



St. John Chrysostom Church

A Mission of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

<http://www.stjohngoldenco.org/>

9300 W. Dartmouth Pl.

Lakewood, CO 80227

Church Phone: (720) 460-1578

Church email: frs@stjohngoldenco.org

Fr. Seraphim Gisetti, Pastor

Phone: 720.938.1302

email: vrevsg@comcast.net

November 2018 SJCC News

My Joy in the Lord,

November 11 marks the 100th Anniversary of the Armistice ending the fighting during World War I. Reading about the war, one is struck by the emphatic emphasis on “doing things right” whether or not it was wise or successful. So many individuals believed that it was more important to be “right” than to be effective if it meant doing things irregularly. I’m not talking about ends justifying the means, I’m talking about sending young men charging against machine guns because spirit was the important thing and enough spirit would allow men to overcome bullets. The result was tens and hundreds of thousands of deaths that were preventable if the officers had been more concerned with the people they were leading rather than the methods they were taught.

I have always believed that there is a great lesson in this for the Spiritual Life as well. We are often taught the “right” way to pray – sometimes by our parents, sometimes by our pastors. And in certain circumstances, those “right” ways help us come closer to God. But then comes a moment when those ways seem to interfere with, rather than enable, our communication with God. What do we do then? Do we persist because “it’s the right way” or do we change our approach because it is not the method of prayer that is important but the communication with our Lord.

I am very mindful of the advice that Metropolitan Anthony Bloom gave one of his spiritual children – go into your room, close the door, sit down facing the icon, and say nothing. Pray by being with God rather than talking to God.

That same advice is good for us as well. How many of us come into church before services or stay after services or come during the week just to sit in front of the iconostasis and be with God? I find the icons very talkative when I keep my mouth shut. There is no one right way to pray: sometimes it is by words, sometimes it is by actions, sometimes by different words, and sometimes it is by silence. The important aspect is not the method, but the prayer, the communication with God. Try it sometime even if you’re at home with only one icon.

With love, in Christ,

Fr. Seraphim

Because Thanksgiving is the day after the Holy Day of the Presentation in the Temple of the Theotokos and we have Liturgy Wednesday evening, I have decided to combine the Thanksgiving commemoration of the Native Saints of America with the Feast. There will be no Liturgy on Thanksgiving morning!

Our Annual Parish Assembly will be held on Sunday November 11 after Coffee Hour. Coffee Hour on that day is a potluck, bring something to share! All materials for the meeting will be sent out in the next few days. We will have the budget printed for people to see but please bring copies of the reports with you to the meeting!

We will have our annual Frozen Turkey Drive. Please have your turkeys to church on the 18th of November – the Sunday after our Annual Meeting!

St. Nicholas is coming on December 2! It's a Lenten Potluck on that day **and the Sunday School will do a presentation before his visit!**

Please note that I have changed the “Prospora” column to “Commemorations”. We have been very poor about preparing prospora for liturgies and even poorer about providing me with your Commemorations for the weekend. I am more concerned with having the names of your relatives and loved ones to remember at the Vespers and Liturgy than I am about having a loaf of bread. I love getting a loaf of bread for the Liturgy but I believe that the names are more important. You can email me during the week or give me a physical copy with the names the Sunday before. (please don't text me the names).

Adding our calendar to your computer or phone. Please follow the instructions at stjohngoldenco@gmail.com Please note that you need to delete it and re-add it periodically. It does not update properly on its own

We are continuing with the \$5-a-Month Club to support the priests in Uganda. Please join – just write a check for \$5 every month or \$60 for the year.

Prayer Circle: The Prayer Circle is a group of Parishioners who, at least once each week, spend some time asking God to care for and bless various individuals who are in need of His Mercy. If you wish to be part of the Prayer Circle or would like more information, please contact Dianna Vagianos-Armentrout at diannavagianos@gmail.com.

We have two Fund-raising opportunities – through Amazon Smile and through the Archdiocesan on-line Purchasing – please see the notice at the end of the newsletter for details of how you can participate.

