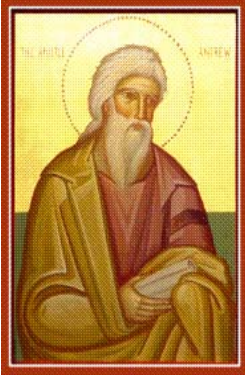


St. Andrew Orthodox Church

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

September 2007



Rev. Fr. Christopher Rozdilski,
Pastor

Rectory: (517) 351-4627
Cell Phone: (517) 256-7399

Saturday Vespers 6 pm
Confessions (following)

Sunday Liturgy 9:30 am
Confessions 9:00 am

Visit Our Website at: StAndrewOrthodoxChurch.US

This issue of the Newsletter is sponsored by Don and Jennifer Beck



What is the sign that a Christian man is near to Christ? The man who is near to Christ often turns with faith and love to Christ; often pronounces His sweetest name; often calls upon Him for help; often turns his eyes, thoughts, and heart towards Him. Christ the Lord naturally reveals Himself upon his lips and in his glance, because without Christ he is powerless, joyless. The man who is far from Christ seldom, very seldom, turns his thoughts towards Christ, and even then not with hearty faith and love, but only through some necessity, and as to a person who is little known to him, who does not rejoice him, does not delight his heart, and who has no attraction for him. This is why we see that those who are near to Christ do not let Christ out of their thoughts and heart; they live in Him; He is their breath, food, drink, dwelling – everything. Through the sweetness of His name and His beneficial touch they, so to say, cleave to Him with their whole being: “My soul hangeth upon Thee.” And in this cleaving they find unspeakable bliss, which the world does not know. Such are the signs by which it may be recognized who has found Christ and who has not yet found Him. Those who have not found Christ live in this life without hearty faith; they think and care more about worldly things – how to enjoy themselves, how to eat and drink pleasantly, how to dress exquisitely, how to satisfy their carnal desires, how to kill time, with which they do not know what to do, though time seeks them and, not finding them, quickly flies away before their eyes. Day flies away after day, night after night, month after month, year after year, until, finally, the last terrible hour strikes, and they hear a voice: “Stop, the course is finished; your time has been lost; your sins and iniquities have preceded you; they will fall upon you with all their power, and will crush you with their weight eternally.”

— *My Life in Christ*, St. John of Kronstadt

SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS Please check your Calendar for a complete listing of events.

Sept 7	6:00PM	Vespers for the Nativity of the Theotokos	16	Church School Registration
			19	7:00PM Sisterhood Meeting
8	9:30AM	Liturgy for the Nativity of the Theotokos	23	Church School Begins
.....				
9		Church School Teacher meeting		Coming Events:
11	6:30PM	Council Meeting	Oct 14	Parish Meeting
.....				
13	6:00PM	Vespers for the Exaltation of the Cross		Great Vespers & Confessions every Saturday night at 6:00PM
14	9:30AM	Liturgy for the Exaltation of the Cross		Divine Liturgy every Sunday at 9:30AM

Parish Council

- Denise Covell
(517) 651-2682
- John Johnson—Chair
(517) 646-8786
- Maria Daly—Treasurer
(517) 487-9511
- Jim Smalley—Vice Chair
(517) 664-1712
- Don Beck—Secretary
(517) 651-6668
- Don Dimitroff
(517) 321-1266

Sisterhood of St. Helen

- Fran Johnson Vice President
(517) 646-8786
- Kathy Fortais Secretary
(517) 694-4617
- Catherine Hattrem Treasurer
(517) 372-3154

Brotherhood of St. George

- Scott Pierpont President
(517) 694-9144

Newsletter Staff

- Fr. Christopher
- Catherine Hattrem
kathleenh50@hotmail.com
- Douglas Hattrem

Parish Council Report

1. Phone Chain—Call Father Christopher with important Parish information.
2. MSU Concessions—Please volunteer for one or more Saturday afternoons. This is our Parish's largest money maker of the year.
3. The annual Parish meeting is scheduled for October 14, 2007. Please try to attend this important meeting. Remember you must be in good standing to participate in voting. If interested in serving on the Council Board please see Father Christopher.
4. The council has voted to pay off the 1556 Greencrest property—but please continue your contributions to help offset monthly expenses and maintenance of the property.

