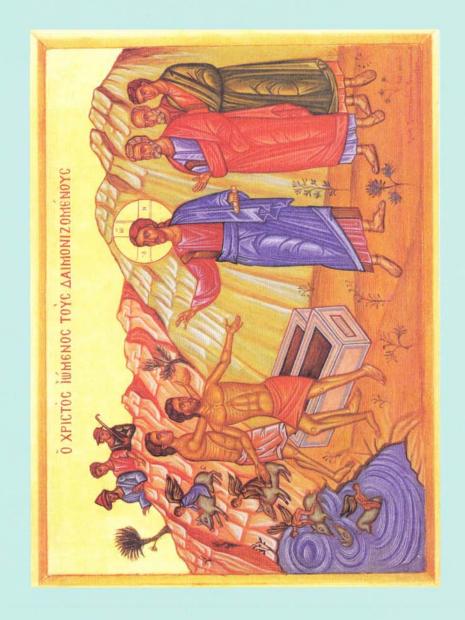
# THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of the Healing of the Gadarene Demoniacs

# **5**<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

TONE 4

## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES FOR WEEK OF JULY 6 - JULY 12

# Sunday, July 12 -6th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

For All Parishioners

## 参ふふふ Remember in your prayers やややや

Please remember in your prayers those people of our parish who are ailing, are in hospitals, nursing homes and those who are not able to join us actively in our community. Remember especially the following: Katherine Andrus, Walter & Isabella Bachynsky, Susie Boyko, Sonya Cronin, Helen Davis, Bohdanchik James, Lesya Loznycky, Ken McDonald, Sophia Skop. Please let Fr. James know if there is anyone who should be remembered.



# Prayers For Those Serving In The Military



Let us especially remember in our prayers those family members and friends who are actively serving our country in the Armed Forces: Luke and Slavamira Haywas, Elizabeth Heltsley, Oksanna Hirniak, Michael Lopes, Paul Richelmi and Brian Tuthill. Please give any names of those you would like remembered in the Liturgies to Fr. James.

## FR. JAMES WILL BE AWAY...

Fr. James will be out of town from June 30<sup>th</sup> until July 10th. In case of an emergency please contact either Fr. Robert Pipta of Holy Angels Byzantine Catholic Church at (858) 277-2511 or Fr. Sabba Shofany of St. Jacob Melkite Catholic Mission at (619) 410-7868. The Liturgy on July 5<sup>th</sup> will be served by Fr. Sabba. Welcome Fr. Sabba!

# Ukrainian Parish Festival!

We are tentatively planning a Parish Festival for Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup>. We will need many volunteers. Luke Miller is the coordinator for this event.

# Summer Schedule

Beginning **this Sunday**, July 5th, there will be one Divine Liturgy on Sundays at 9:00 AM. There will be no Vespers on Saturday evenings. This schedule will continue through September. Any changes to this schedule will be announced in the bulletin.

#### "...BUT DELIVER US FROM EVIL"

Today's Holy Gospel relates a wondrous and, to some extent, frightening event. Jesus casts out the evil spirits, demons, which possessed two individuals and, in doing so, healed them. But, the inhabitants of this country asked Jesus to leave. Why? Because they did not want to be rid of their sinful life, their passions and affairs. They were pagans.

What do we have today, in our contemporary Christian world? We have a great amount of people who are possessed by various sorts of EVIL. They are slaves, possessed by pride, lying, hate, anger and malice. They are slaves, possessed by unceasing passions of the flesh — debauchees. They are slaves, possessed by alcohol or narcotics. Were they always like this? Perhaps not. There came a time when they, overpowered by temptation, gave their consent to be ensnared in the nets of evil.

We know that there are two great forces — the force of Good and Love, which is the Lord God — and the force of Evil and Hate, which is the Devil. A person, among all creation, has the intellect and free will to make a choice — for happiness or unhappiness — whichever he or she wants.

In all temptations, the Devil wants but one thing — that we bow down before him and worship him; that we proclaim him our Master and that we be his servants and slaves. Temptation promises us sweetness, happiness and deliverance, but this "freedom" is the most terrifying enslavement. Behind it is hidden a horrible reality. Only where the spirit of God reigns is there freedom. To seek it elsewhere is a fruitless endeavor. That is why, in the Lord's prayer, we constantly pray: "...And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil."

This prayer has never been so necessary as now. Once upon a time, the Devil corrupted individuals, but, now, using modern media, he deals worldwide. Our life is a constant battle with temptation and evil. We pray to the Almighty Lord that He free us from the influence and power of the Devil; that, through our apathy and laziness, we not become pawns of the Devil; that we not spread falsehood, hate, animosity and confusion. Let us remember that: "Because of the increase of evil, the love of most will grow cold. The man who holds out to the end, however, is the one who will see salvation" (Mt. 24, 12-14).

### "АЛЕ ВИЗВОЛИ НАС ВІД ЛУКАВОГО"

Сьогоднішнє Святе Євангеліє розповідає нам про надзвичайну і в якійсь мірі жахливу подію. Ісус вигнав злих духів, бісів, якими були опановані двоє людей, тим самими оздоровивши їх. Але мешканці цього краю просили Ісуса відійти з їхніх околиць. Чому? Бо вони не хотіли позбутися свого гріховного життя, своїх пристрастей і налогів. Вони були поганами.

маємо тепер. В сучасному християнському світі? Ми маємо велику кількість людей опанованих різного роду ЗЛОМ. Це невільники, опановані гордістю, брехнею, ненавистю, гнівом і злістю: невільники опановані непогамованими тілесними пристрастями розпусники; невільники опановані алькоголем або наркотиками. Чи завжди вони були такими? Мабуть, що ні. Колись наступив час, що вони, опановані спокусами, дали згоду волі і опинилися в тенетах зла.

Ми знаємо, що є дві великі сили — сила Добра і Любові — Господь Бог і сила Зла і ненависті — Диявол. Але людина, з-поміж усіх створінь, має розум і свобідну волю, отож має можливість вибирати — на своє щастя, чи нещастя — те, що хоче.

В усіх спокусах диявол хоче лише одного, щоб ми впали перед ним і йому поклонялися. Щоб його, а не Бога, ми визнали своїм Паном, щоб були його слугами і рабами. Спокуса обіцяє насолоду, щастя, звільнення, та ця "свобода" — це найстрашніше поневолення. За цим приховується страшна дійсність. Тільки там, де Дух Господній, там і воля. Деінде її шукати — це даремний труд. Тому в Господній Молитві ми постійно просимо: "І не введи нас у спокусу, але визволи нас від лукавого".

Ніколи це прохання не було так актуальне, як тепер. Колись диявол зводив одиниці, а тепер, використовуючи модерні засоби, він діє в світовому обсязі. Наше життя — це постійна боротьба спокусами злом. Молімо Всевишнього, щоби визволив нас від впливу і влади лукавого над нами, щоб ми через свою байдужість і лінивство не стали знаряддям в його руках, не ширили брехню, ненависть, роздор і замішання. Пам'ятаймо, що "Через те, що розбуяє беззаконня, любов багатьох охолоне. Але хто витримає до останку, той спасеться" (Мт. 24, 12-14).

## Українська Католицька Парафія Матері Божої Неустаючої Помочі

Церква Святого Пророка й Предтечи Йоана Хрестителя Святиня Святого Миколая, Архиєпископа Мір Лікійського, Чудотворця

# Ukrainian Catholic Parish of Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Church of the Holy Prophet, Forerunner and Baptizer John Shrine of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycea

> 4400 Palm Avenue La Mesa, CA 91941 Parish Office: (619) 697-5085

Website: stjohnthebaptizer.org

**Парох:** о. Яків Бенькстон **Pastor**: Fr. James Bankston frjames@mac.com

Fr. James' cell phone: (619) 905-5278

# Demon Warfare

T he whole warfare of the demons against us is waged with the one purpose of alienating those who obey them from the glory of God and the grace of the Holy Spirit. But, as I see it, we have already deprived ourselves of such a gift before they even attack us, because we have forsaken the commandments of God and have not been eager to seek Him with all our soul.

Had we sought Him we should not have lived so idly and carelessly! Had we been concerned for the things of heaven we should not have shown such great eagerness for the things of earth. Had our thoughts been on things incorruptible we should not have gaped greedily after the things that are transitory and corruptible. Had we striven for things eternal we should not thus have pursued things temporal. Had we loved God we should not thus have turned away from those who guide us to Him. Had we sought to acquire virtues we would not have abhorred the teachers of virtues. Had we gladly embraced fasting we should not have complained of the lack of food and drink. Had we fought to gain control over our passions we should not have given ourselves unrestrainedly to pleasures. Had we a right and firm faith we should not have performed the works of faithlessness. Had we been found worthy to attain true love we should have known God.

St. Simeon the New Theologian