

# NEWS of the RESURRECTION

October 2, 2011

Sunday After the Exaltation of the Cross

No. 27



## Good Seeds and Tares in Our Kids

A mother complained to a priest about the sudden and radical change in her teenage girl. “Father, she was fine, sweet and happy, and then all of a sudden she changed. Her appearance, her language, her attitudes all suddenly became gross.”

Is it possible that a child can suddenly change? Is she possessed? Has she been corrupted by some so-called friends? Did something happen to her to disturb her purity and peace? How can a person, even a young one, so suddenly change? Or is it possible that the changes were happening ever-so-slowly, and subtle seeds were planted and growing without parental notice?

Each day seeds are landing in the ground of the senses, the mind and the heart. This is true for all of us but especially critical for children. If we look to the Gospel parable about the sowing and growing of seeds, we will perhaps find some answers:

*And He said, “The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground, and should sleep by night and rise by day, and the seed should sprout and grow, he himself does not know how. For the earth yields crops by itself: first the blade, then the head, after that the full grain in the head. But when the grain ripens, immediately he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come.” Mark 4:26-29 (NKJV)*

### How do these seeds come?

Seeds are carried by the wind, on the fur of animals and on clothing; floating on the water, falling in the ground, rooting in fertile or inhospitable areas. In other words, they come in all ways through sensorial impressions and into the heart, mind and soul. They come

through conversations, books and especially movies and music.

St. Silvanos relates that when he was a young boy a bookseller came and spoke of atheistic ideas—seeds that landed in his impressionable soul and troubled him for years. A college student who was a strong believer had to read Nietzsche for a course and was troubled by his thoughts and ideas.

St. Mary of Egypt, while in the desert, had to fight the blasphemous jingles that she was used to hearing and reciting when she lived an impious life in the world before her conversion. They would come back to her and she had to fight the desire to sing them again.

Seeds come in many ways and they are designed to adhere and germinate, grow and take root. Without attention and vigilance we don’t notice these seeds in ourselves or their manifestation. If this is true in us—and it is—how will we see what is happening with our children?

The mother might have been right in saying about her daughter’s changes: Where was I that I didn’t see it coming?

We need to attend to and take care of the weeds while they are still small, and to do so in the right way. We also need to know the right way to respond both to newly formed seeds and to old habits not conquered earlier. Here we would benefit from the wisdom of the Lord.

### The Parable of the Wheat and the Tares: Matthew 13:24-53 (NKJV)

*Another parable He put forth to them, saying: “The kingdom of heaven is like a man who*



*The cross is the guardian of the whole world. The cross is the beauty of the Church. The cross is the might of kings, the cross angel’s glory, and scourge to demons.*

— Exapostoliarion of the Exaltation

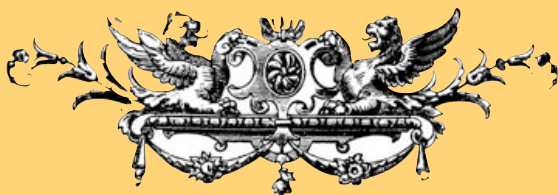


sowed good seed in his field; but while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat and went his way. But when the grain had sprouted and produced a crop, then the tares also appeared. So the servants of the owner came and said to him, 'Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have tares?' He said to them, 'An enemy has done this.' The servants said to him, 'Do you want us then to go and gather them up?' But he said, 'No, lest while you gather up the tares you also uproot the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest, and at the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, "First gather together the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them, but gather the wheat into my barn."'"

We cannot and should not always try to rip out bad behavior or ideas. We need to take care of the wheat as well as the tares. Should we oppose the evil, or encourage the good, or both? And at what time and with how much force? These are not physics

## INSIDE

Bulgarian Diocesan Convention	3
The Power of the Cross	4
On the Exaltation of the Cross	4
Crossroads Program Visit	5
Kelley Wedding	6
Parish Profile: Margarita	6
Parish Profile: John	7
Funeral of Mary Anastasia	7
Orthodoxy on Tap	8
Resurrection Coffeehouse	8
Harvest Festival	8
New Vicar Bishop	8
Tag Sale THanks	8
Dates to Remember	8



questions or medical or surgical questions. They are practical questions that parents face. Our attitude to our children can't be all NO! We have to have a culture and family life that is alive, cultured, spiritual and filled with YES!

"My son is selfish," one mother admitted, "always justifying himself and blaming others. Lectures although they are profoundly truthful don't seem to change anything."

What does he look like? He looks like a boy who is served as if an equal or superior to everyone else because he has been treated that way. It was unintentional, but who else is given food on demand, taken everywhere for his benefit, cared for physically and brought to Church? He has no responsibility, and therefore is in a higher category than his slave parents.

Upon further investigation, it appears that the boy is living in an unreal existence where he has no responsibilities, where there is nothing he is needed to do, and nothing he is required to do to help the family life. He is driven everywhere and is cared for with tender care, but the end result is self-centeredness and a weak sense of compassion or awareness of others. Will lectures and berating help? I don't think so. We need to get to some of the root causes and change them and possible do some remedial Christian therapy. The boy needs responsibility for his wellbeing.

We hear in the news about osteoporosis, mostly as a female problem. But according to one doctor men can also have osteoporosis. As a matter of fact, astronauts living in outer space begin to lose bone mass because they do not have exercises which are weight bearing. Perhaps there is an analogy here with children who don't have responsibility, or weight-bearing labors. They become weaker and more sarcastic. Some family responsibility and sharing of the load just might help!

Sweeping, setting the table, clearing the table, washing pots, folding laundry, carrying laundry baskets, cleaning rooms, caring for the pets, shoveling the sidewalk ... There are many things to do and children should be trained in being useful and helpful. If a child is working hard, the child might have more respect for all the other people who are working hard for his or her benefit.

Attention to the character and attitudes of our children is really a labor of love and absolutely necessary. It is better and easier by far to do-it-as-you-go rather than wait for big problems— tares and wheat bound and rooted together.

Perhaps then we won't be caught by surprise by "sudden" changes because we will be tending the tares and wheat each day with them

— Fr. Patrick



## Bulgarian Diocesan Convention July 14-17, 2011



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## On the Exaltation of the Cross

Before the time of Christ, the cross was an instrument of punishment; it evoked fear and aversion. But after Christ's death on the Cross it became the instrument of our salvation. Through the Cross, Christ destroyed the devil; from the Cross He descended into hades and, having liberated those languishing there, led them into the Kingdom of Heaven. The sign of the Cross is terrifying to demons and, as the sign of Christ, it is honored by Christians.

"O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance. Grant victory unto Orthodox Christians over their adversaries, and by the virtue of Thy Cross, preserve Thy community."

The beginning of this prayer is taken from the twenty-seventh Psalm. In the Old Testament the word "people" designated only those who confessed the true faith, people faithful to God. "Inheritance" referred to everything which properly belonged to God, God's property, which in the New Testament is the Church

## The Power of the Cross

Welcome back from the summer hiatus of the parish newsletter, and greetings in the new liturgical year! May the power of the precious and life-creating cross be for you both a protection and an invincible weapon for salvation.

Featured in this issue are all the usual busy fall activities that you have come to expect, along with a few that are new. Please avail yourselves especially of the many chances in the area for inter-Orthodox activity such as Orthodoxy on Tap featured on page 8.

We will return now to a bi-monthly publication with the next issue due on **Sunday, November 20** with a deadline for submission on **Friday, November 18 at noon**.

— Aaron W. Friar

of Christ. In praying for the salvation of God's people (the Christians), both from eternal torments and from earthly calamities, we beseech the Lord to bless, to send down grace, His good gifts upon the whole Church as well, and inwardly strengthen her.

The petition for granting "victory to kings" (Grant victory to Orthodox Christians over their adversaries) (ie: to the bearers of Supreme authority), has its basis in Psalm 143, verse 10, and recalls the victories of King David achieved by God's power, and likewise the victories granted Emperor Constantine through the Cross of the Lord.

This appearance of the Cross made emperors who had formerly persecuted Christians into defenders of the Church from her external enemies, into "external bishops," to use the expression of the holy Emperor Constantine. The Church, inwardly strong by God's grace and protected outwardly, is, for Orthodox Christians, "the city of God." Heavenly Jerusalem has its beginning. Various calamities have shaken the world, entire peoples have disappeared, cities and states have perished, but the Church, in spite of persecutions and even internal conflicts, stands invincible; for the gates of hell shall not prevail against her (Matt. 16:18).

Today, when world leaders try in vain to establish order on earth, the only dependable instrument of peace is that about which the Church sings:

"The Cross is the guardian of the whole world; the Cross is the beauty of the Church, the Cross is the might of kings; the Cross is the confirmation of the faithful, the Cross is the glory of angels and the wounding of demons." (Exapostilarion of the Exaltation of the Cross)

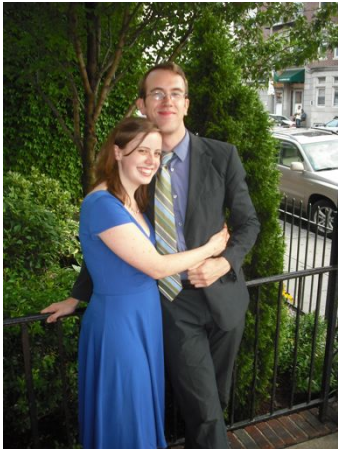
— St. John Maximovitch  
Bishop of Shanghai & San Francisco



## Visit of Crossroads Program July 8, 2011



## Kelley Wedding August 7, 2011



## Parish Profile: Margarita Sophia Karovska

**Name:** Margarita Sophia Karovska Neilly, Married to Clark Neilly



**How Did you and Clark meet?**  
Through a work colleague by the Grace of God.

**Place of Birth:** Macedonia – The Former Yugoslavia; moved to Boston in 1984.

**Languages Spoken:** English, French, Macedonian, Serbian

**Fond Childhood Memory:**  
Being with my parents and family.

**Colleges Attended:** University of Belgrade, Yugoslavia, now Serbia, PhD at Univ. of Nice in France

**Major:** Astrophysics

**Current Career:** Margarita is a research astrophysicist at The Harvard Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory and has been for 26 years.

**How did you come to HROC?** On January first 1996, Margarita came to the church to light a candle for her uncle who had just reposed. She found Fr. Patrick there, and Father offered to do a Panikhida for her uncle with her. She was so moved by his kind and generous spirit, that she began attending services and was baptized Sept 21<sup>st</sup> on the Birth of the Theotokos two years later.

**Ministry Focus:** Open Door – Cooking and Serving; St. Elizabeth Society; humble prayer warrior. Teaches astronomy at St. Herman of Alaska Christian School.

**Favorite Words of Wisdom:** Oh Holy Trinity you have lifted me from my despair that I may be vigilant and glorify your might. From p. 4, Holy Protection Orthodox Monastery Prayer book





## Funeral of Mary Anastasia Hays August 22, 2011



### Parish Profile: John Anders Walker

**Name:** John Anders Walker

**Place of Birth:** Maple Park, Illinois. Moved to Boston in 2006

**Languages Spoken:** English, German, Spanish, ASL

**Fond Childhood Memory:** Singing and horsing around with my sister doing after dinner dishes and eating an entire mini loaf of Mom's whole wheat bread that she baked just for me.

**Colleges Attended:** Wheaton College Conservatory of Music: Vocal performance; New England Conservatory of Music: Master's of Vocal performance

**Current Career:** Cashier at Trader Joes, Home Health Aid, Kindergarten Music Teacher

**How did you come to HROC?**

By the Grace of God. My brother Aaron brought me on Holy and Great Thursday, met Father Patrick. A couple of years later passed by the church on his bike, and looked at schedule and entered again, loved it and the rest is history.

