

## Holy Transfiguration Cathedral Newsletter

349 East 47th Ave. Denver, Colorado 80216

Phone (303) 294 0938 Email [jbirsch@sprintmail.com](mailto:jbirsch@sprintmail.com)

Web Site [www.transfigcathedral.org](http://www.transfigcathedral.org)

Archpriest Joseph Hirsch - Dean

Archpriest Eugene Tarris - Assistant

Fr. Averky Davis - Deacon

Fr. Alexander Vallens- Deacon

---

### Third Annual Orthodox Food Festival "Old Globeville Days"

Our third Annual Orthodox Food Festival was a magnificent success. The first year we had about seventy volunteers working on the project. Last year it was up to seventy five and this year we had eighty five workers. Among the improvements this year were our \$2,000 Community Building Grant from the Denver Foundation. This amount, which is the largest grant they give for a two day event, went to provide part of the free entertainment in Argo Park. We also had cooperation from a number of community entities. The Pepsi Bottlers cut us a very favorable deal on soft drinks. Sierra Springs Water donated a large quantity of its product. A number of vendors who paid a reasonable fee to participate, were present to add color and variety and to give the feeling of an Old World Fair. Yulia Hartenbower designed and executed a number of wonderful kids' games that were very popular. The local Rec. Center lent us the use of their "Snow cone" machine and Tom Everet of Correctional Management Incorporated, arranged to have a number of young men here to handle our clean up at the conclusion of the event. Also, several neighbors contributed by cosponsoring our grant application.

Of course, we received dozens of compliments on the wonderful Greek, Romanian, Russian, Serbian and Southwestern U.S. cuisine. The terrific baked goods were, as always, a hit.

A much more complete report on Festival '06 is included in this newsletter but it remains to be said that credit for a great deal of the success of this and both previous festivals belongs to the leadership of our hard working Senior Warden, Erin Busken and of our her daring and resourceful husband, Doug

### Church Preservation Project is Underway

In the months of July and August some of the very important early stage projects in our preservation process have been completed. We have undergone an abatement procedure to remove all of the asbestos from under our Temple and have paid for the monitoring process to certify that the area is clean. We have upgraded the plumbing in our Altar area and have replaced our 20 year old hot water heater with a new, larger and more efficient unit. We have had a complete study made of our wooden floor and have performed an urgent repair to the floor structure under our entrance porch. We have also had an evaluation made of the "Rising damp" in the church walls which has been determined to be the result of too much moisture in the soil rather than from, either a faulty roof or high water table. This evaluation required that a complicated and very interesting radar process be employed to graph the exact location and density of water saturation in these walls. Methods are being discussed to permanently remedy this situation. We are also negotiating solutions for the cracking plaster of our ceiling.

We currently have received \$18,000 or about 1/3 of our required match of \$52,000 for the grant.

**Autumn Meetings**



It is, once more, time to prepare for our Annual Meetings. This year, the Sisterhood will hold its meeting on Sunday 1 October which is the actual Feast Day (Holy Protection) of our Altar Society. To prepare for this meeting, Matushka Maria has called a meeting of the executive board for Sunday, 17 September. Although the Sisterhood holds several meetings during the year, the Annual Meeting is the time to elect officers, to approve A budget and to set priorities for the coming year.



Our Annual Parish Membership Meeting will follow Divine Liturgy on Sunday, 5 November. Fr. Joseph will send out his annual report in the next newsletter but it is a good idea to mark your calendar for this date. Our Annual Meetings generally do not exceed an hour and ten minutes in length.

**Fall Training Camp Opens**



Manager Joseph Hirsch announces the opening of training camp for our High school and adult Softball Team. The Transfiguration All Stars will be practicing every Sunday, September 3rd, 10th 17th and 23rd, in preparation for our Pan Orthodox Softball tournament which will be held on our own Argo Park Diamond on Saturday, 30 September. Everyone above 15 years of age is encouraged to bring their gloves, bats and other equipment and to try out for the position of his or her choice.

**Church School**

On Sunday, 17 September, the Sunday following the Elevation of the Holy Cross, we will resume our Religious Education program with a blessing of teachers and students. We will have four classes this year including a Jr. and Sr. High Class but are not certain, as of yet, exactly how many grades will be in each class, That will depend somewhat upon the distribution of enrollment. Pre-school class is available to those who are three years of age and older. Anyone interested to help with the Church school program should speak with Fr. Joseph, a Michelle Dyl, or Matushka Maria Davis.



**A Time for Spiritual Refreshment**

The Parish will be providing a brief fall retreat on Saturday, September 16, 2006 from 9:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m. The location will be the Greek Orthodox Diocese Chancery at 4550 E. Alameda Ave. There will be a prayer service before the Myrrh exuding ikon of “Our Lady, Theotokos, Rescuer of the Perishing”. Archbishop Isaiah will be the retreat director speaker. There will be a charge of \$15 to cover Lunch and expences. Those who are interested should contact Lidia Stcherbak at [lidstch@hotmail.com](mailto:lidstch@hotmail.com) or at 303-480-9973, or sign up on the list in the Parish Hall.

