



Ss. Peter & Paul Orthodox Church

A parish of the Orthodox Church in America

Rectory: 98 W. 28th Street, Bayonne, N.J. 07002

Telephone: (201) 436-3244

Rector: V. Rev. W. Sophrony Royer

Choir Director: Mr. Yuriy Galkin

JANUARY 5, 2025 / FOREFEAST OF THEOPHANY (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.

FOREFESTAL TROPARION IN TONE FOUR

The River Jordan was turned back by the mantle of Elisha, / after Elijah had been taken up to heaven. / The waters were parted in two, / and the stream became a dry path. / This was truly a type of baptism, / by which we pass over the stream of life. // Christ has shone forth in the Jordan to sanctify the waters.

TROPARION OF SS. THEOPEMPTUS & THEONAS IN TONE TWO

Thy holy martyrs Theopemptus and Theonas, O Lord, / through their sufferings have received incorruptible crowns from Thee, our God. / For having Thy strength, they laid low their adversaries, / and shattered the powerless boldness of demons. / Through their intercessions, save our souls!

- *Choir sings troparion of Apostles Peter & Paul*
- *Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;*

RESURRECTIONAL KONTAKION IN TONE THREE

On this day Thou didst rise from the tomb, O Merciful One, / leading us from the gates of death. / On this day Adam exults as Eve rejoices; / with the Prophets and Patriarchs // they unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Thy power.

- *Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

FOREFESTAL KONTAKION IN TONE TWO

O Christ, in Thy compassion and infinite mercy, / Thou art coming as a man to be baptized in the Jordan, / in order to take away the many transgressions of us all, / clothing me in the garment of ancient glory // of which I was cruelly stripped bare.

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!

THE EPISTLE

The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to Timothy (4:5-8).

My son Timothy, be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.

ALLELUIA IN TONE EIGHT

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

v. O God, be bountiful to us and bless us, show the light of Thy countenance upon us, and have mercy on us.

v. That we may know Thy way upon the earth, and Thy salvation among all the nations.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading of the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark (1:1-8).

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the Prophets: "Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, Who will prepare Your way before You. The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the LORD; make His paths straight.'" John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. Then all the land of Judea, and those from Jerusalem, went out to him and were all baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair and with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, "There comes One after me who is mightier than I, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to stoop down and loose. I indeed baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

COMMUNION HYMNS

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

SAINTS COMMEMORATED TODAY

Commemorated on January 5th: Hieromartyr Theopemptus, Bishop of Nicomedia, and Martyr Theonas; St. Syncretica of Alexandria; Prophet Micah; St. Apollinaria of Egypt; Hieromartyr Telesphorus, Pope of Rome; St. Emiliana of Rome (aunt of St. Gregory the Dialogist, Pope of Rome); St. Phostorius the Hermit; St. Menas of Sinai; St. Gregory of Crete; St. Ciara, Abbess in Ireland; St. Gaudentius, first Archbishop of Gnesen; New Monk-martyr Romanus of Constantinople.

TODAY'S PARASTAS

Parastas in memory of Pelagia Szewczyk, offered by the Suchowacki Family.

TODAY'S SPECIAL OFFERINGS

St. Nicholas' Cross offered by offered by Helen Wanko in memory of Gregory Grudinoff (anniversary of birth).

UPCOMING SERVICES

5:00 PM (Sunday) – Vigil w. Lity [*Holy Theophany*]

9:30 AM (Monday) – Divine Liturgy w. Great Blessing of Water [*Holy Theophany*]

5:00 PM (Saturday) – Great Vespers

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

PARISH & LOCAL NEWS

- (1) 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, 2025 to February 9, 2025. Please make sure that items donated are not past the expiration date, and thank you for co-operating in this project!
- (2) Fr. Sophrony will bless homes on January 11-12, 2025. A sign-up sheet for house blessings is in the church vestibule – please sign up, or call the Rectory at 201-436-3244, by January 6, 2025.
- (3) The 2025 church wall calendars are now available.
- (4) The parish council is meeting in the church hall on Sunday, January 19, 2025 after Divine Liturgy.

Remember to support the parish every time you shop!



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