

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.

August 6, 2017 – Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Today's Saints

St. Hormisdas, Pope of Rome; Martyrs Justus and Pastor of Spain; Monk-martyr Stephen of Cardena and Companions

Today's Services

6:00 PM (Saturday) – Great Vespers w. Lity

9:00 AM (Sunday) – Divine Liturgy

Today's Divine Liturgy Variables

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

Today's Special Offerings

Sanctuary Lamp and **Triple Candelabra** offered by Tais Fedetz in memory of Matushka Geraldine Fedetz. **St. John's Cross** offered by Mary Macinsky in memory of John Yendrey (anniversary of birth). **St. Nicholas' Cross** offered by the DeMay Family in memory of John DeMay (anniversary of birth).

Announcements & Events

- Please see the church bulletin board for flyers of upcoming local events.
- Fragrant herbage shall be blessed at the end of Divine Liturgy on August 15.
- The parish council is meeting tomorrow at 7:00 PM.
- All parishioners ought to go to confession during the Virgin Mary's Fast. Confessions may be heard after any Vespers during the month of August, or call the Rectory for an appointment.

The Festal Synaxarion

On August 6in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the divine Transfiguration of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ. "Tabor was glorified above earth's every region when it looked upon God's nature shining in glory. On the sixth Christ transformed His form as a man." This glorious event is recorded in the Gospels of Mark (9:2-13), Luke (9:28-36) and Matthew (17:1-9). In the third year of His preaching, the Lord Jesus often spoke to His disciples of His approaching passion and His glorious Resurrection. So that His impending passion would not totally weaken His disciples, the All-wise Savior wanted to show them His divine glory before His passion on the Holy Cross. For that reason, He took Peter, James and John with Him and went out at night to Mount Tabor. The Lord took only three disciples on Tabor because the Lord did not want to leave the unworthy Judas alone at the foot of the mountain so that the betrayer would not, by that, justify his betrayal. Our Lord was transfigured on a mountain and not in a valley to teach us two virtues: love of labor and godly-thoughts. For, climbing to the heights required labor and height represents the heights of our thoughts, i.e., godly-thoughts. Moses and Elijah appeared in order to destroy the erroneous thought of the Jews that the Christ is one of the prophets; that is why He appears as a King above the prophets and that is why Moses and Elijah appear as His servants. Until then, our Lord manifested His divine power many times to the disciples but, on Mount Tabor, He manifested His divine nature. This vision of His Divinity and the hearing of the heavenly witness about Him as the Son of God would serve the disciples in the days of the Lord's passion, in strengthening of an unwavering faith in Him and His final victory. Unto Christ God be glory and dominion unto the ages. Amen.

Upcoming Services

August 12-13, 2017 (Next Weekend)

6:00 PM (Saturday) – Great Vespers

9:00 AM (Sunday) – Divine Liturgy

Divine Liturgy Variables for Sunday, August 6, 2017

Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ

FESTAL ANTIPHONS

First Antiphon:

v. Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth! Sing of His name, give glory to His praise!

Refrain: Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

v. The voice of Thy thunder was in the whirlwind; Thy lightning lighted up the world; the earth trembled and shook. *Repeat Refrain.*

v. Thou art clothed with honor and majesty, Who coverest Thyself with light as with a garment. *Repeat Refrain.*

v. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. *Repeat Refrain.*

Second Antiphon:

v. Mount Zion in the far north is the city of the Great King.

Refrain: O Son of God, transfigured on the mountain, save us who sing to Thee. Alleluia!

v. And He brought them to the mountain of His sanctuary, this mountain which His right hand had won. *Repeat Refrain.*

v. The Mount Zion which He loved, He built as His sanctuary with mighty strength. *Repeat Refrain.*

v. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

- *Now sing "O Only-begotten Son ..."*

Third Antiphon:

v. Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but abides forever.

FESTAL TROPARION IN TONE SEVEN

Thou wast transfigured on the mountain, O Christ God, / revealing Thy glory to Thy Disciples as far as they could bear it. / Let Thine everlasting Light also shine upon us sinners, / through the prayers of the Theotokos. // O Giver of Light, glory to Thee!

v. As the mountains are round about it, so the Lord is round about His people, from this time and forevermore. *Repeat Festal Troparion.*

v. O Lord, who shall sojourn in Thy tabernacle? Who shall dwell on Thy holy mountain?

Repeat Festal Troparion.

v. Who shall ascend the mountain of the Lord? And who shall stand in His holy place? *Repeat Festal Troparion.*

Entrance Verse (intoned by priest):

Send out Thy light and Thy truth; they have led me and brought me to Thy holy mountain.

- *Choir repeats the Festal Troparion.*
- *Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

FESTAL KONTAKION IN TONE SEVEN

On the mountain Thou wast transfigured, O Christ God, / and Thy Disciples beheld Thy glory as far as they could see it; / so that when they would behold Thee crucified, / they would understand that Thy suffering was voluntary, / and would proclaim to the world // that Thou art truly the Radiance of the Father.

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!

THE EPISTLE

The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Peter. (1:10-19)

Brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble; for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. For this reason I will not be negligent to remind you always of these things, though you know and are established in the present truth. Yes, I think it is right, as long as I am in this tent, to stir you up by reminding you, knowing that shortly I must put off my tent, just as our Lord Jesus Christ showed me. Moreover I will be careful to ensure that you always have a reminder of these things after my decease. For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our

Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty. For He received from God the Father honor and glory when such a voice came to Him from the Excellent Glory: “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” And we heard this voice which came from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain. And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.

ALLELUIA IN TONE EIGHT

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

v. The heavens are Thine; the earth also is Thine.

v. Blessed are the people who know the festal shout!

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (17:1-9)

Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, led them up on a high mountain by themselves; and He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Him. Then Peter answered and said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if You wish, let us make here three tabernacles: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and suddenly a voice came out of the cloud, saying, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!” And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their faces and were greatly afraid. But Jesus came and touched them and said, “Arise, and do not be afraid.” When they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only. Now as they came down from the mountain, Jesus commanded them, saying, “Tell the vision to no one until the Son of Man is risen from the dead.”

FESTAL MEGALYNARION

v. Magnify, O my soul, the Lord Who was transfigured on Mount Tabor!

Thy childbearing was without corruption; God came forth from thy body clothed in flesh, and appeared on earth and dwelt among men. Therefore we all magnify thee, O Theotokos.

COMMUNION HYMN

O Lord, we will walk in the light of Thy countenance, and will exult in Thy name forever. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!