



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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Christ is Risen!

April 11, 2010

Antipascha

2nd Sunday of Pascha –
St. Thomas Sunday

9:30am – Divine Liturgy

Epistle: Acts 5:12-20

Gospel: John 20:19-31

- Fellowship – Please come downstairs following Liturgy for Coffee Hour, provided by Halina Harasim for the health of her daughter Karolina. Thank you!

Schedule of Services

Saturday, April 17

4:45pm – Adult Enrichment Program

6:00pm – Great Vespers

Sunday, April 18

9:30am – Divine Liturgy followed by Panikhida in memory of newly departed Julia Brelinsky – 40th day of Repose.

Visit us online at:

www.SsPeterAndPaulBayonne.org

If you have any information to be added into weekly bulletin, please send your info to Fr.IgorKsn@gmail.com

April 11 is Thomas Sunday, when we read the well-known story of the apostle Thomas' encounter with the risen Christ. But on this day we also read a passage that reveals the extraordinary spiritual growth of another apostle, Peter.

This passage, Acts 5:15, tells us that the Spirit-filled apostles were doing many signs and wonders among the people, in a part of the Temple in Jerusalem called Solomon's Portico. The leader in this exciting work was none other than Peter, once so afraid and craven that he denied knowing Christ. But now, people "carried out the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and pallets, so that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them."

Some might question the idea that Peter's shadow could have an effect. But Luke makes two other references to such healing power. One is in his Gospel, where we read (8:43-44) about the woman who has had flow of blood for twelve years. She comes up behind Jesus, obviously in fear and trembling, and touches the fringe of His garment. The flow of blood ceases at once. Far from rebuking her or criticizing what she has done, the Lord receives her humble declaration "in the presence of the people" that she has been healed of a terrible affliction by touching His clothing. He says, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace."

Luke also tells us, in Acts 19:11, that God "did extraordinary miracles by the hands of Paul." The apostle was so revered and trusted as a healer that people took handkerchiefs or aprons that had touched his body to the sick, and "diseases left them and the evil spirits came out of them."

Some people still have difficulty in understanding this working of God's grace through human beings. Visitors to an Orthodox Liturgy may express discomfort at seeing worshippers venerate the hem of the priest's garment. But the examples in Luke and Acts give us a good basis to explain what is going on. The same explanation could apply to kissing the hand of a priest and asking for a blessing; the grace that comes is only in God, but it comes through the hand of His ordained servant.

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, 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

May God grant you Many Years!

THE NEWLY DEPARTED:

Agnes Silberman, Julia Brelinsky, Helen Cotrone, June Bianchini

THE DEPARTED:

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

Memory Eternal!

Peter's new courage as he and the apostles worked among the people would soon be needed, as today's passage from Acts reveals. The jealous Sadducees arrested and imprisoned him and the others. They were rescued and released by an angel, but their release didn't mean that they could go home and relax. The angel gave specific instructions: "Go and stand in the Temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life." The apostles were to return to the very place where opposition to their message was strongest and most concentrated, and were to continue delivering that message.

It was not an easy assignment, but they carried it out admirably, creating the foundation of the Church to which we can now belong.



Today's Memorial Offering

- Sanctuary Lamp – in memory of Andrew Wanko – Anniversary of Birth – by John & Helen Wanko
- St. John's Cross – in memory of Mary Ann Yendrey – Anniversary of Repose – by Yendrey Family



Announcements

❖ Next Saturday, April 17th we will continue with our Adult Enrichment Program. At 4:45pm in our Church Hall we will watch and discuss first part of video book "Eastern Christianity: The Byzantine Tradition", in which Dr. Joseph Leach and Archpriest Lawrence Cross provide a comprehensive yet easy to understand explanation of the Byzantine Christian Churches, their history and traditions. Everyone is invited. Please, spread the word and bring your non-Orthodox friends!

❖ Coffee Hour Sponsors are needed. Have it in memory or in health of your loved ones. Please sign-up at the candle desk. Upcoming Coffee Hours: May 2nd – provided by Bianchini & Wanko Families – in memory of newly departed June Bianchini; May 23rd – provided by Chris Bygonaise.

❖ If you would like fr. Igor to bless the graves of your departed relatives, please sign-up at the candle desk or call rectory.

❖ Available at the candle desk are memorial candles, Altar wine and bread to be sponsored in prayerful intentions of your loved-ones.

❖ A&P Shopping Cards available today. Ask at the candle-stand. Participate and help us raise funds at NO COST to you.

MEMORY ETERNAL

to newly departed Archbishop Miron (Chodakowski) – Orthodox Ordinary of the Polish Army, all Orthodox members of Polish delegation and all victims departed in a plane crash near Smolensk in Russia.