Belgrade Theological Students’ Choir tours America

Carried by the wings of Divine love and songs of praise across the ocean, the students’ choir from the Faculty (School) of Orthodox Theology of the University of Belgrade led by their professor of Liturgics, Dr. Nenad Milojevic, arrived on August 26th of this year in Los Angeles, California. Their nearly month-long visit was filled with concert performances, visits to new places, common prayer, Eucharistic gatherings, spiritual renewal, and meeting clergy and faithful people throughout North America. At the heartfelt invitation of His Grace Bishop Maxim of the Western American Diocese, his guests began their journey that turned out to be one of the most memorable events of their student seminarian days.

The members of the Choir are students chosen because of their love for divine services and the beauty of their musical expression at the cantor’s stand of the School’s St. John the Theologian Chapel. The Dean of the School formed the choir in the beginning of 2007. The Choir’s obligation is to render their love for divine services and the beauty of their musical expression in the School’s chapel, the choir has participated by invitation in the celebration of great feasts in some dioceses of the Serbian Orthodox Church by responding during Divine Liturgies and all-night vigils. Their first appearance was at a scholarly presentation honoring St. Sava at the Faculty in 2007.

The Choir consists of about twenty students. These young theologians desire to transfer their musical interest into our church and national heritage, which from ancient

continued on p. 5

Eastern Diocese Chapel Slava celebrated

A total of fourteen priests and three deacons were in attendance for the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy served at the annual slava celebration of St. Nikodim Chapel and the monasteries and churches of the Serbian Orthodox tradition of building and beautifying monasteries and churches for the glory of God and the advancement of the Gospel. He referred to the beauty of the frescoes adorning the St. Nikodim Chapel and expressed gratitude for the iconographic work and for the donors.

continued on p. 5

Teachers confer in Midwest

On September 6 about 30 lay educators gathered at the St. Basil of Ostrog Church in Lake Forest, IL, for the Sixth Annual Church School Teacher’s Seminar sponsored by the Department of Christian Education of the Midwestern Metropolite. To begin the seminar, all participants gathered in church to pray the Akathist to the Most Holy Theotokos. Afterwards, four speakers gave enlightening presentations on various topics.

Mrs. Mary Perisch began by discussing the negative impact that many current books offered and promoted in our schools have on the morality of our children. Such books as, And Tango Makes Three, promoting the homosexual lifestyle to our children, but many times our governmental bodies actually support their efforts. As Orthodox Christian parents we need to be educated, first in the teachings of our Holy Orthodox faith and

continued on p. 3
Orthodox Christian Education – an unending activity in our local parishes and homes

I would be remiss to not remind everyone that once again we are given the opportunity for Orthodox Christian Education within our local parishes and homes. Indeed, most of our parishes in North and South America, Christian education programs have resumed in September of this year. No one can argue the benefits of Orthodox Christian Education. Children and youths between the ages of 3-18 years old can make plans to attend. There is more than enough activity within the context of living our Orthodox Faith in the home and in the local parishes. The benefit of Orthodox Christian Education, when practiced correctly, can transform the lives of our young people and our homes. Yes, a true community activity, e.g., social hour, parish annual assembly, youth rally, Sunday school, etc. is an educational activity. The community is the place for us to grow in holiness, to experience spiritual growth, and to live where we are challenged to live our Orthodox faith as holy men, women, and children. According to this understanding, then every member of a local Orthodox Christian community is a long-life student and teacher. Of course the same can be applied to homes. The parents cannot teach their children if they themselves are not open to growing in faith and knowledge of Jesus Christ.

May the official beginning of Church School classes in our parishes be an opportunity for our Orthodox Christian Education within our local parishes and homes. It is this official beginning of Church School classes in parishes starts with much enthusiasm, which for various reasons wears off before the end of the year.

Can there be a “summer break” from Christian education in our local parishes and homes? In answering this question we must first disabuse the misunderstanding view of Orthodox Christian education that sees it as mere and even mechanical teaching and memorizing of Orthodox education curriculum. So then is the month of September a new opportunity for our Orthodox Christian education?

If we approach Orthodox Christian education as an ongoing activity within the context of living our Orthodox Faith in the home and in the local parishes, then it seems that the answer to the above question would be yes. On the other hand, if we admit that we are given another opportunity to begin our education efforts this past month then this would mean that indeed we have narrowed down our education efforts solely to nine months of class instruction that are too often not executed in the most effective manner.

On the contrary, Orthodox Christian Education is an ongoing activity that takes place every day in our local parishes and homes. Yes, a true community activity, e.g., social hour, parish annual assembly, youth rally, Sunday school, etc. is an educational activity. The community is the place for us to grow in holiness, to experience spiritual growth, and to live where we are challenged to live our Orthodox faith as holy men, women, and children. According to this understanding, then every member of a local Orthodox Christian community is a long-life student and teacher. Of course the same can be applied to homes. The parents cannot teach their children if they themselves are not open to growing in faith and knowledge of Jesus Christ.

