



# Ss. PETER AND PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH

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

98 West 28<sup>th</sup> Street, Bayonne, NJ 07002

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## October 31, 2010

**23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
Hieromartyr Archpriest John Kochurov

- 9:10am – Reading of Hours
- 9:30am – Divine Liturgy  
Epistles: Eph. 2:4-10; Heb. 13:7-16  
Gospels: Lk. 8:26-39; 12:32-40
- Church School

### Schedule of Services

**Saturday, November 6**

6:00pm – Great Vespers and Confessions

**Sunday, November 7**

9:00am – General Confession

9:30am – Divine Liturgy \*

**\*Please, note: if you don't change your clock the night before, Divine Liturgy for you will start at 10:30am.**

**Visit us online at:**

[www.SsPeterAndPaulBayonne.org](http://www.SsPeterAndPaulBayonne.org)

### Like a Thief in the Night

Most of us are familiar with the prayer, "The Father is my hope, the Son is my refuge, the Holy Spirit is my protection." On November 4th we remember Saint Joannicius, who created the prayer as a refrain after singing Psalm verses.

Born into extreme poverty in a Bithynian village in the year 752, Joannicius had to spend much of his youth tending and guarding the family's only valuable possession: their herd of cattle. But from the time he was very young he had a strong desire to pray in solitude, and seems to have been blessed to do so. Often he would make the sign of the cross over the herd and retreat for hours to a secluded place to pray. Never once were the cattle bothered by predators; not one animal was ever stolen or found far from the rest, having wandered off.

Like many other young men of his time, Joannicius was drafted into the Emperor's army. Husky and strong, he proved to be a valiant soldier despite his love of solitude and peace, and served for several years. But even though he was well-liked and was respected for his courage, he longed for the life of quiet prayer he had always loved. After leaving military service, he went to a monastery near Mount Olympus and became practiced in the monastic way of living. Finally he went to a more secluded place in the wilderness, and after many years spent alone and in great spiritual effort, he was tonsured a monk.

But Saint Joannicius did not ignore, or retreat from, the troubles of the Church. Living as he did during the turbulent iconoclastic controversy, he at first supported those who denied that icons should be honored. But once he saw that the Church's Tradition includes reverence toward the holy images, he humbly admitted that he had been wrong. He became a champion of icon veneration.

During his years of ascetical labors, Joannicius was

### Intercessory Prayer

#### THE LIVING:

Benedict and Eva Benda, Valentina Benda, Cathryn Christensen, Olga DeMay, Marianne Guagenti, George Hook, Andrew Koch, Peter Mazula, Walter and Mary Milk, Helen Pawlush, Helen Pirniak, Antonina Rotko, Matilda Skripak, Stephen and Lillian Sokol, Elizabeth Zuber.

*May God grant you Many Years!*

#### THE NEWLY DEPARTED:

Steven Petronko, Agnes Silberman, Julia Brelinsky, Helen Cotrone, June Bianchini.

#### THE DEPARTED:

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

*granted many spiritual gifts. He was a wonderworker who healed many people, foretold events, and was able to tame wild beasts. Sources tell us that he could make himself invisible to people if by doing so he could help someone in need. Once he led a group of captives out of prison right in front of their guards.*

*On this day we read I Thessalonians 5: 1-8. In this passage Saint Paul assures believers that the Lord will come again, and that they will be with Him forever. But he also tells them that they have no need to know the "times and the seasons" of the Lord's coming. It is noteworthy that Joannicius, blessed with so many insights, never speculated about the specific time when Jesus Christ would come again. For him it was enough to know that the Lord will, in Paul's words, come "like a thief in the night." There is nothing in that to fear because we "belong to the day" and are destined by God not for wrath, but for salvation.*



### Announcements

❖ **Mark your calendars!** We are pleased to announce that His Grace Bishop Michael will visit our parish on the Thanksgiving weekend of **November 27 & 28**. His Grace will attend Great Vespers on Saturday, November 27, and will serve Hierarchical Divine Liturgy on Sunday, November 28. Please save these dates and plan to attend on both days.

❖ New carpet was successfully installed in our Church last week. As a result, about \$5,500 was deducted from our banking account. We really appreciate your support (more than \$400 was donated for this project) and continue to ask you to please make your contributions toward the renovation and beautification of our spiritual home. Thank you.

❖ 59th New Jersey District FOCA Convention & Banquet invites you to attend. Saturday, November 6, 2010 – Glen Gardner, NJ. For more information please see a flyer posted at the bulletin board.

❖ St. Mary's A.C.R.Y. Chapter #36 is holding their Annual Luncheon & Card Party on Sunday, November 14, 2010 at St. Mary's Orthodox Church (89 West 29<sup>th</sup> St.) Tickets are available at the candle desk. For more information please see a flyer posted in the narthex.

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

### Welcome Visitors

We welcome all visitors to our Divine Liturgy. It is our joy to have you with us today. If this is your first visit to our parish, we welcome you and invite you to return as often as you are able.

While Holy Communion may only be received by prepared Orthodox Christians, our non-Orthodox guests are welcome to join us in venerating the Cross and receiving blessed bread at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy.