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Furthermore, while faithfully preserving the Orthodox Faith, everyone must also take care to spread it among the non-Orthodox. Christ the Savior said that having lit the candle, men do not put it under a bushel but on a candlestick so that it gives light to all (Matthew 5:15). The light of the Orthodox Faith has not been lit to shine only for a small circle of people. No, the Orthodox Church is catholic; she remembers the commandment of her Founder, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature and teach all nations" (Mark 16:15; Matthew 28:19).

—from St. Tikhon's Farewell Homily On His Leaving America in 1907

St. Susanna Clergy Will Present Orthodoxy at Starbucks

Brothers and sisters, we will do two presentations on Orthodoxy in the conference room at the Starbucks coffee house, located in the Junction Shopping Center. The first is on Saturday, October 9 from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. (topic: "Faith is a Verb: Orthodox Church History"); and the second is on Saturday, October 29 from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. (topic: "When the Saints Come Marching In: The True Meaning of All Hallow's Eve"). There will be video and live presentation. Come join us in making a genteel kind of public Orthodox witness!

Adult Education and Enrichment Class Time Change

The Adult Education and Enrichment Class (which formerly took place on Saturday afternoons) has a new schedule—which is, every Thursday at 6:00 p.m. Currently, we are discussing the Christian Virtues in a study and discussion group focusing on the practical applications of each concept. Overall, we roam from Christian history, to theology, to Christian ethos.

Another new aspect of the class is an ongoing study of the life and works of St. John Chrysostom, widely known as one of the supreme homilists in the history of the Christian Church, presented by Deacon Elias on the last Thursday of each month.

The classes on Christian history, theology and ethos, plus the Chrysostom series take place in the nave of the church. For more information, call Fr. Andrew.

Joyous Event: The Crowning of Layne and Jan's Marriage

The Crowning of Layne (John) and Jan (Anna) Williams' marriage will take place on October 16, following Divine Liturgy and potluck luncheon. Crowning is actually the central part of the Orthodox wedding ceremony. However, many couples who were married before coming into the Orthodox Church, eventually desire to have the Crowning ceremony, with its many blessings and beautiful formality, which are pronounced on such existing marriages. To be clear, it is not a necessity for the already-married, for a marriage is a marriage—but the Crowning of a marriage is a joyous event in which a couple can reaffirm their commitment to each other, and have that commitment blessed in a uniquely Orthodox manner.

*Corner of Jamestown Rd. & Robinwood Ln. (2 blocks north of Racetrack Rd.)

The Orthodox Church in America's 16th All-American Council

The All-American Council

I will be in Bellevue, Washington for the OCA's 16th All-American Council (October 31 through November 4), with Fred Everly, as Fred and I are Delegates representing St. Susanna Orthodox Mission at the Council. The All-American Council meets every three to four years, and will be deciding on numerous long-term Church issues. Central to these issues are changes to the OCA's Strategic Plan.

The Strategic Plan is a map of the issues that have been determined, by groups composed of clergy and laity in Diocesan Council meetings throughout the OCA, to be of special importance for our future direction as a Church. Delegates will work in various work groups composed of clergy and laity, seeking ways to address and implement Church action on those issues. Here is a list of the top ten important issues that are central to the Strategic Plan (as shown in Fr. John Vitko's article, "Where There is No Vision, the People Perish," in the Spring/Summer 2011 issue of *The Orthodox Church*): **Parish Development** (developing Christ-centered, healthy, growing parishes); **Diocesan Relationships** (revitalizing our diocese/parish relationships); **Young Adults** (involving more fully our high school and college age members in the life of the Church); **Leadership and Management**

(improving the leadership and management skills at all levels in the Church); **Theological Education** (establishing a vision for theological education for the Orthodox Church in America); **Continuing Education** (providing for the ongoing education of clergy and laity); **Inter-Orthodox Relations** (nurturing strong inter-Orthodox relations); **Funding** (transitioning to a sounder way of funding the Church); **Evangelization** (equipping our Church for the ministry of Evangelization; and **Contemporary Issues** (addressing contemporary cultural/moral/social issues).

The Strategic Plan is not like an ordinary business corporate plan, because the Church is not a secular institution; rather, the Church is a spiritual body whose head is Jesus Christ. Again, to quote a source on the topic, "[The Church] is a *sacramental mystery* that unites us to Christ to transform our lives, and by our witness to transform those around us. It is this inner spiritual transformation and the resulting efforts to reach out to others that are the focus of this Plan. If we follow Christ in this, then everything will follow."

Please pray for Fred and me, and indeed pray for everyone at the All-American Council. This has everything to do with revitalizing our Church and moving fruitfully into the future, bearing the clear and brilliant truth of Christ forward for an increasingly confused world.

In Christ,
Fr. Andrew

MANY YEARS

Birthdays:

Rebecca Teshin	October 11
Mat. Anna Union	October 21

St. Susanna Cleaning Team Schedule

Blessed are those who love the beauty of God's house

Team 2—October 15; 9:00 a.m.

