



Ss. PETER AND PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH

A PARISH OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA, DIOCESE OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY

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February 14, 2010

SUNDAY OF CHEESEFARE

Forgiveness Sunday

The Expulsion of Adam from Paradise

- 9:30am – Divine Liturgy
Epistle: Rom. 13:11-14:4
Gospel: Matt. 6:14-21
- Panikhida in memory of newly departed June Bianchini – offered by Fr. Arkadi and Mat. Nella Mironko
- Church School
- Maslenitsa – Please come downstairs following Liturgy for a potluck dinner. There will also be pierogies available for purchase.
- 1:00pm – Forgiveness Vespers

Schedule of Services

Monday, February 15

6:00pm – Great Canon of St Andrew of Crete – part 1.

Tuesday, February 16

6:00pm – Great Canon of St Andrew of Crete – part 2.

Wednesday, February 17

9:30am - Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts.
6:00pm – Great Canon of St Andrew of Crete – part 3.

Thursday, February 18

6:00pm – Great Canon of St Andrew of Crete – part 4.

Saturday, February 20

Greatmartyr Theodore the Recruit (of Tyro)

9:30am - Divine Liturgy.
6:00pm - Great Vespers

Sunday, February 21

1st Sunday of Great Lent - Sunday of Orthodoxy
9:30am - Divine Liturgy

Intercessory Prayer

THE LIVING:

Walter and Mary Milk, Stephen and Lillian Sokol, Benedict and Eva Benda, Theodore Rocca, Alexei, Nicholas, Frank, Michael and Elizabeth Zuber, Valentina Benda, Andrew Koch, Cindy Boswell, Olga DeMay, Helen Pirniak, Marianne Guagenti, Mikolaj, Avery, Sophie and Georgette Saba, Agnes and George Silberman, George Hook, Peter Mazula, Helen Pawlush, Antonina Rotko, Matilda Skripak, Evelyn Morely, Jaser and Gazie Nesheiwat, Anne Hueston, Cathryn Christensen, Walter Epps, David Smith

God grant you Many Years!

THE NEWLY DEPARTED:

Helen Cotrone, June Bianchini

THE DEPARTED:

Maryanne Benda, Anne Verona, Ann Fondak, Theodor Bacha, Margaret Dellabella, George Makara

Memory Eternal!

PREPARING FOR ILLUMINATION:

Matthew Galati

Birthday Greetings

Happy Birthday to Eva Benda who celebrated her Birthday on February 6th. God Bless you with good health and happiness for Many, Many, Many Years! Многая Лета!

Today's Memorial Offering

- *Sanctuary Lamp* – in memory of June Bianchini – by Carol Kotch & Family
- *St. John's Cross* – in memory of John Yendrey – Anniversary of Reose – by Yendrey Family
- *Triple Candelabra* – in memory of John, Pauline and Ludmila Prokopenko – by Irene Lawrence
- *Church Wine* – in memory of Juliana Bacsik
- *Church Bread* – in memory of Juliana Bacsik

Announcements

❖ There will be no Akathists or Adult Catechetical Classes on Wednesdays During Great Lent. Instead, we will have Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts served at 6:00pm every Wednesday.

❖ We also start Adult Enrichment Program during Great Lent, and it is open to everyone: On Wednesdays, after the Presanctified Liturgy, at about 7:30pm we will watch and discuss in our Church Hall parts of video book "Eastern Christianity: The Byzantine Tradition" - by Fr. Lawrence Cross. On Saturdays at 4:45pm we will also watch and discuss parts of video book "Heaven on Earth. Divine Liturgy: The Inner Meaning of the Eucharist" - by Metropolitan Kallistos (Ware).

❖ Bishop-Elect Michael (Dahulich) will be consecrated to the episcopacy on Saturday, May 8, 2010. As part of the celebration, a banquet meal will take place the afternoon of Saturday, May 8 at the Casino-in-the-Park Restaurant in Jersey City. Tickets are \$75 per person, children 8 and under - \$25. Seating is reserved in tables of eight. Please sign up at the candle desk or call rectory for reservations. Deadline is March 21.

As Great Lent begins on February 15, we begin chanting and singing "The Great Canon of Saint Andrew of Crete" and continue each evening in church.

Saint Andrew took part in the Sixth Ecumenical Council at Constantinople in the year 680, and then served as Archdeacon at the Cathedral of Hagia Sophia in that city. Later he was consecrated as a bishop in the city of Gortineia, on the island of Crete. In addition to these important services to the Church, he wrote sermons, as well as some of the most famous hymns we have, many in praise of the Theotokos. The best-known of the hymns written by Andrew is the Canon with which we begin the season of preparation for Great and Holy Pascha.

The words of the Canon challenge us in several ways. First, they contain innumerable Biblical references which may not be familiar. We don't all have the broad knowledge of the Scriptures that a good number of Andrew's hearers in earlier centuries possessed. So when the Canon verse reads, "You, my soul, have revolted from the Lord like Dathan and Abiram" we may have to look up these two men in Chapter 16 of the Book of Numbers. There we will find that they rebelled against Moses and Aaron and asked them, "Why do you exalt yourselves above the congregation...Is it a small

thing that you have brought us up out of a land flowing with milk and honey; to kill us in the wilderness...?" Moses replies that it is God they are rebelling against, and Saint Andrew uses the incident as a warning to trust God and not be rebellious, "but with all your heart cry 'Spare!', that a yawning gulf of the earth may not swallow you."

The Canon also challenges us to follow Biblical examples. Saint Andrew writes, "The Shunammite woman of old with right good will entertained the righteous man. But you, my soul, have taken into your house neither stranger nor traveler." This offers us a good spiritual exercise: We can consider, with serious prayer, what it means for us to "take into our house" those whom God may send, and how we will go about it.

We're also challenged to be worthy of Christ's saving acts: "You laid down Your body and blood for all, O Crucified Word; Your body in order to renew me, Your blood in order to wash me, and You did surrender Your spirit, O Christ, in order to bring me to the Father...Eden that was closed is open; things on high and below, creation and all peoples are saved and worship You."

Great Lent is given to us as a time to work toward meeting these challenges. We can be assured that with God's help we are able to do so. Referring to Exodus 14:16 Saint Andrew writes: "Imagine Moses' staff striking the sea and fixing the deep as a type of the divine Cross, by which you too, my soul, can accomplish great things."