



# WEEKLY BULLETIN

**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ORTHODOX CHURCH**  
**Sunday August 5, 2018**

Martyr Trophimus  
Epistle: **1 Corinthians 4:9-16**  
Gospel: **Matthew 17:14-23**

## *Weekly Schedule of Services/Events*

### **Sunday, August 5**

9:00AM Divine Liturgy  
Epistle: Hailey McKane

### **Thursday, August 9**

9:00AM + Lesko

### **Saturday, August 11**

8:00AM Church Picnic Set-up

### **Sunday, August 12**

9:00AM Divine Liturgy  
Epistle: Christopher Greenhill  
11:00AM Church Picnic  
Rescue Mission

## *Martyr Trophimus*

The Holy Martyrs Trophimos, Theophilos, and Thirteen Holy Martyrs with them, suffered during the time of the persecution against Christians under the emperor Diocletian (284-305). Brought to trial, they bravely confessed themselves Christians and refused to offer sacrifice to idols. After fierce tortures, they threw the holy martyrs with broken legs into a fire. Strengthened by the Lord, they came out of the fire completely unharmed, and still all the moreso did they glorify Christ. Then in despair of breaking the will of the holy confessors, the torturers beheaded them.

### **Service Schedule**

Divine Liturgy 9am  
Weekday Eve Service 7pm

### **General Information**

[www.stjohnsmillhill.com](http://www.stjohnsmillhill.com)

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### **Diocesan Resources**

**Diocesan Website**

[www.acrod.org](http://www.acrod.org)

**Camp Nazareth**

[www.campnazareth.org](http://www.campnazareth.org)

**Facebook**

[www.facebook.com/acrod-diocese](http://www.facebook.com/acrod-diocese)

**Twitter**

[www.twitter.com/acrod-news](http://www.twitter.com/acrod-news)

**YouTube**

[www.youtube.com/acrod-diocese](http://www.youtube.com/acrod-diocese)

## *Weekly Announcements*

**CHURCH PICNIC:** Our annual Church Picnic will take place on August 12. Donations can be made at any time. Please see the flyer in the bulletin for the wish list of donation items. Picnic Setup will take place this Saturday starting at 8am. The more we have the quicker it will go. Please plan to come and lend a hand.

**R CLUB STEAK AND LOBSTER:** Saturday, August 18, the R Club will hold its annual steak and lobster cookout. We're asking the members to bring an appetizer, side dish or dessert. Please RSVP by Wednesday, August 15th to Holy and Pete at [seadogco@optonline.net](mailto:seadogco@optonline.net) or 203-377-2831..

## *Scripture Readings for Sunday*

### **Epistle Reading - Romans 1 Corinthians 4:9-16**

Brethren, God has exhibited us apostles as last of all, like men sentenced to death; because we have become a spectacle to the world, to angels and to men. We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ. We are weak, but you are strong. You are held in honor, but we in disrepute. To the present hour we hunger and thirst, we are ill-clad and buffeted and homeless, and we labor, working with our own hands. When reviled, we bless; when persecuted, we endure; when slandered, we try to conciliate; we have become, and are now, as the refuse of the world, the off-scouring of all things. I do not write this to make you ashamed, but to admonish you as my beloved children. For though you have countless guides in Christ, you do not have many fathers. For I became your father in Christ Jesus through the gospel. I urge you, then, be imitators of me.

### **Gospel Reading -Matthew 17:14-23**

At that time, a man came up to Jesus and kneeling before him said, "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and he suffers terribly; for often he falls into the fire, and often into the water. And I brought him to your disciples, and they could not heal him." And Jesus answered, "O faithless and perverse generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him here to me." And Jesus rebuked him, and the demon came out of him, and the boy was cured instantly. Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not cast it out?" He said to them, "Because of your little faith. For truly I say to you, if you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move hence to yonder place,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you. But this kind never comes out except by prayer and fasting." As they were gathering in Galilee, Jesus said to them, "The Son of man is to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him, and he will be raised on the third day."

## On Stewardship: Sent



“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age.” (Matthew 28:18-20 RSV)

Mission has not been a word in common use among Orthodox. Perhaps it is because the word “mission” itself comes from the West, from the Latin *missio*. The Greek translation of the word *missio* is *apostolos*. Apostolic and apostle are words that are in common use in Orthodoxy. Yet both words *missio* and *apostolos* mean the same: to send, be sent, or one who is sent.

Several times in His earthly ministry, Christ sent (*apostello*) His followers out to carry His message beyond the local area. At His Holy Ascension, the last words of Christ to his disciples were words of sending: “Go therefore and make disciples...”

Those words are meant not just for those gathered on the Mount of Ascension, they are intended for all who are committed to the cause of Christ and His Church. We must always see ourselves as “sent” people. We are those who are sent to make new disciples, to teach them to observe all that Christ has commanded. The primary persons responsible for making disciples and teaching them in today’s Church are the Bishops, the apostolic (sent) representatives of Christ who come directly to us as new Apostles of Christ. But the Bishops cannot do this mission work alone.

It is a major part of our stewardship to see that the work of the Bishop is done not only locally in the parishes (with priests who represent the Bishop) but in the wider church and its efforts to “make disciples.” We can support Orthodox-wide mission efforts, of course. But, like the old saying goes, charity (stewardship) begins at home. Our own local parish is not to be exclusively a home for established Orthodox Christians. Rather, the local parish must function primarily as a center of outreach into the community in which it is located.

Christ has given to each one of us this trust of mission, that is, being apostolic. We must exercise a stewardship of that trust. Money of course is needed to maintain the churches. But we are not about maintaining. We are about mission, about being apostolic, about being sent. Thus without an outreach to bring in new souls, the churches are failing in their keeping of Christ’s trust. “Go therefore and make disciples...”

*This weekly series of brief thoughts on stewardship and Orthodox life is brought to you by your Diocesan Stewardship Commission.*



**Sunday, August 12**

**11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.**

**St. John's "Glevenaks' Grove"**

**Beaver Dam Road, Stratford**

**Come and join us for a good, old-fashioned Church picnic at the Grove, with plenty of the food you love, ice-cold drinks and delicious home-baked goods, games and raffles, music and fellowship!**

**PICNIC WISH LIST:**

**Soda (regular and diet cans), bottled water, juice boxes, paper plates, paper towels and napkins.**

**Please bring in these items by AUGUST 5TH and leave them in the church auditorium.**

**We are also in need of raffle prizes and baked goods which should be brought to the picnic.**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**