A call to perfection. A challenge to reach our greatest potential. We all have so many possibilities and our promise is unlimited, and yet, how many of us settle for so much less in life. Too often, we seem content to simply get by, to settle for the status quo, to be like everyone else, instead of fulfilling our God-given potential!

Of course, this is not the way of the Gospel and Jesus Christ. If you read the Holy Scriptures, and pay careful attention to what our Faith teaches, we see something quite different. Jesus called His followers to nothing less than perfection - “Be perfect, as your father in heaven is perfect.”

Although someone will quickly say, “No one can be perfect,” don’t forget what the Archangel Gabriel told the Virgin Mary, “For nothing will be impossible with God.” Christ’s call to perfection is possible in Him, by His grace, through the guidance and inspiration of the Holy Spirit within us.

Look at how the Apostle Paul noted numerous times in his letters that with Christ, everything is possible: “God is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine… If anyone is in Christ, they are a new creation. Everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new… I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me… And my God will fully satisfy every need of ours according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.”

St. Peter also highlighted the promises of God that lead us into union with the divine mysteries - “God has given us His precious and very great promises, so that through them we can escape from the corruption in this world and become participants of the divine nature.”

Unfortunately, too many people, including many Christians, don’t set their sights on high enough goals. When I challenge people to follow the teachings of the Gospel, and become the saints to which we are called, I will often hear someone justify their inaction or lackadaisical effort with the excuse, “Well, I’m not Jesus. Do
The mission of Sts. Constantine and Helen Church is to proclaim the Good News of Salvation through the Orthodox Christian Faith for the glory of our Triune God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

We are a community of believers who journey towards our Lord Jesus Christ and one another through our WORSHIP, FELLOWSHIP, SPIRITUAL GROWTH, WITNESS, and SERVICE. We invite all people to join us on this journey in the Kingdom of Heaven.

We are under the jurisdiction of
His Holiness, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew
His Eminence, Archbishop Demetrios of America
His Eminence, Metropolitan Methodios of Boston

Father Luke A. Veronis
Telephone: (508) 949-7623 (h) (774) 230-6985 (cell)
email: veronis@verizon.net

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A CALL TO PERFECTION

Continued from Front Cover

you expect me to be able to do what Christ did? I’m human. I can’t have the same love and compassion and ability to forgive as Jesus did!”

Well, the truth is that Jesus revealed the ultimate human being is. His life showed true humanity, untouched by the fall. He set the standard which we are to follow. Jesus Himself made it very clear that He expects nothing less than our own journey into His holiness, He expects each of us to become saints, men and women who continually strive to walk down the path of perfection!

Of course, none of us can do this on our own. We can’t achieve perfection through our own abilities or effort. Only IN CHRIST and THROUGH CHRIST, only when we open up our hearts and lives to be filled with His Presence and with His Holy Spirit, only then can we fulfill our potential and become more and more like Him.

Jesus showed us the way when He told His followers that we all must “deny ourselves, take up our cross and then follow Him.” Only when we learn to die to ourselves, only after we crucify our ego and self-centered ways, only when we sincerely struggle to fulfill Christ’s Will above our own will, only then will we be able to create space in our hearts and souls for Jesus to truly dwell there and to transform our lives into His likeness!

St. Paul confirmed this path when he said, “I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.”

We begin this journey of transformation when we make a conscious decision every day, in each of our thoughts and words and actions, to keep our eyes focused on becoming more and more like Christ. We must allow the Gospel to be our inspiration and guide, struggling to love as Jesus loved, to forgive as Christ forgave, to show compassion and mercy as our Lord showed it to everyone He met, and to live the prayer “Your Will Be Done.”

Our ego will have great difficulty with this. The world around us will tempt us with the lie that such a life is impossible to live. Yet, God has created each one of us into His image and likeness. This means He created us with divine ability and potential. It’s up to us to accept that ultimate calling, and by His grace to reach the boundless potential within!

Be perfect, as your Father in heaven is perfect! (Matthew 5:48)

With love in our Lord Jesus Christ,

+Luke
CHANGE & TRANSFORMATION

I often sit in the car with my children, and they want to listen to their pop music. Sometimes I’m not in the mood to listen to their music and we sit in silence, or we listen to NPR. Other times, however, I listen to their music and pay close attention to the lyrics of the songs. These lyrics will sometimes lead into a discussion, where I try to compare the message of the song with the message of our faith.

