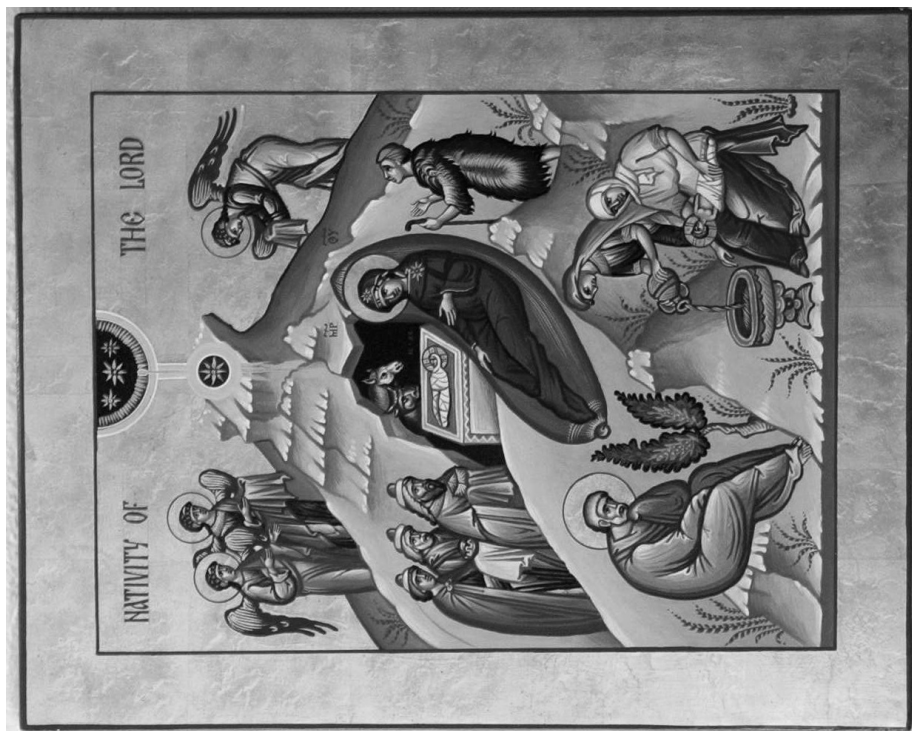




HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH

305 Washington Street
P. O. Box 2876
New Britain, CT 06050-2876

HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH



DECEMBER 2006

HÖLY TRINITY ÖRTHÖDÖX church					DECEMBER 2006	
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 VARENIKI Making 8:00 a.m. Friday & Saturday	2 Choir Rehearsal 2:30 Panikhida 3:30 Great Vespers 4:00 p.m CONFESSION
3 25th after Pentecost Divine Liturgy 9:00 A.M. Coffee Hour	4 ST. ALEXANDER BOGOMITZKY	5 Vesperal Liturgy 6:00 p.m.	6 ST. NICOLAS THE WONDERWORKER	7 Visitation: 9:30 A. M. NEWINGTON LEDGECREST (for Communion)	8	9 Confession 3-3:30 p.m. Great Vespers 4:00 p.m CONFESSION
10 26th after Pentecost Divine Liturgy 9:00 A.M. Coffee Hour	11	12 Vesperal Liturgy 6:00 p.m.	13 ST. BERMAN OF ALASKA	14 Confession: 3:00 p.m.	15Visitation: 9:30A.M. ARDEN COURTS SOUTHINGTON INGRAHAM MANOR (for Communion)	16 Choir Rehearsal 2:30 Great Vespers 4:00 p.m CONFESSION
17 HOLY FOREFATHERS Divine Liturgy 9:00 A.M. Coffee Hour	18 Parish Council Meeting 7:00 P. M.	19	20 ST. IGNATIUS OF ANTIOCH. ST. JOHN OF KRONSTADT Confession: 4:00	21	22	23 Confession 3-3:30 p.m. Great Vespers 4:00 p.m CONFESSION
24 HOLY FATHERS EVE OF THE NATIVITY Divine Liturgy 9:00 A.M. Coffee Hour 4:00 P.M. Festal Vigil	25 NATIVITY OF OUR LORD Divine Liturgy 9:00 A.M.	26 SYNAXIS OF THE THEOTOKOS [fast free 12/25 – 1/4]	27 PROTHOMARTYR STEPHEN	28 THE HOLY INNOCENTS OF BETHLEHEM	29	30 Great Vespers 4:00 p.m CONFESSION
31 LEAVETAKING OF THE NATIVITY Divine Liturgy 9:00 A.M. Coffee Hour						