**Midyear Church Contribution Records**  
 The mid year records of church contributions have been printed and are in the back of the church for you to pick up. Thank-you for supporting the church. If you have questions or concerns please see Colleen Ramos, our Financial Secretary.

**2006 RMOYC Report**

We had 15 participants in this year’s Rocky Mountain Orthodox Youth Camp. Everyone had a great experience and we hope to have twice as many next year. Mark your calendar for 5-8 August, 2007.



# Holy Transfiguration of Christ Cathedral

ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA  
349 E. 47th Ave.  
Denver, CO 80216

THE VERY REVEREND  
FATHER JOSEPH HIRSCH  
ARCHPRIEST AND RECTOR

September 1, 2006

Dearly Beloved in Christ,

The first Newsletter of Autumn can be rather a snooze. Things have usually slowed down during the summer. Pascha and Pentecost are long past and the Nativity Season is still far away. The same old, predictable events, the start of Church school, the annual Sisterhood meeting, the Annual Parish meeting, are all very predictable and difficult to make exciting. Of course, the fall is not entirely boring for everyone. Those who follow the Broncos, the Buffs, or the Rams, may find quite a bit to get excited about and, once in a proverbial "Blue Moon", the Rockies make a furtive run at the division championship. But, in terms of Church life, it is hard to find excitement in the months of September and October.

Well, this is one way to look at it and, when one week seems to just run into another, I am afraid that this is the way, more often than not, that I have looked at it. I heard somewhere in the media that doctors say that working adults need a minimum of two continuous weeks of vacation to regain their emotional balance and perspective on life. If you don't count Church meetings, which are not much fun, Matushka and I have probably not had more than four weeks of total vacation in the last 22 years. Last year, however, the Parish Family gave us some money in honor of my 30<sup>th</sup> ordination anniversary. What is more, you insisted that we use it to take a vacation and Erin, our Sr. Warden, nagged at me to make sure we did so. Anyway, we got out of town for a few days, slept late, ate well and saw some sights. I also got the chance for a little recuperative reflection, although it wasn't until the fourth day of our five days out of town.

I got to think about the real positive exciting things that are going on in our Parish. I thought about the great Dinner Dance, and wonderful Festival with the 80+ parishioners who worked on it. I thought about how our directory has grown from about 100 to about 114 households over the last 12 months and how, in spite of annual raises in our budget, we have not only managed to remain in the "black" but have put \$21,000 into savings for land acquisition and over \$18,000 into the matching fund for our historical preservation grant. In all, we have almost \$240,000, the most ever in our history, put away for our future plans and projects. Our normal Sunday attendance strains our Temple and we had around two dozen people each at our recent Slavonic Liturgy and our Dormition Holy Day Liturgy. We have excellent Church school teachers, a dynamic and growing music program and a Parish Council composed largely of talented and pious people of vision. We have assistant clergy who are the envy of many Rectors, a small but motivated band of hard working volunteers, a multi-ethnic composition that makes us an exciting diverse congregation. We also have a history and a record of social outreach that are hard to match.

So, on reflection, I am back refreshed with the realization that this is not the onset of another boring Autumn. It is the beginning of a new and exciting Church Year, filled with hope and, in God, unlimited Glorious Possibilities.

Wishing you a Happy Church New Year,

*Proto Joseph*

Phone- 303 294 0938

Email- [jhirsch@sprintmail.com](mailto:jhirsch@sprintmail.com) Web Site- [www.transfigcathedral.org](http://www.transfigcathedral.org)

## Orthodox Food Festival Summary - Revised

We did it again!! Our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Old Globeville Days & Orthodox Food Festival was a tremendous success in so many ways. It is amazing to think that this was just our 3<sup>rd</sup> year - we look like expert event planners!

For the inaugural event, we came up with three goals for the event and we met them all again this year:

1. Raise money - Here is the preliminary breakdown of our fundraising efforts:
  - we collected just about \$9,300 in ticket sales (22% increase from last year)!!!
  - we collected just over \$1,000 in cash donations to off set costs
  - we received a \$2,000 grant to off set entertainment & park related costs
  - the ring donated by Steve Dawson was auctioned for \$500
2. Parish fellowship and broad based involvement - there were at least 80 different people that contributed to the success of the event. This was truly a parish event.
3. Introduce Orthodoxy and our Parish to people - people were lined up and anxiously awaiting the church tours and were thrilled to have the opportunity to go into the church

We built on the success of the previous two years and really turned the event into a community event - Old Globeville Days. This event can, and will, only get bigger and better. I can't tell you the number of people that complimented the food and wanted to make sure that we would keep doing the festival, because they couldn't wait for next year. I know you are all committed to the success of this event. (We want to hear your suggestions before we forget them. Please take a survey at church and share your ideas so the Planning Committee and Parish Council can debrief the event and be ready for next year.)

