



**Ss. Peter & Paul Orthodox Church**  
*A parish of the Orthodox Church in America*  
Rectory: 98 W. 28<sup>th</sup> Street, Bayonne, N.J. 07002  
Telephone: (201) 436-3244

Rector: V. Rev. W. Sophrony Royer

Choir Director: Mr. Yuriy Galkin

---

## **APRIL 14, 2024 / 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT (TONE 4)**

### RESURRECTIONAL TROPARION IN TONE FOUR

When the women disciples of the Lord / learned from the angel the joyous message of Thy Resurrection, / they cast away the ancestral curse / and elatedly told the apostles: / “Death is overthrown! / Christ God is risen, // granting the world great mercy!”

### TROPARION OF ST. JOHN CLIMACUS IN TONE ONE

O dweller of the wilderness and angel in the body, / thou wast a wonderworker, O our God-bearing Father John. / Thou didst receive heavenly gifts through fasting, vigil, and prayer, / healing the sick and the souls of those drawn to thee by faith. / Glory to Him Who gave thee strength! / Glory to Him Who granted thee a crown! // Glory to Him Who grants healing to all!

- *Choir sings troparion of Apostles 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.*

### RESURRECTIONAL KONTAKION IN TONE SEVEN

My Savior and Redeemer / as God rose from the tomb and delivered the earth-born from their chains. / He has shattered the gates of hell, / and as Master, // He has risen on the third day!

### PROKEIMENON IN TONE FOUR

O Lord, how manifold are Thy works; in wisdom hast Thou made them all.

*v. Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord, my God, Thou art very great!*

**Prokeimenon in Tone Seven:** Let the saints exult in glory; let them sing for joy on their couches!

### THE EPISTLE

#### **The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (6:13-20)**

Brethren, for when God made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, saying, “Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you.” And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise. For men indeed swear by the greater, and an oath for confirmation is for them an end of all dispute. Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath, that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us. This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil, where the forerunner has entered for us, even Jesus, having become High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

### **The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians. (5:9-19)**

Brethren, for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth, finding out what is acceptable to the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret. But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light. Therefore He says: "Awake, you who sleep, arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light." See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord.

### ALLELUIA IN TONE FOUR

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*v. Go forth, prosper and reign, for the sake of meekness, righteousness and truth!*

*v. For Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest iniquity*

*v. They that are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God.*

### THE GOSPEL

#### **The Reading of the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark. (9:17-31)**

Then one of the crowd answered and said, "Teacher, I brought You my son, who has a mute spirit. And wherever it seizes him, it throws him down; he foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth, and becomes rigid. So I spoke to Your disciples, that they should cast it out, but they could not." He answered him and said, "O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him to Me." Then they brought him to Him. And when he saw Him, immediately the spirit convulsed him, and he fell on the ground and wallowed, foaming at the mouth. So He asked his father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. And often he has thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us." Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!" When Jesus saw that the people came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it: "Deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, come out of him and enter him no more!" Then the spirit cried out, convulsed him greatly, and came out of him. And he became as one dead, so that many said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when He had come into the house, His disciples asked Him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" So He said to them, "This kind can come out by nothing but prayer and fasting." Then they departed from there and passed through Galilee, and He did not want anyone to know it. For He taught His disciples and said to them, "The Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill Him. And after He is killed, He will rise the third day."

#### **The Reading of the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (4:25-5:12)**

Great multitudes followed Him – from Galilee, and from Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and beyond the Jordan. And seeing the multitudes, He went up on a mountain, and when He was seated His disciples came to Him. Then He opened His mouth and taught them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven.

- *"All Creation Rejoices in Thee ..." is sung instead of "It is Truly Meet ..."*

## COMMUNION HYMNS

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance! He shall not fear evil tidings! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

## TODAY'S SAINTS

Saints commemorated on April 14th: St. John Climacus (author of *The Ladder of Divine Ascent*); St. Martin the Confessor, Pope of Rome; Martyr Ardalion the Actor; Martyr Azades the Eunuch and 1,000 Martyrs of Persia; Virgin-martyr Domnina of Terni and Companions; Martyrs Tiburtius, Valerian, and Maximus of Rome; St. Abundius the Sacristan, of Rome; Martyrs Anthony, John, and Eustathius of Vilnius.

## TODAY'S SPECIAL OFFERINGS

**Altar Vigils** offered by Helen Wanko in memory of Andrew Wanko (anniversary of birth). **Sanctuary Lamp** offered by the Korbela Family in memory of Stephen Korbela. **Triple Candelabra** offered by Fr. W. Sophrony Royer in memory of Walter Royer. **Saints John's and Nicholas' Crosses** offered by Theresa Ciavatti in memory of reposed Ciavatti family members.

## UPCOMING SERVICES

5:00 PM (Thursday) – Great Canon of Repentance (in its entirety)  
6:00 PM (Friday) – Akathistos of the Virgin Mary  
9:30 AM (Saturday) – Divine Liturgy  
5:00 PM (Saturday) – Great Vespers  
9:20 AM (Sunday) – Third Hour & Divine Liturgy

## PARISH AND LOCAL EVENTS

- (1) Today's Deanery Lenten Vespers, at 5:00 PM, is being hosted by OUR parish. All parishioners should make every effort to attend! Next Sunday's Deanery Lenten Vespers is at Holy Resurrection Church, 285 French Hill Rd., Wayne, New Jersey, at 5:00 PM.
- (2) All parishioners ought to go to confession during Great Lent. Confessions may be heard after any Friday or Saturday evening service, or call the Rectory to arrange for confession at another time.
- (3) During the month of April, a special collection basket will be set out for our parish's obligation towards this year's diocesan charity project (as mandated by the annual Diocesan Assembly, which is for the benefit of the Alaskan clergy. Please read below on the living conditions of our OCA clergy in Alaska.
- (4) The parish council is meeting in the church hall next Sunday after Divine Liturgy.

---

The median family income for the state of Alaska is \$77,790 per year. But the median stipend for native priests is \$7,200 per year, a salary that is \$26,000 below the poverty line for a family of four. Almost all the clergy and their wives worry about a future that is so financially fragile. Some priests have been forced to leave priestly ministry to provide for their families. And pious young men considering the priesthood have hesitated to answer the call, with abject poverty looming in their future. For example, Rt. Rev. Bishop Alexei has told the story of a Yupik parent telling his son who expressed the desire to be a priest: "Son, you'll be poor for your entire life. I don't want to see you destitute." Vocations have been *lost*! The Diocese of Alaska is the OCA's oldest and largest territorial diocese, with 89 parishes and about 30,000 faithful statewide (most of whom are Alaskan natives)—surely it deserves as much support as we can possibly give it!

**Remember to support the parish every time you shop!**



*ShopRite, Stop & Shop, and Acme gifts cards available for purchase in the church vestibule.*