Monthly Newsletter of
HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH

305 Washington Street • PO Box 2876 • New Britain, CT 06050-2876

www.htocnb.org

DECEMBER 2006

STEWARDSHIP (Pledge): We have reached the last month of our fiscal year and if we haven't done so already it is time to **"CATCH-UP"**. Every Sunday in the bulletin there is a note called "Parish Figures" which has been running behind for quite some time. We are 30% below what was budgeted last January. We know that the mid-year statements we're a little late but you can review them and see if you need to bring your pledge up to date. Everyone needs to review the pledge they made and bring them up to date. The time is at hand to complete 2006 before we advance toward 2007. *"For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."* Matt. 6:21

CONFESSION & COMMUNION:

During with the Nativity Fast (November 15th—December 24th) Fr. David will be visiting those shut-in at home and in nursing homes for Confession and Communion. Please check the monthly calendars for when he will be at the nursing homes. Also, with the Advent Fast, November 15th—December 24th, private confession will be held after vespers, on selected weekdays (see calendar) or by appointment.

CHOIR REHEARSAL: There will be choir rehearsal on Saturday, December 2nd and Saturday, December 16th at 2:30 p.m. Anyone interested in singing with the choir please see Juliana Koles and come to rehearsal!!

PARISH COUNCIL: The December meeting of the Parish Council will be held on the 18th, the third Monday of the month. All council members are asked to make every effort to attend the meeting.

FAST-FREE: The time between the celebration of the Nativity of our Lord (December 25th) and the Eve of Theophany (January 5th) is a fast-free period in the Orthodox Church. The Eve of Theophany is then a strict-fast day.

STEWARDSHIP (Service): Another form of stewardship is being a member of the Parish Council. The time is drawing near when we will have our Annual Meeting and there will be openings that need to be filled on the council. There are a few members who have served for many years. Whenever they were asked to serve they said yes. But now they must take a break. It is time for others to show the same dedication to our parish and "step-up" and take their place so that these faithful servants may have a well deserved rest.

"WHEN I WAS SICK YOU CAME TO ME"

The following parishioners (and friends) are now homebound or in long-term care facilities. If there are any names missing, please inform Fr. David. The regular schedule of visitations is included on the monthly calendar. Parishioners are welcomed and encouraged to make regular visitations to nursing homes and shut-ins. Our loved ones NEED to feel connected to their parish family.

Newington Care, Newington
Zinaida Sotnick
Mary Salina

Archpriest David Koles, Rector
9 Frankie Lane
Terryville, CT 06786
Phone: (860)-573-0013
Email: frdavid@htocnb.org

Ledgecrest Nursing Home, Berlin

Natasha Zaiko
Nina Molchan
Nicholas Zamayduk

Walnut Hill, New Britain

Agnes Makula
Olga Skotnicki
Mary Cherpak

Brittany Farms, New Britain

Olga Halajko
Olga Hallin

Jerome Home, New Britain

Sadie Albino
Ann Laska
Anna M. Makula
Jean Prusik

Middlewoods, Newington

Jennie Skovich

Arden Courts, Avon

Mildred Dobrowolski

Ingraham Manor, Bristol

Juliana (Eulah) Chesky

Southington Care Center, Southington

Louise Matyczky Bechum

Woodlake, Tolland

Caroline Skerpan

At Home: Mary Bogdan, Anne Cherpak, Mary Glowacki,
Nina Hair, Helen Karabin, Mary Roman, Lillian Madda-
luno, Milenty & Maria Stregotsky, John & Susan Labas,
Zenaida Zapatka and Sophia Zardecki.

NEWLY DEPARTED:

Mary Suski (10/30)

Lydia Kesich (11/15) [wife of Professor
Emeritus Veselin Kesich, SVS]



PARISH DIPTYCHS

Please remember our departed brothers and sisters in
your prayers.

