



SS. PETER & PAUL RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA • DIOCESE OF NEW YORK & NEW JERSEY

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April 12, 2015

HOLY PASCHA—THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST [Beginning of the Pentecostarion]

St. Basil the Confessor, Bishop of Parium; Hieromartyr Zeno, Bishop of Verona; Ven. Isaac the Syrian the Abbot of Spoleto; Monk-martyrs Menas, David and John of Palestine; Ven. Anthusa the Virgin of Constantinople; Ven. Athanasia the Abbess of Aegina; Ven. Acacius the Younger of Kavsoakalyvia; St. Sergius, Patriarch of Constantinople; St. Basil, Bishop of Ryazan; The Deposition of the Sash of the Most-holy Theotokos in Constantinople; Martyr Sabbas the Goth at Buzau in Wallachia

Reading: Acts 1:1-8

Gospel: John 1:1-17

WORSHIP & STUDY—BRIGHT WEEK

TODAY	After Service 12 noon	Blessing of Paschal (Easter) Food followed by a <i>Paschal Agape</i> in the church hall Paschal Vespers with Procession
Mon, Apr 13 9:00 a.m. Paschal Liturgy	BRIGHT MONDAY Hieromartyr Artemon Reading: Acts 1:12-17, 21-26	Gospel: John 1:18-28 (A procession around the church will take place at the end of the Liturgy; everyone, especially the youth, is encouraged to take part. An Easter Egg Hunt and Potluck Luncheon will follow.)
Tues, Apr 14 9:30 a.m.	BRIGHT TUESDAY—The Repose of St. Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow Paschal Liturgy at SS. Peter & Paul Church in Manville or Annunciation Church in Brick	
Wed, Apr 15 7:00 p.m.	BRIGHT WEDNESDAY <i>Deanery Paschal Vespers</i> with His Eminence, Archbishop MICHAEL, at Christ the Saviour Church in Paramus (A Potluck Dinner will follow, to which everyone is invited. If you plan to attend, bring something that will serve 8-10 people.)	
Sat, Apr 18 9:00 a.m. Paschal Liturgy	BRIGHT SATURDAY Ven. John the disciple of Ven. Gregory of Decapolis Reading: Acts 3:11-16	Gospel: John 3:22-33 (The Breaking & Distribution of the Artos will take place following Liturgy.)
7:00 p.m.	Vespers	
Sun, Apr 19 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy	ANTIPASCHA—Tone 1—ST. THOMAS SUNDAY Ven. John of the Ancient Caves in Palestine Reading: Acts 5:12-20	Gospel: John 20:19-31 (The Installation of the 2015 Parish Council will take place following Liturgy.)
1:00 p.m.	Provodnoye (Annual Paschal Cemetery Visitation) at the parish cemetery	

WITHIN THE PARISH

There'll be **NO Church School Classes** today or next Sunday; they will resume on **Sunday, April 26**.

A **Paschal Agape Meal** will be held in our hall after Matins and Liturgy **TODAY**. This fellowship gathering on the "Holy Day of Holy Days" can be traced back to the early days of the Church and, as you can well imagine, some serious eating goes on, after fasting for seven weeks! **NO** donation is required, as there'll be plenty to eat and drink. **ALL** are invited to stay for the feast!

The **Annual Saint Anne's Guild Easter Egg Hunt** will be held on the church lawn on **Bright Monday, April 13**, following Liturgy. **All children** are invited to participate. Afterwards, there will be a **Paschal Potluck Luncheon** to which **EVERYONE** is most welcomed. We're sure this parish organization has planned a fun-filled event for all!

The **Men's Club** will meet in the church hall on **Bright Thursday, April 16**, at 7 p.m.

The **Installation of the 2015 Parish Council** will take place **next Sunday, April 19**, with a brief prayer service following Liturgy. The first meeting of the new Council will be held in the hall on **Monday, April 20**, at 7 p.m.

The **Annual Blessing of Graves (Provodnoye)** will take place, weather permitting, **next Sun, April 19**, beginning at 1 p.m.

The **Men's Club** is sponsoring a **Bus Trip** to *Caesar's Atlantic City Casino* on **Thursday, April 30**. The bus will depart at 9 a.m. from the parking lot on Whitehead Avenue. The tickets cost \$30, with \$20 returned for slot play. If games of chance aren't "your thing," you can shop the outlet stores or enjoy a walk on the beach without making the long drive. The seats are limited; to reserve one or for more info, call one of the Boshko brothers: Edward (732-254-1200) or Paul (732-254-6991).

BITS & PIECES

ATTENDANCE & STEWARDSHIP Attendance at Divine Liturgy last Sunday was **196**.

SUNDAY SERVICE TEAMS The Epistle will be read next week by **Gregory Chup**. The Coffee Hour will be hosted by the **Men's Club**. The church will be cleaned by **Team Adams**.

CONFESSION AND COMMUNION DURING THE PASCHAL SEASON As is our parish practice, there will be **NO General Confession** during these days of the Resurrection. Those of you who confessed and communed during Great Lent may continue to approach the Holy Chalice on both Sundays and holidays, provided that you prepare accordingly (prayer and meditation) and abstain from all food and drink after midnight. Remember that if you miss a Sunday, you must go to private Confession or speak with Fr. David before communing the next time. (**NOTE: General Confession will resume on Saturday, June 6, following Vespers. For those who desire a private confession before then, Father will be available on Saturday afternoons starting at 5 p.m.**)

WE WELCOME our Pastor Emeritus, **Fr. Sergius Kuharsky**, and his wife, **Matushka Faith**. It is such a joy to have them with us on this glorious day of Pascha. We wish them and their family a feast filled with the brilliance of the Risen Lord.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH Thank you to all who donated to the *South River Food Bank* throughout the Great Fast; your generosity was truly uplifting. Please continue to remember the needs of this community organization. If everyone would bring just a few non-perishable items each week, we could make a huge difference. There are boxes in the entryway of the church hall where you can place your donation(s). Any questions? See or contact Joan Pisuk (732-254-1519). God bless!

SCHEMICK-TOLLS SCHOLARSHIP All high school seniors and full-time, undergraduate students can get scholarship information and applications from Carol Deerson (732-254-4979). The deadline date for submission is **Fri, May 1**. This scholarship serves as a living memorial to John Tolls, his deceased wife Leatrice, their daughters Lea and Lynley, and that of honorees Anna, John & John Jr. Schemick of blessed memory, whose intention it was to assist the youth of this parish as they pursue their studies at an accredited college, university or trade school.

DEANERY MISSION VESPERS Two Sundays ago, our parish hosted clergy and faithful from the *Central & Southern New Jersey Deanery* for Mission Vespers. The service was concelebrated by the dean, **Archpriest Gary Breton** from *Annunciation Church* in Brick, our own **Fr. David**, and six other priests from throughout the area. **Archpriest Daniel Skvir** from *Holy Transfiguration Chapel* in Princeton offered an inspiring homily. Afterwards, everyone gathered in the hall to enjoy a most delicious Lenten meal prepared by the **Parish Council**. Thank you to all who made this gathering a spiritually edifying and joyful occasion for both parishioners and guests. It was a wonderful way—in worship and fellowship—to begin the final week of Great Lent.

OUR ANNUAL EASTER BAZAAR held two weeks ago netted a profit of **\$7,350**. We are happy to report that this event accomplished its two-fold purpose: to bring the parish together to raise funds to sustain its fiscal needs and to open our arms, hearts and doors to the surrounding communities. Once again, everyone involved did a truly outstanding job. Sincere thanks to all those who worked, made contributions and shared in the success of this day of fellowship. Your caring and selfless ways are true reflections of God's love in your heart. Many Years—Mnogaya Lyeta!

PARISH PRAYER LIST Please pray for the following brothers and sisters this week:

Departed

Helena Bujdzicz	Pauline Dziemian
Karen Tarallo	Robert Mesinar
Protopresbyter Thomas Hopko	Sergio Dubowski
Mari Favire	Marie Horvath
Carol Wagg	Lisa Woodward