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The Path of Orthodoxy is a monthly publication with a double issue printed for the month of July and August. Subscriptions are $12.50 per year for U.S. residents and $15.00 per year (U.S. funds only) for Canadian subscribers.

The cost is $60.00 per youth which is payable at registration and includes lodging and the meal. A detailed schedule with registration forms will be forthcoming. Please save the date and make plans to attend. Saved the date! Nativity Fast Retreat at Shadeland December 28-30, 2008

By Mimi Dae

Cleveland’s Njegos Choir competes in International Choral Festival in Serbia

A number of singers of the Serbian Singing Federation Njegos Choir of Cleveland, Ohio participated in the 25th International Choral Festival Competition of the Balkans held in Nis, Serbia July 5-9. The Njegos choir competed from diverse countries including, Sweden, Hungary, Bulgaria, Greece, Serbia, Ukraine, Russia, Belarus, and of course, the U.S. choir Njegos. Accomplished, gifted choirs represented many countries in both sacred and secular art forms. The artistic composition of the songs were carefully selected as Damjanovic in previous years had been a juror for this competition. The Njegos choir was honored to have two members of the Stevan Hrist Choir of Phoenix sing together with them. Both Lazar Mihajlovic and Gordana Stoja novic were a critical addition to the choir. The Festival opened with the parade of choirs, with over 35 choirs carrying flags and signs to identify their choir and country of origin. The opening ceremony had several special guests including Bishop Irinej of Nis and Mayor of the city, Mr. Smiljka Kostica. The competition was televised live throughout Serbia. Viewers enjoyed the wonderful performances of so many talented choirs from so many countries. There was also a daily press conference which was attended by invited guests including newspaper and television media from over a dozen countries. Milan Damjanovic was the speaker at the July 8 press conference and was a member of the discussion panel throughout the week.

As if the competition wasn’t enough, the Njegos choir did participate in the festival committee to perform in Niska Banja. Of course the members immediately left to have an evening performance in Banja Luka.

The choir was invited to attend a farewell luncheon prepared by the members of Nis’ Her Branko to thank the Njegos choir for being such generous hosts during their visit to the U.S. Following the competition, Njegos members joined one of the Bulgarian choirs to do some sight seeing. The Bulgarian choir sang patriotic songs on the bus and in turn, Njegos singers sang a few of our own Serbian patriotic songs. An appreciation of different cultures was truly gained. It was a gift to meet so many talented singers from so many countries, truly a blessing.

The closing ceremony was beautiful. The Njegos choir was proud for keeping the tradition of song alive in the Diaspora. Thousands of viewers in over a dozen countries were privileged to watch the competition and read about it.

The members of the Njegos choir were humbled to have the opportunity to compete in such a prestigious event. The many hours of rigorous rehearsals were all proven worthwhile. Many new friendships were made and the importance of music as our culture was evident through everyone’s efforts. This is a group which is truly working to keep our heritage alive through SONG.
In I Peter 2:9, we spoke on the topic, "What is the relation between the Cradle and Convert Orthodox?" and "In what role can the priest and educators assist in that process?" He brought up many good points throughout his presentation, challenging us as educators to look to the convert for their knowledge of scripture, giving hearts and zeal for the Holy Orthodox Faith while drawing upon our cradle Orthodox to encourage the converts by sharing their ability to uphold the true Traditions of the Church.

Mr. Dejanovich called upon us to remember Christ's teachings in Matthew 20:19-20, "teaching, baptizing and observing." As educators we have been active members in the life of the church. Deacon Vasilije stated that in our Church life, the role of the clergy is stressed, but then asked, "What is the role of the laity in the life of the church?" He stated that we must look for the answer in both scripture and the history of the Church. In I Peter 2:9, we are called the 'royal priesthood', 'a chosen generation', and are called to offer spiritual sacrifices to God through our prayer and good works. This was confirmed by the Fathers of the Church (especially of the Syrian provenance) who said that the priest offers sacrifices of prayer to God on the altar of their heart. This offering is the 'priestly' function of the layperson. Moreover, if one's heart is the altar, then the whole body is a temple (cf. I Cor 6:19). The 'ordained' priesthood and the 'royal' priesthood are on the same sacramental level because it is one Holy Spirit who makes both possible. The two aspects of priesthood must not be understood in terms of rivalry, because they are complementary and represent different functions in the life of the Church. Deacon Vasilije stated that all of us are called to use the talents we are blessed with to build up the Mystical Body of Christ — His Church.

Another member of St. Basil's, Mr. Daniel Dejanovich, spoke on the topic, "What is the relationship between the cradle verses convert Orthodox Christians in the mission parish setting?" He touched on the struggles that we all face as Orthodox Christians whether we are cradle Orthodox or convert and, that struggles can be good; they are the crosses we bear on the road to salvation. Mr. Dejanovich also touched upon the questions: "Can Christian Education help bridge the divide between the Cradle and Convert Orthodox?" and "In what role can the priest and educators assist in that process?"

Mr. Dejanovich also touched upon the next shared a power point presentation on the role of laypersons in the life of the church.