Right now there’s a popular song that I have heard continuously over the past weeks entitled Same Love, which was written on behalf of gay legal rights. The refrain of the song goes, “I can’t change, even if I tried, even if I wanted to, I can’t change”

Now I realize that any sermon on the topic of homosexuality will generate heated discussion, and can quickly alienate people from one another. In fact, one of the challenges of this sensitive topic, like many such topics, is that people who hold different views often won’t hear, or even listen to, what the opposite side has to say. My dear friend, Fr. Hector Firoglanis, gave such a sermon several weeks ago in my former hometown Church in Lancaster, PA, and the reaction was swift and strong, both in defense and in opposition to what he said. An important result, however, was that it generated discussion and made some people reflect on messages that society subtly, as well as quite blatantly offer us, as well as on what the Gospel that Jesus Christ and our Church have proclaimed for the past 2000 years.

The topic of homosexuality falls under a much broader topic of sexuality, and I’m not interested in limiting today’s sermon to homosexuality alone. Maybe that’s a discussion that can take place better as a dialogue in smaller groups. What I’m interested in focusing on, however, is how over the past 50 years, and especially within the past several decades, our society’s mores and standards have radically changed on all sexual topics. And yet, in some ways, the fundamental temptations of sexuality haven’t changed at all – they are the same now as they have been for the past four thousand years.

For example, look at the fundamental temptations of our sexuality. We can read in the Old Testament about issues of adultery, fornication outside of marriage, homosexuality and the temptation of fulfilling our sexual desires without any limit. It’s interesting to note that these temptations, along with other failures of sexual purity, have always existed in the world across all religions and peoples.

That is why our Lord Jesus himself addressed these topics when He called His followers to the highest standard of sexual purity – “You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not commit adultery’ but I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.” (Matthew 5:27-28) These words follow His teaching in the Beatitudes, where He says, “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.” (Mt 5:8)

Jesus’ words challenge His followers to strive for a pure heart, a clean heart that overcomes any desires, passions and lusts of the world, and instead places His Will above our own. Before any sexual passions and desires, before any material wishes and dreams, before anything else, Christ calls each one of us to “Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness” (Mt. 6:33). He lays down the greatest call in life – “You shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect” (Mt 5:48).

As Christians, we have to be very careful never to limit any discussion of sexual passions to simply fulfilling our sexual desires and needs. Christ and His Church call all Christians to strive for the ideal that Jesus set before us. We are called to become like Him, to become perfect, to seek above all else His kingdom, to pray for His will to be done even before our own. Do we think of this whenever we discuss various sexual temptations and challenges?

I noted how in some ways sexual temptations haven’t changed throughout the course of history.
Of course, it’s quite obvious how our contemporary society has radically departed from former standards inspired by the Gospel, and this departure has happened so rapidly. Think about society’s views today, compared to simply 30 years ago. How many of our young people, including those who call themselves Christian, no longer consider marriage something important? How common and acceptable is living together before marriage? Fornication before marriage, and even extra-marital relations have become commonplace and in some ways acceptable. The frightening statistics of addiction to internet pornography reveal how drastically an entire generation of youth are allowing their understanding of the opposite sex, and sexual relations in general, to become distorted and unhealthy. Within this larger topic, we can also see how society’s view toward homosexual, bisexual and transgender issues are a part of this far-reaching change.

We Christians have to be careful not to blindly embrace each of these fundamental changes without carefully trying to understand each issue through the prism of our faith, through the Good News of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the essential teachings of the Church. Society constantly bombards us with its message and perspective, and many of us, unconsciously, accept the new standards the world sets without even knowing, or understanding well our own faith.

Well, we do believe in change, but change that leads us closer to God, not change that simply adapts to society’s whims and fads. My difficulty with the lyrics from my children’s pop music song is that our Christian journey is all about personal transformational change. Anyone who tells us “I can’t change, even if I tried, even if I wanted to. I can’t change” doesn’t understand the Gospel. Every human being is born in the image and likeness of God, but every human being is also born into a fallen world. The image of God within each of us has been distorted by the fallen world. We live in a world where we all are sinners and we are all sick. No one is exempt from this fallen-ness of society. Even the greatest of our saints would call themselves the first among sinners, highlighting how their own sins were something that separated them from God. We all are sick and our spiritual illnesses alienate us from our Creator. Our sins and illnesses come from various root causes – whether through our ego and pride, or through our distorted desires and passions – and these sins reveal themselves in countless ways - through our sexual expressions, through our material pursuits, through our controlling actions, and through so many other forms.

What is important is that all of us realize that an authentic Christian life is a journey of continual change and constant transformation, but change in the direction of God. We should never comfortably accept who we are, but we should strive to become more and more Christ-like. We all will fail along the way, and that is where the love and mercy, the grace and forgiveness of God can heal us, no matter what our sin or shortcoming. Yet each time we fail, we must get back up and continue the struggle. We must go forward in life knowing that without God we can do nothing, but with God, all things are possible. Our Creator has placed within each of us His likeness, a limitless potential to become more and more like Him. Our Faith and the Church guide us to fulfill our potential, to discover the power of God within and to become vessels of His unfathomable love.

I pray that each of us will reflect today on some of society’s new standards, especially within our understanding of sexuality, and take care not to blindly adopt what the world offers, but instead strive to learn and better understand the teachings of Christ and His Church and strive to follow His narrow and difficult path that leads to ultimate healing and transformation.
What does it mean to be “successful” in life? For many people, it means working hard, achieving the goals of our career and financial success, having a good family and a network of friends.

All of the above are wonderful, but the problem with many contemporary Americans is that a relationship with God and a growing faith are not a part of their success equation. Faith issues may be a small sidebar, but they are not the driving force in our effort to be successful in life.

This is a grave mistake. Remember the great King Solomon, who attained success and wealth beyond measure. Yet he summed up his life by saying, “Vanity, vanity, all is vanity. It’s a bubble that bursts” (Ecclesiastes 1:2).

Please understand, God is happy to bless us with material things. After all, he created the material world. The crucial problem is when we forget the One who created us! This is why many people today who have attained so much materially and financially, are still empty spiritually and wanting for more. They are searching for a deeper meaning and purpose in life, just like King Solomon.

What, then, defines “success?” Very simply, it is the process of “climbing” closer to God by confronting sinful vices and acquiring holy habits or virtues - THAT'S WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A SUCCESS! It is not merely climbing the corporate ladder, but it is truly climbing the spiritual ladder.

As we climb to success, with the help of Jesus and by His grace, we seek to defeat our sinful habits (like gossip, lying, lust, anger, judging, insults, etc…) and simultaneously strive to live a new way in Christ through practicing the virtues of patience, forgiveness, kindness, mercy and especially LOVE. This process makes us more “Christ-like,” which is the goal, the ultimate barometer of success!

How do we climb this ladder of success? Come to Church regularly, participating in the Sacramental life and worshipping our Creator, not just His creation. Read the Bible and pray every day, so that we can communicate and connect with our Creator. Believe and follow Jesus Christ and commit to a close and personal relationship with Him, a relationship that will lead you more fully into His Body, a family of believers who are like-minded and all seeking to humbly climb the ladder of success.

Zacchaeus climbed a tree (Luke 19:1-10) in order to see Jesus who was passing by. He was willing to do anything to see Jesus, and thus opened himself up to radical change. Are we ready to do such a thing?

Are we searching for ultimate happiness? Has life become meaningless and have things turned out differently than we thought they would?

Jesus Christ can offer each of us a new life, a life of meaning, a successful life! Jesus Christ is the life-altering experience.

Perhaps you’ve lost your job or suffered a death in the family. Perhaps you’re addicted to something or some lifestyle in your search for happiness. Or maybe you have lost your ambition or even your faith in God and in other people.

The world has become a very selfish, cold place to live in, and life at times can seem very difficult to deal with. Jesus Christ is our answer for a new beginning, for a new life and a new future which will give us deep meaning and purpose. Once we turn to Jesus we will not want to return to our old life.

Jesus Christ can offer us what we are looking for. He can offer us a brand new life, a successful life. Jesus Christ can completely change us and fill us with His peace, joy and happiness. In Him, we will have hope for the future and hope for all eternity.
OUR TRANSFIGURATION
Feastday August 6

Why do we come to Church each week? What are we seeking from our Christian faith? What is our ultimate goal for this brief life here on planet earth? The Feast of Our Lord’s Transfiguration (Aug 6) clearly teaches us that our goal in life should be nothing less than TRANSFIGURATION! To be transfigured, to be transformed, to be lifted up out of the superficialities of the world and to become “a new creation” in Jesus Christ, one truly united with our Lord and filled with His Divine light and energies!

The Transfiguration of Jesus raises our eyes up to our original destiny, which St. Peter affirmed: “[Our Lord’s] divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness… and through his great and precious promises, we may be partakers of the divine nature, escaping the corruption that is in the world.” (2 Pet 1:3,4)

We may become partakers of the divine nature! Jesus confirmed this teaching throughout his ministry when He invited everyone to fulfill their divine potential. He wants you and me to become one with Him. Thus, the feast of the Transfiguration not only reaffirms the divine identity of our Lord, but also reveals to each one of us our true nature; we see our destiny in divine transfiguration! Human life is not about petty, mundane, superficial pursuits of pleasure, comfort, power, and worldly success, but instead is about a greater call, a return to our original and divine destiny! Life is about transfiguration into the life of Christ!

FALLING ASLEEP OF THE VIRGIN MARY

One of the four major fasting periods for the Orthodox Church occurs from August 1 - 14, in preparation for the Great Feast of the Falling Asleep of the Virgin Mary on August 15.

During this time Orthodox Christians are asked to increase their spiritual struggle by praying more often, attending the DAILY Supplication Services (Paraclesis) to the Virgin Mary, generously offering alms to those in need, and fasting from meat and dairy products as a spiritual discipline to draw closer to God.

May we all use this period for our spiritual edification and growth!

Please call or email Fr. Luke at veronis@verizon.net any names you want us to pray for during this holy season.
28 RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS

1. Compliment someone or leave a sticky note of appreciation or love for someone to find.
2. Send an unexpected letter or note to someone expressing your appreciation for them.
3. When you meet a complete stranger today, offer a complement and say something kind to him/her.
4. Randomly give a $5 Dunkin Donuts gift card to someone – a clerk at the post office, your mailman, a police officer you pass by, someone at the supermarket.
5. Write a note of appreciation to your mailman and leave a chocolate, that $5 Dunkin Donuts gift card, or something else to make him smile.
6. Send a handmade card to someone you care for - to your mother and/or to a woman who has been a mother figure to you.
7. Don’t judge or condemn anyone, and if we have judged another, let us ask God for His forgiveness, and if possible, even go up to the person we have judged and ask them for forgiveness.
8. Leave something cheery or nice for all your co-workers (a bag of nuts, fun post its, fun office supplies, etc.)
9. Send a card and donation to an OCMC Missionary today (www.ocmc.org).
10. Put something you no longer need on Craig's list free spot for your area.
11. Give some old DVDs to your local library, homeless shelter, or boys/girls club.
12. Look for something around you that can be fixed up, picked up, or attended, ie, put shopping carts up, pick up some trash laying around, pick up something that has fallen over.
13. When you go somewhere to get or do something, ask someone around you if you can pick up, drop off or do something for them while you do.
14. Put an encouraging, positive, comment on someone's webpage or drop them an email that you really like...... let them know you enjoy it.
15. Send a picture you have taken which includes a friend and send it to them with a note remembering when it was taken.
16. Call your mom and dad and express your love for them.
17. Leave a book you have already finished somewhere for someone else to read.
18. Invite someone who is alone over for dinner.
19. Send someone a small gift anonymously.
20. Cut coupons out and leave them at the grocer register for others.
21. Take some cake, chocolates, flowers etc. to the neighbors, or a senior citizen nearby.
22. Send someone an animated greeting card on the internet.
23. Consciously say a kind, encouraging, uplifting word to someone today.
24. Curb road rage: Let other cars merge onto the highway.
26. Bring courtesy back in an instant: Hold the door open with a flourish.
27. Live with a daily attitude of gratitude. Send a thank you note to someone, or consciously say thank you to someone.
28. Visit a nursing home. Spend time visiting with someone who doesn't get visitors.
OPA! GRECIAN FESTIVAL 2013

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

September 7th and 8th

Help Us Make this Festival One of Our Best Ever!!!

FESTIVAL BANNERS

One special way to support our Festival is to buy a banner advertising your business, or offering a greeting to all the people who will be present. These banners will be displayed inside of the main tent.

You can purchase an 18 x 24” banner for a $100 donation.

You can send a check into the Church Office, noting what wording you would like on the banner, or contact the Church Office or Fr Luke.

THEMATIC BASKETS

Contact Evelyn Pappas (508-259-5453) or Sandi Kunkel (508-943-7227) about making a thematic basket, or donating anything towards a basket.

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!

Please consider offering as many hours as you can on the weekend of the Festival. We also need people to help in the preparations and the clean up afterwards.

CENTER TABLE

Please bring in items for the Center Table. A basket will be placed in the Church Hall. Contact Dhimitra Adamopoulos or Celia Milios with any questions.
Thanks to the 25 volunteers from our Church Family who helped build a home for Fabiola and her five children. They had previously spent 13 years in a refugee camp in Tanzania.
SON SURF BEACH BASH
Vacation Church Camp 2013
(Ages 3-12 with Teen Helpers 13+)

Recreational
& Sports Activities

Kick-Off
Swim Party
Aug 11

Tubing at the Lake
On Aug 13

Camping At Cape Cod
Aug 16-18

Bonfire
Bible Stories

Teen Pool Party
Sunday
5:00pm

Teen Talks

Arts & Crafts

At our Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church

Bible & Memory Verse Games

Music & Videos

AUGUST 11-15, 2013

Sunday, Aug 11 9:30am Kick-Off, with Activities and Pool Party
Aug 12 - Aug 15: 5:15-8:30 Program
Aug 13 - 2:00 Tubing on Webster Lake
Aug 16-18 Camping at Cape Cod

Call or email Presbytere Faith Veronis by Aug 1 to register (508-774-230-9695) or email at veronis@verizon.net
NEW CHURCH WEBSITE

Check out our new Church Website at www.schwebster.org, which was developed with the help of the Archdiocesan Internet Ministries. Our website contains the news of our local Church Family and a description of our ministries, including a calendar of events that can let you know the latest happenings, as well as a beautiful photo gallery.

The website also offers a wealth of information about our Greek Orthodox Christian Faith - with articles from various authors on “Our Faith,” along with a library of sermons and monthly issues of The Light.

One can find links to other important Church websites, together with additional information.

One special feature is that our parishioners can now make any secure ONLINE DONATIONS through the website. This special feature is linked with VANCO SERVICES, a professional payment card industry that specializes in secure online services.

Please check out our website at www.schwebster.org.

SUMMER CAMPING at CAPE COD with our Church Family

August 15-18

Contact Nicoleta Cojocaru For Details! Limited Space Available.

EARLY RISERS BIBLE STUDY

6:30 am - 7:30 am
Saturday Aug 3, 10, 24, 31

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

10:30-11:45
Wednesday, Aug 28
COFFEE FELLOWSHIP:

Aug 4 - Marie McNally, Christa Benoit, Sandi Kunkel, Betty Vriga, Barbara Choquet

Aug 11 - Donna Cooney, Athena Cooney, Leah DiDonato, Sandra Roy, Bill Anthopoulos

Aug 18 Kathy Bilis, Charlotte Neslusan, Marie Monroe, Carolyn Niemeck, Deb Raymond

Aug 25 - Thomai Gatsogiannis, Jaime Ross, Betty Tonna, Eleni Xanthopoulos, Kiku Andersen,

YOUTH EPISTLE READERS

August 4 - Panayiota Veronis
(Romans 12:6-14 - page 72)

August 11 - Theodora Veronis
(Romans 15:1-7 - page 73)

August 18 - Maria Mironidis
(1 Corinthians 1:10-17 - page 75)

August 25 - Olivia Neslusan
(1 Corinthians 3:9-17 - page 77)

September 1 - Paris McWilliam
(1 Timothy 2:1-7)

Sept 8 - Katerina McWilliam
(Galatians 6:11-18 - page 147)

TEN WAYS TO LOVE

1. Listen without interrupting (Prov 1:8)
2. Speak without accusing (James 1:19)
3. Give without sparing (Prov 21:26)
4. Pray without ceasing (1 Thess 5:17)
5. Answer without arguing (Prov 17:1)
6. Share without pretending (Eph 4:15)
7. Enjoy without complaining (Phil 2:14)
8. Trust without wavering (1 Cor 13:7)
9. Forgive without punishing (Col 3:13)
10. Promise without forgetting (Prov 13:12)
Remembering Our Church Family

**Important Dates in AUGUST:**

Try to make a visit, give a call, or express your congratulations to members of our Church family who celebrate this month.