Peter Mikeff	45	December	1935
Paul Garlewsky		December	1970
Anna Kupchik	28	December 1	1921
Anna Petrisko	61	December 1	1954
Alexandra Sonmik	24	December 2	1910
Child Anton Mansko	5	December 2	1918
Child Vladimir Hladko	2	December 2	1918
Julia Dubovsky	25	December 3	1919
Peter Melnik	52	December 3	1942
Lydia Burak	53	December 3	1977
Andrew Pracalo	88	December 3	1982
Child Mary Kozlovsky	2	December 4	1920
Harvey L. Brown		December 4	1984
Nikifor Avhusminovich	64	December 5	1947
Anna Labas	78	December 6	1971
Nicholas Hamisewich	91	December 6	1981
Dimitro Liwen	76	December 7	1963
Helen Procko	50	December 8	1956
Lillian Pyzon	50	December 8	1969
Eugene Hamisevich	77	December 8	2003
Anton Protsky	40	December 9	1934
Tatiana "Sophie" Bechum	94	December 9	1984
Joseph Baranovsky	53	December 10	1933
Peter Brown	56	December 11	1947
Stephen Marchik	61	December 12	1954
Nicholas Lashenka	42	December 12	1957
Anna Gadzik	70	December 12	1970
Angelo Albino	82	December 12	2002
Alexandra Manchuk	60	December 13	1907
Nina Zaiko	71	December 13	1986
Olga Prolesky	83	December 14	1994
Walter Waskey	58	December 15	1950
John Makuch	73	December 15	1958
John Balkun, Jr.	81	December 15	2001
Theodore Novik	56	December 16	1946
Joseph Uhroros	79	December 17	1918
John Shimchick	79	December 17	1997
Child Anna Demanuk	1 day	December 18	1932
Antonina Hamisevich	64	December 18	1961
Joseph Szafran	58	December 18	1961
Andrew Gel		December 19	1950
Methodius J. Kotrady		December 19	1980
Simon Galagan	74	December 20	1963

William Scott	16	December 21 1975
Michael Cherpak	91	December 21 1995
George Steffick		December 21 2001
Mary Cherpak	53	December 22 1922
Child Elizabeth Pruta	2 mo	December 22 1936
Natalie Augustinov	58	December 22 1941
Katherine Lehman	72	December 22 1962
Jacob Karpey	50	December 22 1972
Tanya Kosko	52	December 22 1978
Anastasia Pracalo	93	December 22 1996
Mary Dounouk		December 22 1999
Erioli Zhuk	49	December 23 1938
Anna Walls	70	December 26 1971
Peter Zuk	82	December 26 1972
Peter Burak	52	December 26 1978
Joachim Danilovich	29	December 28 1907
Child Mary Mifanlov	7 mo	December 28 1916
Katherine Ostapchuk	32	December 28 1932
Theodosius Bukentiev	31	December 29 1916
Constantine Kozlovsky	28	December 29 1920
Max Semek	63	December 29 1961
Klim Pesesky	78	December 29 1973
Michael Tynik	91	December 29 1973
William Zamayduk	67	December 31 1957
Peter Wayda	69	December 31 1960
Nicholas Stankevich	64	December 31 1973

ВѢЧНАА ПАМЯТЬ

FEASTDAYS IN DECEMBER:

St. Alexander Hotovitzky (Dec 4th): Our righteous father Alexander Hotovitzky, hieromartyr of the Bolshevik yoke, Missionary of America, was a Russian who came to the United States in the 1890s as a lay missionary and was ordained to the priesthood while there. He was active as a missionary among the emigrated Uniates in the northeastern United States before returning to Russia in 1914. In Russia he was active among the Orthodox Karelians before his assignment to Christ the Savior Cathedral in Moscow in 1917.



After the Bolshevik coup he was subjected to the cruelties by the ungodly revolutionists as he defended the Orthodox faith, his people, and church property. Subjected to many arrests and exile Father Alexander serviced his beloved Church as best he could through these tumultuous times until after a final arrest he dis-

appeared from history other than oral reports of his martyrdom. His glorification is celebrated on December 4.

St. Nicholas (Dec 6th): By tradition, Nicholas born in the province of Lycia in the southern part of Asia Minor in the city of Patara to well-to-do parents. The date of his birth is not known. Having inherited his parents' estate, he became known for his generous gifts to those in need. As a youth, he made pilgrimages to Palestine and Egypt. He was subsequently consecrated Archbishop of Myra as the fourth century began. He was imprisoned during the persecutions of Diocletian and released by Constantine after his ascension to emperor. Nicholas was noted for his defense of Orthodoxy against the Arians. He is reputed to have been present at the Council of Nicaea, but his name does not appear among any documents from that era. He died in Myra on December 6 in a year uncertain, but between 342 and 352. He is commemorated on December 6.