Fr. Vasilije Vranic, a doctoral student at Marquette University, and deacon at St. Sava parish in Milwaukee, WI, has been active members in the life of Columbus' Serbian Orthodox Church. His Grace concelebrated the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy with Protopresbyter Mateja Matejic and Dragoljub Pavichevich, St Vladimir's Seminary Chancellor Archpriest Chad Hadfield, and St. Stevan's Parish Priest Father Isak Kisin.

Father Aleksa and his wife Emily have been active members in the life of Columbus' Serbian Orthodox Parish St Stevan of Dechani. Together they worked on developing the parish website, organizing fund raising activities, planning church events and serving in other capacities including committees, groups and at divine services.

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The St Sava’s community wish all of the Lord’s blessings on Father Aleksa as he begins his priestly ministry.

Above: Teachers at the Seminar on September 6 brainstormed on developing an effective lesson plan for a hypothetical class as part of the day’s activities. Left: Participants listen to Fr. Den. Vranic’s presentation on the role of layperson in the life of the church.

OCTOBER 2008  PAGE THREE  THE PATH OF ORTHODOXY

Continued from p. 4.

In this short article, Fr. Radovan has offered to make his presentation available to Church Schools for direction and guidance. After these fine presentations, the participants were divided into groups to practice lesson planning and curriculum decisions. Challenged with planning a lesson for a very specific age group around a specific topic and scripture quote in a few minutes, the groups pulled together and came up with very good lessons to attain their objectives. Each group did and excellent job presenting their plans to the rest of the participants.

During lunch, Father Radovan showed part of a DVD entitled, “Surviving Your Adolescent” with Dr. Thomas Phelan presenting. It touched on the relationships between parents and adolescents and how to address issues that come up during this stressful time. Fr. Radovan praised Dr. Phelan’s approach to handling issues and suggested that it be offered at a youth/parent conference or workshop.

This was an excellent seminar giving teachers from all over the diocese a chance to meet each other, discuss concerns and learn new things. A special thank you must be extended to Fr. Vladimir Vranic and his parishioners for hosting this event. With special thanks to Mrs. Jelica Kostov for preparing all the delicious food and Mr. Daniel Dejanovich who gave each of the ladies present a beautiful orchid corsage.

Diane Markovina
Church School Superintendent
St Sava Serbian Orthodox Church-Milwaukee, WI

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IOCC Hurricane Appeal

(Baltimore, MD) – As rescuers conducted the largest search and recovery operation in Texas history, officials in 11 states were assessing the cumulative damage of the 2008 hurricane season after two tropical storms and two hurricanes made landfall in the U.S. in just four weeks.

International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC), which mobilized its Emergency Network for this year’s severe weather including the Iowa floods and Hurricane Gustav, has been in contact with Orthodox hierarchs in the affected areas and deployed a team of IOCC staff and Orthodox clergy known as the “Frontline”. They are now in Texas evaluating the aftermath of Hurricane Ike and coordinating a relief plan with IOCC partners on the ground.

IOCC is issuing an emergency appeal for its continuing response with cash funds going towards immediate clean-up and recovery efforts. Orthodox faithful, including Sunday Schools, youth groups and others, are also urged to continue providing emergency clean-up buckets and health kits for shipment to the Gulf Coast (for information on assembling the kits go to http://iocc.org/emergencyskits.aspx). IOCC distributed 1,000 such kits in New Orleans and Baton Rouge immediately following Hurricane Gustav.

Cash donations can be made by calling IOCC’s donation hotline toll-free at 1-877-803-4622; by making a gift on-line at www.iocc.org; or by mailing a check or money order payable to “IOCC” and writing “US Emergency Response” in the memo line to IOCC, P.O. Box 630225, Baltimore, MD 21263-0225.

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Den. Aleksa Pavichevich ordained to the Holy Priesthood

Columbus, OH - On September 28, 2008, Deacon Aleksa Pavichevich was ordained to the Holy Priesthood by His Grace Bishop Dr Mitrofan of Eastern-American Diocese of the Serbian Orthodox Church. His Grace concelebrated the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy with Protopresbyters Mateja Matejic and Dragoljub Pavichevich, St Vladimir’s Seminary Chancellor Archpriest Chad Hadfield, and St Stevan’s Parish Priest Father Isak Kisin.

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The St Sava’s community wish all of the Lord’s
We have been able to obtain safety or protection zones since 1999, with both a military and a civil presence. They are in place to protect our people, mosques, monasteries, and the faithful. However, we have continued to receive threats and have been attacked. For example, our monastery of Visoki Decani was attacked four times. A total of twenty-five grenades were launched at the church, but thank God, none of them hit the church. Three times we were warned of attacks, which gives us a great distance, nonetheless their purpose was to attack us and instill fear in us.

The walls of the holy King Stefan, whose importance and relics have been in the monastery from its founding to this day, protected us and continue to protect us. For instance, the Patriarchate of St. Joakimije of Devic, has been robbed twice: the Albanians took everything from it in 1999 and 2004. In 2004 the monastery was completely destroyed. Today six sisters have returned to the destroyed Monastery Devic and, thank God, the renovation begun four years ago is almost complete.