Servicemen

Ivan Shidlovsky
Priest Sean Levine
Elizabeth Brent

Sick

Aunika Browne	Darren Flynn	Beth Williscroft
Thomas Verdon	Beth Giordano	Nancy Filak
Patricia Lowry	Mary Carol Burchill	Michael Dargento
Edward Walton	Carol Luongo	Sandra Webster
Kaitlyn Fox	Ruth Curtis	Amelia Rugala
Iwan Jakimtschuk	Mary Louise Viquez	Ellen Dargento
Natalie Matz	Kathleen Kushwara	Olga Miller
Dorothy Sopchak	Josefa Calero	Allen Mioduszewski
Gloria Basara	Theodore Christie	Sophie Hyland
GINNY WILMER	Walentyna Posluszny	Kathleen Keimer
Sheri Long	John Cameron	Tamara Diaczenko
Edward Romanofsky	Pearl Blower	Elaine Ashton
Dawn Zirch	Gloria Soto	Michael Pelleriti
Joseph Basara Jr.	Bernadine Trubilla	Gina Krusius
Martha Drobnak	Donna Kara	Wendy Packard
Michaela Fox	Sergei Andreyev	Gregory Sitze
Bruce Longo	Vladimir Batenko	Charles Csenica
Dean Prestino	Lauren Pulley & Child	Kenneth Crowley
Gaynelle Crowley	Kendall McNamara	Gabrielle Huba
Myrna Woznica	Pamela Inman	James D'Amore Jr.
Aspasia Alfaro	Dorothy Vernak	Jonathan Clayton
Beth Van Orden	Victor Rugala Jr.	Aidan Brown
Rina D'Amico	Simon Koslov Jr.	William Boyke
Deborah Krusius	Jane D'Amore	John Kotkovich
Joseph Posluszny	Archpriest Paul Lazor	Robert Ingram
Paul Boshko	Matushka Juliana Schmemann	Elaine O'Neill

If you would like a prayer request included in the bulletin, see/contact Fr. David or Starosta.

OUR THANKS to the **Senior R Club** for making last Sunday's *Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America (FOCA) Palm Sunday Mission* here at *SS. Peter & Paul* and the Lenten repast afterwards a success; you are truly appreciated. Well done, good and faithful servants!

FOOD CARDS are on sale every Sunday during Coffee Hour. Each time you shop and use them for your grocery purchases instead of cash, you are making a donation to the parish at NO EXTRA COST! **Food Cards – Because It Doesn't Make Cents Not To!**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY GREETINGS go out this Bright Week to **Gavin & Reilly Meade** and **Vera Dorn**. May God's joy continue to be in their hearts for many years—Mnogaya Lyeta!

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS Want something announced in next week's bulletin? Submit your request(s) to Father David or our Bulletin Editor, James Kornafel, by **Thursday evening**. You can contact Father at the rectory or get in touch with Jim by E-mail (jimmyk@optonline.net), telephone (732-462-3388) or fax (732-845-3515).



*On this great and glorious Feast of Pascha, may our hearts be filled with tremendous joy and our souls be transformed as we bask in the Light of Truth. Let the delight, excitement and wonder of the Resurrection strengthen your faith and fill you with hope that comes from knowing that **Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!***

SIGNS OF THE SEASON

The Paschal season is the most sacred time of the Orthodox Church calendar. Throughout the next seven weeks, we are called by the Holy Church to manifest our unwavering faith in the Resurrection of Christ in many symbolic ways:

- We are called to recite or sing the Paschal Troparion ("**Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death and, upon those in the tombs, bestowing life!**") before every meal until the Feast of the Ascension which, this year, falls on May 21. This hymn should also be included in our morning and evening prayers. Our homes and hearts should be filled with these words and truth continuously; we must let them overflow from our being into all with whom we deal daily.
- There is **NO KNEELING** during the 50 days following Pascha, as we should not be focused on our failings and sinfulness but, rather, on the love of our Lord and the glory of His Resurrection.
- The Royal and Deacon Doors of the iconostasis remain open until the Eve of Ascension, visually emphasizing that the gates of heaven have again been opened to man through the Cross, Tomb and Resurrection of Christ.
- We greet one another during the 40 days of Pascha with a message of hope and love by exclaiming "**Christ is Risen!**" and responding "**Indeed He is Risen!**"
- The entire week following Holy Pascha is considered to be one continuous day; for that reason, fasting is completely **PROHIBITED** by the Holy Fathers of the Church.

Do not let the joy of Pascha end with Bright Week; keep it alive every day in your mind, heart and actions. Make the Risen Christ, once again, the focus of your life, giving right perspective to what you already do. Become the person He is calling you to be by putting into action the things of His Passion and Resurrection. Only then will your present life be a foretaste of paradise and a hope to experience heaven on earth.



Yesterday I was crucified with Him; today I am glorified with Him. Yesterday I died with Him; today I am made alive with Him. Yesterday I was buried with Him; today I am raised up with Him. Let us offer to Him Who suffered and rose again for us ourselves, the possession most precious to God and most proper.

St. Gregory the Theologian

CHRIST IS RISEN!

INDEED HE IS RISEN!