

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.

December 22, 2019 – Sunday Before Christmas (Tone 2)

Today's Saints

Great-martyr Anastasia, her teacher Martyr Chrysogonus, and Companions; Thirty Martyrs of Rome; Martyrs Demetrius, Honoratus and Florus of Ostia; St. Hungerus, Bishop of Utrecht; St. Flavian of Rome; St. Amaswinthus of Málaga

Today's Services

5:00 PM (Saturday) – Great Vespers
9:30 AM (Sunday) – Divine Liturgy
After Liturgy – Parastas in memory of Fr. John Chepeleff and Fr. Damian Krehel

Today's Divine Liturgy Variables

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

“The light of the Christmas star to you; the warmth of home and hearth to you; the cheer and good will of friends to you; the joy of a thousand angels to you; the love of the Son, and God's peace, to you.”
~ Irish Christmas Blessing

Today's Special Offerings

Altar Vigils offered by John and Helen Wanko in memory of June Bianchini (anniversary of birth).

Announcements & Events

- A sign-up sheet for the annual blessing of homes is in the church vestibule.
- “Souper Bowl” Project: Our parish is collecting cans of soup and other non-perishable foods for donation to St. Mary's food pantry. A bin for placing the donated food items will be in the church until February 2, 2020. Thank you for co-operating in this project!
- All parishioners ought to go to confession during the Nativity Fast, which may be heard after Christmas Eve Vigil. Those unable to attend the Vigil ought to call the Rectory at (201) 436-3244 to make an appointment.
- Order forms for St. Mary's bread sale are available in the church vestibule.
- The Carpathian Club invites all our parishioners and visitors to its annual Christmas Social, which shall be held after Divine Liturgy on Christmas Day in the club hall behind the church building.
- FOCA N.J. District Beefsteak Dinner will be held on Saturday, January 11, 2020 at 6:00 PM. The event will be held at The Russian Hall, 46 Woodhull Avenue Little Falls, NJ. Tickets are \$50/adult, \$40/junior (under 16). Contact Danielle Kovach for reservations, or Daria Miskiv at 908-460-0243. For more information, see flyer on bulletin board.
- The Novogodny Ball is back for its 83rd year, hosted by St. Stephen's OCF, FOCA Chapter #82, on January 19, 2020 at the Radisson Hotel, Trevoise, Pennsylvania. This year's featured entertainment is the Kauriga Orchestra, with its diverse selections of folk, ballroom, pop, and rock music. Regular Pricing: Age 23+: \$95, Ages 13-22: \$85, Age 12 & under: \$55 (Dinner & Dancing); Age 23+: \$55, Ages 13-22: \$45, Age 12 & under: \$40 (Dancing & Treats Only). Contact Marge Kovach at mjkovach@aol.com if you plan to attend.

Upcoming Services

December 24-27, 2019 (Christmas)

4:30 PM (Tuesday) – Vigil w. Lity
9:30 AM (Wednesday) – Divine Liturgy
9:30 AM (Thursday) – Divine Liturgy
9:30 AM (Friday) – Divine Liturgy

December 28-29, 2019

5:00 PM (Saturday) – Great Vespers
9:30 AM (Sunday) – Divine Liturgy

Divine Liturgy Variables for December 22, 2019

RESURRECTIONAL TROPARION IN TONE TWO

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life immortal, Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead. And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead, all the powers of heaven cried out: // “O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!”

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.

- *Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:*

RESURRECTIONAL KONTAKION IN TONE TWO

Hell became afraid, O almighty Savior, seeing the miracle of Thy Resurrection from the tomb! The dead arose! Creation, with Adam, beheld this and rejoiced with Thee, // and the world, my Savior, praises Thee forever.

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

KONTAKION OF SUNDAY BEFORE NATIVITY IN TONE ONE

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.

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, 17-23, 32-40)

Brethren, by faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God. By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, of whom it was said, “In Isaac your seed shall be called,” concluding that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense. By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come. By faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, and worshiped, leaning on the top of his staff. By faith Joseph, when he was dying, made mention of the departure of the children of Israel, and gave instructions concerning his bones. By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden three months by his parents, because they saw he was a beautiful child; and they were not afraid of the king’s command. And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and Samson and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets: who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. Women received their dead raised to life again. Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented –of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us.

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 have 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. ² Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob

the father of Judah and his brothers, ³ and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Ram, ⁴ and Ram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, ⁵ and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, ⁶ and Jesse the father of David the king. And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, ⁷ and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asa, ⁸ and Asa the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, ⁹ and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, ¹⁰ and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos, and Amos the father of Josiah, ¹¹ and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon. ¹² And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, ¹³ and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, ¹⁴ and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, ¹⁵ and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, ¹⁶ and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ. ¹⁷ 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 fourteen generations. ¹⁸ 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; ¹⁹ and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ 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; ²¹ she will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²² All this took place to fulfil what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: ²³ "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel" (which means, God with us). ²⁴ When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took his wife, ²⁵ 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!