Many of the details of his life that we have appeared during medieval times. St. Methodius, Patriarch of Constantinople, in the middle of the ninth century produced a life of Nicholas in which he noted that the life of Nicholas was unknown to most of the Christians of the time, thus indicating his composition was probably based mainly on legend. Methodius noted that Nicholas was raised well by pious and well-to-do parents and related how Nicholas contributed from his inheritance the dowry for three daughters of a citizen of Patara who had lost all his money.

His feast was being celebrated by the time of St. Justinian two centuries after his death. After Methodius' life of Nicholas became available, Nicholas was acclaimed and honored throughout Europe and especially in Italy. When Myra was captured by the Saracens in 1034, many Italian cities planned to "rescue" his relics. In 1087, forces from Bari, Italy, attacked Myra and carried away his relics from the lawful Greek guardians in Myra to Bari where they were enshrined in a new church. His fame increased. The story of his rescue of sailors in the Aegean Sea during his lifetime established him as the patron of mariners. His popularity in Russia rose to the point that almost all churches had some sort of shrine honoring St. Nicholas.

St. Herman of Alaska (Dec 13th): Our venerable father Herman of Alaska (1756 - December 13, 1837) was an 18th century missionary to Alaska. He is also the first saint to be glorified by the Orthodox Church in America. Herman of Alaska was a Russian Orthodox monk from Valaam Monastery in Russia who traveled with eight other monks in 1793 to bring the Gospel to the native Aleuts and Eskimos in the Aleutian Islands. As part of the



Russian colonization of the Americas, Russians had been exploring and trading there since at least 1740. Thus, he marks the first arrival of Orthodox Christian missionaries in North America. He built a school for the Aleutians, and he often defended them from the injustices and exploitation of the Russian traders. He was known to them as *Apa* which means "Grandfather."

He lived most of his life as the sole resident of Spruce Island, a tiny wooded island near Kodiak Island.

Troparion (Tone 7)

*Joyful North Star of the Church of Christ,
Guiding all people to the Heavenly Kingdom;
Teacher and apostle of the True Faith;
Intercessor and defender of the oppressed;
Adornment of the Orthodox adornment of the
Orthodox Church in America:
Blessed Father Herman of Alaska,
Pray to our Lord Jesus Christ
For the salvation of our souls!*

Nativity of Christ:

The celebration of the feast of the Nativity of Christ in the Orthodox Church is patterned after the celebration of the feast of the Lord's Resurrection. A fast of forty days precedes the feast, with special preparatory days announcing the approaching birth of the Savior. Thus, on St. Andrew's Day (November 30) and St. Nicholas Day (December 6) songs are sung to announce the coming birthday of the Lord.

*Adorn yourself, O Cavern. Make ready,
O Manger. O Shepherds and wisemen,
bring your gifts and bear witness. For the
Virgin is coming bearing Christ in her
womb . . . (Vespertal Hymn of St. Nicholas
Day)*

On the eve of Christmas, the Royal Hours are read and the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil is served with Vespers. At these services the Old Testament prophecies of Christ's birth are chanted, emphasizing the prophecy of Micah which love tells Bethlehem as the birthplace of the Savior about the appearance and character of the Messiah:

*The Lord himself will give you a sign.
Behold a virgin shall conceive and bear a
son, and shall call his name Immanuel,
which translated is, God with us. (Isaiah
7: 14-15)*

*God is with us, understand all ye na-
tions, and submit yourselves, for God is
with us. (Isaiah 8: 9)*

*For unto us a child is born, unto us a
son is given; and the government shall be
upon his shoulders, and his name shall be
called Wonderful, Counselor, the Ever-
lasting Father, the Prince of Peace. Of
the increase of his government and peace
there will be no end. (Isaiah 9:6-7)*

The Vigil of Christmas begins with Great Compline, highlighted once again by the solemn chanting of God is with us and the words of the prophecy of Isaiah. At the Compline there is also the singing of the Troparion and Kontakion of the feast along with the special hymns glorifying the Savior's birth. There are also the special long litanies of intercession and the solemn blessing of the five loaves of bread together with the wheat and the wine of which the faithful partake and the oil with which they are anointed. This part of the festal vigil, which is done on all great feasts, is called the Litya (in Greek, the artoklasia or the breaking of the bread).

