

Saints Peter & Paul Orthodox Catholic Church

98 West 28th Street, Bayonne, New Jersey 07002

Parish Website: www.saintspeterandpaulbayonne.org

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

Choir Director: Miss Emily Fencik

Welcome to Ss. Peter and Paul's Church of Bayonne, N.J. Our church was founded in 1922 and is a parish of the Orthodox Church in America. We hope that you enjoyed your visit today and, if you are searching for a new spiritual home, we would love for you to become a member of our parish family. To our parishioners here today, thank you for your ongoing participation in our church's worship and ministry.

May 21, 2017 – 6th Sunday of Pascha: Sunday of the Blind Man (Tone 5)

Today's Saints

Ss. Constantine & Helena, Roman Emperor and Empress, Equals-to-the-Apostles; Ss. Constantine, Prince of Murom, and his sons, Michael & Theodore, Wonderworkers; Hieromartyr Valens of Auxerre and Companions; Martyrs Timothy, Polius and Eutychius of Mauretania; Martyr Secundinus of Cordoba; St. Hospitius the Hermit; St. Barrfoin of Killbarron; St. Isberga of Aire (nun and sister of Charlemagne); St. Theobald, Archbishop of Vienne

Today's Divine Services

9:00 AM (Sunday) – Divine Liturgy

Today's Divine Liturgy Variables

See Bulletin Insert for today's Bible readings and other Liturgy variables.

Announcements & Events

- A Spaghetti & Meatball Dinner is scheduled for Sunday, June 4, 2017 at 11:30 AM. The menu consists of salad, Italian bread, spaghetti and meatballs, wine, coffee or tea, and dessert. Tickets are \$20 per person; for information and tickets, contact Marge Kovach at (732) 815-9765.
- Fr. Sophrony is returning from Puerto Rico on the morning of May 24th. Emergencies until then should be directed to Fr. John Fencik at (201) 436-5549 or (201) 779-6604 while Fr. Sophrony is away.
- The 113th Annual Memorial Day Pilgrimage at St. Tikhon's Monastery in South Canaan, PA is May 26-29, 2017. See www.sttikhonsmonastery.org or flyer on the church bulletin board for schedule and information.
- The Carpatho-Rusyn Society (New Jersey) is sponsoring a lecture by Dr. Nick Kupersky of the Carpatho-Rusyn Research Center on Saturday, June 3, 2017 at 1:30. The event is free and is being held at the Wayne Public Library. For information, send e-mail to crsnewjersey@gmail.com or call Dorothy Bogнар at 201-891-4151. See flyer on the church bulletin board.
- A Carpatho-Rusyn genealogy conference is being sponsored by St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church, 1900 Brooks Blvd., Hillsborough, NJ on Saturday, June 3, 2017 at 8:30 AM. The cost is \$40 per person, which includes some light breakfast items, beverages, and a light lunch. Registration is limited to the first 72 people. Go to <http://www.stmaryhillsboroughnj.org/genealogy> for the entry form. Contact Tom Peters at rusyn@verizon.net for information.
- Please see the church bulletin board for flyers of other upcoming local events.

Upcoming Services

May 24-25, 2017 (Holy Ascension)

6:00 PM (Wed.) – Great Vespers w. Lity
9:00 AM (Thurs.) – Divine Liturgy

May 27-28, 2017 (Next Weekend)

6:00 PM (Sat.) – Great Vespers
9:00 AM (Sun.) – Divine Liturgy

Divine Liturgy Variables for Sunday, May 21, 2017 Tone 5 / Sixth Sunday of Pascha: Sunday of the Blind Man

RESURRECTIONAL TROPARION IN TONE FIVE

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born for our salvation from the Virgin; for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, to endure death, and to raise the dead // by His glorious Resurrection.

TROPARION OF SS. CONSTANTINE AND HELENA IN TONE EIGHT

Having seen the figure of the Cross in the heavens, / and like Paul not having received his call from men, O Lord, / Your apostle among rulers, the Emperor Constantine, / has been set by Your hand as ruler over the Imperial City / that he preserved in peace for many years, / through the prayers of the Theotokos, O only lover of mankind.

- *Now sing the troparion of Ss. Peter and Paul*
- *Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit*

KONTAKION OF THE BLIND MAN IN TONE FOUR

I come to Thee, O Christ, / Blind from birth in my spiritual eyes / And I call to Thee in repentance: / Thou art the most radiant light of those in darkness!

- *Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

KONTAKION OF PASCHA IN TONE EIGHT

Thou didst descend in to the tomb, O Immortal, Thou didst destroy the power of death. In victory Thou didst arise, O Christ God, proclaiming, "Rejoice!" to the Myrrh-bearing Women, // granting peace to Thine Apostles, and bestowing Resurrection on the fallen.

