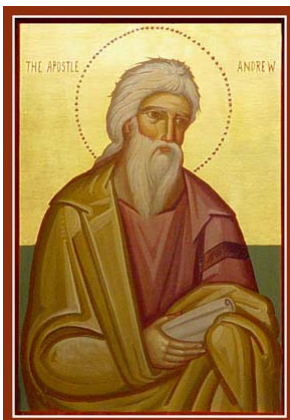

St. Andrew Orthodox Church

1216 Greencrest Ave. East Lansing, MI 48823 (517) 351-4627

November 2005



Rev. Fr. Christopher Rozdilski,
Pastor

Rectory: (517) 351-4627
Emergencies ONLY: (517) 256-7399

Saturday Vespers 6 pm
Confessions (following)

Sunday Liturgy 9:30 am
Confessions 9:00 am

Visit Our Website at: StAndrewOrthodoxChurch.US

The Prologue from Ochrid

'All is given to the apostles', says St John Chrysostom. This means: all gifts, all powers, all the fullness of the grace that God gives to all the faithful is given to the apostles. We see this in the life of the great Apostle Andrew the First-Called: how he is apostle and evangelist, prophet, pastor and teacher (Eph. 4:11). As an evangelist, he carried the good news of the Gospel to the four corners of the earth; as a prophet he prophesied the baptism of the Russian people and the greatness of Kiev as a city and, as a centre of Christianity; as a pastor he founded and organised many churches; as a teacher he tirelessly taught right up to his crucifixion, and then on the cross till his last breath. And, on top of this, he was a martyr. This was by a gift of the Holy Spirit that is not given to all. We see in this apostle, as in all the others, the fullness of the grace of the Holy Spirit.

That every act performed by a follower of Christ must be supported by grace is testified to by St Frumentius. When he returned to Abyssinia from Alexandria as a consecrated bishop, he began to perform great wonders, thus bringing the people to the Faith in great masses. The envious king then asked him: 'You lived among us for so many years, and we never saw you work such wonders. Whence is it that you do so now?' To this blessed Frumentius replied: 'This is not my action, but that of the grace of the priesthood', and the saint then explained to the king how he had, for the sake of Christ, forsaken his parents, marriage and the whole world, and how he had, through consecration at the hands of Athanasius, received the grace of priesthood, the grace of wonderworking.

Calendar of Events - November

- 5 *No Vespers or Confession*
9 am Sisterhood Baking Day
4 - 7 pm St. Elias Cabbage Roll Dinner (Battle Creek)
- 7 6:30 pm Parish Council Meeting
- 12 9 am Sisterhood Baking Day
- 13 Brotherhood Meeting during Coffee Hour
- 15 Advent Begins
- 16 7 pm Sisterhood Meeting
- 19 MSU Game - Penn State
- 20 6 pm Vespers / Litya - Blessing of Candles
- 21 9:30 am Liturgy - Entrance of Theotokos into the Temple
- 27 Lenten Pot Luck to celebrate Parish Nameday
- 29 6 pm Great Vespers - Feast of St. Andrew
- 30 10 am Liturgy for Feast of St. Andrew
Lenten Luncheon following in Social Hall - call Tsveta Lambo about what to bring.

Deadline for the December Newsletter is Sunday, November 20

Parish Council

- **Samir Matta** **Chair**
(517) 669-6676
- **John Johnson** **Vice Chair**
(517) 646-8786
- **Maria Daly** **Treasurer**
(517)487-9511
- **Jack Stein** **Secretary**
(517) 541-2367
- **Don Beck** **Alt. Secretary**
(517) 651-6668
- **Don Dimitroff**
(517) 621-1266

Sisterhood of St. Helen

- **Tsveta Lambo** **President**
(517) 351-1503
- **Fran Johnson** **Vice President**
(517) 646-8786
- **Kathy Fortais** **Secretary**
- **Catherine Hattrem** **Treasurer**
(517) 372-3154

Brotherhood of St. George

- **Scott Pierpont** **President**
(517) 694-9144

Newsletter Staff

- **Fr. Christopher**
- **Matushka Mary**
- **Catherine Hattrem**
kathleenh50@hotmail.com

Parish Council—Samir Matta, Chair

On behalf of the Parish Council, I would like to thank Fran Johnson and William Gross for their dedication, hard work and commitment to our Parish the last three years. We look forward to their continued support and guidance. I would also like to welcome new Parish Council members, John Johnson and Don Beck. Following the annual parish meeting and vote of new members, the Parish Council chose new officers who are listed in the sidebar. These are the challenges that face us as a Council and a Parish in the upcoming year.

