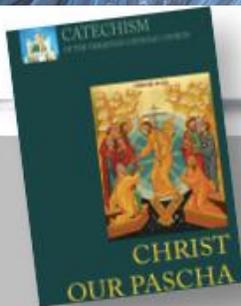


# KOINONIA



Excerpt from **Christ Our Pascha**

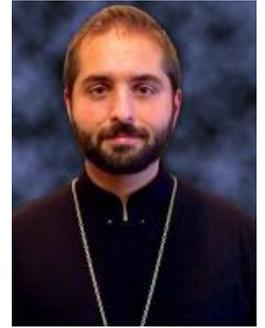
Human thoughts and decisions are born in the heart; it is where intensions and aspirations emerge; it is the source of a will and desires. The Christian is called to cultivate the "field" of his or her heart and be careful that the "seed of the enemy" not enter therein (see Mt 13:24-30) (# 752)

When the inner watchfulness of the intellect turned its attention to the heart, person becomes capable of knowing himself or herself better. The intellect, directed to the heart, becomes liberated from flawed intentions and thoughts. The spiritual Fathers refer to this state as the quieting (from the Greek *hesychia*) of the intellect. Internally watchful persons can "see" themselves in the light of God's grace and discover what is happening within the world of their interior self. They discover the strong and weak aspects of their character; in their capabilities and talents; they begin to perceive their secret inclinations and aspirations. (# 754)

;

## FROM OUR ADMINISTRATOR

**CHRIST IS BORN!**  
**GLORIFY HIM!**



Dear Faithful in Christ,

Several years after St. Basil the Great Mission was established (April 2006), the mission community was invited to move from Charlotte Catholic High School to the chapel at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church (February 2013). Since then, we have enjoyed an extremely positive relationship with our host parish, due to the welcome and continued support of its clergy and faithful. The synergy that exists there between East and West is truly a model for the entire Catholic Church.

Following my appointment as administrator (September 2016), the mission community began to demonstrate growth. Yet regular attendance and participation has leveled off to a solid core of extremely dedicated and devoted faithful. In order to assure the long-term existence of missions, particularly with regards to having a regular priestly presence, and their eventual elevation to the status of parish, the general rule is that missions must demonstrate further growth in regular attendance and participation. Therefore, it is important to reflect on what issues of space and location might already be affecting the regular attendance and participation of many members of our community, and to consider some possible solutions.

St. Basil the Great Mission is not yet in a position to be self-sustaining or to have its own church building. However, it seems that there now exists a need for a *larger* space than the one currently being occupied by the mission community.

It is often mentioned to me that our chapel is prohibitive, in regards to both its size and location. While on many occasions everyone can fit within the chapel, there are other occasions on which the faithful have stood in the hallway, in the adjacent room, or even outside. This is a very good sign because it demonstrates growth. Nonetheless, some visitors have experienced difficulties in finding the chapel. A few have even declined to enter when they discovered it, for reasons as simple as the fact that the chapel doors are opened in direct view of people standing in the chapel, or because visitors simply cannot see through people standing in the hallway during the services. There is also the persistent problem of noise coming from events in the church hall, which has sometimes compelled us to move or cancel planned celebrations. Our host parish continues to demonstrate the utmost charity and consideration towards us. Yet it will be important for us moving forward to be able to plan and execute the activities of our mission community without constantly competing with events regularly taking place in the church hall.

*Continued On Next Page*

Furthermore, we should consider the demographics. There are members of our community who live in south Charlotte, and even in South Carolina, but who are choosing not to attend because of the distance to our present location. There are also members of our community who live north of Charlotte, but, again, very few of them are choosing to become regular participants. Those who are regularly making the journey - from whichever direction - are very dedicated and loyal members, and the mission community simply would not exist without them. They are to be greatly honored for their time, sacrifice, and love for Our Lord.

