

# ПАНТЕЛЕИМОНСКИЙ ЛИСТОК

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

~ Number 30, 18 July 2004 ~

## **PUSSY WILLOWS AVAILABLE FOR PLANTING**

For those interested, Father James and Matushka Marie have approximately 40 small pussy willow plants (вербы) available for planting. This year, we were able to obtain plenty of pussy willow branches from Newcastle and Cabramatta for Вербное Воскресение/Palm Sunday, but it would be nice in future years to be self-sufficient. 40 trees spread around the parish would certainly provide enough pussy willow for our needs. The plants can grow to be quite tall, and will grow again after being cut back each year. If you would like one to plant, or if you would like more information and some botanical advice before making a commitment, Matushka Marie is the best person to speak to. If you don't see her at church, call at home on 4342-0015.

## **OPEN WEEKEND AT LOCAL ICONOGRAPHER'S HOME**

Many parishioners know Michael Galovic, a prominent and gifted Serbian iconographer, and long-term friend of and worshipper at our parish. We have in the altar of our new church a beautiful icon of Saint Panteleimon painted and given to us by Michael on the occasion of our feast-day in 2002. Michael and his wife Silvia live in Berkeley Vale, and to celebrate the completion of Michael's new icon studio, they are opening their home to friends and all those who may be interested on the weekend of July 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>. Hieromonk John (MacPherson), a good friend of Michael's, will be blessing the new studio on the Saturday at 2.00pm, and Father James will also be present. Michael will be taking the opportunity to display a number of Russian-style icons that he has prepared for a major exhibition that is to be held in London later this year. All parishioners are invited to call in on either day between 10am and 5pm. The address is 6 Ronda Close, Berkeley Vale. Michael and Silvia's telephone number is 4388-4434.

## **BOOKSTALL & KIOSK**

Many will have noticed the books, icons and crosses on display in a handsome bookcase - a gift from Father Christopher and his family - in the church hall. This is our humble parish bookstall & kiosk, at present under the supervision of Sarah Carles. We have as yet only a modest selection of books in Russian and English, including prayer books; a number of small icons and cards; a range of crosses and medallions; and miscellaneous items like icon lamps. Most of the items on display were obtained through the Protection Bookstore at Cabramatta Church, but we hope in time to ourselves build up the range of materials available, and in this way provide for the spiritual, educational and devotional needs of our growing parish.

## FUNDRAISING RAFFLE

As was mentioned in the last newsletter, Head Sister Olga Petroff has organized a fundraising raffle to be drawn on Sunday August 15<sup>th</sup>, the date on which Vladika Hilarion will be visiting us to celebrate our feast day of Saint Panteleimon. There are 12 beautiful Russian-themed prizes. Special tickets have been printed, which means that the tickets are suitable for sale at work and to friends outside the parish, as well as to visitors on the feast-day. Tickets are \$2.00 each and available in books of 10. Please talk to Olga, or call her on 4342-4241, should you be able to help, either by selling or purchasing tickets. With the feast-day now less than a month away it is important that we sell as many as we can!

## GOSFORD SERVICES UP UNTL DECEMBER 2004

A new schedule of services is available in church today, and covers the period from August up until the end of December 2004. In view of the fact that we now have a proper church, and that Father James now lives locally, the schedule has a few more services than usual, including some weekday and Saturday morning services. Although it can sometimes seem difficult or inconvenient to attend our long services, they are an essential part of our lives of Orthodox Christians, and something with which we must strive to fill and form our lives. Try and plan around the schedule of services to ensure that you are free to be in church.

## A LETTER OF SAINT JOHN OF SHANGHAI: "HE WHO QUARRELS CONSOLES THE DEVIL; HE WHO MAKES PEACE GLADDENS CHRIST"

*From the editors of the Synod website: "Russian Orthodox Christians in San Francisco continue to abide in the light of the memory and celebration of the 10th anniversary of the Church's glorification of St. John (Maximovich, +1966). "The days of St. John" in San Francisco are usually ended on the day of the Birth of John the Forerunner, when the funeral of the Saint of blessed memory was performed by a host of archpastors and clergymen (including then-Archimandrite Laurus [Shkurla]) and buried in the crypt under the altar of the Cathedral back in 1966. On this day of the culminations of the "Johns' days", the following letter is brought to the attention of our readers, and especially of our young people, which was written by this great hierarch of the Russian Diaspora in August 1927, during his days as a teacher of church law in Yugoslavia, and addressed to his male and female students.*

My Dear Students!

To my great disappointment, I am no longer your teacher of ecclesiastical law and can only appeal to you in writing. Two school years I spent with you, teaching you the truths of the Holy Orthodox Church and preaching to you the word of the Lord. The time I spent with you will never vanish from my memory. As always, even now I often remember all of you, each of you individually, and wish you all the best. I will always consider you my dear students, and it would be good if you did not forget me; from time to time you should write to me. I always receive and read all your letters with great satisfaction.

But more than this, I will always rejoice when I learn that my labours with you were not for naught, that you remember and act upon that which you learned from me. Love God, be devoted to the Orthodox faith. Remember that without God there is no good, no joy, that "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights" (James 1:17). Let every one of you have the Holy Scripture and read from it, since these are God's words, they teach us how to live and prepare ourselves for the future life. Pray at home daily, and on Sundays and holidays, come to church, to this holy place which is devoted to service to God, where God's angels abide and pray together with you.

