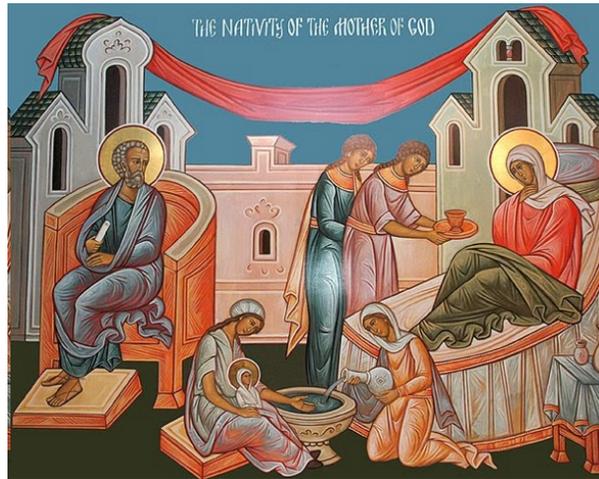


St. Cyril Orthodox Church

Announcements for the Week of Sunday, August 16



Online inquirer class on Wednesday at 7 pm. All are welcome to attend! We will be discussing the Orthodox teaching on the Holy Trinity. Email Father Benedict for link at info@stcyril.us

For Sunday Liturgy, we have a limit of 25 persons in the church, excluding clergy, servers, and choir. Please sign via email at info@stcyril.us if you would like to attend. If there are additional people who show up, they may be asked to stand in the hall and watch the Liturgy there.

When attending in person, please be considerate of others by cleaning your hands, wearing a mask in the church, and observing social distancing as much as possible. Spread out, rather than simply standing in the back of the church.

HOLY BAPTISM - On next Saturday, September 12, at 2 pm, we will baptize Rick and Leslie Smith, and also Child Berra Byrd, daughter of Crystal Mitchell.

Update from our treasurer: As of 9/6, our monthly income was \$1,424. Our monthly expenses are projected to be \$9,694.

=====

Temptations and trials show what hides in the heart of man. Temptation is similar to the medicine called an emetic. An emetic reveals what is hidden in the stomach. So temptations and trials make manifest what is inside a man...Thus vainglory becomes apparent through the deprivation of glory, avarice through the deprivation of riches, envy through the success of one's neighbor, and anger through disappointment. If, then, you fall into various temptations, O Christian, this all happens by God's permission for your great benefit, that you may thereby know what is hidden in your heart, and so knowing it you may correct yourself. - *St. Tikhon of Zadonsk (+1783)*

=====

On Pride, Self-Reproach, and Humility

By Elder Ephraim of Arizona

Do not be obstinate, but humble; do not think that you are something, for this is pride, and God loathes the proud. My child, always assume that you are the most sinful person in the world and that, if the grace of God abandons you, you will do all the evil things in the world! Always accuse yourself.

Whenever you go to receive Communion, accuse yourself as unworthy to receive Christ the Master within you who are so sinful. You must weep when you receive Holy Communion for Christ to have compassion on you for your sins.

"Learn from Me, for I am meek and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls." (Mt. 11:29). Do you see, my child? Meekness is the fruit of humility, and both bestow God's blessed rest.

Grass does not sprout in trampled ground; likewise, passions and wickedness do not sprout in a humble soul. As long as we lack humility, God will not stop humbling us through trials, until we learn this serious and life-saving lesson.

Be sincere in everything you show and express: do not tell lies; speak the truth. Do not look at the spiritual illnesses of your brethren struggling together with you, for you will be greatly harmed. But rather, sympathetically overlook their illnesses for the sake of the Lord, so that He may also deem your own illnesses worthy of sympathy.

Never think anything great about yourselves, so that you are not abandoned by the grace of God which is guarding you, and a great trial befalls you.

Reflect that God has given us everything: body, soul, mind, heart, earth, air, nourishment, breath, freedom in Christ, faith in Him, His heavenly Kingdom, deliverance from hell, the holy mysteries, the holy guardian of our soul, and, above all, His invincible power, which He gives us in our battles; moreover, He has even given Himself to us.

+