The Parish Council

Sisterhood of St. Helen

The Sisterhood of St. Helen celebrates 55 years of faithful service to the St. Andrew Parish this month. The sisterhood was founded September 2, 1952. May God grant them many years.

The next meeting of the sisterhood will be on Wednesday, September 19, at 7:00PM. All women of the parish are welcome, and are encouraged to attend and become members of the Sisterhood.

FOCA—Shruti Gross

We will have a FOCA meeting this month to discuss any new members and ideas for activities and outings. Keep posted for the date!

Church School —Jennifer Beck

Coming Events:

Sunday, September 9 during coffee hour Meeting for Church School teachers.

Sunday, September 16 during coffee hour Church School Registration

Sunday, September 23 Church School Begins

Meijer Community Reward Card

Thank you for using your rewards card when you shop at Meijer. This is a great fundraiser for the church with virtually no work involved. Please note that Meijer has recently made changes to their system. If you did not receive a letter in the mail from Meijer and have not re-registered, please do one of the following. Call 1-800-962-7011 and talk to customer service. Or register online at www.meijer.com - click on community rewards, select Meijer 1card and fill out your information. Our church ID# is 211473.

The Nativity of our Most Holy Lady the Mother of God and Ever-Virgin Mary

September 8

The Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary is celebrated by the Church as a day of universal joy. Within the context of the Old and the New Testaments, the Most Blessed Virgin Mary was born on this radiant day, having been chosen before the ages by Divine Providence to bring about the Mystery of the Incarnation of the Word of God. She is revealed as the Mother of the Savior of the World, Our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Most Holy Virgin Mary was born in the small city of Galilee, Nazareth. Her parents were Righteous Joachim of the tribe of the Prophet-King David, and Anna from the tribe of the First Priest Aaron. The couple was without child, since St Anna was barren.

Having reached old age, Joachim and Anna did not lose hope in God's mercy. They had strong faith that for God everything is possible, and that He would be able to overcome the barrenness of Anna even in her old age, as He had once overcome the barrenness of Sarah, spouse of the Patriarch Abraham. Sts Joachim and Anna vowed to dedicate the child which the Lord might give them, to the service of God in the Temple.

Childlessness was considered among the Hebrew nation as a Divine punishment for sin, and therefore the righteous Sts Joachim and Anna had to endure abuse from their own countrymen. On one of the feastsdays at the Temple in Jerusalem the elderly Joachim brought his sacrifice to offer to God, but the High Priest would not accept it, considering him to be unworthy since he was childless.

St Joachim in deep grief went into the wilderness, and there he prayed with tears to the Lord for a child. St Anna wept bitterly when she learned what had happened at the Jerusalem Temple. Never once did she complain against the Lord, but rather she prayed to ask God's mercy on her family.

The Lord fulfilled her petitions when the pious couple had attained to extreme old age and prepared themselves by virtuous life for a sublime calling: to be the parents of the Most Holy Virgin Mary, the future Mother of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Archangel Gabriel brought Joachim and Anna the joyous message that their prayers were heard by God, and of them would be born a most blessed daughter Mary, through Whom would come the Salvation of all the World.

The Most Holy Virgin Mary surpassed in purity and virtue not only all mankind, but also the angels. She was manifest as the living Temple of God, so the Church sings in its festal hymns: "the East Gate... bringing Christ into the world for the salvation of our souls" (2nd Stikhera on "Lord, I Have Cried", Tone 6).

