



SS. PETER & PAUL RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA ♦ DIOCESE OF NY & NJ

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VERY REV. DAVID F. GARRETSON, RECTOR
BASIL KOZAK, CHOIR DIRECTOR
JAMES KORNAFEL, STAROSTA

February 20, 2022

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON—Tone 2

St. Leo, Bishop of Catania in Sicily; Hieromartyr Sadoc, Bishop of Persia, and 128 Martyrs with him; St. Agathon, Pope of Rome; Ven. Agathon the Wonderworker of the Kiev Caves; The Beheading of Ven. Cornelius the Abbot of the Pskov Caves; Hieromartyr Eleutherius, Bishop of Byzantium; St. Eleutherius, Bishop of Tournai; St. Eucherius, Bishop of Orleans

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Gospel: Luke 15:11-32

♦ SERVICE & STUDY SCHEDULE ♦

Wed, Feb 23 8:00 p.m. *Meet the Bishops* Virtual Town Hall

Sat, Feb 26 **Memorial Saturday—Saturday of Meatfare**

9:00 a.m. Epistles: 1 Cor 10:23-28 Gospels: Luke 21:8-9, 25-27, 33-36
Divine Liturgy 1 Thess 4:13-17 (Departed) John 5:24-30 (Departed)

6:00 p.m. Confessions
7:00 p.m. Great Vespers with Litiya

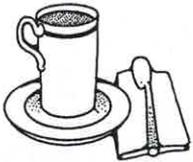
Sun, Feb 27 **MEATFARE SUNDAY—Tone 3—SUNDAY OF THE LAST JUDGMENT**

9:00 a.m. **The Repose of St. Raphael, Bishop of Brooklyn**
Divine Liturgy Epistles: 1 Cor 8:8-9:2 Gospels: Matt 25:31-46
Heb 13:17-21 (St. Raphael) John 10:9-16 (St. Raphael)

♦ LIFE OF THE PARISH ♦

Choir Rehearsal will be held in the church **this Tues, February 22**, at 7 p.m. All members are asked to attend.

The **25-Week Club Appreciation Dinner**, hosted by the **Men's Club**, will be held in the hall **this Thurs, February 24**; doors open at 6 p.m. Tickets holders and reserved guests are invited to attend. Come out and enjoy good food, drinks (BYOB) and cash/gift prizes; it promises to be a fun night!



Sunday Coffee Hour is a time of fellowship and socializing—a time to catch up with old friends and acquaint yourself with new people of the congregation. Our parish has a wonderful tradition of connection and hospitality and Coffee Hour is a very integral part of that camaraderie. For this ministry to resume, starting **Sunday, Mar 13**, we need volunteers to host. It's simple—it includes coffee and bagels and anything else you want to bring. There's a sign-up sheet and guidelines posted on the bulletin board in the church vestibule. Let's keep this custom going!

A **Lenten Retreat** of the **Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF)** will be hosted by **our parish** on **Saturday, April 9**. All young adults, ages 18-25, are invited to attend a day of lectures, discussion and fellowship. Save the date—more info will be forthcoming.

♦ NEWS YOU CAN USE ♦

FOR THE RECORD Attendance at Liturgy last Sunday was **55**.

GIFTING THE PARISH Consider making a planned gift to the church, such as a bequest in your will, life insurance benefit or a charitable trust. All gifts are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

E-MAIL ADDRESSES NEEDED We are looking to become more connected as a parish by sending out important announcements, updates, death and sickness notices and other pertinent information via E-mail. If you have not already provided your E-mail address, we invite you to do so; just send a blank E-mail to Father David at dfmg@aol.com with "E-mail List" as the subject. Thank you.