- the proper use and renovation/remodeling of the property at 1556 Greencrest Ave.
- needed capital improvement projects such as sidewalk and parking lot repairs
- securing financial stability to support our existence
- spiritual growth within our parish community

May God bless you always and guide you.

Sisterhood - Tsveta Lambo, President

The Sisterhood of St. Helen held its annual elections this month. The new board is listed in the sidebar.

Preparations for the 3rd annual cookie walk are underway! Donations for baked goods are being accepted - please sign up in the church hall. The Cookie Walk will be held on Saturday, December 10, 10 am—1 pm.

The next Sisterhood meeting is scheduled for Wed. Nov. 16, at 7:00pm in the Church hall. The Sisterhood has scheduled two baking days, Nov. 5 and 12, to prepare for the Cookie Walk on Dec. 10. They will begin at 9am, every woman in the parish is invited to attend. Please bring cookie sheets.

Brotherhood—Scott Pierpont, President

Elections for new Brotherhood Officers will be held on Sunday, November 13, during coffee hour. All men of the parish are eligible to run. Nominations will be accepted at the meeting or may be submitted in advance to Scott Pierpont, outgoing president. Positions to be filled include: president, vice-president, treasurer and secretary. Meetings are monthly, on Sundays during coffee hour.

Newsletter

As of this issue, Leann Lerie Matta is stepping down as editor of the monthly newsletter. We owe her many thanks for her time and effort putting it together. Catherine Hattrem is taking her place but not filling her shoes!!

Matushka Mary is retiring from the newsletter in December, 2005, after many years of faithful service. Her input and joy will be missed.

Organizations of Fellowship and Service

Church School—Jennifer Beck

The Christmas pageant will be on Sunday, Dec. 11. Over the summer, the lower and upper elementary rooms were given a facelift. They were freshly painted, and white boards were purchased for each room. There are also new storage cabinets, rugs and more comfortable chairs in each room. We are currently working on the pre-school and jr./high school rooms.

We have 25 students in the program with 7 teachers. The last Sunday of each month, we meet with Fr. Christopher in the narthex, and discuss topics related to our theme. The theme for this year is prayer.

On the next page there are some “words of wisdom” from our children.

FOCA/OCF—Laura Patrick, Coordinator

The **FOCA** group will be selling Christmas stockings again this year to support the 2005 Annual Christmas Stocking Project. Each stocking will cost \$5. You may put your family's name on it or dedicate it to someone else. We will be collecting money through the end of November. The stockings will hang on the wall near the kitchen throughout the Christmas season. This year the national goal is 18,000 gifts; our chapter goal is 50 stockings. The money raised will support filled Christmas stockings given to children in Albania, Belarus, Georgia, Poland, Russia, Slovakia, Ukraine, and some Alaskan villages. The stockings will also be sent to the displaced children in the Gulf region. Workers at the Cerebral Palsy Center on Long Island will assemble the stockings.

Upcoming **OCF** events:

- Please check www.msu.edu/~ocf for any updates.
- The meetings are held at the MSU Union, in the Iowa Room, from 7:30-9:00pm.
- Tuesday, Nov. 1
- Thursday, Nov. 17
- Tuesday, Nov. 29

FOCA Pop Can Returns for November

Paripovic

Please remove cans weekly or when the container is full, and give the funds to Laura.

Choir-Leann Lerie Matta, Director

The choir has a new MSU student member, John Abood. He is the son of Fr. Abood of St. George Orthodox Church in the Flint area. The Matta kids met him at the Antiochian Village camp last summer, and were delighted when he came here to college and joined our choir.

The junior choir is continuing to practice after Church School. They meet in Mrs. Beck's classroom. Any children not already involved are welcome to join in making a 'beautiful noise'.

Altar servers - Matt Hubinger

Who are those guys in dresses and what are they doing up there? Father Christopher is assisted by several servers at both Vespers and Divine Liturgy. The job of a server/reader can include reading the epistle of the holy Apostles, cutting up blessed bread, preparing the oil lamps, saying prayers for Father Christopher, and doing an assortment of other tasks that facilitate the flow of the service. Just as important, the servers stand at attention before God in prayer.

Who are they? Will Gross, Josh Greve, Jim Smalley, Don Beck, Matt Hubinger, Chris deMorrow. They are assisted by several of the youth; Carlos Matta, Nicholas Miller, and Mitchell Pierpont.