The Nativity of the Theotokos marks the change of the times when the great and comforting promises of God for the salvation of the human race from slavery to the devil are about to be fulfilled. This event has brought to earth the grace of the Kingdom of God, a Kingdom of Truth, piety, virtue and everlasting life. The Theotokos is revealed to all of us by grace as a merciful Intercessor and Mother, to Whom we have recourse with filial devotion.





“Let us bow in worship to the Precious Cross!”

The Feast of the Elevation of the Holy Cross is one of the 12 great feasts of our Holy Orthodox Church (September 14). It commemorates the finding of the true Cross of our Lord by St. Helena, the mother of the Emperor Constantine the Great, who led an expedition to the Holy Land for this purpose. When the great Church of the Resurrection of the Lord was consecrated in Jerusalem in 335 A.D., Makarios, Bishop of Jerusalem, “elevated” his precious relic for all to see, causing the faithful to fall on their knees and proclaim repeatedly: “Lord have mercy.” The Feast of the Elevation of the Holy Cross also commemorates the recovery and return of the Cross to Jerusalem from Persian captivity in the 7th century by the Emperor Heraclius. Legend has it that an invisible force prevented him from entering the Church of the Resurrection with the Cross until he removed his imperial robes and jewels!

There is more than the historical perspective of this day, however, that should occupy our thoughts. Our thoughts today should focus on the great importance that the Cross must have for all of us. In time of illness, we most think about the Cross. Reflecting upon the suffering that our Lord endured upon it will enable us

to accept our own “cross” willingly and obediently. In times of sorrow and personal loss, we must look upon the Cross and remember that all sorrow has been removed by virtue of Christ’s death upon it and His ultimate Resurrection, defeating mankind’s greatest enemy.

Truly, the Cross is the greatest proof of God’s love for us. It stands before us as a “spiritual ladder” — our means of climbing to the summit of the glory of Heaven.

The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin

Troparion - Tone 1

*O Lord, save Your people, And bless Your inheritance. Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians
Over their adversaries. And by virtue of Your Cross, Preserve Your habitation.*

Choir

A big thank you to Nevena Paripovic for stepping in as substitute Choir Director whilst Ted & Joanne Lopushinsky were taking a well deserved vacation. Nevena did an excellent job keeping everything running smoothly and everyone on the right page.



Ushers, Coffee Hour Sponsors and Prosfora Donors

	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Coffee Hour</u>	<u>Prosfora</u>
Sept 2	Sandy Oade & Penju Miteff	Beck	Denise & Steve Covell for Matt & Chris Zubrick for their Birthdays
9	Leann and Samir Matta	Pierpont	Pierpont family in memory of George Fortais and Ilena and Alex Boiciok
16	Doug and Catherine Hattrem	Parapovic	Don and Jennie Dimitroff in memory of their mother Lenka Helen Dimitroff
23	Anna Zivic and Simo Parapovic	Parapovic	John and Fran Johnson for Kim McFarland's birthday
30	Nevenka Dines and John Johnson	Church School	Doug and Catherine Hattrem for the health of their family

Church Cleaning Schedule

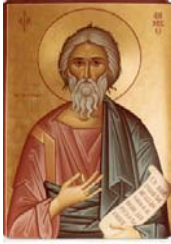
<u>Week of</u>	<u>Upstairs</u>	<u>Downstairs</u>
Sept 3—8		Jr. FOCA Members, Shruti Gross, Cathy Estrada
10—15	Greve	Berbasov
17—22	Hattrem	Miloaga and Oade
24—29	Pierpont and Fortais	Matta

Volunteers Needed

Here is the schedule for the upcoming football season. Please volunteer your time and help us with our biggest fundraiser. We need people, at least 20 volunteers per game, to help operate our concessions stand. If everyone who is fit and able could volunteer for at least one or two games, we would have more than enough people. There is a sign up sheet posted in the church hall. For more information speak to Barb Pierpont, Maria Daly, Fran Johnson or Jennifer Beck.



