressing care for the suffering and needy, considering ways of better establishing church life, all of this comprises the visible continuation of their prayerful boldness and participation in the salvific Mysteries which unite man with God. Our words and deeds must show us to be "the salt of the earth" and "the light of the world" (Matthew 5:13-14), so that everyone around us, beholding the lives of Orthodox Christians, would glorify the Father in Heaven (Matthew 5:16).

The Council discussed paying due tribute to the New Martyrs and the innocent victims of the 20th century, the social service of pastors and laity, care for church helpers and for the life of small native populations, the attitude of the Church towards blasphemy and slander, and perfecting various forms of church activities. Many hierarchs, pastors and laypersons participated in preparing the most important Council documents, for its successful labours were preceded by the work of an established ecclesiastical organ, the Inter-Council Presence. Guided by the principal of full openness to the opinions of the children of the Church, the Council adopted many of their wishes and proposals. We call upon the clergy and laity, people young and old, those possessed of experience and knowledge, as well as those who

have only recently come to embrace salvific grace, to continue to participate, actively, thoughtfully and with a sense of duty, in the general ecclesiastical discussions of the Council.

The Church is all of us: the children of various nations, representatives of various generations and professions, those who live in various countries. The Apostle reminds all of us: "Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord" (1 Corinthians 12:4-5). We have a common ancient tradition, having its origins in the Kievan baptismal font. We have a common spiritual ideal, based on the Gospel of the Kingdom of God and manifested in the life by our holy ancestors. Let us preserve this ideal. Let us preserve our unity. Let us accept the mission of the church as our duty and our calling, infusing with the spirit of the Orthodox faith all of our labours, all those around us, the life of the entire world, which awaits from us the words of truth and works of love. For therein lies the investment in our salvation. Therein, too, lies our hope to come to hear the words of the Lord Himself: "Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world" (Matthew 25:34).

Once again we turn to you with the words of the Apostle and the beloved disciple of our Savior: "Grace be with you, mercy, and peace, from God the Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father, in truth and love" (2 John 1:3) and from the Holy Spirit.

(Signed) PATRIARCH KIRILL OF MOSCOW AND ALL RUSSIA, together with the fourteen members of the Presidium of the Council of Bishops, amongst whom was our own Metropolitan Hilarion of Eastern America and New York.

## **ПОСЛАНИЕ АРХИЕРЕЙСКОГО СОБОРА КЛИРУ, МОНАШЕСТВУЮЩИМ, МИРЯНАМ И ВСЕМ ВЕРНЫМ ЧАДАМ РУССКОЙ ПРАВОСЛАВНОЙ ЦЕРКВИ**

*Документ принят 4 февраля 2011 года Архиерейским Собором Русской Православной Церкви.*

Возлюбленные о Господе всечестные отцы, дорогие братья и сестры — верные чада Русской Православной Церкви!

Освященный Архиерейский Собор, состоявшийся 2-4 февраля 2011 года во граде Москве, призывает на всех вас милость, мир и любовь Божию, вместе с апостолом прославляя Господа нашего и Создателя, «по великой Своей милости возродившего нас воскресением Иисуса Христа из мертвых к упованию живому, к наследству нетленному, чистому, неувядаемому, хранящемуся на небесах для вас» (1 Пет. 1, 3-4).

Милостью Господа свидетельство Истины Христовой продолжает совершаться. Церковь, исполняя заповедь своего Божественного Основателя о проповеди Евангелия всему творению (см.: Мк. 16, 15), обращает свой голос к самому широкому кругу людей. Стремясь воплотить благую и совершенную волю Вседержителя, желающего, дабы все люди «спаслись и достигли познания истины» (1 Тим. 2, 4), она делает все возможное для того, чтобы эта воля осуществлялась в жизни людей и человеческих сообществ.

Собор обращается к каждому православному христианину с призывом помнить о том, что, по слову Священного Писания, *«вера без дел мертва»* (Иак. 2, 26), и посему мы должны служить *«друг другу, каждый тем даром, какой получил, как добрые домостроители многоразличной благодати Божией»* (1 Пет. 4, 10).

Все, чем живет Церковь, все, что она делает, проникнуто заботой о спасении человека. Живя на земле, православные люди стремятся к Небу. Когда их волнует происходящее в обществе, когда они проявляют заботу о страдающих и обездоленных, когда они размышляют о путях лучшего устройства церковной жизни — все это является зримым продолжением их молитвенного дерзновения и участия в спасительных Таинствах, соединяющих человека с Богом. Наши слова и поступки должны являть нас как *«соль земли»* и *«свет мира»* (Мф. 5, 13-14), дабы все окружающие, видя жизнь православных христиан, прославляли Отца Небесного (см.: Мф. 5, 16).

На соборных дискуссиях обсуждались темы воздаяния долга памяти новомученикам и невинным страдальцам XX века, социального и общественного служения пастырей и мирян, заботы о церковных тружениках и о жизни малочисленных коренных народов, отношения Церкви к богохульству и клевете, совершенствования различных форм церковной работы. В подготовке важнейших соборных документов участвовало множество иерархов, пастырей, мирян, ибо успешной работе Собора предшествовала деятельность учрежденного церковного органа — Межсоборного присутствия. Руководствуясь принципом полной открытости к суждениям чад Церкви, оно приняло многие их пожелания и предложения. Призываем клир и мирян, людей пожилых и юных, облеченных опытом и знаниями или только приобщившихся к спасительной благодати — и дальше участвовать, активно, вдумчиво и ответственно, в общецерковной соборной дискуссии.

Церковь — это все мы. Чада разных народов, представители разных поколений и профессий, жители разных стран. И всем нам апостол напоминает: *«Дары различны, но Дух один и тот же; и служения различны, а Господь один и тот же»* (1 Кор. 12, 4-5). Едина и наша древняя традиция, берущая начало в Киевской купели крещения. Един наш духовный идеал, основанный на Евангелии Царства Божия и воплощенный в жизнь нашими святыми предками. Будем хранить его. Будем беречь наше единство. Будем воспринимать миссию Церкви как свой долг и свое призвание, одухотворяя верой православной все наши труды, всех окружающих нас людей, жизнь всего мира, ждущего от нас слова правды и дел любви. Ибо в этом — залог нашего спасения. В этом — основание надежды однажды услышать слова Самого Господа: *«Приидите, благословенные Отца Моего, наследуйте Царство, уготованное вам от создания мира»* (Мф. 25, 34).

Вновьобращаем к вам слова апостола и возлюбленного ученика Спасителя: *«Да будет с вами благодать, милость, мир от Бога Отца и от Господа Иисуса Христа, Сына Отчего, в истине и любви»* (2 Ин. 1, 3) и от Святого Духа.

**ПАТРИАРХ МОСКОВСКИЙ И ВСЕЯ РУСИ КИРИЛЛ**

## SPIRITUAL LIFE: 2011 CALENDARS AVAILABLE

Many people in the parish have asked about 2011 wall calendars. Father James has been able to obtain a number of English-language calendars from Saint Innocent Press, a US-based church publisher. These beautifully produced calendars have "new" (civil) and "old" (church) calendar dates, the names of the main saints or events commemorated each day, and details of the readings from the Holy Scriptures appointed for each day. Fasting days are colour-coded, and there is also a brief summary of the general principles of fasting in the Orthodox Church. These calendars are \$5.00 each.

## CHURCH LIFE: THE SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY

The first Sunday of Great Lent is referred to as the Sunday of the Triumph of Orthodoxy, or «Торжество Православия». When a bishop is present, it customary on this day to serve the "Office of Orthodoxy", an impressive service in which anathemas are pronounced against various false teachers from the third to the fourteenth century; 'Eternal Memory' is sung in honour of right-believing rulers, Patriarchs and Holy Fathers; and 'Many Years' is proclaimed in honour of our present rulers and bishops. With Metropolitan Hilarion in Australia for Great Lent, the Office of Orthodoxy will be served this year in Strathfield. As we have no service in Gosford on this day, Sunday 13 March 2011, our parishioners and regular worshippers are encouraged to attend the services at the Cathedral.

## THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL ARE ASKED FOR:

**Newly-departed:** Tamara (Cvetanov) lost in the earthquake in Christchurch, New Zealand

**Special needs:** Tamara (Harca), Priest Arkady and family, Philip

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

**Families with new babies:** Brian & Kira, baby Daria, and big brother Theodore

**Newly-baptised:** Infant Alexander

**Expectant mothers:** Irina.

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



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