Although no location will perfectly satisfy every member of the faithful, we need to consider whatever would best serve the greater good of the entire mission community. The fundamental question for the present time seems to be the following: Is the current space causative of the leveling-off in attendance and participation, and is it even a hindrance to future growth? If so, is the solution to be found in a different space and location?

There are a few possible solutions, and we need to discern whichever solution is best for the mission community. It is not possible to rely upon the regular use of the church hall. Our host parish has offered us the opportunity to move our services into the main church, but this would necessarily have to happen in the early or mid-afternoon, following the 11:30 am Mass. This is not a viable solution due to the commitments of the clergy at other missions. The other option is to consider an alternative location, which might be ready to accommodate the present needs of our mission community, in the intermediate stage between gathering in a tiny chapel and being self-sustaining with our own church.

I would like to begin surveying this latter option by celebrating some liturgical feasts in alternative locations. Your presence is important, particularly if you would like to provide feedback. The first of these celebrations will take place on **Saturday, January 6, 2018**, the Feast of the **Theophany of Our Lord**, a *Holy Day of Obligation*. We will meet at **Holy Trinity Catholic Middle School, 3100 Park Road, Charlotte, NC 28209** (7 minutes, 3 miles, from I-77). The Divine Liturgy will begin at **11:00 am**, and will be followed by fellowship and a tour of the facilities. Again, this is intended merely to begin exposing the members of our mission community to different possibilities for the near future.

Please pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and for the continued growth of our mission community in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "J. Matlak".

Fr. Joseph Matlak

## UPCOMING FEAST



### **THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD**

**A HOLY DAY OF PRECEPT**

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 2018**

**11:00am**

**DIVINE LITURGY OF  
SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM**

**FOLLOWED BY FELLOWSHIP**

**HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**3100 Park Road  
Charlotte, NC 28209**

**7 MINUTES, 3 MILES, FROM I-77**

## YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY



**Over 60 youth, young adult leaders, volunteers, and clergy from the Eparchy of St. Josaphat in Parma and beyond gathered together on December 8-10, 2017 at Holy Trinity Catholic Middle School and St. Ann Catholic Church in Charlotte, North Carolina for the Emmanuel Youth Rally that was held in the city for the first time. The theme of the rally was “God with Us” and was centered on the preparation for the celebration of the feast of the Nativity of Our Lord.**

The youth event was organized and attended by most of the Eparchial Youth Committee members under the leadership of Fr. Lubomyr Zhybak, the committee’s director and pastor of Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church in Youngstown, OH and St. Anne Ukrainian Catholic Church in Austintown, OH; Fr. Joseph Matlak, co-director of the committee, administrator of St. Basil the Great Mission in Charlotte, NC, and coordinator of the rally as well as the following committee members: Deacon Myron Spak of Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church in Carnegie, PA; Subdeacon Joseph Zappernick of St. Andrew’s Ukrainian Catholic Church in Parma, OH; Mr. Joseph Levy of St. John’s Ukrainian Catholic Church in Pittsburgh, PA; Mr. Michael Levy of St. Andrew’s Ukrainian Catholic Church in Parma, OH; and Mr. Nathaniel Lischak and Alex Lischak of St. Anne Ukrainian Catholic Church in Austintown, OH. Fr. Matthew Schroeder, pastor of Sts. Volodymyr and Olha Ukrainian Catholic Church in Garner, NC was likewise able to participate in the rally on December 9.

On Saturday, December 9 – the Feast of the Maternity of St. Anna – Fr. Lubomyr Zhybak served the Divine Liturgy at St. Ann Catholic Church and he was aided at the altar by Fr. Deacon Matthew Hanes of St. Basil the Great Mission in Charlotte, NC and Fr. Deacon Myron Spak. On Sunday, December 10, the committee members visited the community of St. Basil the Great Mission in Charlotte, having participated in the Divine Liturgy, presided over by Fr. Joseph Matlak.