Parishioner Celebrations

**NOTE: If you don't see your day listed OR see your day listed on the wrong day
PLEASE let Fr. Seraphim know – as soon as possible**

November

| | | |
|-------|-------------|----------------------|
| 11/06 | Anniversary | Zach & Becca Higgins |
| 11/08 | Namesday | Aaron Rendoff |
| 11/08 | Namesday | Micco Waisanen |
| 11/08 | Namesday | Mike Drakulich |
| 11/09 | Birthday | Margaret Berry |
| 11/09 | Birthday | Joseph Berry |
| 11/10 | Birthday | Andrei Gisetti |
| 11/11 | Birthday | Zach Higgins |
| 11/14 | Namesday | John Fiscus |
| 11/23 | Namesday | Sandro Beim |
| 11/23 | Namesday | Alexander Higgins |
| 11/25 | Namesday | Ketino Beim |
| 11/25 | Namesday | Caitlin Dovey |
| 11/25 | Namesday | Katherine Knudtsen |
| 11/26 | Birthday | Emma Dovey |
| 11/26 | Birthday | Jakob Higgins |
| 11/30 | Namesday | Andrei Gisetti |
| 11/30 | Namesday | Andrei Tarashchuk |

December

| | | |
|-------|-------------|------------------------|
| 12/01 | Birthday | Linda Hotton |
| 12/02 | Namesday | Margo Waisanen |
| 12/03 | Birthday | Margo Waisanen |
| 12/06 | Namesday | Nickolas Higgins |
| 12/09 | Namesday | Hannah Fox |
| 12/11 | Birthday | Micco Waisanen |
| 12/13 | Namesday | Richard Hill |
| 12/13 | Namesday | Ricky Hill |
| 12/16 | Namesday | Jakob Higgins |
| 12/16 | Namesday | Jonathan Spencer |
| 12/17 | Namesday | Daniel Rahe |
| 12/20 | Anniversary | Lee & Darya Goudzwaard |
| 12/20 | Namesday | Dawn Dovey |
| 12/21 | Birthday | Jacque Gisetti |
| 12/22 | Namesday | Deanna Margugito |
| 12/27 | Namesday | Stephen Peyton |
| 12/28 | Birthday | Caitlin Dovey |
| 12/30 | Anniversary | Nathan & Dana Berry |
| 12/30 | Namesday | Joseph Conder |
| 12/30 | Namesday | Kevin Hotton |
| 12/30 | Namesday | Rory Neill |

Parish Responsibilities

Parish Cleaning:

| | |
|--------------|----------|
| November 3,4 | Spencer |
| December 1,2 | Waisanen |

| | Commemorations | Epistle | Communion help | Coffee Hour |
|-----------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|
| November | | | | |
| 4 | Andrei Gisetti | Seraphima Rahe | Pelagia & Kylee | J&J Mikita, Higgins, D. Mikita |
| 11 | John Fiscus | Andrei Gisetti | Caitlin & Hannah | Potluck |
| 18 | Becca Higgins | Ricky Hill | Taisia & Alyssa | J&S Rahe, Waisanen |
| 25 | Ketino Beim | Taisia Taraschuk | Pelagia & Kylee | J. Gisetti, Fiscus, Yakubik |
| December | | | | |
| 2 | M Waisanen | Dana Berry | Caitlin & Hannah | Lenten Potluck (St. Nicholas) |
| 9 | Fox | Chris Dovey | Taisia & Alyssa | Armentrout, Dovey, Anna Gisetti |
| 16 | J Spencer | Joanna Hill | Pelagia & Kylee | Spencer, Waisanen |
| 23 | D. Margugito | Jonathan Spencer | Caitlin & Hannah | Fox, M. Gisetti, D. Mikita |
| 30 | K Hotton | Margo Waisanen | Taisia & Alyssa | Saieg, Cheaqui, Perkins |

