



НАЈАВЕ / ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- У недељу 30. јула, свечана прослава храмовне славе, Св. Литургија у 10 часова
- On Sunday July 30, festal celebration of our church Slava (Patron Saint), Divine Liturgy at 10AM

МОЛИМО ПЛАНИРАЈТЕ / SAVE THE DATE:

ДРАГА БРАЋО И СЕСТРЕ, У НЕДЕЉУ 30. ЈУЛА НАША ЗАЈЕДНИЦА ЋЕ СВЕЧАНО ПРОСЛАВИТИ СВОЈУ ХРАМОВНУ СЛАВУ. ОД МОГА ПОСТАВЉЕЊА ЗА ПАРОХИЈСКОГ СВЕШТЕНИКА ОВО ЋЕ БИТИ НАША ПРВА ЗАЈЕДНИЧКА ХРАМОВНА СЛАВА. У ЉУБАВИ ГОСПОДА МОЛИМ СВЕ ВАС, ДА У АПОСТОЛСКОМ ДУХУ И ЗАЈЕДНИЧКИ ПОЗИВАМО СВЕ НАШЕ СРОДНИКЕ, ПРИЈАТЕЉЕ, ПОЗНАНИКЕ ДА СЕ У ШТО ВЕЋЕМ БРОЈУ ОКУПИМО ДА ПРИМИМО БЛАГОСЛОВ БОЖЈИ, АЛИ И ДА ПОДЕЛИМО РАДОСТ ПРАЗНИКА И ЗАЈЕДНИЧКИХ СУСРЕТА. ШТО СЕ У ВЕЋЕМ БРОЈУ БУДЕМО ОКУПЉАЛИ ТО ЋЕ БЛАГОСЛОВ БОЖЈИ БИТИ ОБИЛАТИЈИ И РАДОСТ ЋЕ БИТИ ВЕЋА!

- СВЕТА ЛИТУРГИЈА У 10 ЧАСОВА
- У НАСТАВКУ ЗАЈЕДНИЧКИ СВЕЧАНИ РУЧАК свештеник Владимир Вранић

DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS, ON SUNDAY JULY 30th, OUR COMMUNITY WILL SOLEMNLY CELEBRATE ITS CHURCH PATRON SAINT DAY – OUR SLAVA. SINCE MY APPOINTMENT AS THE PARISH PRIEST THIS WILL BE OUR FIRST CHURCH SLAVA TOGETHER. I KINDLY ASK ALL OF YOU TO JOIN ME IN THE APOSTOLIC SPIRIT, AND INVITE ALL OUR RELATIVES, FRIENDS, AQUAINTANCES, SO THAT WE MAY GATHER TOGETHER IN LARGEST NUMBER, IN ORDER TO BECOME RECEPIENTS OF GOD’S BLESSINGS, AND AT THE SAME TIME TO SHARE THE JOY OF THE FEAST, AS WELL AS OF OUR MUTUAL PRESENCE. THE LARGER THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE PRESENT, THE GREATER GOD’S BLESSING UPON OUR COMMUNITY,



AND MOST CERTAINLY THE GREATER THE JOY OF US ALL!

- DIVINE LITURGY AT 10AM
- FESTAL LUNCHEON TO FOLLOW

Rev. Vladimir Vranic

МОЛИМО ПЛАНИРАЈТЕ / SAVE THE DATE:

- У недељу 6. августа, молитвена прослава Новомученика Пребиловачких и Доњохерцеговачких, Св. Литургија у 10 часова и у наставку пригодан програм.
- On Sunday August 6, a prayerful celebration of the Newmartyrs of Prebilovci and Donja Herzegovina, Divine Liturgy at 10Am and an appropriate program is to follow.



The Fly and The Bee

Some people tell me that they are scandalized because they see many things wrong in the Church. I tell them that if you ask a fly, “Are there any flowers in this area?” it will say, “I don’t know about flowers, but over there in that heap of rubbish you can find all the filth you want.” And it will go on to list all the unclean things it has been to.

Now, if you ask a honeybee, “Have you seen any unclean things in this area?” it will reply, “Unclean things? No, I have not seen any; the place here is full of the most fragrant flowers.” And it will go on to name all the flowers of the garden or the meadow.

You see, the fly only knows where the unclean things are, while the honeybee knows where the beautiful iris or hyacinth is.

As I have come to understand, some people resemble the honeybee and some resemble the fly. Those who resemble the fly seek to find evil in every circumstance and are preoccupied with it; they see no good anywhere.



But those who resemble the honeybee only see the good in everything they see. The stupid person thinks stupidly and takes everything in the wrong way, whereas the person who has good thoughts, no matter what he sees, no matter what you tell him, maintains a positive and good thought.

-The above paragraphs are taken from Elder Paisios' Spiritual Struggle, pages 29-30.

PROPERLY UTILIZING OUR CREATIVE ENERGY

The most important traits for us to ascertain in this life are humility and love.

Each one of us has a great deal of creative energy within us. However, we should make an effort every day to use that creative energy to benefit our community and at the same time to think of excuses for others when they annoy or bother us. This is challenging at first and takes a conscious effort because our minds are stuck in the "rut" of judgment.

When one acts hurtfully, we must try to do as our Lord and say, "Forgive them, Father, for they know not what they do." Did the Roman soldiers not know they were crucifying a man? Certainly they did! However, they did not fully understand their actions or else they would not have partaken in crucifying the Son of God.

With that in mind, let us strive to have good thoughts of others, even when their behavior is bothersome. An aid to good thoughts of others is maintaining awareness of our own sins and shortcomings. By doing so, we will begin down the path of love and humility.

STANDING UP FOR TRUTH

None of this is meant to say that we cannot combat falsehood. But when we do so, we should have already started on this path of love and humility. If one is not aware of their own faults, they can too easily slip into a self-righteous condemnation of anyone who does not think like themselves. We should also be sure to address only the message that others give and not attack the person. Those who hurt others or fall into falsehood are, to some extent, victims of the devil's schemes. If we are



not filled with divine love for that person, and we cannot see how the devil is using them, then it is best we remain silent or else we can become diabolic as well.

Let us be honeybees and not flies!



Мисао дана/Thought of the day

Молитва је уточиште од сваке бриге, основа за радовање, извор сталне радости, заштита против туговања.

Свети Јован Златоуст

Prayer is the place of refuge for every worry, a foundation for cheerfulness, a source of constant happiness, a protection against sadness.

Saint John Chrysostom



Stories of the Desert fathers

The middle way

The monk Lucas was walking through a village accompanied by a disciple. An old man asked the man from Scete:

- Holy man, how can I come closer to God?
- Enjoy yourself. Praise the Creator with your joy – was the reply.

The two went on their way. Just then, a young man came over.

- What must I do to come closer to God?
- Enjoy yourself less - said Lucas.

When the young man left, the disciple commented:

- It seems to me that you are not sure whether or not one should enjoy oneself.

- A spiritual journey is a bridge with no railings across an abyss – replied Lucas, - If someone is too near the right hand side, I tell him 'left a bit!' If he approaches the left side, I say 'right a bit!' The extremes veer us away from the Path.