I have said all this to emphasize the fact that, despite all the struggles and suffering and extreme difficulties endured in living in Kosovo and Metohija, our God continues to pour out his blessing upon all of us, and we and our people continue to live there.

We have monasteries that are protected by UNMIK soldiers. On the one hand, such as Visoki Decani and the Patriarchate of Pec.

The goal of the Albanians is to force us to flee Kosovo south of Kosovska Mitrovica. This is rather complicated.

The way that the system in Kosovo is set up today gives us a certain price for the northern part of Kosovska Mitrovica.

I think that UNESCO as an institution is in crisis. We have received aid from the offices of various countries, such as the United States of America. For example, when the Albanians initiated an attack on a monastery, there was no protection. Without the wall, we would continue to be open to attacks. If we are attacked, we have no one to complain to; their police are corrupt. I think that UNESCO as an institution is in crisis. We have received aid from the offices of various countries, such as the United States of America. For example, when the Albanians initiated an attack on a monastery, there was no protection. Without the wall, we would continue to be open to attacks. If we are attacked, we have no one to complain to; their police are corrupt.

Q: What do the United Nations and America do for us and our monasteries?

A: An international community has been in Kosovo since 1999, with both a military and a civil presence. They are in place to protect us, they have given us support, though it is very limited. They have done what they have chosen to do. We have been able to obtain safety or protection zones around our monasteries.

This is because Albanians had a plan to build factories around our monasteries. So, being able to gain these protections without walls, we protected not just our monasteries, but also the surrounding area and its natural resources. As you know, the negotiations that took place in Vienna and the meetings to plan to protect, to some extent, the Serbian Orthodox Church and people was not accepted, because this plan meant the acceptance of an independent Kosovo by the Serbia and government people.

On June 15 of this year, the Kosovo constitution was implemented. With that, our situation was even more difficult, as the leader of the Albanians and of all those countries that contributed to Kosovo’s independence, but we are also the victims of Belgrade’s policies. Many of us have been in prison and acted really well in exposing the deceptive publication of the Albanian ministry of culture in Kosovo. In these publications, the Albanians claimed that two of our own monasteries are Byzantine monasteries built by Albanians. They don’t want to admit that these monasteries are Serbian monasteries. This is what the Albanians teach their children. For example, they teach that the Albanian clan Gashi built the Decani Monastery; Albanian monks believed this to be the case. For Christmas, we gave out two hundred pigs. We did it for our people who were not in a position to have any other help. If we are attacked, we have no one to complain to; their police are corrupt. We still have not officially received a certificate for the promulgated protection by which we can ask for any help. There has been no concrete action concerning the preservation of the monasteries and churches. There has been a lack of the support of the Serbian Orthodox Church, which was destroyed during the Pogrom of March 17, 2004, but nothing has happened yet.

In addition, UNESCO is not sure with whom to work—i.e., with the government of Serbia, or UNMIK, or the government in Kosovo, or someone else. The situation is rather complicated.

Q: What did the Church do about the fact that Albanians published monographs about the UNESCO of Albanian cultural monuments, in which they mentioned our monasteries as their own?

A: In regard to the conference that was held in Paris, the Church sent its representative, Bishop Ireej (Dobrijevic), who is currently in Belgrade. But he acted really well in exposing the deceptive publication of the Albanian ministry of culture in Kosovo. In these publications, the Albanians claimed that two of our monasteries are Byzantine monasteries built by Albanians. They don’t want to admit that these monasteries are Serbian monasteries. This is what the Albanians teach their children. For example, they teach that the Albanian clan Gashi built the Decani Monastery; Albanian monks believed this to be the case.

Q: What do our people in Kosovo do for income and survival?

A: People live with great difficulty in Kosovo and Metohija. One percent of our people receive salaries and pensions. Children do not have access to a school system that can educate them. Some people receive aid, consisting of 40 euros. Some of them grow vegetables, but they cannot sell them in the market. However, they can eat from the vegetables. It’s very hard, especially for families with children. They have no future for their children, so they are the ones who look for any opportunity to leave. People might be able to sacriﬁce themselves, but they cannot sacrifice their children. The way that the system in Kosovo is set up today gives no guarantees for anyone but Albanians. Essentially, most of our people are unemployed. In some cities we have hospitals without Serbian employees. The same is the case with other public ofﬁces. We might have one or two representatives in some of the governing bodies. That is the case of course, I’ve said this in regard to the area south of Kosovska Mitrovica.

Those north of Kosovska Mitrovica rely heavily on support from Serbia. None of our people north of Kosovska Mitrovica want to recognize this reality, so eventually this too may make such settlements very difﬁcult.

Q: Recently I was informed about a situation of women in Kosovska Mitrovica that feeds our people there. This project costs them 1,500 dinar a month. How can we safely send money from here so that it reaches the right place and not falls into the hands of the people here in the diaspora or some other groups?