Schedule of Services and Events

November

| | | | |
|----|-----|----------------|---|
| 3 | Sat | 3:00 pm | Thrivent Debt Reduction Workshop |
| | | 5:00 pm | Vespers |
| 4 | Sun | 9:00 am | Liturgy |
| | | | Coffee hour |
| | | 11:00 am | Sunday School |
| | | | Parish Council Meeting |
| 7 | Wed | 7:00 pm | Adult Discussion |
| 10 | Sat | 4:00 pm | What is Orthodoxy? |
| | | 5:00 pm | Vespers |
| 11 | Sun | 9:00 am | Liturgy |
| | | | <u>Potluck</u> |
| | | | NO Sunday School |
| | | | Annual Parish Assembly |
| 13 | Tue | 6:30 pm | Liturgy St. John Chrysostom, Patronal Feast Day |
| | | | <u>Festal Potluck</u> |
| 14 | Wed | 7:00 pm | Adult Discussion |
| 17 | Sat | 4:00 pm | What is Orthodoxy? |
| | | 5:00 pm | Vespers |
| 18 | Sun | 9:00 am | Liturgy |
| | | | Coffee hour |
| | | 11:00 am | Sunday School |
| 21 | Wed | 6:30 pm | Liturgy Presentation of the Theotokos in the Temple |
| | | | <u>Potluck (Wednesday Fast)</u> |
| 24 | Sat | 4:00 pm | What is Orthodoxy? |
| | | 5:00 pm | Vespers |
| 25 | Sun | 9:00 am | Liturgy |
| | | | Coffee hour |
| | | 11:00 am | Sunday School |
| 28 | Wed | 7:00 pm | Adult Discussion |

December

| | | | |
|----|-----|----------|---|
| 1 | Sat | 4:00 pm | What is Orthodoxy? |
| | | 5:00 pm | Vespers |
| 2 | Sun | 9:00 am | Liturgy |
| | | | Coffee hour |
| | | 11:30 am | Sunday School Presentation and St. Nicholas visit |
| 5 | Wed | 7:00 pm | Adult Discussion |
| 8 | Sat | 4:00 pm | What is Orthodoxy? |
| | | 5:00 pm | Vespers |
| 9 | Sun | 9:00 am | Liturgy |
| | | | Coffee hour |
| | | 11:00 am | Sunday School |
| | | | Parish Council Meeting |
| 12 | Wed | 7:00 pm | Adult Discussion |
| 15 | Sat | 4:00 pm | What is Orthodoxy? |
| | | 5:00 pm | Vespers |

| | | | | |
|----|-----|----------|--|----------------------------------|
| 16 | Sun | 9:00 am | Liturgy Coffee hour | Sunday of the Forefathers |
| | | 11:00 am | Last Sunday School before Christmas break | |
| 19 | Wed | 7:00 pm | LAST Adult Discussion until February | |
| 22 | Sat | 4:00 pm | What is Orthodoxy? | |
| | | 5:00 pm | Vespers | |
| 23 | Sun | 9:00 am | Liturgy Coffee hour | Sunday of the Fathers |
| 24 | Mon | 9:00 am | Royal hours Vespersal Liturgy | Nativity Eve |
| | | 6:00 pm | Nativity Vigil Christmas Carols | |
| 25 | Tue | 9:00 am | Liturgy | Nativity of our Lord |
| 29 | Sat | 4:00 pm | What is Orthodoxy? | |
| | | 5:00 pm | Vespers | |
| 30 | Sun | 9:00 am | Liturgy Prayer for the New Year Coffee hour | Joseph, David and James |

2018 – 2019 Festal Weekday Services

2018

November

| | | | | |
|----|-----------|---------|---------|---|
| 13 | Tuesday | 6:30 pm | Liturgy | St. John Chrysostom – Patronal Feast |
| 21 | Wednesday | 6:30 pm | Liturgy | Entrance into the Temple of the Theotokos |

December

| | | | | |
|----|---------|---------|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 24 | Monday | 9:00 am | Royal Hours Vespereal Liturgy | Nativity Eve |
| | | 6:00 pm | Nativity Vigil and Carols | |
| 25 | Tuesday | 9:00 am | Liturgy | Nativity of our Lord |

2019

January

| | | | | |
|---|--------|---------|-------------|-----------------------|
| 4 | Friday | 9:00 am | Royal hours | Theophany preparation |
|---|--------|---------|-------------|-----------------------|

Theophany falls on Sunday, January 6

February

Meeting of our Lord falls on Saturday, February 2

March

| | | | | |
|----|--------|---------|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| 25 | Monday | 6:30 pm | Vespereal Liturgy | Annunciation to the Theotokos |
|----|--------|---------|-------------------|-------------------------------|

June

| | | | | |
|---|----------|---------|---------|-----------------------|
| 6 | Thursday | 6:30 pm | Liturgy | Ascension of our Lord |
|---|----------|---------|---------|-----------------------|

