



Annapolis College Ministry

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*"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that
I have commanded you..."
(St. Matthew 28:19-20).*

March 13, 2011

Sunday of Orthodoxy

Dear Friends of Annapolis College Ministry:

Glory to Jesus Christ! As we progress in our Lenten journey, abiding with Christ in the desert, fighting our passions through repentance, and asking Christ to heal us of our sin-sickness, we are reminded of God's great love and mercy toward us. In our fasting we learn to bring balance back between our bodies and our souls. We appreciate and thank God for the food we do eat—all those vegetables—while also learning that "man does not live by bread alone." The same goes for our tithing and alms. All we have ultimately belongs to God and is a gift from Him.



1: Ordination to Priesthood

We're so thankful for your faithful support of ACM, for your belief in



3: Sunday Catechism Class

the importance of full-time college ministry and the real difference it makes in the lives of our young people, our future leaders and families. We remember you in our prayers, and in the commemorations of the Divine Liturgy. You are a vital part of the Body of Christ that makes this outreach to the students of the USNA and St. John's College possible.



2: Henry Desimone's Baptism



4: Caroling around Annapolis

With your support—and only with your support—ACM continues to grow in its ability to minister to the students, faculty, and staff of these two historic collegiate institutions. Since our last newsletter in November, we've seen much blessing.

Here are a few examples:

- Henry Desimone was received into the Church through holy Baptism and Chrismation.
- Matt Merrill, Senior midshipman at the USNA, was received into the Catechumenate.
- Maggie Mohr, Junior at St. John's College, was received into the Catechumenate.
- 25 people, including a large number of midshipmen, joined us in our first Presanctified Liturgy at the St. Andrew Chapel at the USNA the first Wednesday of Lent.
- Since my ordination to the priesthood in December, students are availing themselves of the increased opportunity to make confession and grow in their healing in Christ.
- Students and midshipmen are given regular weekly services and opportunities to participate in studies on the Orthodox Faith they can apply to their daily lives.



5: Maggie and Matt's reception in Catechumenate



6: Fellowship Dinner after Presanctified

Mission Activities

With our Mission starting, the students have found increased opportunities to come outside themselves by serving one another. We now have Saturday Vigil and Sunday Divine Liturgy every week. Our Wednesday Bible studies and Vespers with teaching continue (now replaced by the Presanctified Liturgy during Lent). Many of the students and midshipmen meet with me individually for pastoring and encouragement, and to make their confessions. Our current Intern, Reader Thomas Browning, has also done a great job meeting with students and midshipmen.



7: Choir during Sat. Vigil

Internship Program Expanding

We're expanding our first of its kind internship program and hope to recruit seminary graduates to assist us in helping us grow ACM further,



8: Sunday Liturgy in Boathouse

beginning this summer with our ministry to the incoming class of midshipmen (plebes) at the USNA. Being there for the midshipmen and students in difficult struggles means more opportunities for growth in their spiritual lives.



9: With Met. Jonah at the Walk for Life

Women's OCF-ACM House

We're planning to create a community of Orthodox women this next academic year. The women will live in the same house and help create a stronger sense of community through fellowship, worship, and mutual accountability in the Church.



10: Houseblessing at Valery's

Personal News

This has been one of the most joyous if busiest seasons in our lives. ACM and its needs are growing, **more students are responding and needing pastoring**, the



Annapolis Orthodox Mission is getting underway to better minister to the needs of the students, families, and others. My family is also imminently expecting the birth of our child, Ana (Anastasia) Marie. She is due April 16, i.e., Lazarus Saturday. Having lost our first two children in the womb, Anastasia is our own reminder of Christ's resurrection. Praise God!

12: Anastasia Marie

Thank you!

Thank you for your generous support of ACM. You support our living in this expensive area so that I can minister full time to the students and others in Annapolis while supporting my family. You are helping us to grow so that we can expand our internship program in the coming year.



11: Blessing College Creek during Theophany

Together, through this ministry, **God has brought some 20 persons to the knowledge and love of His Christ in the Church**, and more are on the way. Together, we have created a haven for those already Orthodox at both St. John's and the Naval Academy to grow and own their faith during the formative years of college. Together, we've been used by the Lord to bring forth much fruit for the Kingdom... and more is yet to come.

Please keep ACM in your prayers! We're so grateful for your support and pray for you that God will bless you and recompense you for your participation in this vital ministry. I wish you a blessed and fruitful Lent, full of grace, healing, and growth, as we journey together to a glorious celebration of Christ's resurrection.

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