

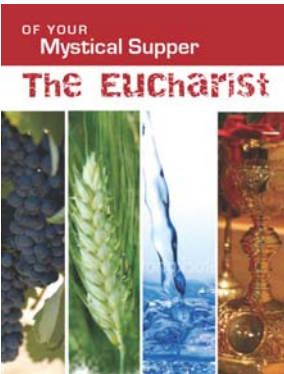
Office of Religious Education, Metropolis of Pittsburgh

Phyllis Meshel Onest, Director 11-20-09 Update

Reverend Clergy & Church School Directors,

I hope you enjoy the periodic UPDATES rather than the individual emails Please make sure all your staff members receive a copy. Wishing you a blessed Nativity Fast, Phyllis

FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

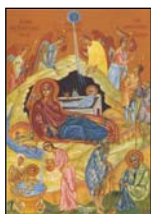
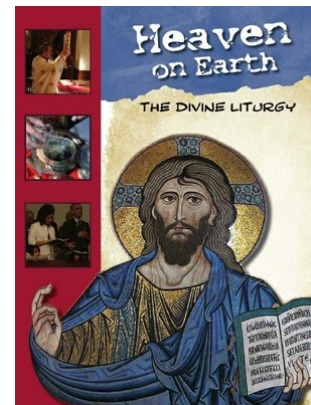


New zine "Of Your Mystical Supper: The Eucharist"

- "Senior High" (grades 10-12) level
- Sacrament of Holy Communion as a Sacrament of Remembrance (in the Last Supper) / a Sacrament of Thanksgiving (the Eucharist) / a Sacrament of Forgiveness / a Sacrament of Community.
- Contains (1) Preparing for Holy Communion & (2) Prothesis Service.
- Could also serve as a handout in adult education classes, be given to visitors to the parish, or placed in the narthex or in the pews.
- Cost is \$3.95 per copy. 50 copies or more, \$2.95 each.
- Teacher's Guide is in development.

"Heaven on Earth: The Divine Liturgy"-Junior High" (Grades 7-9)

- Guide to the Divine Liturgy of St John Chrysostom
- Brief history of worship in the Orthodox Church
- Details each section of the Divine Liturgy.
- Directions for greater involvement.
- "Glossary" of items seen at the Divine Liturgy
- Twenty-four pages, fully illustrated in color.
- Could also serve as a handout in adult education classes, be given to visitors to the parish, or placed in the narthex or in the pews.
- \$3.95 per copy. 50 or more copies, \$2.95
- A Teacher's Guide for classroom use will be available soon.



ZINE FOR THE NATIVITY FAST..... "For To Us A Child Is Born"

discusses the *Incarnation of Christ*. It includes the Annunciation, Christmas, Theophany, and St. Basil & Vasilopita. A teacher's guide is available.

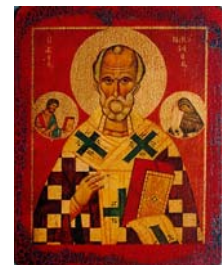
St. Nicholas Day Chocolate Coins Offered by Paidea Classics



Available in Dark Chocolate (non-dairy), Milk Chocolate & Mint Dark Chocolate.

- * 3 Pack (Mixed or one flavor) \$1.75
- * 12 Pack (Mixed or one flavor) \$5.95
- * 24 Pack (Mixed or one flavor) \$9.95

www.paideaclassics.org



~Nativity Gold Foil Chocolate Coins, Icon Ornament Kits, & Advent Calendars Also Available~

RESOURCES FOR THANKSGIVING - 2009

Department of Youth and Young Adult Ministry



Family Activities for Giving Thanks

- [It's not the Turkey](#)
- [Family Activities for Thanksgiving November 2002](#)
- [Thank You in 465 Languages](#) (see below)

Articles on Thankfulness

- [Give Thanks unto the Lord for He is Good!](#) 2009
- [Spirit of Thankfulness by The Orthodox Monastery of the Transfiguration](#)
- [Teaching Kids to be Grateful February 2002](#)

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**Let's help our youth learn to say "Thank You" in a language from a country where there are Orthodox Christians.**

### Some of the 465 Ways to Say Thank You

|                                   |                 |                              |              |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| Albanian (Albania, Yugoslavia)    | Ju falem nderit | Korean (Korea)               | Komapsumnida |
| Arabic (Syria)                    | Mamnuun         | Livonian (Latvia, Estonia)   | Tienu        |
| Bulgarian (Bulgaria)              | Blagodarya      | Maasai (Kenya, Tanzania)     | Ashi naling  |
| Ekegusii (Kenya)                  | Imbuya mono     | Macedonian (Macedonia)       | Blagodaram   |
| Kashmiri (India, Pakistan, China) | Shukria         | Moldavian (Moldova)          | Multumesc    |
| Georgian [Kartuli] (Georgia)      | Mahd-lob        | Ndebele (Zimbabwe)           | Ngeyabonga   |
| Greek (Greece, Cyprus)            | Efcharisto      | Romanian (Romania)           | Multumesc    |
| Hebrew (Israel)                   | Toda            | Russian (Russia)             | Spasibo      |
| Indonesian (Indonesia)            | Makasih         | Serbian (Bosnia, Yugoslavia) | Hvala        |
| Japanese (Japan)                  | Arigato         | Slovak (Slovakia)            | Dakujem      |
| Karelian (Finland)                | Spasibo         | Spanish (Spain, America)     | Gracias      |
| Kekchi (Guatemala)                | B'antiox        | Ukrainian (Ukraine)          | Spasibi      |
| Kichagga (Tanzania)               | Haika           | Urdu (India, Pakistan)       | Shukriya     |
| Kipsigis (Uganda)                 | Kongoi          |                              |              |

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AN INSPIRING STORY OF FAITH - as a graduate of Malone College (now University), I periodically receive "A Malone Moment" from the Alumni Office. The latest issue included this article and the connection to a video clip from Fox TV.



I believe it would be valuable for our teens to see how a college student with a relationship with Christ dealt with a serious medical crisis.

Move the class to the office computer or use a wireless laptop. pmo

Malone University student athlete, **Julie Finley**, a senior Intervention Specialist major from Collins, OH, is the subject of the nationally televised program **The Real Winning Edge**, which aired on FOX. The member of the Pioneer Volleyball team has spent the past two years facing a different kind of opponent -- Lyme Disease -- and is winning the battle. [Watch the program here online 11/17-20!](#)

Feedback On - "ENTER IN" - An Adult Education Resource

I have received very positive reviews from clergy who have used these 15-minute video presentations. There are 16 presentations that total 4 hours of video on 4DVD's!

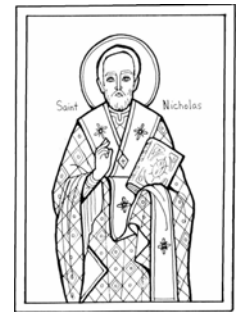
- The presentations explore (1) the major feasts of the Church and (2) the meaning and purpose of Orthodox Christian worship.
- Includes: Discussion Questions, a Web Site, a Viewer's Companion, and a Teacher's Guide.
- Full of interviews, music, hymns, icons, and beautiful visuals.
- Designed for individual, family, or group study. Perfect resource for a parish's Bible study or adult church school class!

Produced by the Department of Religious Education. To order, contact the Department at 800-566-1088 or <http://goarch.org/archdiocese/departments/religioused/feasts>

NEED IDEAS FOR A SAINT NICHOLAS CELEBRATION?

Go to the Saint Nicholas (Ecumenical) Center
www.stnicholascenter.org

- Around the World: [Saint Nicholas traditions in many countries](#)
- How to Celebrate: [Activities, crafts, recipes, stories & more](#)
- For Kids: [Games, stories & other fun things](#)



From the Archdiocese DRE - Sunday Church School and H1N1

A few people have asked if the Archdiocese has issued any guidelines about the H1N1 influenza (swine flu) virus and how it could affect parish life. To the best of our knowledge, as of today, His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios of Boston, His Eminence Metropolitan Isaiah of Denver, and His Eminence Metropolitan Alexios of Atlanta have made individual statements regarding the "pandemic," including addressing any concerns that people may have regarding Holy Communion and the H1N1 flu. You can find and download their messages at the following links.

- * For the message of Metropolitan Methodios, go to www.boston.goarch.org/news/metropolis_news/476.html
- * For the message of Metropolitan Isaiah, go to www.denver.goarch.org/protocols/
- * For the message of Metropolitan Alexios, go to www.atlanta.goarch.org/index.php?pr=Metropolitan_Message

The Health Task Force of the National Council of Churches in Christ USA has released a set of "Best Practices" of precautions to take for both seasonal flu and H1N1. Worth reviewing are the general suggestions, the hygiene practices, and the visitation practices that it lists (the worship practices don't apply to most Orthodox liturgical life) for parishes, their programs, and facilities. Each parish can then decide what steps it may take. www.health-ministries.org/article.php?story=20091014165130863

Parishes should use common sense about maintaining a healthy and sanitary environment in parish facilities to limit the possible spread of the virus, especially to the more vulnerable among us, in what is expected to be a particularly active flu season. The best efforts can't guarantee that someone will not get the flu this season, but we should take whatever steps we can to create a hygienic environment.

Anton C. Vrame, Ph.D.