SS Peter & Paul fall on Saturday, June 29

August

| | | | | |
|----|----------|---------|---------|-----------------------------|
| 6 | Tuesday | 6:30 pm | Liturgy | Transfiguration of our Lord |
| 15 | Thursday | 6:30 pm | Liturgy | Dormition of the Theotokos |

September

Nativity of the Theotokos falls on Sunday, September 8

Elevation of the Cross falls on Saturday, September 14

November

| | | | | |
|----|-----------|---------|---------|---|
| 13 | Wednesday | 6:30 pm | Liturgy | St. John Chrysostom – Patronal Feast |
| 21 | Thursday | 6:30 pm | Liturgy | Entrance into the Temple of the Theotokos |
| 28 | Thursday | 9:00 am | Liturgy | Thanksgiving (Native American Saints) |

December

| | | | | |
|----|-----------|---------|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 24 | Tuesday | 9:00 am | Royal Hours Vespereal Liturgy | Nativity Eve |
| | | 6:00 pm | Nativity Vigil and Carols | |
| 25 | Wednesday | 9:00 am | Liturgy | Nativity of our Lord |

2019 Lenten & Paschal Schedule

March 1st Week of Lent

| | | | |
|----|-----------|--|-------------------|
| 10 | Sunday | Forgiveness Vespers | after Coffee hour |
| 11 | Monday | Canon of St. Andrew of Crete | 7:00 pm |
| 12 | Tuesday | Canon of St. Andrew of Crete | 7:00 pm |
| 13 | Wednesday | Presanctified Liturgy Lenten Potluck and Discussion | 6:30 pm |
| 14 | Thursday | Canon of St. Andrew of Crete | 7:00 pm |
| 15 | Friday | Medaia (Akathist of the Theotokos) | 7:00 pm |

2nd Week of Lent

| | | | |
|----|-----------|--|---------|
| 20 | Wednesday | Presanctified Liturgy Lenten Potluck and Discussion | 6:30 pm |
| 22 | Friday | Medaia (Akathist of the Theotokos) | 7:00 pm |

3rd Week of Lent

| | | | |
|----|-----------|--|---------|
| 27 | Wednesday | Presanctified Liturgy Lenten Potluck and Discussion | 6:30 pm |
| 29 | Friday | Medaia (Akathist of the Theotokos) | 7:00 pm |

April 4th Week of Lent

| | | | |
|---|-----------|--|---------|
| 3 | Wednesday | Presanctified Liturgy Lenten Potluck and Discussion | 6:30 pm |
| 5 | Friday | Medaia (Akathist of the Theotokos) | 7:00 pm |

5th Week of Lent

| | | | |
|----|-----------|---|---------|
| 10 | Wednesday | Presanctified Liturgy Lenten Potluck Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete | 6:30 pm |
| 12 | Friday | Akathist of the Theotokos | 7:00 pm |

6th Week of Lent

| | | | |
|----|-----------|--|-------------------------------------|
| 17 | Wednesday | Presanctified Liturgy Lenten Potluck and Discussion | 6:30 pm |
| 20 | Saturday | Teaching Liturgy Church Cleaning and Preparation for Pascha | 9:00 am Lazarus Saturday |

Holy Week

| | | | |
|----|-----------|---|--------------------|
| 22 | Monday | Bridegroom Matins | 7:00 pm |
| 23 | Tuesday | Bridegroom Matins | 7:00 pm |
| 24 | Wednesday | Presanctified Liturgy Matins of Holy Thursday and Unction | 4:00 pm 7:00 pm |
| 25 | Thursday | Vesperal Liturgy of the Last Supper Matins of Holy Friday (12 Gospels) | 3:30 pm 7:00 pm |
| 26 | Friday | Royal Hours Vespers of Holy Friday (Burial of the Lord) | 9:00 am 3:00 pm |
| 27 | Saturday | Matins of Holy Saturday (Lamentations) Vesperal Liturgy | 7:00 pm 9:30 am |
| | | Paschal Services begin at | 11:30 pm |

Bright Week

| | | | |
|----|--------|-----------------------------------|---------|
| 28 | Sunday | Agape Vespers & Egg Hunt & Picnic | noon |
| 29 | Monday | Bright Monday Paschal Liturgy | 9:00 am |

PROSPHORA Baking

REMINDER: PLEASE make sure that you bring ONE (and only one) prospora with names for commemoration -this includes both living and departed, if some of the living or departed are not Orthodox, I want them anyway - to church at least the night before the date on which it is due. You can bring it up to three weeks before and we'll freeze it until the date, but don't try to bring it that morning. I usually start the Proskomedia early and need the prospora to be there. If it's not there by the night before, I will defrost a spare to use. Thank you for your consideration.