A: This is a very important question. It can be done as long as we organize ourselves, who in Kosovo and those who in the diaspora can work together. You in the diaspora can help a lot. The same can be done by neighboring countries, e.g. Bosnia and Herzegovina. This certainly can be done.

There is a ministry in Kosovo. They have representatives who are appointed by political schemes, and as a result they are not very influential.

As a nation, we should wisely work on preventing the mistakes that we have made can be corrected. We will raise our voice now for a very short time, but in the future, we are sure that we will not lose Kosovo.

Q: Your Grace, it seems that our people trust the Church most. Therefore, it seems that it would be best to send all the help through the Church or diocese.

A: We don’t have such a system. We have appointed three monks whose obedience is to go around and visit our people in Metohija, and provide some assistance. Each family that they visit, they can tell them about the specific needs, if there is a roof, and one might need a grass cutter. Everyone needs something. That means a lot to them, and they need it at that moment. They also give people different things and help, our people are putting more trust in the Church. Again, we are doing what we can.

Q: Can we make a difference by helping one family at a time?

A: We can make a difference. One family at a time.

Ecclesiastical Court in the Episcopal Court of the Eastern American Diocese

In the Ecclesiastical Court of this diocese, divorce proceedings have been initiated by Praying Parish from Chicago, IL, against his estranged wife Lisa Gorham, whose current address is unknown. Whereas the wife’s whereabouts are unknown, and under The Revised Canons of the Church (1979), ecclesiastically for the purposes of this publication of this notice, the Court hereby appoints V. Rev. Stavrophor Constantine Gavrić (44-05-58), 3755 Oakley Dr., Lackawanna, NY, as proxy for the defendant, in accordance with Article 36(d) of the Statutes for Ecclesiastical Courts, whereby this case shall proceed and be concluded, the decision of which shall be binding upon both parties.
Belgrade Theological Students’ Choir tours America

continued from p. 4

St. Vladimir’s: The Belgrade Theological Faculty Student Choir is seen in the chapel of St. Vladimir’s Orthodox Theological Seminary near New York City, together with His Grace Bishop Maxim and Fr. John Belhar, Seminary Dean. The Choir spent several days at the Seminary experiencing the life there and singing a concert and for services, as well as visiting St. Sava Cathedral in New York for a concert. The Choir also had the opportunity to visit Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Seminary in Brookline, Massachusetts and St. Tikhon Orthodox Seminary in South Canaan, Pennsylvania.

The choir continued from San Francisco to Las Vegas, Nevada, then to Phoenix, Arizona, to St. Anthony’s Greek Orthodox Monastery, St. Paisius Serbian Orthodox Monastery, San Diego and Escondido, California.

On Saturday, September 6th, the hierarchs and students’ choir celebrated Divine Liturgy at the newly established monastery of the Meeting of our Lord in Escondido. The Liturgy was celebrated outside, since the newly built chapel could not accommodate all present. The choir sang responses during the Liturgy, creating an atmosphere of fellowship with God. Following the Liturgy the hierarchs, clergy, choir and faithful proceeded to the nearby home of a parishioner, having a joyful conversation about the Liturgy and the plans for the coming week. The choir continued on its way to a concert in Holy Resurrection Cathedral what proved to be a very memorable event. The local parishioners were performed by Metropolitan Christopher, Bishop Joakim from Serbia, Bishop Longin and Bishop Maxim. Several of the choir members represented many of the Orthodox jurisdictions in America.

A Hierarchical Liturgy was celebrated by Bishop Maxim. Following the Liturgy, the sermon was delivered by Fr. John Berek, welcomed his guests, after which they gave a concert. The Seminary is located in the Crestwood neighborhood of Yonkers, New York, in suburban Westchester County, close to nature but only thirty minutes by car or train from the rich cultural and educational resources of New York City. The eleven-acre seminary campus is pruned by the beautiful chapel, dedicated in 1963. The next stop was St. Sava Cathedral in New York City. From New York the choir continued on its way to the Holy Resurrection Seminary in South Canaan, Pennsylvania.

The last day of their tour in America was at the Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Seminary in Brookline, near Boston, where they gave a second spiritual uplifting concert on Tuesday, September 16. Later that evening a second concert was performed at St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Church in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

The choir returned to Serbia enriched spiritually by sharing in the Orthodox Christian faith they found in America, having deposited in the history and archives of its musical development and growth.

As with everything in the Church of Christ and the Orthodox world, this season, so it is with this tour of our young theologians. We prayerfully await the fruit to show in the coming days and the faithful to be open to the grace of our Lord. He has brought the choir to America to witness and partake in the distinctives of “Apostles to the Slavs.”

Apostles to Slavs remembered in Greece

Thessaloniki, Greece—Municipal authorities in the northern port city of Thessaloniki have unveiled a monument dedicated to Saints Cyril and Methodius, the two Byzantine Greek brothers born in the city in the 9th century AD. The saints are credited with devising the Glagolitic alphabet used to write the Slavic Church, opened the way for the Cyrillic alphabet, as well as preaching Christianity in the Balkans. The Thessaloniki brothers, who are also shown facing north, towards the land of their missionary work. The monument is the creation of sculptor Dimitra Stavrinidou, engraver Evangelis Galinos and architect Dimitris Galinos.

