



Canadian Orthodox Monastery of All Saints of North America (New - Ostrog)

MONASTERY NEWS ARCHIVE

- MONASTERY IN THE MOVIES -

A film that was released earlier this year has many scenes filmed at the monastery. The IMAX nature film INDIA: KINGDOM OF THE TIGERS was shot both in northern India and at the Monastery of All Saints of North America (New Ostrog) near Vancouver, B.C

This movie was dedicated to the preservation of the nearly extinct Bengal Tiger. Since India had outlawed trained tigers, the only Bengals available to the film company were two that are maintained in Canada especially for the movie industry. bushes in the background. Scenes with the tigers swimming across waterways were also filmed here.



The director scouted for a suitable location to continue his filming with the trained cats, and felt that the monastery grounds and its surrounding reminded him of the foothills of the Himalayas. If any of our readers happen to see this movie, most of the "tiger only" action shots were filmed here on our monastery grounds. You will be able to identify several of the scenes because of the presence of willow trees or snowberry.

- NEARLY 400 PILGRIMS ATTEND PENTECOST HEALING SERVICE -

It is the custom to celebrate the healing service on the afternoon of Pentecost Sunday, at the monastery. This year, there was a Romanian theme to the afternoon. Among the hundreds of pilgrims, many arrived in traditional Romanian costume and the pot luck supper that followed consisted mainly of Romanian food.

As the monastery church could not accommodate the congregation, the anointing service was held outdoors at the Grotto of the Theotokos, Joy of Canada. The seven epistles were read in Romanian while the Gospels were read in English, Romanian, Slavonic and Arabic. The service was concelebrated by Archbishop Lazar, Bishop Varlaam, Hieromonk Moses, Fr. Andrew Somow, Fr. Michael Fowrik, Fr. Nicola Laita and Fr. Johanna Ayoub. Several subdeacons also assisted.



Following the service, the pilgrims processed with holy relics and icons to Kosovo Field and the Human Rights Monument which is located near the monastery gate.

After a pomana service and prayers, the pilgrims returned to the main corpus of the monastery, accompanied by the ringing of the bells. A pot luck dinner followed, and many pilgrims remained well into the evening. Before leaving for home, most of them visited the holy spring which flows from the mountain behind the main corpus. The spring is dedicated to The Theotokos the Life-bearing Spring and pilgrims regularly take holy water from the spring to their homes.

We hope to have a Romanian "troitsa" erected before next year's Pentecost service.

- TWO NEW BOOKS -

We have been informed by Cultura Arhiva Romana that they are presently publishing a book consisting of a number of articles written by Archbishop Lazar. The articles cover a range of issues about Orthodoxy and contemporary conditions. The book, which will appear in Romania, in Romanian, is scheduled to be released before the end of August.

Dr. Andrew Sopko, who earlier published a book on the theology of Fr. John Romanides, announced that he is just completing a similar book about the theology of Archbishop Lazar. The book, to be titled FOR A CULTURE OF CO-SUFFERING LOVE, should be available this fall.

- COMMEMORATIVE WINDOW -

The Monastery was recently presented with a large stained glass window, made by Savellii Morozoff. The window features an outline of the tablet of the ten commandments merging into a Russian style Cross. It has been installed in a window of the staircase leading to the

monastery chapel. Savelii has become well known for his beautiful and intricate stained glass work, most notable a Celtic Cross window with intricate Celtic knots which he created for the B.C. Celtic Society in Vancouver.

- BAPTISMS AT THE MONASTERY -

Over the past few months, a number of baptisms have taken place at the monastery. During the past three or four years, we have baptised several Serbs from Krajina and Bosnia. Many people in Communist controlled countries were not baptised and children and some of them have decided to correct this for the sake of their salvation.



- MONASTERY OUTREACH -

In spite of his accident and long bout with ill health, Archbishop Lazar has continued the work of the monastery's St Maximos the Confessor Centre for Orthodox Christian Studies. Endeavoring to promote an awareness of Orthodoxy outside the Church, and greater education within, Vladika recently lectured at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver. The subject of this lecture was the encounter between culture and the Church. Earlier this year, Vladika Lazar was guest lecturer at the University of Maine, Lewiston where he participated in a symposium on Democracy, the Family, Faith and the 21st Century. He also continues his monthly spiritual evenings (meleti) at both St. Nicholas Parish in Langley, B.C. and the St. Elia Parish in New Westminster. In the fall, after his return from Romania and Serbia, Vladika will expand the "meleti" series to other locations.

- CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA -

The monastery regularly co-sponsors conferences and symposia. The most recent, a symposium on Dostoevsky included presentations from well known Canadian philosopher and educator David J. Goa of Edmonton, Nicholas Franck from Salt Lake City, Archbishop Lazar and others. These events, while sometimes related to science, technology, political science, philosophy and other subjects, offer a splendid opportunity for introducing university students to the Orthodox faith. As Vladika Lazar says, "If one is discreet, respectful and not

ideological, one can lace such a presentation with a considerable amount preaching."



- VISITORS -

Recent visitors to the monastery include Alexis Dixon of Tennessee. Alexis is a member of the Archdiocese of the South (O.C.A.) He stayed at the monastery for a full month and was very popular with parishioners of St. Nicholas Parish. The brotherhood were grateful to him for his hard work on the monastery grounds, which helped us greatly this year.

- NOTES -

The Greek language newspaper PATRIDES regularly features articles and photographs of the monastery and the two OCA parishes in Langley, B.C. Photos from events at both the St. Herman of Alaska Parish and the St. Nicholas the Wonderworker Parish appear in a special British Columbia section. The April, 2003 edition was especially interesting. B.C. editors Dimitry and Katherine Angelatos try to include stories and photos from several Orthodox parishes in the province in an effort to create a greater sense of unity among the various ethnic and Canadian Orthodox communities. They are to be lauded for this noble effort.



*Copyright 1998, 2005 Canadian Orthodox Monastery. All rights reserved.
Canadian Orthodox Monastery, British Columbia, Canada*