



## Ss. Peter & Paul Orthodox Church

*A parish of the Orthodox Church in America*

Rectory: 98 W. 28<sup>th</sup> Street, Bayonne, N.J. 07002

Telephone: (201) 436-3244

Rector: V. Rev. W. Sophrony Royer

Choir Director: Mr. Yuriy Galkin

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### **DECEMBER 17, 2023 / SUNDAY OF HOLY FOREFATHERS (TONE 3)**

#### 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.

#### TROPARION OF HOLY FOREFATHERS IN TONE TWO

Through faith Thou didst justify the Forefathers, / betrothing through them the Church of the gentiles. / These saints exult in glory, / for from their seed came forth a glorious fruit: / she who bore Thee without seed. // So by their prayers, O Christ God, have mercy on us!

- *Choir sings troparion of Apostles Peter & Paul*
- *Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

#### KONTAKION OF HOLY FOREFATHERS IN TONE SIX

You did not worship the graven image, / O thrice-blessed ones, / but armed with the immaterial Essence of God, / you were glorified in a trial by fire. / From the midst of unbearable flames you called on God, crying: / Hasten, O compassionate One! / Speedily come to our aid, // for Thou art merciful and able to do as Thou dost will!"

#### 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 Colossians. (3:4-11)**

Brethren, when Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory. Therefore, put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them. But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him, where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all.

## ALLELUIA IN TONE FOUR

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*v. Moses and Aaron were among His priests; Samuel also was among those who called on His Name.*

*v. They called to the Lord and He answered them.*

## THE GOSPEL

### **The Reading of the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (14:16-24)**

Then He said to him, “A certain man gave a great supper and invited many, and sent his servant at supper time to say to those who were invited, ‘Come, for all things are now ready.’ But they all with one accord began to make excuses. The first said to him, ‘I have bought a piece of ground, and I must go and see it. I ask you to have me excused.’ And another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to test them. I ask you to have me excused.’ Still another said, ‘I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.’ So that servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house, being angry, said to his servant, ‘Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in here the poor and the maimed and the lame and the blind.’ And the servant said, ‘Master, it is done as you commanded, and still there is room.’ Then the master said to the servant, ‘Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.’ For I say to you that none of those men who were invited shall taste my supper.”

## COMMUNION HYMN

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

## TODAY’S SAINTS

Saints commemorated on December 17th: ***Holy Forefathers of Christ***. Prophet Daniel and Three Holy Youths: Ananias, Azarias, and Misael; St. Daniel the Confessor, of Spain and Egypt; St. Begga, Abbess (sister of St. Gertrude of Nivelles); St. Sturm, Apostle of Saxony, Abbot and Founder of Fulda Monastery; St. Maxentius (disciple of St. Martin of Tours); St. Dionysius of Zakynthos, Bishop of Aegina.

## TODAY’S PARASTAS

Parastas in memory of Mitred Archpriest John Chepeleff and Mitred Archpriest Damian Krehel.

## TODAY’S SPECIAL OFFERINGS

**Altar Vigils, Sanctuary Lamp, and St. John’s Cross** offered by Russell and Andrea Wyskanycz in memory of Juliana and Andrew Bacsik.

## UPCOMING SERVICES

5:00 PM (Saturday) – Great Vespers

9:20 AM (Sunday) – Third Hour & Divine Liturgy

## PARISH & LOCAL EVENTS

(1) All parishioners ought to go to confession during the Nativity Fast, which may be heard after any Vespers. Those unable to attend Vespers may call the Rectory at 201-436-3244 to make an appointment.

(2) Archbishop Michael’s annual visitation to our church will be on Wednesday, December 27, 2023, the 3rd Day of Christmas and feast of Protomartyr Stephen. There will be a brunch in the church hall after Divine Liturgy—all in attendance are welcome! If you plan to attend, please sign the sign-up sheet in the church vestibule.

(3) Our parish is collecting cans of soup and other non-perishable foods for donation to a local food pantry. A bin for placing donated food items will be in the church hall from January 1, 2024 to February 11, 2024. Please make sure that items donated are not past the expiration date, and thank you for co-operating in this project!

(4) Looking for a Christmas gift for your cleaning person, hair dresser, handyman, tutor, etc.? The ShopRite, Stop & Shop, and Acme gift cards, available for purchase in the church, might be just what you're looking for.

(5) The Carpathian Club invites all our parishioners and visitors to a Christmas Social in their club hall (directly behind the church) after Divine Liturgy on Christmas.

(6) We are having a "pot luck" Christmas Social in the church hall on "Old Calendar" Christmas, Sunday, January 7, 2024 after Divine Liturgy. In order to properly plan for this event, there will be a sign-up sheet in the church vestibule for indicating what you plan to bring. Cash donations for buying items such as beverages, condiments, etc. will also be welcome.

**Remember to support the parish every time you shop!**



*ShopRite, Stop & Shop, and Acme gifts cards available for purchase in the church vestibule.*