

# Saints Peter & Paul Orthodox Catholic Church

*(a parish of the Autocephalous Orthodox Church in America)*

98 West 28<sup>th</sup> Street, Bayonne, New Jersey 07002

Parish Website: [www.saintspeterandpaulbayonne.org](http://www.saintspeterandpaulbayonne.org)

Rector: Very Rev. W. Sophrony Royer, Ph.D. . . . . . (201) 436-3244

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## December 21, 2014 – Sunday Before Nativity (Tone 3)

### Today's Saints

Virgin-martyr Juliana of Nicomedia; Martyr Themistocles of Myra-in-Lycia;  
St. Peter, Metropolitan of Moscow and All Russia

### Today's Services

9:30 AM (Sunday) – Divine Liturgy

### Today's Liturgy Readings

*Epistle: Hebrews 11:9-10, 32-40 (See Bulletin Insert for Reading)*

*Gospel: Matthew 1:1-25 (See Bulletin Insert for Reading)*

### Today's Special Donations

**Sacramental Bread & Wine** donated by Andrea and Russell Wyskanycz  
in memory of Juliana and Andrew Bacsik.

### Announcements & Events

*Parish Events:* Fr. Sophrony is returning from Puerto Rico on the morning of December 24<sup>th</sup>. Emergencies should be directed to Fr. John Fencik at (201) 779-6604 while Fr. Sophrony is still away. Confessions may be heard after the Vigil Service on Christmas Eve. Please take notice of the change in time of Great Vespers on Saturday, December 27<sup>th</sup>.

*Carpathian Club:* The Carpathian Club invites our parishioners and visitors on Christmas to join them in the club's hall after Divine Liturgy for the club's annual Christmas Social.

## Upcoming Services

### December 24-25, 2014 (Nativity of Christ)

4:30 PM (Wednesday) – Vigil w. Lity

9:30 AM (Thursday) – Divine Liturgy

### December 26, 2014 (Synaxis of the Virgin Mary)

9:30 AM (Friday) – Divine Liturgy

### December 27, 2014 (Protomartyr Stephen)

9:30 AM (Saturday) – Divine Liturgy

### December 27-28, 2014 (Sunday After Nativity)

5:00 PM (Saturday) – Great Vespers

9:30 AM (Sunday) – Divine Liturgy

**Divine Liturgy Variables on Sunday, December 21, 2014**  
**Tone 3 / Sunday before the Nativity of Christ (The Genealogy)**

Virgin-martyr Juliana of Nicomedia; Martyr Themistocles of Myra in Lycia;  
St. Peter, Metropolitan of Moscow and all Russia

RESURRECTIONAL TROPARION IN TONE THREE

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord hath done a mighty act with His own arm. He hath trampled down death by death, and became the first-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades, granting the world the Great Mercy.

TROPARION OF THE FOREFEAST OF THE NATIVITY IN TONE FOUR

Be thou ready, O Bethlehem; for Eden hath been opened for all. Prepare, O Ephratha; for the Tree of life hath blossomed forth in the cave from the Virgin; for her belly did appear as a noetic paradise in which is planted the divine Plant, whereof eating we shall live and not die as Adam. Verily, Christ shall be born, raising the likeness that fell of old.

TROPARION OF SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY IN TONE TWO

Great are the accomplishments of faith; for the three holy youths rejoiced in the fountain of flames as though at waters of rest. And the Prophet Daniel appeared a shepherd to the lions as though they were sheep. Wherefore, by their pleadings, O Christ God, save our souls.

- *Now sing the Troparion of Ss. Peter & Paul*
- *Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

KONTAKION OF PREPARATION OF CHRIST'S NATIVITY IN TONE THREE

Today the Virgin cometh to the cave where she will give birth in an ineffable manner to the Word Who is before all the ages. Rejoice, therefore, O universe, when thou hearest it heralded: Glorify Him, with the angels and the shepherds, Who chose to be seen as a new-born babe, the God Who is before all the ages.

PROKEIMENON IN TONE FOUR

Blessed are Thou, O Lord God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy name forever!

*v. For Thou art justified in all that Thou hast done for us!*

THE EPISTLE

**The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (11:9-10, 32-40)**

Brethren, by faith Abraham sojourned in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God. And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, and put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated—of whom the world was not worthy—wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

ALLELUIA IN TONE FOUR

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*v. Moses and Aaron were among His priests; Samuel also was among those who called on His name.*

*v. They called to the Lord and he answered them.*

## THE GOSPEL

### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (1:1-25)**

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Aram, and Aram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David the king. And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asa, and Asa the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amon, and Amon the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon. And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, Who is called Christ. So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ were fourteen generations. Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit; and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call His Name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and His Name shall be called Emmanuel" (which means,

God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him; he took his wife, but knew her not until she had borne a son; and he called His Name Jesus.