

**St. Elizabeth's Orthodox Mission**

2265 E. Cherokee Dr. Woodstock, GA  
 A Parish of the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese  
 Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople

Reverend Father Matthew Dutko, Pastor

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Sunday August 30th 2015      13th Sunday After Pentecost

Epistle: 1st Corinthians 16:13-24      Gospel: Matthew 21:33-42

**Christ is Among Us**



*13th Sunday After Pentecost*

**Tropar and Kondak Tone 4–** Blue Book pg. 94 Red Bookpg.104  
 Now and Ever...

O unashamed Intercessor of Christians,\* ever loyal advocate before the Creator, \* do not disregard the prayerful voice of sinners \* but in your goodness \* hasten to assist us who trustfully cry out to you: \* Intercede always O Mother of God in behalf of those who honor you.

**Monday 8/31 8:30 AM–** Divine Liturgy

**Sunday 9/6 10 AM–** Details will be emailed out to everyone this week.

*Thank you so much to Teresa Van Buul for the beautiful Icon of the Good Shepherd she painted and donated to St. Elizabeth's! The Icon is hanging over the door to the atrium. Christ is the Good Shepherd leading us, His sheep to paradise!*

**To be a disciple of Christ**

The *cost of discipleship* is an important concept that provides all of us with the example of what it means to truly follow Christ. Jesus says "Follow Me" (Mt. 4:19); Christ gives the command to follow Him and the disciples follow Him immediately. Christ does not say, "Set all of your earthly affairs in order and then follow Me if you want", He simply says "Follow Me." This means that the earthly cost to the disciples was immense, that there was a great sacrifice involved with following Christ; but of course the reward of eternal life infinitely out ways the sacrifices the disciples made, and that we too must make here on earth. Christ was so compelling that His call took no preparation, no getting used to, the disciples were called and simply dove into faith and experienced it.

The way in which the disciples left everything behind and flocked to Christ, shows the great cost and sacrifice involved with discipleship. The disciples left behind their families, their friends, their businesses; they left their homes, and truly all they had ever known to follow Christ. To follow Christ meant letting go of all of the security, all the things they had ever known. This letting go required complete trust and commitment in Christ. For the disciples to obey Christ's command to "Follow Me" required that they must sacrifice everything to follow Christ.

When we think about this cost of discipleship we should all think of things that we must sacrifice in our lives so that we can better follow Christ. What are you holding on to that you could let go to help you better take up your cross and follow Him?

**Thanks you for your prayers!**

Thank you to everyone this week for your help, understanding, and especially your prayers as Pani and I had to leave suddenly for a family emergency.

Please keep Fred, Helen, and the Mileszko family in your prayers. Fred suffered from a fall and broke his hip. He is recovering well from an operation to repair the damage and is set to be released from the hospital today! Fred and Helen thank all of you for your kindness, love, support, and most especially for your prayers!

## Announcements and Upcoming Events

- **Orthodox Booth at Latimer Hall Arts and Crafts Show August 29th**– Thank you at all who helped out and supported this project!
- **Next Sunday September 6th**– Pani and I will be at the ACRY Convention in Binghamton, New York.
- **Art Class to be taught by Teresa**– Our very talented Teresa Van Buul will be teaching an Art Class at the Church on **Friday September 11th at 6:30PM**. The cost to participate will be \$20 plus the donation of a school supply (check for the list in your email inbox) for those in need at the Johnston Elementary School on East Cherokee Drive. Even if you can't attend the class school supplies can be dropped off anytime between now and Sunday, September 13th.
- **Parish Picnic for Epiphany Byzantine Catholic Church Sunday 9/13**– We have all been invited to attend the parish picnic and pig roast at Epiphany Byzantine Catholic Church in Roswell, GA. If you are able please plan on attending and enjoying a day of fun and fellowship! The address is 2030 Old Alabama Rd, Roswell, GA 30076.
- **Archpastoral Visit from our Bishop, His Grace Bishop Gregory of Nyssa**- Our Bishop is planning a trip to the Atlanta Area on weekend of **September 20th**. He plans to visit with us over the weekend and celebrate the Divine Liturgy on Sunday! We are blessed to be able to spend some time with time with our Bishop. Preparations for the visit will be discussed this week with more information to come next Sunday!
- **Community Garage Sale October 3rd**– **Volunteers Needed!!!** Please tells your friends, family and neighbors! Remind them that it's a great place to set up a booth and enjoy a day of searching for hidden treasures! Make reservations before August 31,2015 email SEOCGA@yahoo.com for registration forms and information OR call 770-485-0504.
- **Our Annual Dinner, Wine Tasting, and Silent Auction is approaching! The date is set for October 17th at 3:00PM**– The menu will be “An OLD-SCHOOL NY STEAKHOUSE DINNER”. The food is sure to be delicious and the company is sure to be wonderful. If you have yet to sign up please see Serge, Boris or Evelyn Melnikoff. Also if you have any items you think would be appropriate for the silent auction or know of any persons or businesses who may make a donation please contact Serge, Boris or Evelyn. This is a big fundraiser for our Parish Family so please invite your friends, families, and neighbors! Thanks in advance for all your support!

### Prayer List

Evelyn Melnikoff, Fr. John and Pani Betty Jean Baranek, Fr. James Gleason, The Paccio Family, Johanna, James, Herbert and Mary Schleining , Patricia James, Anna, Basil, David, Dianna, Denise, Alex, Jason, Athanasia, Ethel, Kathy, Lester, Sally, Jack, Angela , Tyler, Maria, Bezerra Family, Jeff, Lesley, Page Family, Stephen (Blessed Repose), The Blonar Family, Anna (Blessed Repose), Louise, Emma Rae , Carey, The Floyd Family, Phillip (Blessed Repose), Zachary, Szapka Family, Fred and Helen Mileszko