Congratulations

Our Congratulations go out to Robert Latsko, a former student/parishioner. He was offered a permanent position as a church architect with a major firm.

This firm, which is located in San Francisco, specializes in Orthodox Church architecture. Bob has a degree from St. Vladimir's Seminary, and a Master of Architecture degree from the University of Michigan. He has done freelance work, designing several magnificent Orthodox churches, including the Chapel of St. Herman's Seminary in Kodiak, Alaska.

Thank You to Tom Johnson for donating and installing both a much needed hot water heater for the ladies' restroom and the wall base for the Social Hall.

Thanks again to all of the wonderful volunteers who worked so hard to improve the Social Hall.

Ibtisam Matka

In Mrs. Beckes class and Mrs. Britans class we are making prayer book marks so we can pray at a school. We are studying Prayers before and after lessons.

Jovana Paripovic'

In Sunday school I learned that you should know what you are praying because if you don't you ~~are not~~ don't know what you are saying to god. We are learning The Prayer before and After lessons.

Mrs. Beck and Mrs. Britton's Room

These past weeks we have been learning the pray Before and After Lessons. We are writing these prayers on a bookmark. This is so we can take it to school and say it. Also this years topic is prayer.

Moments of Fellowship

Patronal Feast Day

Included in the November Newsletter is an offering envelope for this special feast.

The Liturgy will be at 10:00am, since some of our guests will not arrive earlier. (Note that this is a CHANGE from the normal time of 9:30am.) Contact Tsveta Lambo, 351-1503, to help prepare and serve the Lenten luncheon after the Liturgy.

The parish celebration for the Feast of St. Andrew will be held on Sunday, Nov. 27, after the Liturgy. Everyone is asked to please bring a Lenten dish to pass, and drinks. Paper products will be furnished from the kitchen.

On Accusations

The man who endures accusations against himself with humility has arrived at perfection. He is marveled at by the holy angels, for there is no other virtue so great and so hard to achieve.

Please Keep In Your Prayers

Jason "Seraphim" Britton, husband of Rachel and father of Morgan and Emmary, is back in Iraq. He is in a safe area in Baghdad, but his job is dangerous. An Orthodox priest celebrates Diving Liturgy every Sunday. He would love to hear from you via email. His address is jason.britton@iraq.centcom.mil

Steve and Tina Dines are leaving for Florida for the winter on November 9.

On Envy

My children, desire to purify your hearts from envy and anger with each other, lest death should overcome you, and you will be counted among the murderers. For whoever hates his brother, kills a soul.

Abba Anthony the Great

From the Parish register:

Congratulations to Danielle Tippins (Xenia), who was chrismated on Oct. 8, 2005. Shruti Gross was her sponsor.

New Membership Directory:

If you missed getting your photo taken during October, please see or call Leann Matta asap and arrange to have it taken soon. The weekly bulletin will have more information about this, as well as when the whole parish picture will be taken.

Prosfora donors in Nov.

6 - Maria/Bianka Daly in honor of Tsveta Lambo on her birthday

13 - John Johnson for wife, Fran, on the occasion of her birthday

20 - David Tome in memory of father, John, on the 11th anniversary of his repose

27 - Luba Evanoff and family in memory of grandmother/mother in law, Slavka, on the 7th anniversary of her repose

Three Little Words

Do you have any wounds or heartaches needing healing, friendships needing rekindling, or three words needing to be said? Sometimes, "I love you", can heal and bless. Remind your family and friends that you love them. Even if you think they don't love you, you will be amazed at what those three little words, and a smile can do. (borrowed)



Living Work and Donations

Grounds/Maintenance-Scott Pierpont

Fall is full upon us and much work needs to be done before the snow flies. Please volunteer to help rake leaves, clear gutters, edge sidewalks, spread fertilizer/weed control, trim bushes and clear fences before all opportunity is lost under the snow.

Speaking of snow, when snowfall occurs, steps, sidewalks, paths and drives need to be cleared before church activities on Wednesdays, Saturdays, and Sundays. A new snow-thrower will be ready to go in the garage and a broadcast spreader for rock salt has just been donated. If you are available to help keep our parish open for the members-at-large, please volunteer with Scott Pierpont.

Please check the lists on the landing up to the temple. There are posted jobs you may be able to complete, equipment you may be able to lend or donate, and there is a list for work you observe that someone else may be able to do.

