

# Magnificat

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## Consecration



## Monastic Church of Saint John the Theologian August 24, 2003

We are a Catholic Monastery of the Byzantine Rite, under the jurisdiction of the Eparchy of Chicago, and belonging to the Ukrainian Metropolis in the United States of America, which is in union with the Pope of Rome, supreme pastor of the universal Church. We embrace Evangelical poverty, chastity, obedience, and stability of life, according to the Rule of Saint Benedict and the traditions of the Christian East. In our skete at Jacob's Falls, on the shore of Lake Superior in Michigan's Keweenaw Peninsula, we devote ourselves to a common life of prayer and work for the praise, love, and service of God and for the upbuilding of His Kingdom through the arts.

*As the great day draws near;  
the Byzantine/Slav cross is  
affixed to the apse, the bells are  
blessed and installed, and the  
roof is placed on the bell tower.*



O Lord our God, ... bless + and sanctify + these bells ... Confer upon them the power of Your grace through Your all-holy Spirit, so that Your faithful servants, hearing their voices, may be strengthened in the Faith, that they be inspired by their sound to courageously resist all the assaults of Satan and overcome them by prayers and constant glorification of You, the true God, that day and night they may hasten to Church to offer prayer and to glorify Your holy name.



*Workmen install the **Great Doors** between vestibule and church.*



*Through the effort of many hands, the **Holy Cross of Sorrow and Suffering** is lowered on to its base.*



*Members of the Schoonard family ponder a lay out of detail as they erect the **Ico-nostasis**.*

## **O God, who are everlasting and without beginning ...**

Hear us sinners, who pray to You, O Master, our Lord and God, hope of the world, and send down Your all-holy, and adorable, and almighty Spirit, and sanctify this church and this altar; fill it with perpetual light; make it Your dwelling place and the abode of Your glory; beautify it with Your divine and supernatural gifts; make it a haven for the storm-tossed, a remedy for the passions, a refuge for the weak, a fortress against the onslaughts of the demons. Keep a watchful eye on it day and night, and an attentive ear to the supplications of those who enter it with fear and reverence and call upon Your most honored and adorable name, that whatsoever they shall ask, You will hear it in heaven above, and will be merciful and gracious to them. Preserve it firm till the end of time, and manifest this altar as the Holy of Holies by the power and action of Your Holy Spirit. Glorify it above the Throne of Mercy of the Old Law, so that the sacred functions which shall be celebrated upon it may reach Your holy, most heavenly and spiritual altar, and obtain for us the grace of Your most pure protection; for we do not trust in the service of our unworthy hands, but in Your unspeakable goodness. Amen.

from the kneeling prayer for the Consecration of a Church.

*Temporary icons in place, the **Iconostasis** renders the new church a fitting place for the celebration of Divine Liturgy.*



*Adorned with its three crowns of thorns, the **Holy Cross of Sorrow and Suffering** silently awaits the day's events.*

*An overflow congregation anticipates the arrival of the Hierarchs and the beginning of the Service.*





O Lord, Lord, look down from Heaven and see! Visit this vineyard and bring it to perfection, for Your right hand planted it. May Your hand be upon the son of man whom You affirmed for Yourself.

*In preparation for the tasks ahead, the Hierarchs and assisting clergy don aprons.*



O immortal and most generous King, call to mind Your bounties and Your mercies, which are everlasting ... and strengthen us with the grace and inspiration of the life-giving and Holy Spirit, that we may without condemnation consecrate this church and sacred altar, that in this church we may glorify You with psalms, songs and sacred services, and praise Your goodness always.



*Using four stones from the shore of our Lake, the Hierarchs and assisting clergy drive wedges into the tenons of the **Holy Table**'s legs. Thus, they make firm the **Altar**. The stones will then be placed under the **Holy Table**, where they will remain as long as this Holy House endures.*

*The Hierarchs and assisting clergy purify the **Holy Table**.*



*Having been incensed seven times round about, made firm with stone-driven wedges, purified by a triple washing with water, wine, and rose water mixed with spikenard, and its five cavities anointed with Holy Chrism, the **Holy Table** awaits the Holy Relics.*



*Preceded by the servers, assisting clergy, and Bishop James, and followed by members of the faithful, Bishop Richard Stephen solemnly bears the Holy Relics into the Church, where he seals them into the center cavity of the **Holy Table** with a wooden enclosure and a mixture of beeswax and incense.*

*Relics sealed in its center and icons of the Evangelists into its four corners, the **Holy Table** is vested and made ready for Divine Liturgy.*





*At the Little Entrance of Divine Liturgy, the Gospel Book is presented to the Hierarchs.*

Our Father, Who are in heaven, hallowed be Your Name ...