There are so many people to thank that it is impossible to name them all. A special thank you to:

- Everyone on the Planning Committee who spent many hours in meetings planning the details of the festival.
- Rupert Applegate, our bookstore and gift bazaar coordinator. He handled all of the details to make sure we had a fully functioning bookstore and gift bazaar booth.
- Doug Busken, my right hand man in the festival. He obtained all of the permits and coordinated the majority of the logistics and basically helped with whatever I asked, which ended up being a lot.
- Yuliya Hartenbower who spent many hours on our kids games. She put her artistic talents to great use & created some fabulous designs for the games.
- Gabriel Hayman who provided an iconography booth which introduced icons to many of our guests.
- Yana Kotic, our vendor coordinator. Thanks to Yana's efforts we added a new & exciting piece to the Festival of outside vendors.
- Colleen Ramos, our bake sale coordinator. She used her bake sale expertise to sell a lot of baked goods.

- Mike Rogozik, our beverage coordinator. He made sure we had what we needed to keep everyone hydrated and handled the paper products.
- Becky Schilling our children's activities and kids games coordinator. She used her contacts to provide the face painters, balloon artists, and to bring us the ever popular air castle. She also did dozens of other needed tasks.
- Diana Seurer, our food coordinator. What is a food festival without food. She worked with all of the food booths to make sure all efforts were coordinated, as well as preparing several of the food items for the festival and manning her own "grill" booth the whole weekend.
- Lidia Stcherbak our entertainment coordinator. She made sure we had non-stop fabulous entertainment.
- To everyone who was at the festival from start to finish both days (you know who you are) ready to work wherever help was needed, especially setting up and cleaning up. We couldn't have done it without you.
- To everyone who baked for the bake sale. You satisfied everyone's sweet tooth.
- To everyone who cooked and served the food. There were so many people that helped with the food booths it was incredible. The food was amazing. There were nothing but great comments about the food.

Last, but certainly not least, thank you to Father Joe & Matushka Paulette for their continued leadership and enthusiasm to successfully implement the event. In addition to everything else he does, Father managed to send out dozens of press releases to make sure that we had great publicity. Matushka worked closely with the neighborhood group and made sure we got a grant for the event.

Thank you again to each and everyone of you. Before you know it, we will be planning the bigger and better 2007 Old Globeville Days & Orthodox Food Festival.

May God grant you many years!

In Christ,

Erin Busken, Senior Warden

## Parish Council Update

We have several of exciting projects just around the corner that we'd like to share with you:

**Retreat** - We are hosting Pan-Orthodox a "Refreshing the Spirit" retreat on September 16<sup>th</sup> at the Greek Chancery conducted by Metropolitan Isaiah. The cost is \$15 which includes your lunch. Lidia Stcherbak is coordinating this event. If you would like to attend please RSVP with Lidia at [lidstch@hotmail.com](mailto:lidstch@hotmail.com) or 303.480.9973.

**Pan-Orthodox Softball Tournament** - We are hosting a Pan-Orthodox Softball Tournament Saturday September 30<sup>th</sup>. The other three teams are Sts. Peter & Paul, St. Hermans and St. Mary's (Calhan). Please plan to attend & cheer for your team and get to know parishioners from the other parishes. Ben Hirsch is coordinating this event. If you have questions or want to help, please see Ben. Joe Hirsch is the Team Manager. If you are interested in playing on the team please let Joe know.

**Updated Parish Directory / E-mail List** - We would like to update the Parish Directory with everyone's current contact information including e-mail addresses. For the next several weeks we will have the current directory out at church & in the hall. Please review your information to confirm it is accurate. Also if we do not have your e-mail address please include it. We would like to start using e-mail more as a way to communicate with each other. We anticipate using it for reminders (i.e. next hall cleaning day), for announcements of births and deaths, announcements of upcoming events like those previously mentioned. You can send any changes &/or your e-mail address to Father Joe at [jhirsch@sprintmail.com](mailto:jhirsch@sprintmail.com)

In Christ,  
Erin Busken, Senior Warden



Holy  
Transfiguration  
Orthodox Cathedral  
Is Happy to invite all  
Orthodox Christians of  
the Rocky Mountain  
Region to

"A Time for  
Spiritual  
Refreshment"  
on Saturday,  
September 16, 2006

from 9:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m.

At the Greek Orthodox Diocese Chancery  
4550 E. Alameda Ave.

*There will be a prayer service before the Myrrh exuding  
Ikon of "Our Lady, Theotokos, Rescuer of the  
Perishing".*

*Metropolitan Isaiah will be the retreat director  
speaker.*

*A Deli boxed lunch will be provided*

*There will be a charge of \$15 to cover Lunch and  
expenses.*

Those who are interested should contact Lidia  
Stcherbak at [lidstch@hotmail.com](mailto:lidstch@hotmail.com) or at  
303-480-9973, or sign up on the list in the Parish Hall.