



Ss. Peter & Paul Orthodox Church
A parish of the Orthodox Church in America
Rectory: 98 W. 28th Street, Bayonne, N.J. 07002
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Rector: V. Rev. W. Sophrony Royer

Choir Director: Mr. Yuriy Galkin

FEBRUARY 23, 2025 / SUNDAY OF THE LAST JUDGMENT (TONE 2)

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!”

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

KONTAKION FROM THE 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. Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God!

THE EPISTLE

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

Brethren, food, however, will not improve our relation with God; we shall not lose anything if we do not eat, nor shall we gain anything if we do eat. Be careful, however, not to let your freedom of action make those who are weak in the faith fall into sin. Suppose a person whose conscience is weak in this matter sees you, who have so-called “knowledge,” eating in the temple of an idol; will not this encourage him to eat food offered to idols? And so this weak person, your brother for whom Christ died, will perish because of your “knowledge”! And in this way you will be sinning against Christ by sinning against other Christians and wounding their weak conscience. So then, if food makes a believer sin, I will never eat meat again, so as not to make a believer fall into sin. Am I not a free man? Am I not an apostle? Haven't I seen Jesus our Lord? And aren't you the result of my work for the Lord? Even if others do not accept me as an apostle, surely you do! Because of your life in union with the Lord you yourselves are proof of the fact that I am an apostle.

ALLELUIA IN TONE EIGHT

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 of the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew (25:31-46).

When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you 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 took Me in; 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, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.' Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting 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 take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.' Then they also will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?' Then He will answer them, saying, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.' And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

COMMUNION HYMNS

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

SAINTS COMMEMORATED TODAY

Commemorated on February 23rd: Hieromartyr Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna; Ss. John, Antiochus, Antoninus, Moses, Zebinas, Polychronius, and Damian, Ascetics of Syria; St. Alexander, Founder of the Monastery of the Unsleeping Ones; Virgin-martyr Martha of Spain; St. Polycarp of Rome; St. Romana the Anchoress; St. Serenus the Gardener; St. Florentius the Confessor, Bishop of Seville; St. Felix, Bishop of Brescia; St. Mildburga, Abbess of Wenlock Priory; St. Willigis, Archbishop of Mainz; St. Peter Damian the Confessor, Cardinal Bishop of Ostia; St. Damian of Esphigmenou Monastery (Mount Athos); St. Polycarp of Briansk.

TODAY'S SPECIAL OFFERINGS

Altar Vigils and Sacramental Bread offered by Reader Stephen Wasilewski in memory of Julia Wasilewski (22nd anniversary of repose). **Triple Candelabra** offered by Fr. W. Sophrony Royer in memory of Rita Richards.

TODAY'S PARASTAS

Parastas after Divine Liturgy in memory of Jula Wasilewski offered by Reader Stephen Wasilewski.

UPCOMING SERVICES

5:00 PM (Saturday) – Great Vespers
9:20 AM (Sunday) – Third Hour & Divine Liturgy
After Divine Liturgy – Rite of Forgiveness

PARISH & LOCAL NEWS

(1) The Parish Council is meeting in the church hall next Sunday after Divine Liturgy.
(2) A Pan-Orthodox Orthodoxy Sunday Vespers is being held at 4:00 PM on March 9, 2025 at Holy Resurrection Orthodox Church (OCA), 285 French Hill Rd., Wayne, New Jersey. A Lenten supper will be held in the lower church hall after service. Please let Fr. Sophrony know if you plan to attend so he can take a head count.

(3) As a fundraising event, our parish is having a flea market on two consecutive Saturdays—March 22 and March 29, 2025. Rather than throwing out items in good condition for which you no longer have any use, consider donating them for the parish flea market. Please bring donated items to church—only those who are physically unable to come themselves will be given assistance bringing in donated items.

Remember to support the parish every time you shop!



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