



FROM YOUR PASTOR

June 25, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ!

Slava Isusu Christu! Glory to Jesus Christ!

"One thing I have desired of the LORD, That will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the LORD All the days of my life, To behold the ^{gl}beauty of the LORD, And to inquire in His temple."

~Psalm 27 4:6

One of the longest running game shows on television from the 1950s is called "The Price is Right" with Bob Baker. When a contestant was selected the announcer called them from the audience and said "Come on Down!" With these words I also say, come on down to St. Vladimir's Cathedral on Sunday mornings at 8:30 a.m. for the English Divine Liturgy and 10:45 for the Ukrainian liturgy. Call Tamara Host (440.477.3596) to reserve a spot at the English Liturgy and Natalya Boechko (440.212.4186) for a spot at the Ukrainian Liturgy. Because we can only accommodate around 50 at each Liturgy, we request you make a reservation. I have heard people say that "you have to be invited to church" under these new policies. This is not correct! Everyone – parishioners, supporters and visitors are invited. We only request that you call to reserve a place ahead of time. Also, please note you should arrive no earlier than 15 minutes prior to the start of the Liturgy.

I know some of you are still not comfortable attending because of the virus and I understand this. I would like to share what one parishioner told me on Monday that he was very impressed with the precautions that are taken every Sunday. Temperature checks are taken. Masks are worn by everyone. Hand sanitizer is available. Social distancing is followed throughout the entire Liturgy. Also, the church is sanitized between liturgies. I truly believe we have a safer environment than going to Marc's Walmart, Giant Eagle or any other place we patronize for our groceries. We most sincerely thank the volunteers who work to make our parish safe for us to worship together.

Also, we invite Altar Boys to return to serving. I make this request because our boys are returning to playing soccer and baseball on local teams. Masks must be worn and they will hold the same candle during the Liturgy. Additionally, there will be no kissing of any sacred objects. Last Sunday we had 4 Altar Boys serving at the Ukrainian Liturgy. Parents, please phone me if you have any questions.

Finances (Since March)

Fish Fries-Cancelled

Phrohy Project-Cancelled

Parish Easter Dinner-Cancelled

St. Vladimir Day Dinner-Cancelled

Parish Festival-Cancelled

Weddings Booked in our Hall-Postponed

Regular Sunday and Easter Collections Taken During Liturgies –Cancelled

As you can see we are really in need of everyone's extra donations to be mailed to the parish at 3425 Marioncliff Drive, Parma, OH 44134 or donated online at <https://www.stvladimirs.org/donate1>.

Our neighbors in Protestant churches depend on regular donations from the faithful without all the extra events we depend on. They are successful and I believe we can do the same. I'm asking everyone to consider adding 25% additional to the amount you donated to St. Vladimir last year. I wrote the following to the Board of Trustees on June 16th that I will continue to decline my \$3,300 monthly salary to assist in easing the financial burden of the parish.

Always remember the scripture "God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7 or the signs outside the Parma McDonalds "We're in this together!"

I thank everyone who has sent in donations. God Bless you!

Also, another area of concern is our Phrohy Project. On June 16th I wrote to the board:

"Recently, in speaking with Mrs. Dareen Jogan, she informed me that after 18 years of serving as the manager of our Pyrohy Project, she is retiring. We fully understand, especially following her recent hospitalization. Dareen will still be on our Board and sing alto in the English Choir. We wish her well and pray for her speedy recovery and we thank her most sincerely for all of her hard work with the Pyrohy Project.

Now, our task is to find a replacement.

Over the last few years we are pleased that the main task of preparing the sauerkraut was done by Tamara and making the dough and potatoes was the task of Alex. We know that we have a large number of volunteers. Now, let us put our heads together to find a manager.

The Pyrohy Project has contributed millions of dollars over the last 50 years. We can't let it dissolve."

If you are able to take over the task of being the manager of our Pyrohy Group, please contact Board President Serhij Nahornyj.

Last Sunday I served the Ukrainian Liturgy with Protodeacon Ihor and Fr. Michael served a full English Liturgy. We are keeping socially distant. I especially am concerned with my past health issues with my lungs. When I serve alone at the first Liturgy it will be a Pro Liturgy with communion. Also, please remember that confession is by appointment only, during the week. Please call Fr. Michael to arrange a time.

For Your Information

On Tuesday, June 23rd, the local Orthodox clergy held a Zoom meeting. Everyone spoke about their local parishes opening up to the faithful. All spoke about similar situations however the Greek Clergy informed us they are having a drive thru festival with traditional Greek food available for carry out. One such festival is this weekend. I hope we can sponsor something similar with Ukrainian carry out food. There surely will be people who will line up to purchase our delicious foods. If you have any ideas and would like to help, please call our Board President or any member of the Board.

Lastly

Various individuals have asked me about the progress of my man-bun. It is coming along but is taking much longer than expected. Recently, a man taking my temperature before I entered a medical building, told me it took him one year to grow his. Stay tuned!

Thank you for reading this message and as always, phone me if you need my assistance.

God Bless you and stay safe!

Yours in Christ,

Fr. John