Historic bells return to Moscow monastery from Harvard

Moscow, Sept. 17 (EN)—Russian President Dmitry Medvedev was the first person to ring a set of treasured bells after their return to the Danilov Monastery, the seat of the Moscow Patriarchate, from Harvard University, where the bells had spent decades, following the 1917 Bolshevik revolution. The 18 bells ended up at Harvard after the Soviet government sold them as scrap metal to a U.S. industrialist, Charles Crane, in 1930. Crane bought the bells to save them from being melted down, and donated them to Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts, where their ringing from one tower became one of the institution’s most familiar sounds.

Eastern Diocese Chapel Slava celebrated

continued from p. 1

A Slava dinner that followed the Divine Liturgy, His Grace made special mention of the celebration of the Kolo Srpski Sestara for not only providing for the luncheon but also for being helpful at Shadland Camp, particularly for the Diocesan Day celebration.

V. Rev. Yurih Tordich
The fourth, and final full day of activities, began with a Pan Orthodox Youth Festival held at St. Nicholas Antiochian Orthodox Christian Cathedral in Los Angeles. The teenagers were warmly welcomed to a continental breakfast and given the opportunity to mingle and meet other teenagers from Orthodox communities all over the Los Angeles municipal area. The teenagers participated in two exercises designed to break the ice and interact with the other teens. The first exercise was titled “Getting to Know You” and consisted of a human treasure hunt where the participants had to get signatures from other teenagers who met certain qualifications such as, someone who attends St. Nicholas church. The twenty minute exercise had all the teenagers interacting with each other and learning about each other very quickly. The winner of this exercise was Sarah Nezich from Detroit, MI and third place was awarded to Savo Majstorovich from New York, NY. Congratulations Sarah and Savo!

Following the first exercise, Father George Taweel once again presented on Hollywood vs. Holy Wood: The Power of Image. A notable difference in the Saturday presentation included some behind the scenes looks at the making of The Kids Ten Commandments, an animated production by Fr. George’s company.

The second exercise consisted of a sheet of 30 questions, 15 about Hollywood and 15 about Holy Wood. This was a test to see who could answer more questions correctly. The teenagers were able to discuss the questions with each other and then found out which topic they knew more about, the entertainment industry or the church.

Following Father George’s presentation all of the teenagers congregated in the church for a beautiful Akathist to St. Herman of Alaska and some inspirational words from His Grace, Bishop Joseph, Bishop of the Antiochian church in Los Angeles and the West.

The group then boarded the bus to return to USC.

After dinner on Saturday the teenagers congregated in the common area of the dorm to complete some final requirements for the retreat, a survey of their opinions of the experiences from the week, and a paragraph about their experiences to be printed in future editions of “Our View”. They were given free time to relax, mingle, play basketball, pool, ping pong, or just hang out with new and old friends. As dark fell over the campus everyone was given a special treat, a slide show of pictures taken of the conference organized by Andreana Ceko from Los Angeles. The wonderful slide show, put together over a four hour window that same day, went through dozens of pictures taken by Father Nikola Ceko and was put to music. Some great pictures of the week’s activities were included, but perhaps the funniest pictures were of Alex Osman from Aliquippa, PA looking at the girls sitting on either side of him. Special thanks to Andreana for organizing this beautiful slide show. Following the slide show the teenagers were treated to ice cream sundaes and evening prayers before calming down and turning in for the final night of the conference.

Keyword God... R U Connected?

Hollywood vs. Holy Wood: The Power of Image

Part II
Keyword God... R U Connected?

The Path of Orthodoxy

October 2008

Page Seven

Our View

OCTOBER 2008  PAGE SEVEN

The official publication of The Serbian Orthodox Youth Ministry Committee and is a regular feature of The Path of Orthodoxy. Comments can be directed to the committee via e-mail at: youth-ministry@earthlink.net, or via regular mail at: The Serbian Orthodox Youth Ministry Committee, 260 Sue Drive, Hummelstown, PA 17036.

continued from the previous page

Osman did an exceptional job of chanting the epistle during Divine Liturgy. After Liturgy, everyone congregated in Father Nikola’s backyard for In-N-Out Burgers for lunch. This southeast chain of burger restaurants (California, Arizona, Nevada, and Utah) was the perfect meal for 42 teenagers to complete their conference. After some tearful goodbyes the bus for the airport loaded up and everyone went their separate ways, full of memories of inspirational activities and new friends, and the anticipation of next year’s conference to be held in the Eastern Diocese.

The Youth Ministry Committee of the Serbian Orthodox Church in North and South America would like to thank the following for making this wonderful conference possible:

The youth who attended the conference. These teenagers demonstrated the Glory of God over and over throughout the conference and instilled confidence and faith in the future of the Serbian Orthodox Church in North America.