09/01/07	vs. UAB ^{TU}	East Lansing, Mich.	12:00 p.m. ET
09/08/07	vs. Bowling Green ^{TU}	East Lansing, Mich.	12:00 p.m. ET
09/15/07	vs. Pittsburgh ^{TU}	East Lansing, Mich.	12:00 p.m. ET
10/06/07	vs. Northwestern	East Lansing, Mich.	TBA
10/13/07	vs. Indiana ^{TU}	East Lansing, Mich.	7:00 p.m. ET
11/03/07	vs. Michigan	East Lansing, Mich.	TBA
11/17/07	vs. Penn State	East Lansing, Mich.	TBA



Saint Andrew Orthodox Catholic Church

1216 Greencrest Ave, East Lansing, MI 48823. Tel: 517-351-4627

September, 2007

TO THE COOKIE BAKERS OF OUR PARISH:

First, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your hard work and efforts last December, which made our fourth Cookie Walk and Bake Sale another smashing success and raised nearly \$2400!

This year, again, we are asking for your help. On **Saturday, December 8, 2007** we will be having our **Fifth Annual Cookie Walk and Bake Sale!!!!** This sale will be open to the public and set up in our Church Hall.

Our goal is to have at least 300 to 400 dozen festive cookies to sell. A bit of advice was given to us – the smaller size cookie is a better seller. Make your cookies festive and eye-catching (no drop cookies, please!). You can start baking your delectable delights early (now is not too soon!) and freeze them, layered between wax paper. Place your cookies in “airtight” containers (large plastic ice cream buckets or shirt boxes are great). Be sure all containers are well sealed before freezing. Freezer space is available in the freezers located in the Church Hall – we would be happy to wrap and freeze any baked goods that you would like to bring in for storage in the Church freezers.

The good part of this event is that you can bake your cookies at home, freeze them and have them ready long before the Christmas rush. Our cookies will be sold at a “one price” per pound for all types. The proceeds of this event will go towards the Altar Fund.

You don't bake?? How about sending a cash donation? We would appreciate any help you are able to offer.

A sign-up sheet is located in the Church Hall. Please see Matushka Sarah or Bianka Daly with any questions.

Again, thank you for your anticipated support of this event.

Happy Baking!!!!

Mat. Sarah
Matushka Sarah

Bianka
Bianka Daly

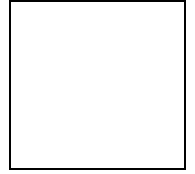


September 2007



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<p>1</p> <p>MSU concessions 12:00PM kick off</p> <p>6:00 PM Great Vespers/Confessions</p>
<p>2</p> <p>9:00 AM Confession 9:30 AM Liturgy</p>	3	4	5	6	7	<p>8</p> <p>9:30 AM Nativity of the Theotokos. 12:00PM MSU conces- sions kick off 6:00 PM Great Vespers/Confessions</p>
<p>9</p> <p>9:00 AM Confession 9:30 AM Liturgy</p> <p>Church School teacher meeting</p>	10	11	12	13	14	15
		<p>6:30 PM Council Meeting</p>		<p>6:00 PM Vespers for the Exaltation of the Cross</p>	<p>9:30 AM Exaltation of the Cross</p>	<p>MSU concessions 12:00PM kick off</p> <p>6:00 PM Great Vespers/Confessions</p>
<p>16</p> <p>9:00 AM Confession 9:30 AM Liturgy</p> <p>Church School registration</p>	17	18	19	20	21	22
			<p>7:00 PM SISTERHOOD MEETING</p>			<p>6:00 PM Great Vespers/Confessions</p>
<p>23</p> <p>9:00 AM Confession 9:30 AM Liturgy</p> <p>Church School starts</p>	24	25	26	27	28	29
						<p>6:00 PM Great Vespers/Confessions</p>
<p>30</p> <p>9:00 AM Confession 9:30 AM Liturgy</p>						

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED