

ПАНТЕЛЕИМОНСКИЙ ЛИСТОК

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

~ Number 14, 18 May 2003 ~

ХРИСТОСЪ ВОСКРЕСЕ!

COMMUNITY NEWS: PROPERTY & FUTURE PLANS

As parishioners are aware, for some time now we have been hoping to obtain the use or possession of the "old" Narara Community Centre on the Gosford side of the railway line. Although this may still be possible, things have been moving a little more slowly than we hoped, and our community's office bearers and others have begun to consider some of the issues facing us in the future. These include:

- The need for a permanent home, allowing more regular services & saving the effort of transporting and setting up our "church" at each service;
- The insurance needs of the community;
- A structure for our community, including adoption of the "Normal Parish By-Laws" (Нормальный Приходской Устав) and formal membership. Those with internet access can view these documents on the Synod's website in Russian at <http://www.russianorthodoxchurch.ws/USTAVI%20i%20POLOZHENIA/nomalparishbylaws.html> or in English at <http://www.russianorthodoxchurch.ws/english/pages/regulations/parishlaws.html>

Although we will be continuing to pursue use of the "old" Narara Community Centre, some thought is being given to other possibilities, including continued use of the "new" Narara Community Centre, and purchase of a suitable church property, house, or industrial unit, the latter being (of course) an interim measure. These options will be discussed at a general meeting of our community sometime within the next 2-3 months. Further news about the old hall is expected in the coming week.

In regard to insurance, the community's office bearers are currently considering a range of options and, together with the Diocesan authorities, are taking the necessary steps to ensure that we have an appropriate insurance policy in place.

Adoption of the "Normal Parish By-Laws" is something that can be done by the community's office-bearers (or "parish" council) fairly promptly. Regular worshippers at Narara would then have the option to take up formal membership in the community, with the right to vote at parish meetings. As mentioned above, a meeting to discuss our accommodation options should be held within the next 2-3 months. In relation to all of

these things, Father James will continue to report in this bulletin and make announcements from the amvon as the need arises.

COMMUNITY NEWS: SECOND COLLECTION PLATE

As of our next service (June 8th), there will be a second collection plate, specifically for contributions to a building & property fund. This is to help us set aside money to be used for the purchase or construction of a permanent home for our church. Please contribute generously!

COMMUNITY NEWS: OUR FIRST WEDDING

As mentioned in the last bulletin, Margaret and Kostya Dmitrieff were married on May 4th in our community's first wedding at the Narara Community Centre. A small reception was held at the Centre afterwards, catered for by our Ladies' Auxiliary. The ladies (& some men!) did a wonderful job & showed all, themselves included, what good work they were capable of. Special thanks to Zina, Olga, Nestor, Debbie, Don, and Nina for their efforts. Many visitors on the day commented favourably on the fine appearance of our "church", the standard of singing at Liturgy and the wedding, and the conduct of the services in general. Слава Бору!

FROM THE HOLY FATHERS

"In every matter undertaken by thee, ask not first whether it will be pleasant, advantageous for you, and praiseworthy before men, but first and foremost test whether it will be pleasing to God, and will not be contrary to His commandments".

Saint Philaret of Moscow

RAFFLE - ЛОТЕРЕЯ

The ladies' committee is at present selling tickets for a fund-raising raffle that is to be drawn today - 18 May 2003. Tickets are \$1.00 each and can be purchased from any of the ladies on the committee. Please support our community by purchasing a few tickets! LAST CHANCE!

THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL ARE ASKED FOR:

The sick & suffering: Metropolitan Vitaly, Ioann

Special needs: Katherine, David, Marina, Paraskeva, Daniel & Ioanna

Preparing for marriage: Adrian & Kasey, Peter & Svetlana, Gregory & Heather

Newly-baptised: Sebastian, Margaret

Newly-married: Konstantin & Margaret

GOSFORD SERVICES IN MAY & JUNE

18-го мая	воскресенье	Божественная литургия	9.00 ч.у.
8-го июня	воскресенье	Божественная литургия	9.00 ч.у.
29-го июня	воскресенье	Всехъ Святыхъ въ земле Русской просиявшихъ Божественная литургия	9.00 ч.у.
18th May	Sunday	Sunday of the Paralytic Divine Liturgy	9.00 am
8th June	Sunday	Divine Liturgy	9.00 am
29th June	Sunday	All Saints of Russia Divine Liturgy	9.00 am