IOCC CONTINUES TO PROVIDE VITAL ASSISTANCE During the six months since Hurricane Ida devastated southeast Louisiana, vital assistance has been given to survivors through the efforts of **International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC)**. Emergency aid delivered in the days and weeks following the disaster sustained life with the help of medicines and medical equipment, tents, food and water, fuel, blankets and mattresses. Since the hurricane, IOCC teams have been working non-stop to address the long-term need for permanent housing, clean water and sanitation and other basic necessities. Donations to IOCC have truly "made a difference." For further info on this ongoing relief effort or to make a contribution online, visit www.iocc.org. Offerings may also be made directly to IOCC by mail (110 West Rd – Suite 360, Baltimore, MD 21204) or by phone (1-877-803-4622). May the Lord bless you all for your generosity, care and concern for those who are still suffering the effects of this natural disaster.

REACHING OUT If you know of former/current parishioners or interested individuals who would like to become involved with the parish, contact Fr. David or Starosta with any or all information you have. Your help in this matter will be appreciated.

PLEASE PRAY FOR the following parishioners, family members and friends this week:

Departed

Ronald Madden
Archpriest John Bohush
Anthony Illenye
Ralph (Bodgie) Meade
Paul Pachucki
Frederick Basara

Natalie Demidenko
Jean (Spedding) Joyce
Lucia Bennett
Terese Wisniewski
Patricia Earp

Servicemen

Priest Sean Levine
Todd Adams
Mark Lopez
Nathaniel Simpson

Sick

Kaitlyn Fox
Jay Pelleriti
Barbara Trojan
Marisa Stryker
John Bihuniak
Debbie Williams
Beth Van Orden
Jamie Arango
Karyn Migut
Virginia Staples
Riley Dolan
Alan Diaz
Michelle Telesca
Bronwyn Smith
Daria Bishara
David Sommers
Robert DiPaolo
Peter Pero
Thomas Pituk
Concetta Canon
Jacques Roscel
Julianna Bihuniak
Leon Brasowski
Brian Carter
Robert Lombardo
Ronald Hendricks

Beth Giordano
Victor A. Rugala Jr.
Donna Truglio
Wil Bowser
Edward Boshko
Veronica Genito
Richard Bumgardner
Marianne Ford
Andrea Londensky
Christine Marie Parker
John Makarewicz
Doris Gorman
Buddy Watson
Carol Luongo
Joshua Torosyan
Theodore Gentili
Margaret DeVito
Nikolai Schijan
Ann Jenkins-Frison
Joseph Turick
Joseph McIlhinney
Laurissa Solar
Maryann DeFrancesco
Lexi Porambo
Theodore Brown
Wayne Modzelewski

Kelsey Fischer
Michael Dargento
Ellen Dargento
Mario Troyani
Gertrude Samuel
Kathleen Keimer
Jonathan Dzoba
Aidan Brown
Gregory Staples
Lynn Clair
Joyce Major
Alan Zenkert
Stefania Lazor
Suellen Shimski
Robin Sueling
Karen Meade
Alexey Nerush
Janice Sadlon
Jay Sommers
Lynn Bush
Sandra Saurman
Stanley Rakowski
Gloria Celkupa
Teri Szelli
Janet Lombardo
Carly Byrne

Contact Father David or Starosta if you would like to add or remove a name from this list, remembering the words of St. James in his Epistle (5:16): "Pray for one another, that you may be healed."

MAINTENANCE MUSING Everyone who uses our facilities during the week is encouraged to keep in mind that security is a must when leaving a building. Also make every effort to turn off lights and any other electronic devices you may have energized during your stay. Thanks.

IF AN EMERGENCY OR SPECIAL NEED SHOULD ARISE, please contact Fr. David immediately on his cell phone (732-740-6230).

CELL PHONE REMINDER Silence your cell phone while in church.

