

St. Vladimir Orthodox Church

A Parish of the Russian Orthodox Church Abroad

Ann Arbor, MI ~ Founded 1981

Very Rev. Fr.
Gregory Joyce,
Rector

Jack (Alexey)
Mitchell, Starosta

Mikhail Fisenkov,
Treasurer

Lauren (Maria)
Rogers,
Secretary

Ksenia Nikulshina,
Head of the Parish
Sisterhood

Konstantin
Poplavsky,
Head of the Parish
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September 21/October 4, 2020

Leavetaking of the Exultation of the Cross

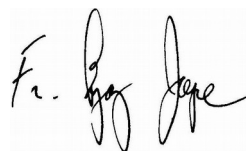
Dear St. Vladimir Parish Family,

As the weather turns colder, holding Liturgy outside under the tents becomes less and less possible. Today was a good example. We advertised widely that we would have Liturgy inside and that there were a limited number of spaces. Nonetheless, more than 60 people gathered for the Divine Service. This is a good problem to have! We were able to allow 36 into the church according to the physically distanced spaces available. The rest were in their cars or outside listening to the service on our outdoor speakers. Imagine what would happen if we did not tell people to stay home! We would have had well over 100 people present today, no doubt.

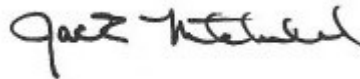
It has quickly become apparent that serving Liturgy in the church on Sunday morning during the pandemic is simply not going to work – there are just too many people who want to attend. And thank God for that!

We need to do something to accommodate and serve our community so that we can gather safely in large numbers to worship our God the Holy Trinity. The Parish Council took up this question at our meeting last week. We had already decided to pour a cement floor in our barn when we pour the foundation for the new parish school later in the fall. It seems that the barn is the only logical place to worship on Sundays this fall and winter, and so we will meet with our contractor this week to discuss pulling forward the pouring of the floor in the barn. Since the contractor has already confirmed that the price will be the same whether we pour the floor now or later, it makes sense to do so now. But we have A LOT of work to do in the barn to get it ready to receive its cement floor. We need to take everything out, and likely throw away a lot of junk. AND WE NEED YOUR HELP! Please join us this Saturday, October 10, at 10:00 a.m. for a work party to get started on this crucial project for our parish family! Save the time and date! Lunch will be provided. Join us to help prepare our new, larger worship space for Sundays at St. Vladimir's!

With Love in our Lord Jesus Christ,



Fr. Gregory Joyce
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