

JUNE 2023

ST. INNOCENT ORTHODOX CHURCH

JUNE 2023 NEWSLETTER AND CALENDAR



Dear Faithful, Christ is in our Midst!

In the May newsletter, we reflected on how our faith in Jesus Christ manifests itself in acts of faithfulness at home and in our local community of the Body of Christ. Stewardship is simply being faithful to what God has given us.

The concept of being a faithful steward needs to be reframed. In our times, we reduce stewardship to a list of duties we are obligated to perform to be well with God. In my Protestant years, I heard more than one sermon suggesting that if I did not tithe, God would not protect me, just as a mob boss does not protect those who do not pay their dues. This way of thinking reduces our relationship with God to either seeking reward or avoiding punishment.

Believe it or not, the Christian life is not about seeking reward or avoiding punishment. The Christian life is about being restored and made whole by God's grace. When God created humans, He gave them a priestly vocation. A biblical priest receives what is given and offers it to God in thanksgiving. Adam and Eve were placed in paradise to tend the garden and offer it back to God in an act of worship. Everything in our life is a gift from God. The food we eat, the air we breathe, the clothing we wear, and the community we exist in, are all gifts from God. When we offer what God has given us in gratitude, an exchange of life happens. We offer our earthly material existence to God, and God gives us His divine life in return.

There are three simple truths related to our priestly calling.

- Everything we have in our life is from God.
- If we offer what we have been given in our lives in thanksgiving, a divine exchange takes place.
- In the divine exchange, we are healed, made whole, and grow toward what we were created to be.

In this light, Christian stewardship is a calling that results in us growing closer to God.

Here are some questions to reflect on this month: Do I believe that everything in my life somehow comes from the hand of God? Am I thankful for the gifts that God has bestowed on me? In what ways can I offer myself to God? Do I want to grow in Christ? As you reflect and pray, I would love to hear your thoughts.

Many Years!

Birthdays in May

1 John Savage

3 Aaron Williams

5 Nicole Thomae

7 Heidi Hintermaier

7 Ion Munteanu

7 Lidia Kuznetcova

13 Michelle Marble

16 Olga Plummer

17 Jordan Thomae

18 Donna Chan

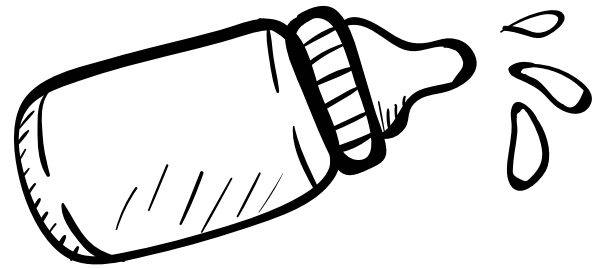
18 Joshua Marble

19 Andrew Ennis

26 Sara Andrews

28 Fr. Thaddeus Werner

29 Elena Berger



Between Mother's Day (May 14), and Father's Day (June 18) we will be participating in the Pregnancy Center's Baby Bottle Boomerang fundraiser. Please take a baby bottle, fill it with your loose change or a check, and return it by Father's Day (June 18). This is a great opportunity to teach our children about the value of life, even in the womb. The Pregnancy Center of Monroe County offers, free of charge: Pregnancy Testing, Options Counseling, Post-Abortion Support, Parenting Classes, Adoption Assistance, Pre-Natal Educational Programs, Clothes Closet, and Mentoring.



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7301 Rivoli Road, Macon, Georgia 31210



JUNE 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May 28 Frs' of the 1st Ecumenical Council 9:40am 3rd and 6th Hours 10:00am Divine Liturgy 11:45am Food and Fellowship	May 29	May 30	May 31 6:00pm Daily Vespers	1 9am Divine Liturgy	2	3 6:00pm Vigil for the Feast of Pentecost
4 PENTECOST 9:40am 3rd and 6th Hours 10:00am Divine Liturgy Followed by Kneeling Vespers of Pentecost 12:30 PM Food and Fellowship	5	6	7 6:00pm Daily Vespers	8 9am Divine Liturgy	9 10-3pmTIM Clergy Peer Group	10 6:00pm Great Vespers 6:45pm Sacrament of Confession
11 All Saints Sunday 9:40am 3rd and 6th Hours 10:00am Divine Liturgy 11:45am Food and Fellowship	12 Ss. Peter and Paul Fast Begins	13	14 6:00pm Daily Vespers	15 9am Divine Liturgy	16	17 6:00pm Great Vespers 6:45pm Sacrament of Confession
18 All Saints of America 9:40am 3rd and 6th Hours 10:00am Divine Liturgy 11:45am Food and Fellowship	19	20	21 6:00pm Daily Vespers	22	23	24 Nativity of the Baptist 6:00pm Great Vespers 6:45pm Sacrament of Confession
25 9:40am 3rd and 6th Hours 10:00am Divine Liturgy 11:45am Food and Fellowship	26	27	28 6:00pm Vespers for Ss. Peter and Paul	29 Ss. Peter & Paul 9:00am Divine Liturgy for Ss. Peter and Paul	30	Jul 1 6:00pm Great Vespers 6:45pm Sacrament of Confession

Please consult the Sunday bulletin for changes to the monthly calendar.



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JULY 2023						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Jun 25 9:40am 3rd and 6th Hours 10:00am Divine Liturgy 11:45am Food and Fellowship	Jun 26	Jun 27	Jun 28 6:00pm Vespers for Ss. Peter and Paul	Jun 29 Ss. Peter & Paul 9:00am Divine Liturgy for Ss. Peter and Paul	Jun 30	1 6:00pm Great Vespers 6:45pm Sacrament of Confession
2 9:40am 3rd and 6th Hours 10:00am Divine Liturgy 11:45am Food and Fellowship	3	4	5 6:00pm Daily Vespers	6	7	8 6:00pm Great Vespers 6:45pm Sacrament of Confession
9 9:40am 3rd and 6th Hours 10:00am Divine Liturgy 11:45am Food and Fellowship	10	11	12 6:00pm Daily Vespers	13	14	15 St. Vladimir 6:00pm Great Vespers 6:45pm Sacrament of Confession
16 9:40am 3rd and 6th Hours 10:00am Divine Liturgy 11:45am Food and Fellowship	17 DOS Assembly Greenville, NC	18 DOS Assembly Greenville, NC	19 DOS Assembly Greenville, NC 6:00pm Readers Vespers	20 DOS Assembly Greenville, NC Prophet Elijah	21 DOS Assembly Greenville, NC	22 6:00pm Great Vespers
23 Fr. Thaddeus filling in 9:40am 3rd and 6th Hours 10:00am Divine Liturgy 11:45am Food and Fellowship Blessing of Vehicles	24	25	26 6:00pm Readers Vespers	27	28	29 6:00pm Great Vespers 6:45pm Sacrament of Confession
30 9:40am 3rd and 6th Hours 10:00am Divine Liturgy 11:45am Food and Fellowship	31	Aug 1 Procession of the Cross	Aug 2 6:00pm Daily Vespers	Aug 3	Aug 4	Aug 5 6:00pm Great Vespers 6:45pm Sacrament of Confession

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