Thank you everyone for your help in beautifying our temple

Liturgical Schedule for October, 2011

Note: The Adult Education and Spiritual Enrichment class takes place before Thursday evenings at 6:00 p.m. in the nave of the church.

October

- Saturday, Oct. 1** **Pokrov: The Protection of the Most-holy Theotokos** (no Liturgy scheduled)
6:00 p.m.—Great Vespers
- Sunday, Oct. 2** 9:00 a.m.—Divine Liturgy
Scripture Readings: 2 Corinthians 6:1–10 and Luke 6:31–36
Note: The Parish Council Meeting will take place after Divine Liturgy.
- Saturday, Oct. 8** 10:00–11:00 a.m.—“**Faith is a Verb: Orthodox Church History**”—presentation at Starbucks
at the Junction
6:00 p.m.—Great Vespers
- Sunday, Oct. 9** 9:00 a.m.—Divine Liturgy
Scripture Readings: 2 Corinthians 6:16–7:1 and Luke 7:11–16
- Saturday, Oct. 15** **6:00 p.m.**—Great Vespers for **The Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council**
- Sunday, Oct. 16** 9:00 a.m.—Divine Liturgy for **The Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council**
Scripture Readings: 2 Corinthians 9:6–11 and Luke 8:5–15
Note: A potluck luncheon will take place after Divine Liturgy, followed by the Crowning of the Williams’ marriage!
- Saturday, Oct. 22** 6:00 p.m.—Great Vespers for **Holy Apostle James**
- Sunday, Oct. 23** 9:00 a.m.—Divine Liturgy for **Holy Apostle James**
Scripture Readings: 2 Corinthians 11:31–12:9 and Luke 16:19–31
Note: A potluck luncheon will take place after Divine Liturgy.
- Saturday, Oct. 29** 2:00–3:00 p.m.—“**When the Saints Come Marching In: What All Hallow’s Eve Really Means**”—presentation at Starbucks at the Junction
6:00 p.m.—Great Vespers
- Sunday, Oct. 30** 9:00 a.m.—Divine Liturgy
Scripture Readings: Galatians 1:11–19 and Luke 8:26–39
- Oct. 31–Nov. 4** **16th All-American Council in Bellevue, Washington**

November

- Saturday, Nov. 5** 6:00 p.m.—Great Vespers
- Sunday, Nov. 6** 9:00 a.m.—Divine Liturgy
Scripture Readings: Galatians 2:16–20 and Luke 8:41–56
Note: The Parish Council Meeting will take place after Divine Liturgy.
- Saturday, Nov. 12** 6:00 p.m.—Great Vespers for **John Chrysostom, Archbp. of Constantinople**

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Liturgy Schedule for November *(continued)*

- Sunday, Nov. 13** 9:00 a.m.—Divine Liturgy for **John Chrysostom, Archbp. of Constantinople**
Scripture Readings: Galatians 6:11-18 and Luke 10:25-37
Note: A potluck luncheon will take place after Divine Liturgy.
- Tuesday, Nov. 15** **Beginning of Nativity Fast—November 15–December 24**
(November 14, Apostle Philip’s day, is also a fast day)
- Saturday, Nov. 19** 6:00 p.m.—Great Vespers
- Sunday, Nov. 20** 9:00 a.m.—Divine Liturgy
Scripture Readings: Ephesians 2:4–10 and Luke 12:16–21
*Note: Great Vespers for **The Entry of the Theotokos into the Temple** will follow Coffee Hour*
- Monday, Nov. 21** 6:00 a.m.—Divine Liturgy for **The Entry of the Theotokos Into the Temple**

Prayer List *(To ask us to pray for you, your family, or friends, please call Alex Teshin at 209-536-9999 or email ateshin@teshin.com.)*

PLEASE JOIN US IN GIVING THANKS TO GOD:

- For the skill and devotion of those beautifying our temple and gardens.
- For the beauty of the Mother Lode, and for the privilege we have been given to live here.
- That the Holy Mother of Jesus continues to care for the unborn.
- That many of our petitions are being answered.
- For healing of Benjamin.

PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYING FOR GOD’S HELP:

- “St. John, please intercede for us before God for the membership growth of St. Susanna.”
- That St. Susanna Mission may receive a Church Planting Grant.
- For repose of the souls of our service men and women who have given their lives for people of foreign lands.
- To safeguard all the troops who remain in heathen lands.

- To help us forgive heathen fanatics who continue to murder our soldiers and their own citizens and children.
- That many may come to Orthodoxy through our witness and example.
- To bless our monasteries and the men and women who dwell in them.
- For the healing of Matushka Anna.
- For health and strength for Athena.
- For the healing of Glenn.
- For the healing of Jacob.
- For health and wisdom for Dolly.
- For health for Natasha.
- For health and strength for Anna.
- For health and healing for Ron.
- For healing for Jan.
- For a safe and healthy delivery for Alyssa.
- For health and spiritual strength for Alex.