

Saints Peter & Paul Orthodox Catholic Church

(a parish of the Autocephalous Orthodox Church in America)

98 West 28th Street, Bayonne, New Jersey 07002

Parish Website: www.saintspeterandpaulbayonne.org

Rector: Very Rev. W. Sophrony Royer, Ph.D. (201) 436-3244

March 8, 2015 – 1st Sunday of Lent / Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas, Archbishop of Thessalonica (Tone 6)

Today's Saints

St. Theophylactus the Confessor, Bishop of Nicomedia; Apostle Hermas (of the Seventy); Hieromartyr Theodoretus of Antioch; Ss. Lazarus & Athanasius of Murom

Today's Services

6:00 PM (Saturday) – Great Vespers

9:30 AM (Sunday) – Divine Liturgy

After Liturgy – Parastas in memory of Rt. Rev. Bishop John (Legky), offered by Fr. Sophrony Royer

Today's Liturgy Readings

Epistle: Hebrews 1:10-2:3, Hebrews 7:26-8:2 (See Bulletin Insert for Readings)

Gospel: Mark 2:1-12, John 10:9-16 (See Bulletin Insert for Readings)

Today's Special Offerings

Sanctuary Lamp offered by Fr. Sophrony Royer in memory of Rt. Rev. Bishop John of Buenos Aires (20th anniversary of repose); **Triple Candelabra** offered by Eva Benda in memory of Stephanie Economides (40th day after repose); **St. John's Cross** offered by Mary Macinsky in memory of Kathryn Yendrey (anniversary of birth).

Announcements & Events

Lenten Vespers: Today's Lenten Vespers is at **4:00 PM** at St. Gregory Palamas Church, 5 Church St., Glen Gardner, N.J. Homilist: Rt. Rev. Bishop Michael. The schedule of the N.J. Deanery (North)'s Lenten Vespers for the following four Sundays is posted on the church bulletin board.

Area Events: There are two Lenten retreats, in Paramus and South Plainfield, on March 14th and March 21st, respectively. There is also a dinner with a presentation on the Shroud of Turin in Bergenfield on March 15th. See flyers for these events on the church bulletin board.

Upcoming Services

March 9-13, 2015 (Third Week of Lent)

6:30 PM (Wednesday) – Liturgy of Pre-Sanctified Gifts

6:00 PM (Friday) – Akathistos to the Divine Passion & General Parastas

March 14-15, 2015 (Next Weekend)

6:00 PM (Saturday) – Great Vespers

9:30 AM (Sunday) – Divine Liturgy

Divine Liturgy Variables on Sunday, March 08, 2015

Tone 6 / Second Sunday of Great Lent

Commemoration of St. Gregory Palamas, Archbishop of Thessalonica

St. Theophylactus the Confessor, Bishop of Nicomedia; Apostle Hermas of the Seventy;
Hieromartyr Theodoretus of Antioch; Ss. Lazarus & Athanasius of Murom

****DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. BASIL THE GREAT****

RESURRECTIONAL TROPARION IN TONE SIX

When Mary stood at Thy grave, looking for Thy sacred body, angelic powers shone above Thy revered tomb; and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world, O Thou, Who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee.

TROPARION FOR ST. GREGORY PALAMAS IN TONE EIGHT

O Star of Orthodoxy, support of the Church and its teacher, O comeliness of ascetics, and incontestable champion of those who speak in theology, Gregory the wonder-worker, the pride of Thessalonica and preacher of grace, implore thou constantly for the salvation of our souls.

- *Now sing the Troparion of Ss. 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 FROM THE TRIODION IN TONE FOUR

Now is the time for action! Judgment is at the doors! So let us rise and fast, offering alms with tears of compunction and crying: Our sins are more in number than the sands of the sea; but forgive us, O Master of all, so that we may receive the incorruptible crowns!

PROKEIMENON IN TONE FIVE

Thou, O Lord, shalt protect us and preserve us from this generation forever.
v. Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any that is godly.

Second Prokeimenon in Tone One: My mouth shall speak wisdom, the meditation of my heart shall be understanding.

THE EPISTLE

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (1:10-2:3)

“In the beginning, Thou, O Lord, didst found the earth, and the heavens are the work of Thy hands; they will perish, but Thou remainest; they will all grow old like a garment, like a mantle Thou wilt roll them up, and they will be changed. But Thou art the same, and Thy years will never end.” But to what angel has He ever said, “Sit at My right hand, until I make Thine enemies a stool for thy feet”? Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to serve, for the sake of those who are to obtain salvation? Therefore, we must pay closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. For if the message, declared by angels, was valid and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard Him.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews (7:26-8:2)

For such a High Priest was fitting for us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and has become higher than the heavens; who does not need daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for His own sins and then for the people’s, for this He did once for all when He offered up Himself. For the law appoints as high priests men who have weakness, but the word of the oath, which came after the law, appoints the Son who has been perfected forever. Now this is the main point of the things we are saying: We have such a High Priest, who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, a Minister of the sanctuary and of the true tabernacle which the Lord erected, and not man.

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. The mouth of the righteous shall meditate wisdom, and his tongue shall speak of judgment.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark. (2:1-12)

At that time, when Jesus returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that He was at home. And many were gathered together, so that there was no longer room for them, not even about the door; and He was preaching the Word to them. And they came, bringing to Jesus a paralytic carried by four men. And when they could not get near Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above Him; and when they had made an opening, they let down the pallet on which the paralytic lay. And when Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven." Now, some of the scribes were sitting there, reasoning in their hearts, "Why does this man speak thus? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" And immediately Jesus, perceiving in His spirit that they thus reasoned within themselves, said to them, "Why do you reason thus in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise, take up your pallet and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins" – He said to the paralytic – "I say to you, rise, take up your pallet and go home." And he rose, and immediately took up the pallet and went out before them all. So that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!"

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John (10:9-16)

I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. But a hireling, he who is not the shepherd, one who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf catches the sheep and scatters them. The hireling flees because he is a hireling and does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own. As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear my voice; and there will be one flock and one shepherd.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest! The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. He shall not fear evil tidings. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!