His Grace Bishop Maxim and the people of the Western American Diocese for opening their doors and hearts and hosting this year’s conference.

V. Rev. Dragan Petrovic, Father George Taweel, Father Dragan Petrovic, and Father Nikola Ceko and the staff of St. Stefan’s Cathedral for organizing and hosting the Pan-Orthodox Youth Rally. Their warm hospitality made for a nice opportunity for the teenagers to mingle with youth from other jurisdictions.

All members of the Youth Ministry Committee. Their diligence and perseverance have resulted in another very successful conference for our youth. The effort they put forth and the resulting impact to our children show that Christ is in our midst and always shall be.

V. Rev. Steven Roknan, Chairperson
V. Rev. Bratislav Krisic
Rev. Dragan Petrovic
Rev. Radovan Jakovljevic
Chris Radianovic
Becky Krsic
Brian Haydon
Laure Burge
Milan Radianovic

Once again, the youth who participate in these conferences are an inspiration for all of us. In Christ’s Love Chris Radianovic

Jesus gives bread to the hungry

(retold by Sophie Koulomzin)

There were always crowds of people gathering around Jesus. As soon as the people in a village or in a town heard that Jesus was there, they would come out and surround Him. They would bring their sick people for Him to heal. They would also listen to His words and ask Him questions. Hour after hour they would stay with Him or follow Him as He walked along the roads.

One day Christ said to His disciples: “Come with Me to a quiet place, away from the crowds, and let us rest for a while.” So they all went into a boat and rowed across the lake to an open place where no one lived. But the people saw them going, and they went on foot around the end of the lake to find Jesus and His disciples. When Jesus saw how eager they were to be with Him, He was sorry for them. He talked to them and healed those who were sick.

The day went by and it was evening. A great crowd was still pressing around Jesus. His disciples said to Jesus: “It is getting late and we are far from any village. Send the people away so that they might go and buy themselves some food before it is night.”

But Jesus answered: “They need not go away. You can give them something to eat here.” The disciples said: “We have not enough food with us. We would have to go to the next village and buy a lot of bread to feed them all; and even then it would be only a small piece for each person.”

Andrew, one of the disciples, said: “There is a little boy here who has five loaves of bread and five loaves of bread. But that isn’t enough for such a great number of people.” Jesus asked the little boy to come up and give Him his loaves or bread and his fishes.

Jesus told the disciples: “Tell the people to sit down.” Everyone sat down. There were about five thousand people gathered there. Jesus took the loaves of bread and the fishes and said a prayer of thanks over them. Then He passed them on to His disciples, and the disciples began to pass out the food to all those who were sitting on the grass. People passed on the food from one to another. They passed it on and on and still there was more to be had. When everyone had eaten and no one remained hungry, Jesus told His disciples to gather up the crumbs so that nothing would be lost. The disciples gathered up the bread that was left. This leftover bread filled twelve baskets.

When the people saw what had happened they said to each other: “This is truly the Savior that God has promised us.” They wanted to make Jesus their king, but Jesus did not want to be a king on earth. His Kingdom was in heaven and was not like other kingdoms. He left the crowd of people and went up on a mountain all by Himself to rest and pray to His Father.

(taken from Little Falcons, Vol. 7, No. 4, 2000)

Left: Alex Osman Chanting the Epistle During Divine Liturgy
Below: The boys taking a refreshing break at the Burge home.
Сестра указала је на дивне карактерне особине проте Лазара ређали говорници. Сестра Славка Манојловић, Председница Кола двадесетгодишњу службу у парохији Светог Илије. Затим су се Лази и протиници Мири за њихову одану Максимовић изразио је захвалност проти програма представио је госте за главним проту Лазара и протиницу Миру после њихове верним народом, поштоваоцима о. Лазара прилику. Огромна дворана била је испуњена припремиле су богату трпезу за ову изузетну у част проте Лазара и протинице Мире. На Добриле Самарџић. црквени хор Светог Илије под руководством протођакона Вадима Ган. Одговарао је протонамесник Драгомир Туба, уз саслужење братства, прота Ђуро Крошњар, Мајсторовић, Председник Свештеничког Савић, прота Богдан Зјалић, прота Ђокан...да би се после тога уврстио у ред пензионера Митрополије служио последњу свету Литургију као надлежни активни парох, парохијана храма Светог Илије. Тога дана прото Лазар је проте Лазара, протинице Мире и њихове породице, као и Г. Лонгина и епископа Г. Максима. Било је присутно и неколико композиције црквене музике од чувених композитора: српских, Београда, Србије да би на концертима представио музичке Васкрсења очекивали су наступ Хора студената Београдског сту...дена Богословског факултета Универзитета у Београду. У Саборном храму, те ту забелеску преносимо у овом допису: Чикагу, 10. септембра 2008. забележена је на интернет страници литургијске теме. Професор др Ненад Милошевић је одржао неколико предавања на архијерејима који су им пружили гостопримство на њиховом путу. местоима, заједно са домаћин епископом Максимом, као и другим висини, како музички, тако и организациони аспекат. Његово Месаћусетц, Соут Кенан, Пенсилванија. Свугде су срдачно Њујорк, Њујорк Сити, Њујорк, Бруклајн, Месаћус, Бостон, Чикаго - Либертивил, Илиноис, Милвоки, Вискансин, Калифорнија, Финикс, Аризона, Ескондидо, Калифорнија, Ирвин, посетио и одржао концерте: Џексон, Калифорнија, Сан Франциско, пригодне концерте. Да поменемо неке од парохија које је Хор средњезападноамеричкој и Епархији источноамеричкој. Хор је Будимљанско-никшићки Г. Јоаникије и професор др Ненад августа до 19. септембра 2008. У пратњи Хора био је епископ Београду боравио је у посети Епархији западноамеричкој од 2 западноамеричког Хор студената Богословског факултета у Митрополитијском и Методистском Епархија. Они у свом изводу из поздрава овај."..."Лиже двадесет и две године на свом месту био сам плачовати да поздравим и доживим музичком испод позов оца Лазара оштро прошлога. Да ју овај име рекне оно ми уметничко приликом мага одржава у песницу. Он се његову гласну духовну пажњу на значај световнице милио друг и говорити је у душе ниско и енглеско, подсећајући верне на лепоту ове музичких програма које је присутно духовно озаре и у веру утварао. Позивао је да се многи представљају као иде, да би се верни утрбатали у вера, православне дугу у све поре нашег бива. Те вечери смо примили дар којег ћемо чувати у нашим срцема.''}
Српска православна парохија светог арханђела Михаила у Ленингру, Илиноис, исплатила дуг за храм; догађај обележен у недељу, 21. септембра 2008. године