In addition to the Divine Liturgy, fun and engaging presentations, games, as well as the food, the rally participants had an opportunity to partake in the Holy Mystery of Penance, made available by Fr. Joseph Matlak, Fr. Matthew Schroeder, and Fr. Lubomyr Zhybak. The Emmanuel Youth Rally was a wonderful, prayerful, and engaging event for the youth of the eparchy and beyond, and it provided an opportunity for the youth as well as adults to experience the presence of the Lord in their lives in the spirit of faith and fellowship.



# LITURGY OF THE HOURS

## DIVINE OFFICE

OF THE BYZANTINE SLAVONIC RITE

**HOROLOGION - OCTOECHOS  
TRIODION - MENAION**

**ENGLISH TRANSLATION  
AVAILABLE NOW**

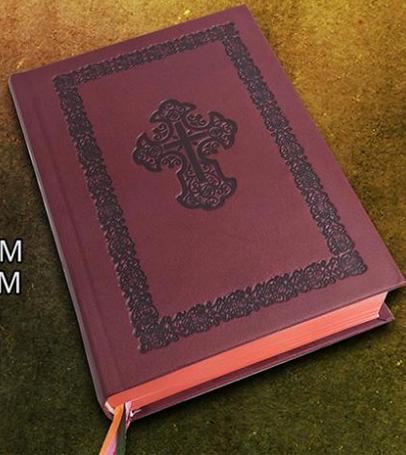
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FROM THE  
CONGREGATION FOR THE  
EASTERN CHURCHES:

“Where such practice of celebrating the Divine Praises with the people has diminished, if not completely disappeared, the ancient tradition should be restored without delay, so as not to deprive the faithful of a privileged source of prayer, nourished by treasures of authentic doctrine.... Calling upon the time when the Divine Praises were upheld with special care in the East, not only by the monastic communities, but also by the parishes, the Code of Canons of the Eastern Churches reminds us of the obligation – often easily forgotten or abandoned – to celebrate them in the cathedrals, parishes, rectoral churches, religious communities and seminaries.”

*- Instruction for Applying the Liturgical Principles of the Code of Canons of the Eastern Churches*

**CELEBRATE THE LITURGY OF THE HOURS**

*At Saint Basil the Great Mission in Charlotte, North Carolina*

**Saturdays:**

**VESPERS at 5pm**

**Eves of Feast Days:**

**VESPERS at 5:30pm**

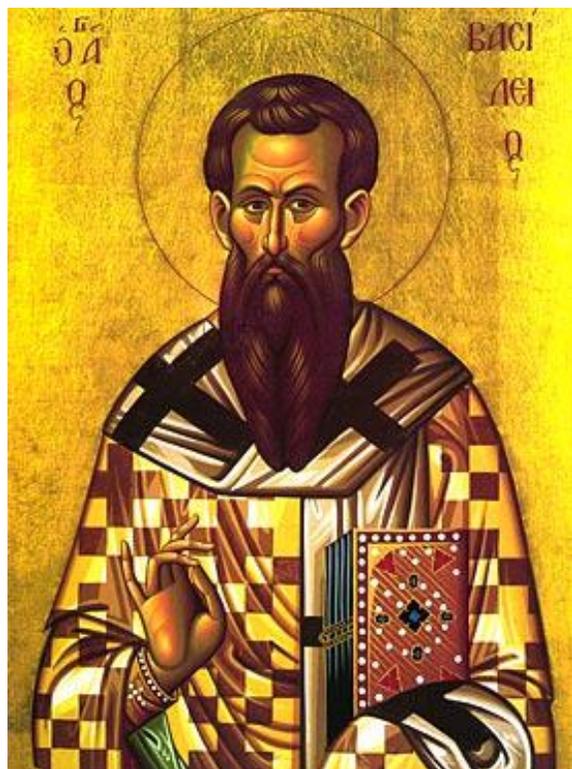
**Before Divine Liturgy**

*\*Fulfills the Sunday and Holy Day observance for Eastern Catholics\**

# SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

## БОГОСЛУЖІННЯ SERVICIOS LITÚRGICOS

### WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA



#### SAINT BASIL THE GREAT MISSION

1400 Suther Road, Charlotte, NC 28213

(980) 785-2764

[stbasil.weebly.com](http://stbasil.weebly.com)

#### SATURDAY

5:00pm: VESPERS

#### SUNDAY

10:00am: CONFESSIONS

11:00am: DIVINE LITURGY

#### SABADO

5:00pm: VISPERAS

#### DOMINGO

10:00am: CONFESIONES

11:00am: SANTA MISA

UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, THE DIVINE SERVICES ARE CELEBRATED IN ENGLISH.

