

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: Mr. Yuriy Galkin

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 23, 2020 – Sunday of the Last Judgment (Tone 3)

Today's Saints

Hieromartyr Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna; Synaxis of the Ascetic Saints of Syria; St. Alexander, Founder of the Monastery of the "Unsleeping Ones"; Virgin-martyr Martha of Astorga; Virgin-martyr Romana of Rome; St. Florentius the Confessor, of Seville; St. Boisil, Abbot of Melrose Abbey; St. Felix, Bishop of Brescia; St. Milburga, Abbess of Wenlock Priory; St. Willigis, Archbishop of Mainz; St. Polycarp of Briansk

Today's Services

5:00 PM (Saturday) – Great Vespers

9:30 AM (Sunday) – Divine Liturgy

After Liturgy – Parastas in memory of Julia Wasilewski and Valentina Travis, offered by the Wasilewski Family

Today's Liturgy Variables

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

Today's Special Offerings

All Vigils offered by Victor Wasilewski & Family in memory of Julia Wasilewski (anniversary of repose). **Sanctuary Lamp** offered by Fr. Sophrony Royer in memory of Rita Richards. **Triple Candelabra** offered by Fr. Sophrony Royer in memory of Rev. Thomas Sheridan, S.J. **St. John's Cross** offered by Deborah and Lindsay Wanko, and Lauren, Nick, Landon, and Lawson Petronko, for the recovery from surgery and return to health of husband, father, and grandfather, Stephen Wanko. **St. Nicholas' Cross** offered by Stephen, Lisa Marie, and Tatiana Wasilewski in memory of Valentina Travis (anniversary of repose).

Announcements & Events

- The Memorial Saturdays of the Lenten season this year are February 22, March 14, March 21, and March 28. Fr. Sophrony will also say the Litany of the Departed at Divine Liturgy on St. Theodore Saturday (March 7). If you need to update the names on your memorial list(s), contact Fr. Sophrony as soon as possible.
- Please see flyer on bulletin board in church vestibule about Archbishop Michael's tenth anniversary celebration on Saturday, May 9, 2020.
- In Memoriam: Rt. Rev. Varlaam (Novakshonoff), former Bishop of Vancouver, passed into blessed repose on February 13, 2020. Memory Eternal!
- Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers on March 8th will take place at Holy Resurrection Orthodox Church, 285 French Hill Road, Wayne, N.J. Most. Rev. Archbishop Michael will preside at the service, which begins at 5:00 PM.

Upcoming Services

February 29-March 1, 2020 (Next Weekend)

5:00 PM (Saturday) – Great Vespers

9:30 AM (Sunday) – Divine Liturgy w. Rite of Forgiveness

"Eighty and six years I have served Him, and He has done me no wrong. How then can I blaspheme my King and Savior? You threaten me with fire which burns for an hour, and after a little is extinguished, but are ignorant of the fire of the coming judgment and of eternal punishment, reserved for the ungodly. But why do you tarry? Bring forth what you will."

– St. Polycarp of Smyrna (69-155), The Martyrdom of Polycarp, Chapter XI (St. Polycarp, at his trial, responds to threats of the Roman proconsul)

Divine Liturgy Variables for February 23, 2020

RESURRECTIONAL TROPARION IN TONE THREE

Let the heavens rejoice! / Let the earth be glad! / For the Lord has shown strength with His arm. / He has trampled down death by death./He has become the first-born of the dead. / He has delivered us from the depths of hell, / and has granted to the world // great mercy.

- *Choir sings 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 TRIODION IN TONE ONE

When Thou, O God, shalt come to earth with glory, / all things shall tremble, / and the river of fire shall flow before Thy judgment seat; / the books shall be opened, / and the hidden things disclosed; / then deliver me from the unquenchable fire, / and make me worthy to stand at Thy right hand, // O Righteous Judge!

PROKEIMENON IN TONE THREE

Great is our Lord, and abundant in power, His understanding is beyond measure.
v. The Lord has chastened me sorely, but He has not given me over to death.

THE EPISTLE

The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (8:8-9:2)

Brethren, now concerning food offered to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” “Knowledge” puffs up, but love builds up. If any one imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know. But if one loves God, one is known by him. Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “an idol has no real existence,” and that “there is no God but one.” For although there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth — as indeed there are many “gods” and many “lords”— yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist. However, not all possess this knowledge. But some, through being hitherto accustomed to idols, eat food as really offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. Food will not commend us to God. We are no

worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. Only take care lest this liberty of yours somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if any one sees you, a man of knowledge, at table in an idol’s temple, might he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? And so by your knowledge this weak man is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. Thus, sinning against your brethren and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of my brother’s falling, I will never eat meat, lest I cause my brother to fall. Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are not you my workmanship in the Lord? If to others I am not an apostle, at least I am to you; for you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

ALLELUIA IN TONE THREE

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

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

v. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (25:31-46)

When the Son of man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate them one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will place the sheep at his right hand, but the goats at the left. Then the King will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see thee hungry and feed thee, or thirsty and give thee drink? And when did we see thee a stranger and welcome thee, or naked and clothe thee? And when did we see thee sick or in prison and visit thee?’ And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.’ Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave

me no drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see thee hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to thee?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it not to one of the least of these, you did it not to me.' And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

COMMUNION HYMN

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!