

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.

February 24, 2019 – Sunday of Prodigal Son (Tone 6)

Today's Saints

First & Second findings of the head of St. John the Baptist; Martyrs Montanus, Lucius, Julian, Victoricus, Flavian of Carthage, and Companions; St. Praetextatus, Bishop of Rouen; St. Modestus, Bishop of Trier; St. Cumine the White, Abbot of Iona; St. Betto, Bishop of Auxerre; St. John the Harvester; St. Erasmus of the Kiev-Caves

Today's Services

5:00 PM (Saturday) – Great Vespers

9:30 AM (Sunday) – Divine Liturgy

After Liturgy – Parastas in memory of Helen Pirniak, offered by Olga DeMay, and Julia Wasilewski, offered by the Wasilewski Family

Today's Divine Liturgy Variables

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

Today's Special Offerings

Sanctuary Lamp, Triple Candelabra, and St. John's & St. Nicholas' Crosses offered by the Carpathian Club in memory of Helen Pirniak. **Altar Vigils** offered by the Wasilewski Family in memory of Julia Wasilewski (anniversary of repose).

Announcements & Events

- Next meeting of the Parish Council is next Sunday after Divine Liturgy.
- Our parish shall be collecting non-perishable foods for donation to St. Vincent's Food Pantry as a Lenten charitable project. There will be bins in the church hall from March 3rd to April 21st for you to deposit the items you donate.
- Holy Trinity Church in Rahway is having a Chicken & Fish Fry at the American Legion Post, 581 Maple Ave., Rahway, N.J. on March 2, 2019, 5:00-7:00 PM. Call 732-388-5107 for reservations. See flyer on church bulletin board.

Upcoming Services

March 2-3, 2019 (Next Weekend)

9:30 AM (Saturday) – General Panichida

5:00 PM (Saturday) – Great Vespers

9:30 AM (Sunday) – Divine Liturgy

"My venerable brother recommends four Lenten practices: 'prayer with tears, reading, compunction of heart, and abstinence' (RB 49:4). The first, prayer with tears, has always come easily to me. God has never refused me anything I asked of him with tears. I have no doubt that he 'has set my tears in his sight' (Ps. 55:9). Tears in prayer are no cause for alarm. The heart pressed by the hand of God in prayer weeps just as a sponge held tightly in your hand or mine gives forth water. Sacred reading is my brother's second Lenten practice. He considers it so important that he completely changes the hours of his monastery during Lent to make more time for it. Here we do the same. Nothing is done at Monte Cassino that we do not do here at Plombariola. In Lent our hours of reading are 'from the morning until the end of the Third Hour' (RB 48:14). This means we do not begin work after First Hour, as is the custom at other times, but consecrate to sacred reading the best three hours of the morning. We are alert then, and the early morning light in the cloister is wonderfully clear and bright. My venerable brother says that during this sacred season we are 'to increase in some way the normal standard of our service, as for example, by special prayers, or by a diminution in food or drink' (RB 49:5-6). It is edifying to see Nonna Aquilina lingering in the oratory after Compline. Even Pulcheria, our littlest oblate, asked me if she might give up the sweet bread and butter given her after Ninth Hour each day. Nonna Marcellina asked me if she might pray the *Beati immaculati* (Ps. 118) daily through Lent. She knows it by heart, of course."

- St. Scholastica (c. 480-543)

Divine Liturgy Variables for February 24, 2019

RESURRECTIONAL TROPARION IN TONE SIX

The Angelic Powers were at Thy tomb; the guards became as dead men. Mary stood by Thy grave, seeking Thy most pure body. Thou didst capture hell not being tempted by it. Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life. // O Lord, Who didst rise from the dead, glory to Thee.

TROPARION OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST IN TONE FOUR

The head of the Forerunner has shone from the earth, sending forth rays of incorruption and healings to the faithful. It gathers together a multitude of Angels above and summons the human race below // to send up glory with one voice to Christ our God.

- *Now sing the troparion of Ss. Peter and Paul in Tone Four*
- *Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

KONTAKION FROM LENTEN TRIODION IN TONE THREE

I have recklessly forgotten Thy glory, O Father; and among sinners I have scattered the riches which Thou gavest me. And now I cry to Thee as the Prodigal: “I have sinned before Thee, O merciful Father; receive me as a penitent, // and make me as one of Thy hired servants!”

PROKEIMENON IN TONE SIX

O Lord, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance!
v. To Thee, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me!

Prokeimenon in Tone Seven: The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord, and shall hope in Him.

THE EPISTLE

The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (6:12-20)

Brethren, all things are lawful for me, but all things are not helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any. Foods for the stomach and the stomach for foods, but God will destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God both raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by His power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make

them members of a harlot? Certainly not! Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For “the two,” He says, “shall become one flesh.” But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him. Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore, glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.

The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (4:6-15)

Brethren, for it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed – always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus’ sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So then death is working in us, but life in you. And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, “I believed and therefore I spoke,” we also believe and therefore speak, knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present us with you. For all things are for your sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God.

ALLELUIA IN TONE SIX

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

v. He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the heavenly God.

v. He will say to the Lord: “My Protector and my Refuge; my God, in Whom I trust.”

v. The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, and shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (15:11-32)

Then He said: “A certain man had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the portion of goods that falls to me.’ So he divided to them his livelihood. And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living. But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be

in want. Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants."' And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet. And bring the fatted calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry; for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' And they began to be merry. Now his older son was in the field. And as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and because he has received him safe and sound, your father has killed the fatted calf.' But he was angry and would not go in. Therefore, his father came out and pleaded with him. So he answered and said to his father, 'Lo, these many years I have been serving you; I never transgressed your commandment at any time; and yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might make merry with my friends. But as soon as this son of yours came, who has devoured your livelihood with harlots, you killed the fatted calf for him.' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours. It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found.'

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (11:2-15)

When John had heard in prison about the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples and said to Him, "Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?" Jesus answered and said to them, "Go and tell John the things which you hear and see: The blind see and the lame walk; the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear; the dead are raised up and the poor have the gospel preached to them. And blessed is he who is not offended because of Me." As they departed, Jesus began to say to the multitudes concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? But what did you go out to see? A man clothed in soft garments? Indeed, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I say to you, and more than a prophet. For this is he of whom it is written: 'Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, who will prepare Your way before You.' Assuredly, I say to you, among those born of women there has not risen

one greater than John the Baptist; but he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force. For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John. And if you are willing to receive it, he is Elijah who is to come. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!

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!