MSU Football Concessions

Barbara Pierpont, Coordinator

The MSU football concessions have been very successful so far this year.

Commissions to St. Andrews have been thus far:

Game 1:	707.03
Game 2:	886.99
Game 3	1,278.08
Game 4:	850.32
Total:	\$3,722.42

The last game of the season is November 19. Please sign up in the church hall to help - 24 volunteers needed. Thanks!

Newsletter Sponsor

This issue of the newsletter is sponsored anonymously, with prayers for God's grace and blessings on the faithful of our parish family.

Cookie Walk—December 10, 2005

Matushka Sarah and Bianka Daly are co-chairs for our third annual Cookie Walk. Please sign up, on the list in the Social Hall, to bring cookies. They request that drop-cookies not be made. Please join them on the scheduled baking days, November 5th and 12th starting at 9 am

Ushers for November

6 - Sandra Oade/Penju Miteff
13 - Tsveta Lambo/Samir Matta
20 - Catherine/Doug Hattrem
27 - Anna Zivic/Jack Stein

Thank You

A Great Big Thank You to Barb Pierpont for her work in spearheading the MSU concessions, and to the wonderful volunteers who worked with her. This is a major commitment of time for all involved, who have succeeded in making it one of our parish's major fundraisers. Thank you very much!

November Coffee Hour hosts:


6 - Poufcas family
13 - Sisterhood
20 - John Tome family
27 - Patronal Feast Day, Lenten Potluck

Church Cleaning Schedule for November

	<u>Upstairs</u>	<u>Downstairs</u>
5	deMorrow	Maria Daly / Joanne Lopushin-
12	Michael Daly / Bianka Daly	Andretz / Miller / Chulako
19	Sandy Oade / Volunteers	Poufcas
26	Donahue / Covell	Beck

The next 'Thorough Church Cleaning' is scheduled for mid-December. The date will be announced in the weekly bulletin. Please contact Leann if you would like to spend that day on a major task, such as refinishing the tile under the south pews, redoing the hall floor, etc. Leann would also like to know who sweeps and mops the floor in the social hall, when it is their turn to clean.

November 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 7:30 MSU-OCF Discussion	2	3	4	5 No vespers 9 am Cookie Walk baking 4—7pm St. Elias
6 9am Confessions 9:30 Divine Liturgy	7 6:30 pm Parish Council Meeting	8	9	10	11	12 9 am Cookie Walk baking 6 pm Great Vespers and Confession
13 9am Confessions 9:30 Divine Liturgy Brotherhood Meeting	14	15 Advent Begins	16 7 pm Sisterhood Meeting	17 7:30 MSU-OCF Discussion	18	19 MSU Confessions 6 pm Great Vespers and Confession
20 9am Confessions 9:30 Divine Liturgy 6 pm Vespers	21 9:30 am Liturgy	22	23	24 	25	26 6 pm Great Vespers and Confession
27 9am Confessions 9:30 Divine Liturgy Nameday Lenten Potluck	28	29 6 pm Great Vespers 7:30 MSU-OCF Discussion	30 10 am Liturgy Feast of St Andrew Luncheon afterwards			

Preventing the 'Golden Years' from Tarnishing

Most of us have a somewhat distorted and highly contradictory view of the aging process. We all eagerly look forward to 'growing up', yet seemingly no one wants to 'grow old'. Unfortunately, we cannot avoid this step in the natural progression of life-there is no 'fountain of youth' to be found!

Those who have reached this level of maturity sometimes see their longevity as a curse rather than as a blessing. "The 'golden years' are hardly golden," they lament. Yes, old age is often equated with a loss of productivity and usefulness. Sadly, the elderly are often perceived as a 'burden' on society.

We are fortunate that God doesn't share these sentiments! Look at the significant accomplishments of those who were advanced in years, that we read about in the Bible. Abraham...Moses...Noah...Simeon...Joseph...Sarah...Anna... Elizabeth. There is an endless list of 'scriptural senior citizens' who made amazing contributions to God's divine plan for mankind. Moreover, in ancient Israel and in the early Christian Church, the elders were held in the highest esteem and were sought out frequently for their wise counsel.

In today's world we too must draw from the wealth of wisdom possessed by our older generation. To use a modern expression, they have 'been there and done that!' Their experience in life can be invaluable to us. There is still much for our 'golden agers' to do for God and His Church. May we always give them the opportunity to do so, as they grow older, affording them the same respect that our Lord showed His earthly parents.

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