MEMORIAL (SOUL) SATURDAYS One of the most venerable traditions in the Holy Orthodox Church is the commemoration of the departed in our liturgical prayers. Since Apostolic times, the Fathers have constantly taught us that our intercessions, offerings and good deeds can help those who have fallen asleep. It is also of great consolation for us, the surviving friends and relatives, to be able to pray for them and, thus, remain in a bond of everlasting love. We remember the deceased at every Liturgy. In our liturgical calendar, Saturdays are dedicated, in a special way, to prayer for the dead, since on that day God not only rested from His work, but Christ lay in the tomb. In accord with this, the Church has established special days of universal commemoration commonly known as *Memorial (Soul) Saturdays*. The first of this year's five commemorations will be **this Sat, February 26**. A form to list the names of those you want mentioned at the Liturgy was included in the February 6 bulletin; if you didn't get one, there are copies available at the Candle Desk. Once completed, you can either drop it off in church or send it to the rectory. Saint Gregory the Theologian, after celebrating the funeral service for his brother Caesarius, concluded his eulogy with the following words: "*Part of my funeral gift is now completed. The remainder we will pay by offering every year, as long as we live, our honors and memorials for him!*" We should emulate Saint Gregory by remembering our departed loved ones, especially on these Memorial Saturdays, and pray that those who come after us will continue this truly beautiful and most praiseworthy custom by including us, as well.

READER CORNER If you'd like to learn to read the Hours and/or Epistle, see or contact Basil Kozak (917-697-8058).

SINCERE THANKS to the following individuals for their contributions to the parish: **Shirley Fennell** (*Church General Fund* in memory of **John Mordas**), **Ann Krynicky** (*Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund* in memory of **Luke Naumiuk** and **Anatoli Nerush**) and **Robert & Joan Pisuk** (*Cemetery Care Fund* in memory of **John Mordas**). We humbly accept these donations as tokens of their consideration, care and love for this community. May the blessings of God be theirs for many years—*Mnogaya Lyeta!*

2021 DONATION STATEMENTS will be issued this year **BY REQUEST ONLY**. Any parishioner who would like one for tax purposes should put his/her name on the sign-up sheet located at the Candle Desk. Questions? Contact Jay Pelleriti by E-mail (poetheart7753@aol.com) or telephone (732-216-8121). We appreciate your support and thank you for your continued stewardship.

A VOCATION VIEW "*Before you were born, I dedicated you, a prophet to the nations I appointed you.*" (Jeremiah 1:5) So it is with the call to ministry—we are destined for it by the Lord before our birth. Do not miss your chance to fulfill your destiny! If you are interested in pursuing the diaconate and/or priesthood, contact Fr. David.

HOUSE BLESSINGS will be scheduled this year **by request only**, due to the continuing pandemic. If you have a day that would be best to invite Fr. David and Basil Kozak for this annual blessing, please leave a message with Father via phone or E-mail.

BULLETIN DEADLINE All notices must be submitted to either Fr. David or Starosta James Kornafel by no later than **Thursday evening** in order to be in next Sunday's bulletin. You can reach Father at the rectory or get in touch with Jim by E-mail (jimmyk@optonline.net), phone (732-462-3388) or fax (732-845-3515).

❖ FROM THE FATHERS ❖

If we expect our children and grandchildren to grow into adults, as practicing Orthodox Christians, we must give daily witness to the importance of our faith in our everyday life. If we are lax in our fasting, church attendance and piety, our children will see, by our lack of seriousness, a faith that will mean nothing to them. If they do not see us keeping a daily prayer rule, they will not have prayer as part of their lives. If they do not see us putting the divine services before entertainment, they will abandon Christianity, once they've left the nest.

— *Abbot Tryphon*

For many come to faith, but few are brought into the heavenly kingdom. And many serve the Lord with the tongue, but turn from Him in their lives. From this we should reflect on two things. The first is that no one should presume concerning his/her own salvation; for though he/she is called to the Faith, he/she knows not whether he/she will be chosen to enter the kingdom of heaven. The second is that no one should take it upon himself/herself to despair of his/her neighbor, whom he/she sees steeped in vice, because no one knows the richness of divine mercy.

— *St. Gregory of Rome*

The madness of anger should be controlled; the downcast look of dejection overcome; vain glory should be despised; the disdainfulness of pride trampled under foot; and the wandering and shifting thoughts of the mind restrained by continual recollection of the Lord. And the slippery wanderings of our heart should be brought back again to the contemplation of God as often as our crafty enemy, in his attempts to lead away the mind a captive of his consideration, creeps into the innermost recesses of the heart.

— *St. John Cassian*