У недељу, 21. септембра, на привредној представи Милоша Весића, Негово Високопреосвештенство митрополита Владика Георгије издвојио је монаха Српске православне парохије светог арханђела Михаила у Ленингру, Илиноис, за заслуге које је имао у стварању и финансирању парохије и њеног црквеног наслова. Монах Српске православне парохије светог арханђела Михаила у Ленингру, Илиноис, био је водитељ и посетник манастира у Ленинграду, Илиноис, у којем је уз помоћ црквеношколске општине и парохије светог арханђела Михаила у Ленингру, Илиноис, обезбедио изграђујући и финансирању парохије.

Владика Георгије, на предан и пожртвован рад монаха у парохији светог арханђела Михаила, се узрахунуо и његово му здравље и здравство, а нарочито даље светлошта његових активности у стварању и финансирању парохије.

Владика Георгије је издвојио монаха Српске православне парохије светог арханђела Михаила у Ленингру, Илиноис, за заслуге које је имао у стварању и финансирању парохије. У врху речи Владика Георгије је сматрао да монах је устремљен и посвећен у стварању и финансирању парохије, а нарочито даље светлошта његових активности у стварању и финансирању парохије.

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ПРОТЕСТАНТСКИ ИНДУСТРИЈАЛИЗАМ

П р о т е с т а н т с к и и н д у ст р и ј ал и з а м —

а ј е д н и ц т в о а у т е н т и ч них хришћанских цркава.

Друга део: Православна Црква и протестантска угарци.
OCTOBER 2008  PAGE ELEVEN

је у Јерусалиму подигао Константин велики да ни у једном од споменутих домаћинства није било ни једног (16:14-15), то правдају оним што је написано у јеванђељу по свом Оцу Христос обавља и римокатоличке цркве као свете тајне.

живот у православној цркви је везан за крупне идеолошке теме на празник Рођења Христовог.

вечери и будућег губи духовно искуство исто толико као и верска институција протестантске заједнице једина секта Лутеранска реформација изванредно прокометарисано ђутањем иконографије штогод учи божанска литургија и речима са предикаонице је симболично стрiktно теолошка Дела апостолска.

Сем у Светом писму Ако је крштеље услов за спасење У православној цркви крштење је приступање хришћанству.
Освећење чеса „Петке“ у држави Охајо.

У унисон дућац Охајо, у окрету тамном и санитарном предухвату гласила светица Света Петка, која је у заклопцима око 100 милиона година од хемотерапије. На наш улаз у академију биста и хладне воде, а нака като израђен је преласком о. Николе и архиепископ Јован представници православног манастира. Служили су сви архијереји, а певала осталим православним јурисдикцијама. На Запажена је била прослава 2,000 година славља за одрђене православне јурисдикције. позивамо се у празничне и специфичне дане (ја сам подпредседник) одржавамо састанке и науку о. Николе. Претходао је молитвени на драго срце и лепом гостопримству. Дакле, предиван простор, колико молитвени за футбал, кошарку, одбојку, дечји вртић са метара и гробље. У порти (парку) су још терени Нијагариног зеленог појаса (Господњем. Простире се на горњем делу у српском стилу. Мањи број је купљен од расејање схватимо као послање, а не као повод обнавља, тако да знамо ко смо и шта смо и да задржимо одређену критичну масу националне неминовној последици живљења у расејању. continued from p. 9...