



## 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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### **MAY 7, 2023 / 4TH SUNDAY OF PASCHA (TONE 3)**

#### PASCHAL VERSES

*Priest:* Blessed is the kingdom ...

*Choir:* Amen.

*Priest:* Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!  
(2½x)

*Choir:* And upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

*Great Litany*

#### 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 ST. ALEXIS IN TONE FOUR

O righteous Father Alexis, / our heavenly intercessor and teacher, / divine adornment of the Church of Christ, / entreat the Master of All / to strengthen the Orthodox Faith in America, / to grant peace to the world // and to our souls great mercy!

- *Do not sing the troparion of Apostles Peter and 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 FROM PENTECOSTARION IN TONE THREE

By Thy divine intercession, O Lord, / as Thou didst raise up the Paralytic of old, / so raise up my soul, paralyzed by sins and thoughtless acts; / so that being saved I may sing to Thee: // “Glory to Thy power, O compassionate Christ!”

#### PROKEIMENON IN TONE ONE

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us as we have set our hope on Thee!

*v. Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous! Praise befits the just!*

**The Prokeimenon in Tone Seven:** The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord and shall hope in Him.

#### THE EPISTLE

##### **The Reading from the Acts of the Holy Apostles (9:32-42)**

In those days, Peter traveled everywhere, and on one occasion he went to visit God's people who lived in Lydda. There he met a man named Aeneas, who was paralyzed and had not been able to get out of bed for eight years. “Aeneas,” Peter said to him, “Jesus Christ makes you well. Get up and make your bed.” At once Aeneas

got up. All the people living in Lydda and Sharon saw him, and they turned to the Lord. In Joppa there was a woman named Tabitha, who was a believer. (Her name in Greek is Dorcas, meaning “a deer.”) She spent all her time doing good and helping the poor. At that time she got sick and died. Her body was washed and laid in a room upstairs. Joppa was not very far from Lydda, and when the believers in Joppa heard that Peter was in Lydda, they sent two men to him with the message, “Please hurry and come to us.” So Peter got ready and went with them. When he arrived, he was taken to the room upstairs, where all the widows crowded around him, crying and showing him all the shirts and coats that Dorcas had made while she was alive. Peter put them all out of the room, and knelt down and prayed; then he turned to the body and said, “Tabitha, get up!” She opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter, she sat up. Peter reached over and helped her get up. Then he called all the believers, including the widows, and presented her alive to them. The news about this spread all over Joppa, and many people believed in the Lord.

### **The Reading is from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians (1:11-19)**

Brethren, I make known to you that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former conduct in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God beyond measure and tried to destroy it. And I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries in my own nation, being more exceedingly zealous for the traditions of my fathers. But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother’s womb and called me through His grace, to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me; but I went to Arabia, and returned again to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James, the Lord’s brother.

### ALLELUIA IN TONE FIVE

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*v. I will sing of Thy mercies, O Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim Thy truth from generation to generation.*

*v. For Thou hast said: Mercy will be established forever; Thy truth will be prepared in the heavens.*

*v. Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who greatly delights in His commandments.*

### THE GOSPEL

#### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John (5:1-15)**

Jesus went to Jerusalem for a religious festival. Near the Sheep Gate in Jerusalem there is a pool with five porches; in Hebrew it is called Bethesda. A large crowd of sick people were lying on the porches—the blind, the lame, and the paralyzed. For an angel went down at a certain season into the pool, and troubled the water: whosoever then first after the troubling of the water stepped in was made whole of whatsoever disease he had. A man was there who had been sick for thirty-eight years. Jesus saw him lying there, and he knew that the man had been sick for such a long time; so he asked him, “Do you want to get well?” The sick man answered, “Sir, I don’t have anyone here to put me in the pool when the water is stirred up; while I am trying to get in, somebody else gets there first.” Jesus said to him, “Get up, pick up your mat, and walk.” Immediately the man got well; he picked up his mat and started walking. The day this happened was a Sabbath, so the Jewish authorities told the man who had been healed, “This is a Sabbath, and it is against our Law for you to carry your mat.” He answered, “The man who made me well told me to pick up my mat and walk.” They asked him, “Who is the man who told you to do this?” But the man who had been healed did not know who Jesus was, for there was a crowd in that place, and Jesus had slipped away. Afterward, Jesus found him in the Temple and said, “Listen, you are well now; so stop sinning or something worse may happen to you.” Then the man left and told the Jewish authorities that it was Jesus who had healed him.

#### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John (10:1-9)**

Most assuredly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the

doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. Yet they will by no means follow a stranger, but will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.” Jesus used this illustration, but they did not understand the things which He spoke to them. Then Jesus said to them again, “Most assuredly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who ever came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.

#### FESTAL MEGALYNARION IN TONE FOUR

*[Instead of “It is truly meet...,” we sing the following]*

*Refrain:* The angel cried unto the Lady that is full of grace: / Rejoice, O pure Virgin! And again, I say, rejoice! / For thy Son is risen from the grave on the third day, // and has raised the dead, O ye people, be joyful!

*Heirmos:* Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem, / for the glory of the Lord hath arisen upon thee; / dance now and be glad, O Zion, / and do thou exult, O pure Theotokos, // in the arising of Him Whom thou didst bear

#### COMMUNION HYMN

Receive the Body of Christ; taste the fountain of immortality! The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance! He shall not fear evil tidings! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

#### AT COMMUNION TO DISMISSAL

*Priest:* “In the fear of God...”

*Choir:* “Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord... “

*Priest:* “O God, save Thy people... “

*Choir:* “Christ is risen from the dead... “*(sung once, instead of “We have seen the True Light...)*

*Priest:* “Always, now and ever...”

*Choir:* “Let our mouths be filled...”

*At the Dismissal, the Priest says: “Glory to Thee, O Christ...” and the choir sings “Christ is risen from the dead...” (thrice). Priest reads the Dismissal.*

*Priest:* “Through the prayers ...”

*Choir:* And unto us He has given eternal life. Let us worship His Resurrection on the third day!

#### UPCOMING SERVICES

5:00 PM (Saturday) – Great Vespers

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

#### TODAY’S SAINTS

Saints commemorated on May 7th: St. Alexis the Confessor, of Wilkes-Barre; Martyr Acacius the Centurion, of Byzantium; St. Nilus, Abbot of Sora; St. Nilus the Myrrh-gusher, of Great Lavra of Mount Athos; Martyr Juvenal of Benevento; St. John of Beverley, Bishop of York; St. Peter, Bishop of Pavia; Commemoration of the Apparition of the Sign of the Precious Cross Over Jerusalem, in AD 351.

(1) Today’s Pasta & Meatball Dinner is at 11:30 PM in the church hall.

(2) The Parish Council is meeting in the church hall after Divine Liturgy on Sunday, May 21, 2023.

(3) Our parish is returning to normal administration of Holy Communion with a single spoon on Memorial Day weekend. This advance notice is being given so that parishioners who have not yet received the bivalent booster shot, which is the best way to protect yourself and those around you, may do so before then. Be assured that in the event there should be a major COVID surge in our area, we are prepared to temporarily reinstate the use of multiple spoons.

(4) The offering envelope for Ascension Thursday was inadvertently omitted in this year's envelopes packets. This will be corrected next year, but for this year, place your offering in a plain envelope marked "Ascension."

(5) The Diocesan Young Adult Retreat is being held on Friday-Sunday, May 19-21, 2023, at St. Andrew's Camp, Jewell, New York. To register, visit the webpage at [https://nynjoca.org/news\\_230320\\_1.html](https://nynjoca.org/news_230320_1.html) and click on the words, **CLICK HERE TO REGISTER**. A flyer is posted on the bulletin board in the church vestibule.

**Christ is Risen! Indeed, He is Risen!  
Христос воскрес! Воистину воскрес!**

*"Morality is not the doctrine of how we may make ourselves happy, but of how we may make ourselves worthy of happiness"*  
— Immanuel Kant (1724-1804)

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



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