*After Divine Liturgy, the Hierarchs, assisting clergy, monks, and servers:*  
**Many happy years!**





*Meanwhile ... preparations of another sort near completion.*

Christ our God, bless the food and drink of Your servants, for You are holy, now and forever.



*And the celebration continues.*

# An After Hours Visitor

Over the years **Jampot** has developed a reputation for the firmness of its closing time. The monks are on a tight schedule for Vespers, Dinner, and Compline, and would-be customers who arrive even a minute after 5:00 PM are usually refused entry. The public has come to know this, and the final half hour of the day is often the busiest, with people pouring in for last minute purchases. Occasionally, some misjudge their journey and arrive too late, much to their dismay and frustration.

Early this summer, we arrived at the **Jampot** in the morning to find evidence of a potential patron who had arrived long after we had gone for the day. His mark roused great interest among our customers and brought so much comment, that we left the screen unrepaired for some weeks. Eventually, though, the bugs flooding in through the gashes pushed us to do the necessary fixing. We found no further sign of his having visited the shop during the remainder of the season.

However, he did come calling at the monastery one night. While we were pleased to see him, and although we remained mindful of St. Benedict's injunction to receive all guests - even those who arrive at odd hours - as if they were the Lord Himself, we did not grant him entry.



An encounter through the glass of a Lakeside window seemed quite excitement enough for one night.

Our regular encounters with visitors across the **Jampot** counter are usually not so hair-raising. Still, the steady stream of customers from spring's first green to autumn's splendor brightens our life and grants us a limited contact with the world. For this tiny monastery, the many friends and patrons we see at the **Jampot** each year are life-sustaining in more ways than one. To those we have seen over the course of this year and to those we will see in the final weeks of this busiest season to date, we express our heartfelt thanks.

And to those who have been unable to visit or would like more of our preserves, fruitcakes, and confections, for holiday giving or their own enjoyment, we offer by mail the items listed on the following pages. With humility and profound gratitude, we look forward to hearing from you.

# With Great Gratitude

The Consecration of our new church and the dedication of the new wing of our monastery here at Jacob's Falls was for us an occasion of great joy. We are most grateful to our Ukrainian Catholic Bishop, the most reverend Richard Stephen Seminack, who presided over the Service, and to the most reverend James H. Garland, Roman Catholic Bishop of Marquette, who shared this most happy day with us and concelebrated the Divine Liturgy. The presence of the local hierarchs of both Rites beautifully demonstrated the Church's unity in diversity and indicates the importance of the event to the Church and the entire area.

We thank God for those who joined in the celebration, for the priests, the servers, the singers, the congregation, and for those who documented the event with photos. We are also most grateful to those whose labor behind the scene made the day possible, to those who cooked, cleaned, served, and kept order, and freed us from worrying about these many details.

We thank God also for the artists who have done so much to beautify the new church. To Patricia Pawlicki and Martin Herrera for their work on the **Holy Cross of Sorrow and Suffer-**

**ing**, to Tim Schoonard and family who built and installed the **Iconostasis**, and to carvers, Richard Wright and David Glenn for their labors on the **Great Doors**, our heartfelt thanks.

Special thanks must also go to Joe Poissant and Mike Jupe, of Thomas Moyle Construction, superintendent and foreman of the project, who saw the job through from ground breaking to finish, and then volunteered time to help at the Consecration festivities. To them and to the crew of carpenters, laborers, tile setters, and craftsmen, who worked with them and went the "extra mile" in providing an outstanding edifice for the glory of God, our deepest thanks. And especially to our architect, Page Onge, whose genius, expertise, and midnight labor these past six or seven years turned our rough ideas into an architectural marvel, we extend our deep respect and gratitude.

Above all, we thank God for the many contributors great and small whose love and loyalty these past twenty years have brought us thus far. We offer up earnest prayer on their behalf for the many blessings the Lord has bestowed through them.

**God grant you many, happy years!**

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