PROKEIMENON IN TONE EIGHT

Pray and make your vows before the Lord our God!
v. In Judah God is known, His name is great in Israel.

2nd Prokeimenon in Tone Eight: Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the ends of the universe!

THE EPISTLE

The Reading from the Acts of the Sainly and Pure Apostles. (16:16-34)

In those days, as we Apostles were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners much gain by soothsaying. She followed Paul and us, crying, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation." And this she did for many days. But Paul was annoyed, and turned and said to the spirit, "I charge you in the Name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour. But when her owners saw that their hope of gain was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market place before the rulers; and when they had brought them to the magistrates they said, "These men are Jews and they are disturbing our city. They advocate customs which it is not lawful for us Romans to accept or practice." The crowd joined in attacking them; and the magistrates tore the garments off them and gave orders to beat them with rods. And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, charging the jailer to keep them safely. Having received this charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken. And immediately all the doors were opened and every one's fetters were unfastened. When the jailer woke and saw that the prison doors were open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul cried with a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." And he called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas, and brought them out and said, "Men, what must I do to be saved?" And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all that were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their wounds, and he was baptized at once, with all his family. Then he brought them up into his house, and set food before them; and he rejoiced with all his household that he had believed in God.

The Reading is from the Acts of the Sainly and Pure Apostles. (24:1-5, 12-20)

In those days, King Agrippa said to Paul, "You have permission to speak for yourself." Then Paul stretched out his hand and made his defense: "I journeyed to Damascus with the authority and commission of the chief priests. At midday, O king, I saw on the way a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, shining round me and those who journeyed with me. And when we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew language, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me? It hurts you to kick against the goads. And I said, 'Who art Thou, Lord?' 'And the Lord said, I am Jesus Whom you are persecuting. But rise and stand upon your feet; for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you to

serve and bear witness to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you, delivering you from the people and from the Gentiles, to whom I send you to open their eyes, that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.’ Wherefore, O King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, but declared first to those at Damascus, then at Jerusalem and throughout all the country of Judea, and also to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God and perform deeds worthy of their repentance.”

ALLELUIA IN TONE FOUR

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

v. Look upon me and have mercy on me!

v. Guide my steps according to Thy word!

v. I have raised up one chosen out of my peoples.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (4:5-42)

At that time, when Jesus was passing, He saw a man blind from his birth. And His Disciples asked Him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be made manifest in him. I must work the works of Him Who sent me, while it is day; night comes, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” As He said this, he spat on the ground and made clay of the spittle and anointed the man’s eyes with the clay, saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” [which means Sent]. So he went and washed and came back seeing. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar, said, “Is not this the man who used to sit and beg?” Some said, “It is he”; others said, “No, but he is like him.” He said, “I am the man.” They said to him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” He answered, “The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash’; so I went and washed and received my sight.” They said to him, “Where is He?” He said, “I do not know.” They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. The Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, “He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.” Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for He does not keep the Sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?” There was a division among them. So they again said to the blind man, “What do you say about Him, since He has opened your eyes?” He said, “He is a prophet.” The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight,

until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight, and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age, he will speak for himself.” His parents said this because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Him to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, “He is of age, ask him.” So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and said to him, “Give God the praise; we know that this man is a sinner.” He answered, “Whether He is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I know, that though I was blind, now I see.” They said to him, “What did He do to you? How did He open your eyes?” He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you too want to become His disciples?” And they reviled him, saying, “You are His disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where He comes from.” The man answered, “Why, this is a marvel! You do not know where He comes from, and yet He opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, God listens to him. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, He could do nothing.” They answered him, “You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?” And they cast him out. Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him He said, “Do you believe in the Son of God?” He answered, “And Who is He, Sir, that I may believe in Him?” Jesus said to him, “You have seen Him, and it is He who speaks to you.” He said, “Lord, I believe”; and he worshiped Him.

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (10:1-9)

Most assuredly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. Yet they will by no means follow a stranger, but will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.” Jesus used this illustration, but they did not understand the things which He spoke to them. Then Jesus said to them again, “Most assuredly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who ever came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.

- *Instead of “It is truly meet,” the choir sings “The angel cried to the Lady” and “Shine, shine, O New Jerusalem.”*

COMMUNION HYMN IN TONE EIGHT

Receive ye the body of Christ; taste ye the Fountain of immortality. Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest! Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the ends of the universe! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

- *Instead of “We have seen the true light,” sing “Christ is Risen” ONCE*
- *At Liturgy Dismissal: When priest says “Glory to Thee, O Christ . . .” the Choir responds with “Christ is Risen” THRICE. The Paschal Dismissal is used.*