**Ministry Focus:** John is a Reader at HROC; he does Sign language interpreting, and is open to whatever needs arise.

**Favorite Words of Wisdom:** Elder Macarius of Optina says, "When you are well satisfied and consider yourself to be enjoying much grace, beware: the enemy never sleeps and humility is the only weapon that shatters him."



## Orthodoxy on Tap

Orthodoxy on Tap is a program of lectures sponsored by the 20/40 Fellowship at St. George Orthodox Church in West Roxbury. The lectures, which are often given by noted spiritual leaders and religious academics in the Orthodox Church, address current topics in religion and theology. Speakers for this fall are as follows:

Thursday, October 13th with Dr. Aristotle Papanikolaou

Thursday, October 20th with Dr. Anthony Bashir

Thursday, October 27th with Dr. Philip Mamalakis

All talks at Roggie's Bar & Grill, Cleveland Circle, 7:30pm

## Resurrection Coffeehouse

Invite all your friends and come on out to the first coffeehouse of the 2011-2012 school year! It's going to be a great evening of live music, hot drinks, tasty treats, and catching up with friends! There will be a \$2 donation at the door or bring canned goods for the church's food pantry. And if you are interested in playing, please make a note on the wall or send us a message. We are always looking for new performers!

The Coffeehouse will be on Friday, October 14, 9pm-Midnight.

## Harvest Festival



Traditionally, the harvest was a sign of God's love, pleasure and plenty. And so it continues to be, even in our modern age. Our Lord truly does sustain us from year to year and if it were not for His mercy and love for us, we would perish.

In recognition of our Heavenly Father, Who is the source of our every blessing and in honor of the feast of the Theotokos, She Who Ripens the Grain, St. Herman's School will be hosting its

annual Autumn Harvest Festival, **Thursday, October 20, 2011, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm**. The roots of the word "harvest" is taken from the Old English "hoerfast" which has its roots in the Latin "carpere" (to pluck or to gather) and the Greek words "carpos" (fruit) and "keirein" (to cut).

The intent of the Harvest Festival is to remind us the vital, natural activity and to bring forth in thanksgiving the creative fruits of our labors. Please see Deacon Tudor about ways to participate.

## New Vicar Bishop Daniil

Dearest beloved Fathers,  
Brothers and Sisters in the Lord,

With the blessing of His Holiness Bulgarian Patriarch Maxim and according to the decision of the Holy Synod of the Bulgarian Orthodox Church - Bulgarian Patriarchate, on September 17, 2011, I started my service as a Vicar Bishop to His Eminence Joseph, Metropolitan of the Bulgarian Eastern Orthodox Diocese of the USA, Canada and Australia.



I thank God, as well as His Holiness and the Holy Synod for this ministry and also thank all of you for your warm greetings and prayerful wishes. Your heartfelt words give me a hope that my service under the *omophorion* of our Metropolitan will be supported by the intercession of many people and at the same time remind me about my responsibility, being at His Eminence's disposal to assist him in his arch-pastoral cares. I pray that all of us could attain unto the unity of the faith and get closer to the knowledge of the Son of God, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ (Ephesians 4:13).

I am looking forward to our mutual cooperation in this ministry. Through the prayers of His Eminence Metropolitan Joseph may the blessing of God come unto everyone of us.

With love in Christ,  
+ Bishop Daniil

## Tag Sale Thanks

Special thanks to all who made the annual Church Tag Sale on September 24-25 a great success. Since it happened in conjunction with the Allston Street Fair, we had more people than usual. Thanks to all who helped price goods, sell items, and clean up afterwards!



## Dates to Remember

Tue., Oct. 4	Apple Picking with St. Herman's
Fri., Oct. 14	Resurrection Coffeehouse, 9pm
Thur., Oct. 20	Harvest Festival, 10am-1pm
Thur., Oct. 20	Board Meeting, 6:30pm
Sun., Nov. 20	Annual Parish Meeting, Noon