Do not think that now you do not need to come to church if I am not here to look after you. You must attend church not for people, but for God, Who sees the hearts of those who come. Listen to the one who will be your teacher of law, and learn the Law of God not for grades, but to discover the will of our Heavenly Father. Be obedient to your parents, as Christ was obedient to the Most-Holy Virgin Mary. Be obedient to your teachers and all elders who teach you goodness. Labour, and guard yourselves against laziness, which is the mother of all sins. More than anything, guard yourselves against conflict, forgive each other when you are insulted. Remember: he who quarrels consoles the devil; he who makes peace gladdens Christ; he who makes peace among others helps Christ and will be accepted into the Heavenly Kingdom as a Son of God (Mt 5:9).

Having no way of sending each of you this letter, I send it to all whose addresses I have, but through them I appeal to everyone and I would hope that, if possible, every one of my students, male and female, would read it, and that my words would fall into your hearts and leave a mark upon your souls. I bid farewell with each of you and invoke God's blessing upon you. God is omnipotent and merciful, may He bless you, preserve and guide you to all good things! Glory to Him for ever and ever.

*Hieromonk John*

### **«КТО ССОРИТСЯ - ТЕШИТ ДИАВОЛА; КТО МИРИТСЯ - РАДУЕТ ХРИСТА...»**

*От редакции Официальная страница Архиерейского Синода Русской Православной Церкви за границей: Русские православные верующие града Сан-Франциско продолжают пребывать во свете памяти и торжества 10-летия церковного прославления Святителя Иоанна (Максимовича; + 1966 г.). «Иоанновские дни» в Сан-Франциско обычно завершаются в день Рождества Иоанна Предтечи, когда приснопамятный святитель был отпет сонмом архипастырей и духовенства (среди которого сослужил и архимандрит Лавр (Шкурла)) и погребен в усыпальнице под алтарем Кафедрального собора в далеком 1966 г. В этот день завершения Иоанновских торжеств предлагаем вниманию читателей и, особенно, русской православной молодежи нижеследующее письмо, написанное этим великим иерархом русского зарубежья в августе 1927 г. в бытность его законоучителем в Югославии и обращенное к его ученикам и ученицам.*

**Дорогие мои ученики и ученицы!**

**К моему большому сожалению, я не оставлен вашим законоучителем и теперь только письменно могу обратиться к вам. Два учебных года я был с вами, поучая вас**

истинам святой православной веры и проповедуя вам слово Господне. Время, которое я провел с вами, никогда не исчезнет из моих воспоминаний. Как всегда, я и сейчас часто вспоминаю всех вас, каждого в отдельности, и всем желаю всего самого хорошего. Я всегда буду вас считать моими дорогими учениками, и мне будет приятно, если вы не будете забывать меня, время от времени посылая мне письма. Всегда с большим удовольствием получал и читал ваши письма.

Но больше всего я буду радоваться, когда узнаю, что мой труд с вами не был напрасным, что вы запомнили и делаете то, что вы всегда слышали от меня. Любите Бога, будьте преданы православной вере. Помните, что без Бога нет ни добра, ни счастья, что «всякое даяние доброе и всякий дар совершенный нисходит свыше, от Отца светов» (Иак. 1, 17). Пусть каждый из вас имеет Священное Писание и читает его, т.к. это Божьи слова, которые учат нас, как нужно жить и готовиться к будущей жизни. Молитесь каждый день дома, а в воскресенье и в праздники приходите в церковь, в это святое место, которое определено для службы Божьей, где находятся ангелы Божии и молятся вместе с нами.

Не думайте, что теперь можно не приходиться в церковь, т.к. нет меня, присматривавшего за вами. В церковь нужно идти не ради людей, а для Бога, который видит, кто и с каким сердцем приходит. Слушайтесь того, кто будет вашим законоучителем, и учите Закон Божий не ради оценок, а для того, чтобы узнать волю нашего Небесного Отца. Будьте покорными вашим родителям, как Христос покорялся Пресвятой Деве Марии. Будьте послушными вашим учителям и всем старшим, которые вас учат добру. Трудитесь и берегитесь лени, которая мать всех пороков. А больше всего берегитесь ссор, прощайте друг другу, когда обижены. Помните: кто ссорится - тешит диавола; кто мирится - радуется Христу; кто мирит других - помогает Христу и будет принят в Небесном Царстве как Сын Божий (Мф. 5, 9).

Не имея возможности послать каждому это мое письмо, я шлю все, адреса которых знаю, но через них обращаюсь ко всем и желал бы, чтобы по возможности каждый мой ученик и ученица прочитает его и мои слова упадут в ваши сердца и оставят след в ваших душах. Прощаюсь с каждым из вас и призываю Божие благословение на вас. Бог всемогущий и милосердный да благословит вас, сохранит и направит вас на всякое добро! Ему слава во веки веков.

*Иеромонах Иоанн*

Father James tries to prepare this newsletter to coincide with each Sunday service at Gosford. If you wish to add news items or prayer requests to it, you should contact him by Wednesday of the week before each Sunday service. You can call him at home on 4342-0015, on his mobile on 0428-639156 or email him at the following address: rev.james.carles@rocor.org.au.