

June 28, 2015

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

### ***From the Desk of the Pastor***

Dear Friends in Christ,

Breaking news this morning (Friday, June 26) is that the U.S. Supreme Court has ruled same-sex couples have a right to marry in the United States of America. It now means that those States which have laws opposing same-sex marriage will no longer be allowed to enforce those laws. What this means for the average person is that our society's understanding of marriage undergone a fundamental revolution.

This issue has nothing to do with the morality or immorality of a person's intimacies. Rather, this issue is about the meaning of marriage. Historically, law reinforced what society held dear about marriage: that marriage is a permanent union of a man and woman based on their consent (will) and bodily union ordered to procreation and calling for permanent commitment (each child takes at least 18 years to raise). There is something unique about women, there is something unique about men, and for these reasons a child needs both of these good influences to grow up with a balanced experience of God's creation. For Christians, Jews and other religious people, it was something that went beyond the couple to include the cosmos and God's good ordering of existence. Now, what has happened is that marriage is defined not by these factors but strictly by personal feelings and the subjective whim of individuals. As such, it can change from Monday to Tuesday.

Our Holy Father Pope Francis, tackling this very issue, has stated that: "The family is also threatened by growing efforts on the part of some to redefine the very institution of marriage." On Jan. 16<sup>th</sup> of this year he spoke to Philippine society, but these words also can be addressed to ours, saying that in our culture we are "...tempted by confusing presentations of sexuality, marriage and the family."

"As you know, these realities are increasingly under attack from powerful forces which threaten to disfigure God's plan for creation and betray the very values which have inspired and shaped all that is best in your [our] culture."

How are we as followers of Christ to respond? With guns or slurs? No. With hurray's and flags of support? No. Let us turn to Holy Scripture. Let's learn from the following words of St. Maximos the Confessor. "When all the people in Babylon were worshipping the golden idol, the Three Holy Children did not condemn anyone to perdition. They did not concern themselves with the doings of others, but took care

only for themselves, lest they should fall away from true piety. In precisely the same way, when Daniel was cast into the lion's den, he did not condemn any of those who, fulfilling the law of Darius, did not wish to pray to God, but he kept in mind his own duty, and desired rather to die than to sin against his conscience by transgressing the Law of God. God forbid that I should condemn anyone or say that I alone am being saved! **However**, I shall sooner agree to die than to apostatize in any way from the true Faith and thereby suffer torments of conscience."

As pastor I think the best thing we can do is offer an evening of reparation. Friday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>, from 6pm till midnight our church will be open for prayers, supplications. We will pray for our nation, our families, our children, our souls. In the end, Christ is the victor.

In Christ,  
Jason, priest and sinner

### **New Things Happening:**

- **Please** see the end of the bulletin for an explanation about today's Catechetical homily on the rite of Proskomedia
- **Anyone** interested in a going on a three-day camp excursion to Bruce Peninsula in Ontario this August, please contact Fr. Jason.
- **On Thursday, June 25<sup>th</sup>**, we had the first meeting of our Trinity Acres Improvement Committee, (Dcn. Myron Spak, Doug and Gabby Blythe, and John Besspiata). What did the meeting decide? That we can greatly increase the profitability of Trinity Acres simply by gaining sewage access to the barn, as well as structural and aesthetical improvements. Suggestions from all parishioners are welcome. Write them down and include them with your weekly offering.
- **Next Sunday July 5<sup>th</sup>** we'll bless the new altar cloths and new vestments. Some were done 8 months ago, some just this week. If you have made a donation in memory of a loved one, be mindful to be present after 11am Divine Liturgy.

### **Prayer List:**

Make a point of praying for everyone on the prayer list. If you don't have a prayer list, contact the office and we'll send you one. Keep in prayer: Luba and Peter Hlutkowsky, John Kuzemka, Natalia Milligan and Bobbi Spak.

**In preparation for the World Meeting of Families on September 22-27, 2015** in Philadelphia, our parish has printed the weekly installments Part I through Part VI from our Eparchy of a series entitled “Love is our Mission, the Family Fully Alive.” This series can be found on St. Josaphat Eparchial website [www.stjosaphateparchy.com](http://www.stjosaphateparchy.com), under the tab “Information-Vibrant Parish”. The printed pages (which are in English and Ukrainian) can be picked up in our church vestibule.\*

**Holy Trinity’s 2015 Parish Festival** will be on Sunday, August 16<sup>th</sup> at Trinity Acres. All parishioners should pick up their festival packet in the church vestibule. Also, if you are able to sell more lottery tickets, please call the rectory. We have plenty available!!

**Holy Trinity Picnic Donations Needed** for our upcoming picnic – monetary donations toward meat and kolbassi, chopped onions, coffee, cream margarine, sugar, hotdogs, hotdog and hamburger buns, Pepsi products, water, ginger ale, ice cubes, orange juice, tonic water, whiskey sours, baked goods (cupcakes, pies, cakes, cookies, candy, etc...) and Finally, **please consider VOLUNTEERING** to help in the following areas:  
\*Booth set-up \* Kitchen \* Corn Huskers \* Dish Washers \* Ticket Sales etc..

**Holy Trinity’s Vacation Bible School at Trinity Acres starts Monday, June 29<sup>th</sup>** for children ages: 4-12, Time: 8:30am – 4pm daily. We provide hearty meals, unique games, faith-filled Bible & Saint lessons, fresh air, fun & new friends! Suggested Cost: \$50 per child. Please complete a **registration form** found in this bulletin and in our website under “Youth Group” [www.htucc.com](http://www.htucc.com).