OTHER IMPORTANT CHURCH DATES

May 22nd is the feast of the translation of the relics of Saint Nicholas, the wonderworker of Myra in Lycia. Saint Nicholas was originally buried in Myra, the city in Asia Minor in which he served as bishop. In 1087AD Moslems attacked the city. At that time, a priest living in Italy in the city of Bari had a dream about Saint Nicholas. In the dream, Saint Nicholas told him to go to Myra and bring his relics back to Bari so that the Moslems could not destroy them. Some men from Bari sailed to Myra and brought the relics of Saint Nicholas back to their own city on 22nd May (9th May on the church calendar). This is the second of Saint Nicholas' two feast days, the other falling on December 19th (December 6th on the Church calendar).

In the week after Saint Nicholas' relics arrived in Bari, 111 sick people were healed! Saint Nicholas' relics are still in Bari today. Lots of people still go there to visit his relics, and many miracles still happen because of Saint Nicholas' prayers. Saint Nicholas is the patron saint or special protector of Russia, sailors, prisoners, and children.

Two of our Church's parishes celebrate their feast-days on this day: Fairfield and Wallsend (Newcastle). Vladika Hilarion will be serving at Fairfield on the feast-day itself. Wallsend's service and festivities have been transferred to the following Sunday (May 25th), allowing Vladika to visit and serve in that parish too.

Father James hopes to be present at both services. St Nicholas, Fairfield, is the parish in which he was ordained deacon & priest, served as deacon for 3 years, and in which 3 of his children were baptised, and so is a church close to his heart. St Nicholas, Wallsend, is of course the other parish - besides Gosford - in which he fulfils the duties of rector. All Gosford parishioners are encouraged to attend one or both of these services. Support for the Wallsend community is especially important.

NEWCASTLE SERVICES IN MAY & JUNE

24-го мая	суббота	<i>Всенощная бдение</i>	6.00 ч.в.
25-го мая	воскресенье	Перенесение мощей Святителя и Чудотворца Николая <i>Престольный праздник</i> <i>Малое освящение воды</i> <i>Божественная Литургия архиерейским чином</i>	8.00 ч.у. 9.00 ч.у.
3-го июня	вторник	<i>Пасхальная утренняя</i>	6.00 ч.в.
4-го июня	среда	Отдание Пасхи <i>Пасхальная Божественная Литургия</i> <i>Всенощное бдение</i>	8.00 ч.у. 6.00 ч.в.
5-го июня	четверг	ВОЗНЕСЕНИЕ ГОСПОДНЕ <i>Божественная Литургия</i>	9.00 ч.у.
14-го июня	суббота	<i>Всенощное бдение</i>	6.00 ч.в.
15-го июня	воскресенье	НЕДЕЛЯ СВ. ПЯТИДЕСЯТНИЦЫ Святая Троица <i>Божественная литургия, вечерня с колелопреклонными молитвами</i>	9.00 ч.у.
24th May	Saturday	<i>All-night vigil</i>	6.00 pm
25th May	Sunday	TRANSLATION OF THE RELICS OF SAINT NICHOLAS THE WONDERWORKER <i>Patronal feast of the parish</i> <i>Lesser Blessing of Water</i> <i>Hierarchical Divine Liturgy</i>	8.00 am 9.00 am
3rd June	Tuesday	Paschal matins	6.00 pm
4th June	Wednesday	Apodosis of Pascha <i>Paschal Divine Liturgy</i> <i>All-night vigil</i>	8.00 am 6.00 pm
5th June	Thursday	THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD Divine Liturgy	9.00 am
14th June	Saturday	All-night vigil	6.00 pm
15th June	Sunday	PENTECOST <i>Divine Liturgy with Vespers & kneeling prayers</i>	9.00 am

Father James tries to prepare this newsletter to coincide with each service at Gosford. Let him know at least a week in advance if there is anything that you would like included (prayer requests, news, announcements). You can call him on 02-9721-2659 or email him at fr.james.carles@rocor.org.au.