At the beginning of the Christmas Matins, which together with the Compline forms the Christmas Vigil, the six matinal psalms begin as usual with the words: *Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, good will among men. (Luke 2:14)*

At the Christmas services these words of the angelic song are normally sung with great solemnity rather than being chanted as at the daily service. The Christmas Matins proceeds as usual. The gospel reading from Matthew (1:18-25) tells of the birth of Christ, and all of the hymns and verses glorify his appearance on earth.

*Christ is born, glorify him. Christ is from
heaven, go to meet him. Christ is on
earth, be ye lifted up. Sing to the Lord, all
the earth. Sing out with gladness, all ye*

people. For he is glorified. (First Ode of the Christmas Canon.)

The Christmas Liturgy begins with psalms of glorification and praise. The troparion and kontakion mark the entrance with the Book of the Gospels. The baptismal line from Galatians 3:27 once again replaces the Thrice-Holy. The Epistle reading is from Galatians.

But when the time had fully come, God sent forth his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So through God, you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son then an heir. (Galatians 4:4-7)

The Gospel reading is the familiar Christmas story from Matthew (2:1-12), and the liturgy continues in the normal fashion. A specific two-day celebration follows, dedicated to Mary the Theotokos and St. Stephen, the First Martyr. The period of Christmas rejoicing extends to Epiphany during which time the Christmas songs are sung and fasting and kneeling in prayer is not called for by the Church.

The feast of Christmas is formally entitled the **Nativity in the Flesh of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ**. At Christmas we celebrate the birth as a man of the Son of God, the one who is truly God, together with the Father and the Holy Spirit from all eternity. Thus, we sing in the Church:

Today the Virgin gives birth to the Transcendent One, and the earth offers a cave to the Unapproachable One! Angels, with shepherds, glorify Him! The wise men journey with the star! Since for our sake the Eternal God is born as a little child. (Kontakion)

The feast of Christmas was not a separate feast for the first four centuries of Christian history. It was celebrated with Epiphany in the one great feast of God's appearance on earth in the form of the human Messiah of Israel. The Nativity began to be celebrated as such on the twenty-fifth of December in order to offset the pagan festival of the Invincible Sun which occurred on that day. It was established by the Church quite consciously as 'an attempt to defeat the false religion of the heathens. Thus, we discover the troparion of the feast making a polemic against the worship of the sun and the stars and calling for the

adoration of Christ, the *True Sun of Righteousness* (Malachi 4:2), who is himself worshipped by all the elements of nature.

Thy Nativity, O Christ our God, has shone to the world the light of wisdom! For by it, those who worshipped the stars were taught by a star to adore Thee, the Sun of Righteousness and to know Thee, the Orient form on high [Luke 1:78, translated as Dawn or Dayspring]. O Lord, glory to Thee! (Troparion)

Thus, the feast of Christmas is the celebration of the world's salvation through the Son of God who became man for our sake that through him, we might ourselves become divine, sons of God the Father by the indwelling of his Holy Spirit in us.

Protopresbyter Thomas Hopko,
The Orthodox Faith, Volume II: Worship
Dept. of Religious Education:OCA 1972

Parish Council Minutes

The October 2006 Parish Council meeting was held in the church hall on Monday, October 23, 2006. Warden Michael Wanik called the meeting to order at 7:08pm. A quorum was noted and 1 guest. Father David Koles lead the opening prayer "O Heavenly King".

Pastor's Report – Father David reported we had a funeral for Helen Spearen (of the Martinchek family). The Holy Synod will be meeting this week Tuesday-Thursday. The Diocesan Assembly is this week Friday and Saturday. There will not be any Vespers service this Saturday. Vespers will change to 4pm next week. There will also be a baptism on November 4.

Secretary's Report – Motion to accept the September 2006 minutes as submitted by Diane Polzun/George Matczyk. Motion carried.

Financial Report –

September	Income	\$11,152.00	large expenses- withholdings & ss deposit for
	Expense	\$10,470.02	August and July/August charity
	Inc/exp	\$681.98	
September	charity	\$227	Orthodox Education Day

(It was reported that we are not collecting enough money to purchase the hotdogs and kielbasa-it was suggested this charity be held next summer for July/August.)