We will always need prospora. I will be happy to come to your house and bake them with you if you're not sure how to do it.

Because we have grown, the prosporas need to be bigger, please see the recipe for the new proportions....

Prospora Instructions

2 tsp yeast (Fleischmann's Dry Yeast) - roughly 1 envelope
1 pinch salt (iodized is what I use)
2 c water
~1.5 lb flour (I use Hungarian High Altitude Unbleached, I used to use Gold Medal Bleached or store brand Unbleached - DO NOT use Whole Wheat)

Preheat oven to 350 (some 325, some 375 or somewhere in between)

Needed:

Mixing bowl

Mixing spoon

Liquid Measuring cup

Cookie sheet

1½" - 3" craft/leather needle (NOT Knitting needle)

– you can use a smaller one if that is all you have or a pin – but sterilize first

1 large linen/cotton towel (flour bag type)

Mix water and yeast and 1 cup flour, mix, cover (with a linen towel) and let stand until it bubbles (or separates – sometimes it does one, sometimes the other), then add the pinch of salt and start adding flour, mixing thoroughly until “rubbery” to the touch and does not stick to your fingers.

Roll out, fold up, roll out, fold up, roll out. Form into a loaf about 10” across (diameter), put on cookie sheet (flour the cookie sheet – do not oil it or spray pam or any other oil on it), stamp with prospora seal (don't be afraid to flatten it in the process, and prick the 4 corners of the main seal (in the center) with the needle (does not have to go all the way to the bottom and hit the cookie sheet) as well as the very center of the seal (this lessens the chance of an air bubble under the seal)

Put into oven for ~45 minutes.

(do 20 minutes on top rack and 20+ minutes on the bottom rack)

(40 - 45 min depending on the size of the loaf and efficiency of the oven)

Take out when it starts to brown (light brown), wrap in the linen towel and let it cool in the towel.

Put in plastic bag (1 gal size works well) and bring to church. You can freeze it at home if it is baked several days early – but don't let it defrost on the way to church unless it is the day before it is going to be used.

If you have more dough than needed for the prospora, bake yourself a loaf and slather it with butter and enjoy

Amazon Smile Program

1. Instead of using www.amazon.com, use smile.amazon.com
2. Bookmark smile.amazon.com in all of your browsers
3. Search for St. John Chrysostom Church (Christian – Lakewood, CO)
4. Select it as your charity.
5. Always use smile.amazon.com when purchasing from Amazon. Everything will look the same and work the same as on www.amazon.com including Prime if you have it.

EXCEPT, St. John's will get a (small – 0.5%) donation of every purchase that you make.

THIS DOES NOT COST YOU ANY MORE.

That's it.

Thank you



St. John Chrysostom Rewards Program

Program Overview:

1. A digital savings and fundraising platform for our ministry.
2. The program creates an automatic monetary contribution to our ministry as a percentage of your online spending.
3. This program is endorsed by the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America.

How Does It Work?

1. Shop at thousands of your favorite retailers, such as Target, Best Buy, Nordstrom, Home Depot, Kohl's, J. Crew, and more.
2. Save by taking advantage of discounts and deals including %-off discounts, \$-off discounts, and free shipping.
3. Support the parish, as a percentage of every purchase you make at participating retailers is contributed back to the ministry at no additional cost to you.

How Do You Participate:

1. Go to <http://antiochian.org/rewardsprogram> and register with your email address.
2. Remember to visit <http://antiochian.org/rewardsprogram> prior to making online purchases to enable a contribution to St. John's and to discover relevant savings offers for you. OR
3. Install the <http://antiochian.org/rewardsprogram> support button on your Chrome, Firefox, or Safari browser to automatically support the ministry every time you make a purchase—without having to visit the deal site first.