**BIRTHDAYS:**

Aug 1   Demetrios Milios  
Aug 1   Adam Sanderson  
Aug 2   Evelyn Belanger  
Aug 3   Mary Stefanides  
Aug 4   Nicholas Veronis  
Aug 4   Georgette Nikolopoulos  
Aug 6   Katerina Beland  
Aug 7   Demetra O’Brian  
Aug 8   Louis Econome  
Aug 11  Ramona Geotis  
Aug 13  Helen Constantine  
Aug 13  Catherine Jordanoglou  
Aug 18  Denise Gritzner  
Aug 23  Julie Milios  
Aug 26  Nikola Constantine  
Aug 27  Clara Enache  
Aug 28  Matthew Zhuk

**WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:**

Aug 16  Victor & Triada Apostolou  
Aug 20  Aristotelis & Gloria Panagiotou  
Aug 20  Paul & Eleni Xanthopoulos  
Aug 24  Anton & Nicoleta Cojocaru  
Aug 28  Fr Luke & Pres Faith Veronis

**NAMEDAYS:**

Aug 6    Transfiguration  
         Sam Sotir Angelo  
         Sam Sotir Kiritsis  
         Sam Sotir Pappas  
Aug 15   Dormition of Virgin Mary  
         Mary Baxter  
         Despina Condos  
         Maria Economou  
         Mary Fatsi  
         Maria Jordanoglou  
         Despina Kiely  
         Donna Maria Mandalanakis  
         Marie McNally  
         Maria Mironidis  
         Marie Monroe  
         Mary Nicholopoulos  
         Maria Papa  
         Mary Papageorge  
         Marion Thomas  
         Panayiota Veronis  
         Panayotis Sakellariou  
Aug 30   St. Alexander  
         Alexandra Koulax  
         Alexandria Ritsi  
         Alexander Pappas  
         Sandi Kunkel  
         Sandy Sanderson  
         Alexandra Thomas  
         Alexandra Xanthopoulos
The rich man is not one who has much but one who gives much. For what he gives away remains his forever.

*St. John Chrysostom*

PROJECTS COMPLETED:
1 - Hallway Roof
2 - New Icon in Church Sanctuary

*In Process:*
1 - Backyard Basketball Court
2 - Fix Cracks in Masonry; Waterproof Outside Masonry
3. Clean Exterior Bell Tower
4. Stain Church Entrance/Doors/Archway

*To Be Addressed:*
1) Rewiring Our Chandeliers
2) Renovating our Kitchen
3) Fixing/Sealing Parking Lot

Please keep up to date in your stewardship offering!

As a way to make it easier for the members of our Church Family to offer their stewardship and to support our church, we have now put on our new Church Website an option for secure online giving through VANCO SERVICES. You can offer your donations or stewardship with a Credit Card or through electronic payment.

VANCO SERVICES, LLC is a Payment Card Industry Level 1 Compliant Service Provider specializing in electronic payment solutions. They provide secure and reliable processing for both recurring and one-time transactions.

VANCO SERVICES works with over 20,000 organizations in a variety of industries nationwide. With more than 20 years of experience in Automated Clearing House (ACH) processing, cash management and risk management,

VANCO has earned its reputation as a trusted industry leader and provides the highest level of security and confidentiality in processing their clients' electronic transactions.

Look for the ONLINE GIVING button on the bottom left corner of our webpage www.schwebster.org.
On “Agape” Love

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends…

And now faith, hope and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

1 Corinthians 13
Thank You to those who sponsor our monthly bulletin!

If you would like to place an ad and support our monthly bulletin, please contact Fr. Luke or the Church Office.

$200/year or $20/month.
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TRUST GOD - JUST FOR TODAY!

JUST FOR TODAY I will trust God.

JUST FOR TODAY I will begin the day praying, “This is the day which the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it” (Psalm 118:24).

JUST FOR TODAY I will say, “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me” (Phil 4:13).

JUST FOR TODAY I will not worry about my needs, for “my God shall supply all your needs according to the riches of His glory by Christ Jesus” (Phil 4:19).

JUST FOR TODAY I will not harbor doubt and lack faith, for “without faith it is impossible to please God; for He that comes to God must believe that He is a reward of those who diligently seek Him” (Hebrews 11:6).

JUST FOR TODAY I will not fear, “For God has not given us the spirit of fear, but of power, and love and a sound mind” (2 Tim 1:7).

JUST FOR TODAY I will not lack strength for “The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?” (Psalm 27:1).

JUST FOR TODAY I will not admit defeat for God “always causes us to triumph in Christ” (2 Corinthians 2:14).

JUST FOR TODAY I will not lack wisdom for “If anyone lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally” (James 1:5).

JUST FOR TODAY I will not worry, “Casting all our cares upon Him for He cares for us” (1 Peter 5:7)

JUST FOR TODAY I will not feel alone for Jesus promised “I will be with you always, even to the end of the age” (Matthew 28:19)

JUST FOR TODAY I will trust God