Al Hromi has audited the September financial report. Mo-

tion to accept the financial report by Paul Culton/Ellen Santoro. Motion carried.

Jennie Everson reported an update from Nadine Cabrera as of September 30, 2006:

Cemetery Funds (Fidelity-Neuberger-Janus) \$49,696.85

Endowment Fund	Stanley Stock \$64,529.22
	Abbott Stock \$48,856.26
	Columbia \$126,427.65

(Total of funds: \$239,813.13)

The current balance for all monetary assets is \$310,938.47.

OLD BUSINESS

Roof Update – Dan Bradanini presented a proposal from Bostwick Co. on repairs needed for the roof. (A copy of the proposal and pictures are on file with the secretary.) Dan explained to the parish council in depth of his findings and discussions with Bostwick Co. Apparently lack of proper maintenance has caused deterioration in some places on the 4 small cupolas, thus allowing wind-driven rain to force its way in. The 2 large cupolas were found to be in order. Dan also indicated the gutters need to be cleaned on a regular basis as overflow of them is causing paint delamination on the north wall of the church under the large stained glass window. The proposal for \$22,000.00 worth of work addresses the cupolas, but not a special fix to the gutters. The large tree adjacent to the church must be addressed as its shedding of leaves and seeds present a continual problem due to its height over the church. Motion to recommend Bostwick and support the Bostwick proposal at a special parish meeting by George Matyczyk/Al Hromi. Motion carried. Mike Wanik requested Father David publicize according to our by-law of a special parish meeting to be held on November 19, 2006 to discuss the roof, gutters, and trees. Thank you Dan for all your hard work.

Roof Financial Impact/Decisions with Nadine Cabrera – No report. Mike Wanik will contact Nadine.

Clean Up Review of 10/14 & Status of Grounds keeping Firm – Thanks to everyone who helped clean up. George Matyczyk spoke to the landscaping contractor. We need to have a proposal of what we expect for each season as part of our contract and hold the groundskeepers accountable for their duties. Our landscaping has not been up to our expectations; however our expectations have not been properly communicated to the vendor.

Strategic Planning (11/19) Logistics (food) – Coffee hour on 11-19 will be supplemented with Pizza. Rosemary Delaney will handle the pizza order.

Parish Directory – Paul Salina has contacted Jeff DiCosmo. The picture taking and a parish directory will be at no cost to the parish. Picture packages will be available for purchase by members. Picture taking will be scheduled for January/February 2007. Father David Koles is working on names, addresses and

telephone numbers for a new parish telephone directory.

Project Management Review – Mike Wanik reviewed the attached project management list.

The entry roofs to the church hall should be started soon-John Dorsey is waiting for the safety glass to be delivered.

O Mike Wanik will speak to Kevin Delaney regarding the ceiling tile replacement in the church hall. Grid cleaning was completed 10/14/06.

O George Matyczyk reported that John Baraglia didn't show up for the scheduled meeting to discuss the rate increase for cemetery maintenance.

O Paul Culton reported the military flag holders have been installed. George Matyczyk will have John Baraglia pull the old flag holder pipes. Mike Wanik will put the flags up for November 11-Veteran's Day.

O Paul Culton reported that he now has cost estimates and pictures of the icons-still waiting for vestment info before sending to insurance company.

O John Dorsey will also be contacted again to see if he will be able to repair the front door lock-we may need to get someone else.

Father David reported that the Potter's and Diane Dounouk are working on the bookstore-doing inventory-reorganizing etc. We will have a limited inventory on site.

From the Floor

Father David reported that Bishop Nikon is doing fine now. Squirrels - George Matyczyk reported the front tenant has squirrels possibly in the attic.

NEW BUSINESS

- **5K Donation** - Adam Salina received a call from Frank Horbal who wanted to make a donation in memory of his father. Mike Wanik spoke with Frank who in turn made a \$5K donation in memory of Peter Horbal Jr. Father David will send a letter of acknowledgement. The money was credited to the Memorial Fund.

- **November Charity** - Motion to have Friendship Center for November charity by Rosemary Delaney/Paul Culton. Motion carried.

From the floor- nothing addressed.

Adjournment – **Motion** to adjourn at 8:35pm by Paul Culton. The meeting concluded with "It is Truly Meet".

NEXT MEETING: November 27, 2006.

Respectfully Submitted,

Phyllis Bartos