

# Saints Peter & Paul Orthodox Catholic Church

## 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

Choir Director: Miss Emily Fencik

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*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.*

### December 24, 2017 – Sunday Before Nativity (Tone 4)

#### Today's Saints

Nun-martyr Eugenia of Rome and Companions; St. Nicholas the Monk, of Bulgaria; St. Antiochus of St. Sabbas Monastery; Martyrs Lucian, Metrobius, Paul, Zenobius, Theotimus & Drusus of Tripoli (in Libya); Martyr Gregory of Spoleto; St. Delphinus, Bishop of Bordeaux; St. Venerandus, Bishop of Clermont; St. Tarsila (aunt of St. Gregory the Great, sister of St. Emiliana and niece of Pope Felix); St. Irmina of Trier, Frankish Princess, Abbess of Oeren; St. Adela, Frankish Princess, 1<sup>st</sup> Abbess of Pfalzel; St. Caranus of Scotland; St. Alberic of Gladbach; St. Bruno of Ottobeuren

#### Today's Services

5:00 PM (Saturday) – Great Vespers

9:30 AM (Sunday) – Divine Liturgy

4:30 PM (Sunday) – Vigil w. Lity

#### Today's Divine Liturgy Variables

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

#### Today's Special Offerings

**Altar Vigils** offered by John and Helen Wanko in memory of June Bianchini (anniversary of birth). **St. John's Cross** and **St. Nicholas' Cross** offered by the Carpathian Club in memory of, respectively, Louise Yendrey and Helen Wanko. **Sacramental Bread** offered by the Wasilewski Family for the health of Florence Tari.

#### Announcements & Events

- The church wall calendar for 2018 is now available.
- The Carpathian Club invites all parishioners and visitors to a social gathering in the Club Hall after Divine Liturgy on Christmas Day.
- On Wednesday there shall be a Parastas in memory of Stephen Cimboic, offered by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Czech, after Divine Liturgy. Next Sunday there shall be a Parastas in memory of Archpriest Nicholas Fedetz, offered by Tais Fedetz, and in memory of Raymond O. Royer, offered by Fr. Sophrony Royer, after Divine Liturgy.
- We are collecting the front sides of used Christmas cards for recycling by the nuns of Holy Transfiguration Monastery. So please bring your Christmas cards to church rather than tossing them in the trash.

### Upcoming Services

#### December 25-27, 2017 (Christmas & Following Days)

9:30 AM (Monday) – Divine Liturgy

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#### December 30-31, 2017 (Next Weekend)

5:00 PM (Saturday) – Great Vespers

9:30 AM (Sunday) – Divine Liturgy

**Christ is Born! Glorify Him! Христос родился! Славим Его!**

## **Divine Liturgy Variables for December 24, 2017**

### **Tone 4 / Sunday Before Christ's Nativity**

#### 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 SUNDAY BEFORE NATIVITY IN TONE TWO

Great are the accomplishments of faith, for the three Holy Youths rejoice in the fountain of flames as though in the waters of rest; and the Prophet Daniel appeared a shepherd to the lions as though they were sheep. // So by their prayers, O Christ God, save our souls!

#### TROPARION OF NATIVITY EVE IN TONE FOUR

Mary was of David's seed, / so she went with Joseph to register in Bethlehem. / She bore in her womb the Fruit not sown by man. / The time for the birth was at hand. / Since there was no room at the inn, / the cave became a beautiful palace for the Queen. / Christ is born, raising up the image that fell of old.

- *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 PREPARATION OF CHRIST'S NATIVITY IN TONE THREE

Rejoice, O Bethlehem! Prepare thyself, O Ephratha! The Lamb is on her way to give birth to the Chief Shepherd she carries in her womb. The God-bearing Forefathers will rejoice, beholding Him, and with the shepherds, they will glorify the Virgin nursing Him.

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

#### KONTAKION OF NATIVITY EVE IN TONE THREE

Today the Virgin comes to the cave / to give birth to the Eternal Word. / Hear the glad tidings and rejoice, O universe! / Glorify with the angels and the shepherds / the Eternal God, who is willing to appear as a little child!

#### PROKEIMENON IN TONE FOUR

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

*v. For Thou art just 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. We have heard with our ears, O God, for our fathers have told us.*

*v. For Thou hast saved us from them that oppose us, and hast put to shame them that hate us.*

#### 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.

#### COMMUNION HYMN

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous! Praise befits the just! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!