

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

September 20, 2015 – 16th Sunday After Pentecost (Tone 7) Afterfeast of the Universal Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Today's Saints

Great-martyr Eustathius and his family: Martyrs Theopiste, Agapius, and Theopistus; Martyr Michael the Confessor, Prince of Chernigov, and his councilor, Martyr Theodore; St. Oleg, Prince of Briansk

Today's Divine Services

6:00 PM (Saturday) – Great Vespers & General Confession

9:30 AM (Sunday) – Divine Liturgy

Today's Liturgy Readings

Epistle: Galatians 2:16-20 & 2 Corinthians 6:1-10 (see Bulletin Insert for Readings)

Gospel: Mark 8:34-9:1 & Matthew 25: 14-30 (see Bulletin Insert for Readings)

Today's Special Offerings

Seven-day Altar Vigils offered by John and Helen Wanko in memory of Mary Grudinoff (anniversary of repose). **Sanctuary Lamp** offered by John and Helen Wanko in memory of Mary Grudinoff (anniversary of birth).

Announcements & Events

Parish Events: Our parish's Slavic Oktoberfest is Sunday, October 25, 2015 at 11:30 AM. Tickets are \$30 per person (advance purchase only). For tickets and information, contact Stephen Wasilewski at (201) 960-4352 or stephen12375@aol.com, or Marge Kovach at (732) 815-9765 or mjkovach@aol.com. Checks should be payable to "Ss. Peter and Paul R.O.G.C. Church." Condolences to the Benda Family on the recent repose of Theodore Benda on August 29, 2015. Memory Eternal!

"R" Club: Our parish's "R" Club will have its annual flea market on two consecutive Saturdays, October 10th and 17th. The doors will open at 10:00 AM. The efforts of all volunteers and donors in this project will be greatly appreciated.

Carpathian Club: The club's annual picnic is today from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Tickets are \$20 (at the door).

Upcoming Services

September 26-27, 2015 (Next Weekend)

6:00 PM (Saturday) – Great Vespers

9:30 AM (Sunday) – Divine Liturgy

Divine Liturgy Variables on Sunday, September 20, 2015

Tone 7 / Sunday after the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Great-martyr Eustathius and his family: Martyrs Theopiste, Agapius, and Theopistus; Martyr Michael the Confessor, Prince of Chernigov, and his councilor, Martyr Theodore; St. Oleg, Prince of Briansk

RESURRECTIONAL TROPARION IN TONE SEVEN

Thou didst shatter death by Thy Cross, Thou didst open paradise to the thief; Thou didst turn the sadness of the ointment-bearing women into joy. And didst bid Thine Apostles proclaim a warning, that Thou hast risen O Christ, granting to the world the Great Mercy.

TROPARION OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS IN TONE ONE

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance, grant victory to the Orthodox Christians over their adversaries, and by the power of Thy Cross, preserve Thine habitation.

TROPARION OF ST. EUSTATHIUS AND HIS FAMILY IN TONE FOUR

Thy Martyrs, O Lord, in their courageous contest for Thee * received as the prize the crowns of incorruption and life from Thee, our immortal God. * For since they possessed Thy strength, they cast down the tyrants * and wholly destroyed the demons' powerless presumption. * O Christ God, by their prayers, save our souls, since Thou art merciful.

- *Now sing the troparion of Ss. Peter & Paul*
- *Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit*

RESURRECTIONAL KONTAKION IN TONE SEVEN

The dominion of death can no longer hold mankind captive, for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers. Hell is bound, while the Prophets rejoice and cry: "The Savior has come to those in faith; enter, ye faithful, into the Resurrection!

- *Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

KONTAKION OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS IN TONE FOUR

Do Thou, Who of Thine own good will upon the Cross was lifted up * granting mercy to those who are called by Thy Name, O Christ our God * make glad all Orthodox Christians by Thy power * by bestowing on them the invincible trophy, Thy weapon of peace.

PROKEIMENON IN TONE SEVEN

The Lord shall give strength to His people. The Lord shall bless His people with peace.

v. Ascribe to the Lord, O sons of God, ascribe to the Lord honor and glory.

Prokeimenon in Tone Seven: *Extol the Lord our God; worship at His footstool, for He is holy.*

THE EPISTLE

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians. (2:16-20)

Brethren, you know that a man is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ. Even we have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the law, because by works of the law shall no one be justified. But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were found to be sinners, is Christ then an agent of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again those things which I tore down, then I prove myself a transgressor. For I through the Law died to the Law, that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ Who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, Who loved me and gave Himself for me.

The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (6:1-10)

We then, as workers together with Him also plead with you not to receive the grace of God in vain. For He says: “In an acceptable time I have heard you. And in the day of salvation I have helped you.” Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We give no offense in anything, that our ministry may not be blamed. But in all things we commend ourselves as ministers of God: in much patience, in tribulations, in needs, in distresses, in stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labors, in sleeplessness, in fastings; by purity, by knowledge, by long-suffering, by kindness, by the Holy Spirit, by sincere love, by the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left, by honor and dishonor, by evil report and good report; as deceivers, and yet true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as chastened, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.

ALLELUIA IN TONE SEVEN

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

v. It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Thy Name, O Most High.

v. To declare Thy mercy in the morning, and Thy truth by night.

v. Remember Thy congregation, which Thou hast purchased on old!

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark. (8:34-9:1)

The Lord said, “If any man would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for My sake and the Gospel’s will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? For what can a man give in return for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and of My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels.” And He said to them,

“Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Kingdom of God come with power.”

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (24:14-30)

For the kingdom of heaven is like a man traveling into a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his good to them. And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey. Then he who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents. And likewise he who had received two gained two more also. But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord’s money. After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them. So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, ‘Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.’ His lord said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.’ He also who had received two talents came and said, ‘Lord, you delivered to me two talents; look I have gained two more talents besides them.’ His lord said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.’ Then he who had received the one talent came and said, ‘Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed. And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours.’ But his lord answered and said to him, ‘You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed. So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest. Therefore take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents. For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

** Instead of “It is Truly Meet,” we sing the festal megalynarion:*

Magnify, O my soul, the most precious Cross of the Lord.

Thou art the mystical paradise, O Theotokos; for that thou, being untilled, didst bud forth Christ, by Whom was planted on earth the life-giving tree of the Cross. Wherefore, as we adore it being elevated, we magnify thee.

COMMUNION HYMN

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! The light of Thy countenance has been impressed on us, O Lord! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

** Instead of singing "We have seen the true light," sing the Troparion of the Holy Cross.*