



Ss. Peter & Paul Orthodox Church

A parish of the Orthodox Church in America

Rectory: 98 W. 28th Street, Bayonne, N.J. 07002

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Rector: V. Rev. W. Sophrony Royer

Choir Director: Mr. Yuriy Galkin

APRIL 27, 2025 / 2ND SUNDAY OF PASCHA: ST. THOMAS SUNDAY (TONE 1)

PASCHAL VERSES

Priest: Blessed is the kingdom ...

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!
(2½x)

Choir: And upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

Great Litany

TROPARION FROM PENTECOSTARION IN TONE SEVEN

From the sealed tomb, Thou didst shine forth, O Life! / Through closed doors Thou didst come to Thy Disciples, O Christ God. / Renew in us through them an upright spirit, // by the greatness of Thy mercy, O Resurrection of all!

- *Do not sing the troparion of Apostles Peter and Paul*
- *Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.*

KONTAKION FROM PENTECOSTARION IN TONE EIGHT

Thomas touched Thy life-giving side with an eager hand, O Christ God, / when Thou camest to Thine Apostles through closed doors. // He cried out with all: “Thou art my Lord and my God!”

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

PASCHAL KONTAKION IN TONE EIGHT

Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal, / Thou didst destroy the power of Hades. / In victory didst Thou 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 THREE

Great is our Lord, and abundant in power, His understanding is beyond measure.

v. Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God!

THE EPISTLE

The Reading from the Acts of the Holy Apostles (5:12-20)

In those days, many miracles and wonders were being performed among the people by the apostles. All the believers met together in Solomon's Porch. Nobody outside the group dared join them, even though the people

spoke highly of them. But more and more people were added to the group—a crowd of men and women who believed in the Lord. As a result of what the apostles were doing, sick people were carried out into the streets and placed on beds and mats so that at least Peter's shadow might fall on some of them as he passed by. And crowds of people came in from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing those who were sick or who had evil spirits in them; and they were all healed. Then the High Priest and all his companions, members of the local party of the Sadducees, became extremely jealous of the apostles; so, they decided to take action. They arrested the apostles and put them in the public jail. But that night an angel of the Lord opened the prison gates, led the apostles out, and said to them, “Go and stand in the Temple, and tell the people all about this new life.”

ALLELUIA IN TONE EIGHT

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

v. Come, let us rejoice in the Lord! Let us make a joyful noise to God our Savior!

v. For the Lord is a great God, and a great King over all the earth.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John (20:19-31)

It was late that Sunday evening, and the disciples were gathered together behind locked doors, because they were afraid of the Jewish authorities. Then Jesus came and stood among them. “Peace be with you,” he said. After saying this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy at seeing the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so I send you.” Then he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive people's sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.” One of the twelve disciples, Thomas (called the Twin), was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!” Thomas said to them, “Unless I see the scars of the nails in his hands and put my finger on those scars and my hand in his side, I will not believe.” A week later the disciples were together again indoors, and Thomas was with them. The doors were locked, but Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and look at my hands; then reach out your hand and put it in my side. Stop your doubting, and believe!” Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Do you believe because you see me? How happy are those who believe without seeing me!” In his disciples' presence Jesus performed many other miracles which are not written down in this book. But these have been written in order that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that through your faith in him you may have life.

FESTAL MEGALYNARION IN TONE FOUR

[Instead of “It is truly meet...,” we sing the following]

Refrain: The angel cried unto the Lady that is full of grace: / Rejoice, O pure Virgin! And again, I say, rejoice! / For thy Son is risen from the grave on the third day, // and has raised the dead, O ye people, be joyful!

Heirmos: Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem, / for the glory of the Lord hath arisen upon thee; / dance now and be glad, O Zion, / and do thou exult, O pure Theotokos, // in the arising of Him Whom thou didst bear

COMMUNION HYMN

Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem! Praise thy God, O Zion! The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance! He shall not fear evil tidings! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

AT COMMUNION TO DISMISSAL

Priest: “In the fear of God...”

Choir: “Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord...”

Priest: “O God, save Thy people...”

Choir: "Christ is risen from the dead... "(sung once, instead of "We have seen the True Light...)

Priest: "Always, now and ever..."

Choir: "Let our mouths be filled..."

At the Dismissal, the Priest says: "Glory to Thee, O Christ..." and the choir sings "Christ is risen from the dead..." (thrice). Priest reads the Dismissal.

Priest: "Through the prayers ..."

Choir: And unto us He has given eternal life. Let us worship His Resurrection on the third day!

UPCOMING SERVICES

5:00 PM (Saturday) – Great Vespers

9:20 AM (Sunday) – Third Hour & Divine Liturgy

TODAY'S SAINTS

Saints commemorated on April 27th: Hieromartyr Simeon, kinsman of the Lord, Apostle of the Seventy, and 2nd Bishop of Jerusalem; St. Eulogius the Hospitable, of Constantinople; Martyr Pollio the Reader, of Cybalae; St. John the Confessor, of Constantinople; St. Liberalis of Treviso; St. Maughold, Bishop of the Isle of Man; St. Assicus, Bishop of Elphin (disciple of St. Patrick); St. Floribert, Bishop of Liège; St. Stephen, Bishop of Vladimir in Volhynia.

PARISH AND LOCAL EVENTS

(1) The date and time for the blessing of graves at Graceland Cemetery in Kenilworth, N.J. is still undetermined. Russ Wyskanycz will contact those with graves at Graceland Cemetery as soon as that information becomes available. Blessing of graves at Bay View, Evergreen, and Rosedale cemeteries, which was postponed, will be done on Tuesday, April 29, 2025, starting at 10:00 AM in Bay View Cemetery.

(2) The Parish Council is meeting in the church hall today after Divine Liturgy.

(3) The Diocesan Altar Server Retreat is being held on Saturday, May 31, 2025 at Holy Resurrection Orthodox Church, 285 French Hill Road, Wayne, NJ – Hierarchical Divine Liturgy at 9:30 AM, followed by brunch and teaching sessions. Registration information will be forthcoming.

Christ is Risen! Indeed, He is Risen!
Христос воскрес! Воистину воскрес!

*"God loves each of us as if there were only one of us."
~ St. Augustine of Hippo (354-430)*

Remember to support the parish every time you shop!



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