BI-LINGUAL LITURGICAL BOOKS ARE AVAILABLE.

YOU MAY GO TO CONFESSION IN ENGLISH OR SPANISH.

*A MENOS QUE SE INDIQUE LO CONTRARIO, ESTES SERVICIOS LITÚRGICOS SON CELEBRADOS EN INGLÉS.*

*LIBROS LITÚRGICOS BILINGÜES ESTÁN DISPONIBLES.*

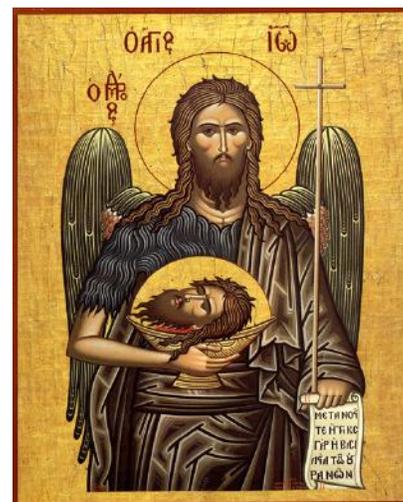
*SE PUEDE CONFESAR EN INGLÉS O ESPAÑOL.*

#### SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST MISSION (Ukrainian Language Ministry)

Charlotte Catholic High School  
7702 Pineville-Matthews Road  
Pineville, NC 28226

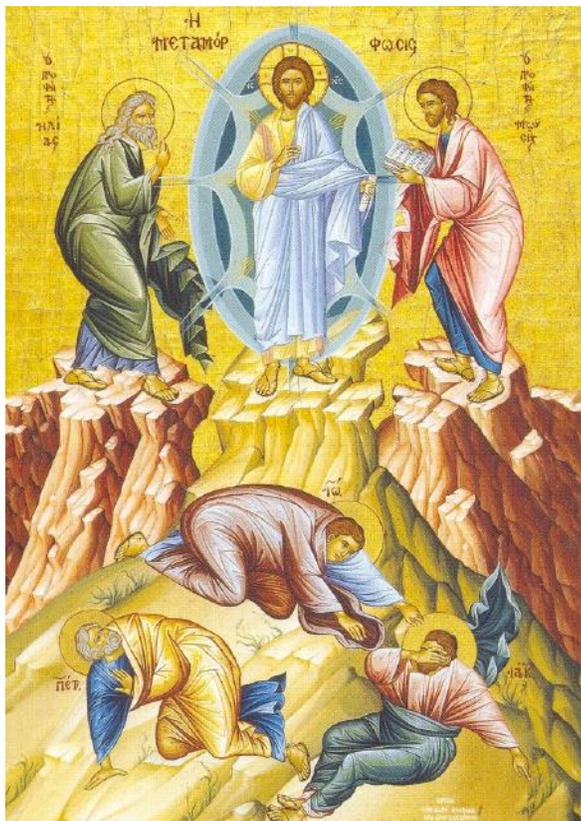
#### THIRD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

3:00pm: DIVINE LITURGY (Ukrainian)



# SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

## SOUTH CAROLINA



### COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA

TRANSFIGURATION CATHOLIC CHURCH

306 N Pines Road

Blythewood, SC 29016

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7

5:00pm: DIVINE LITURGY

*Confessions Upon Request*

### GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA

SAINT RAFKA MARONITE CATHOLIC CHURCH

1215 SC-14,

Greer, SC 29650

*STAY TUNED...*