**Important: Singers, Lectors, and Pyrohi Workers needed!** If you’re not involved in any parish ministries, then come out for one of these three ministries.

**The 2015 UTS (Ukrainian Technological Society) Scholarship** Application Form is now available on [www.utspgh.org](http://www.utspgh.org). **Due Date is July 6, 2015**. Please note that there are no paper application forms.

**The St. Josaphat Society Scholarship** will once again be sponsoring a scholarship for a high school senior this year who is a member of our parish and who has been accepted into an undergraduate program at a college or university or a certified program at an accredited post-secondary institution for the 2015-16 academic year. Applications are in the rectory. **Applications must be postmarked by Saturday, July 11, 2015**.

**Peter's Pence Collection** takes place this weekend, June 27<sup>th</sup> and June 28<sup>th</sup>. Peter's Pence Envelopes are in your box as well as in the church vestibule. This collection "unites us in solidarity to Pope Francis and his works of charity to those in need."

**Camp Healing Hearts**, sponsored by Family Hospice & Palliative Care is a day camp for grieving children, ages 6-12 and their parents or guardians. It is free of charge and held on Saturday, July 11<sup>th</sup> from 9am until 2pm at Westminster Presbyterian Church (2040 Washington Rd. Upper St. Clair 15241). Call 412-572-8829

**A Vendor /Craft Show** will take place Saturday, July 25<sup>th</sup> at the "South West Meals on Wheels Kitchen" (601 Washington Ave. Carnegie) in the basement of St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church.

**Wonderful World of Water Day Camps** will be July 13-17, ages 7-11 at the Outdoor Classroom in Boyce Mayview Park in Upper St. Clair and is sponsored by Pennsylvania American Water. To register, contact Nancy Martin at 412-488-7490 ext 247 or email at [nancym@prc.org](mailto:nancym@prc.org). Registration fee: \$20.

**The Church was a Mother to you in Life**, providing for your Spiritual Needs: Please Remember the Eparchy of St. Josaphat in Parma in your Last Will and Testament. The wording to do this is as follows:

*"I give and bequeath to the Ukrainian Catholic Diocese of St. Josaphat in Parma, located in Parma, Ohio, \_\_\_% of the residue of my estate [or: the sum of \$ \_\_\_\_]."*

**Vital Stats:** \$2,083.60 was offered in the collection last weekend with another \$99 for candles, \$2 for Utilities, \$260 for the Eparchy, \$20 for Peter's Pence, \$5 for Pentecost, \$80 for Special Offering, \$25 for Ascension, \$5 for Sts. Peter & Paul, \$105 for the Ukrainian Churches Mission and \$871 for Father's Day Offering. Also, \$350 for church door renovations, and \$350 in memory of Catherine Yuschak for altar clothes. The pyrohi project brought in \$1,913 all for a grand total of \$6,168.60. Many blessings to all of our contributors whose sacrificial giving is known by God.

### **Lector Schedule:**

- Saturday: July 4 at 4:00pm: Helen Zaletski
- Sunday: July 5 at 8:30: Serhiy Chovnyk and later at 11:00 am: Angela Honchar

## What's happening in our parish this week . . .

Sat. 6/27	<i>Venerable father Samson the hospitable</i>		
4:00pm	Divine Liturgy for the repose of Dennis Daniels requested by Dr. Justine Perhosky		JC
	.....also Divine Liturgy for the repose of Marie Demain requested by Joe & Janet Hanych		IS
	<i>Trinity Acres is rented</i>		
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Sun. 6/28	<i>Venerable fathers Sergius and Herman</i>		
8:30am	40 <sup>th</sup> day Divine Liturgy for Eva Kalymon <i>(moved from June 22<sup>nd</sup>)</i>		IS
11:00am	Divine Liturgy for the people of the parish		JC
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Mon 6/29	<b>Ss. Peter and Paul</b>		
8:30am	<i>Holy Trinity VBS until 4:00pm at Trinity Acres</i>		
9:00am	Divine Liturgy for the people of the parish		JC
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Tues 6/30	<i>Synaxis of the holy glorious &amp; most praiseworthy 12 apostles</i>		
8:30am	<i>Holy Trinity VBS until 4:00pm at Trinity Acres</i>		
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Wed 7/1	<i>The holy miracleworkers Cosmas and Damian</i>		
8:30am	<i>Holy Trinity VBS until 4:00pm at Trinity Acres</i>		
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Thurs 7/2	<i>Fathers Juvenal and Fotius</i>		
8:30am	<i>Holy Trinity VBS until 4:00pm at Trinity Acres</i>		
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Fri. 7/3	<i>Holy martyr Hyacinth &amp; Fr. Anatolius</i>		
8:30am	<i>Holy Trinity VBS until 4:00pm at Trinity Acres</i>		
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Sat. **Happy Fourth of July: Venerable Martha, mother of St. Simeon**  
7/4

4:00pm Divine Liturgy to mark the 19<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the late  
Anastasia & Stephen Zinski requested by Stephen H. Zinski JC

.....also Divine Liturgy for Joseph & Frances Strzelecki  
requested by Angela Honchar IS

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Sun. *Holy martyrs Anna & Cyril & Fr. Athansius of Mt. Athos*  
7/5

8:30am Divine Liturgy for the repose of Anna Klim requested by  
Deb & Bob Sestili IS

11:00am Divine Liturgy for the people of the parish JC  
....followed by the blessing of new altar cloths and vestments

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### The Rite of Proskomedie

