



Talks in English

Sunday 2 March 2008

With the blessing of His Eminence, Archbishop Hilarion of Sydney,
Australia and New Zealand, Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia,
You are invited to a talk by Priestmonk Kosmas entitled:

The Soul After Death

If you have ever visited another country, chances are you did some research before leaving. You probably bought some guidebooks, did a bit of research on travel conditions and places to visit and stay, and maybe even learned a few phrases in a new language. Naturally, you wanted to feel prepared before you embarked on your journey.

How many people, however, take as much trouble preparing for their journey after death? Our Orthodox Tradition has much to tell us about how to prepare for death and the afterlife. The previous talk addressed questions of how people today regard death and dying. In the present talk the emphasis will be on practical questions every Orthodox Christian should be prepared to answer:

- How should an Orthodox Christian prepare for death?
- What visions do the dying often experience?
- How can our Guardian Angel help us during and after death?
- What do we mean by the “toll-houses”?
- How can we help the newly-departed?
- How and why does God judge us?
- What are heaven and hell like?

Modern secular society tells us that we should prepare for death by relaxing, taking it easy, and looking forward to meeting our loved ones in heaven. The Orthodox Church, on the other hand, teaches that preparing for death requires prayer, repentance, spiritual struggle, and faith in God's mercy. Both of these approaches cannot be true. It remains for us to decide which is true to the Gospel.

Venue: Saint George Russian Orthodox Church, 15 Garfield St Carlton NSW 2218

At 6.00pm the Service of the Small Supplicatory Canon (Paraklesis) to the Most Holy Mother of God will be sung in English using the Byzantine chant. The faithful will have an opportunity to submit names for commemoration.

At 7.00pm the talk will be given in the hall at the rear of the church.

Pamphlets on this topic will be distributed at no cost to those present.

After the talk there will be beverages, savouries and sweets for those who wish to stay. People are welcome to come to the service, the talk, or both. A bookstall with Orthodox books and CDs in English will also be available.

Next talk: Sunday, 11th May, 2008

For more information call: (02) 9558 2207