



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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December 5, 2010

28th Sunday after Pentecost
Ven. Sabbas the Sanctified

- 9:00am – General Confession, Hours
- 9:25am – Churching of newly Baptized Daniel Chaichyts
- 9:30am – Divine Liturgy
Epistle: Col. 1:12-18
Gospel: Luke 17:12-19
- Annual Parish Meeting – Please attend this meeting, your presence is necessary
- 6:00pm – Great Vespers with Litya

Schedule of Services

MONDAY, DECEMBER 6TH –

Feast of St. Nicholas

9:30am - Divine Liturgy

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8TH

7:00pm - Adult Enrichment Lecture Series 5

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11TH

6:00pm - Great Vespers & Confessions

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12TH

9:10am – Third and Sixth Hour,

Private Confessions

9:30am – Divine Liturgy

A Heartfelt Thank You

To all of you who have helped out in any possible way to make the visit of our beloved Bishop Michael last weekend a wonderful celebration of our spiritual family. Our sincere prayers are with newly tonsured Readers – Stephen Wasilewski and Christopher Bygonaise. May God bless and keep all of you in His loving care for many blessed years! *[Pictures from this event are posted on our parish website].*

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We fast before the Great Feast of the Nativity in order to prepare ourselves for the celebration of Our Lord's birth. As in the case of Great Lent, the Nativity Fast is one of preparation, during which we focus on the coming of the Savior by fasting, prayer, and almsgiving.

By fasting, we "shift our focus" from ourselves to others, spending less time worrying about what to eat, when to eat, how much to eat, and so on in order to use our time in increased prayer and caring for the poor.

Abstaining from meat, dairy, eggs, and on Wednesdays and Fridays from fish and oil [after the Feast of St. Nicolas on December 6th fish is allowed only on Saturdays and Sundays], helps us to refrain from sin, from gossip, from jealousy, from anger, and from those other things which sometimes control us.

However, when we speak of fasting and fasting rules in the Church, it is essential to bear in mind that *"you are not under the law but under grace" (Rom. 6:14)*, and that *"the letter kills, but the spirit gives life" (2 Cor. 3:6)*. The rules of fasting, while they need to be taken seriously, are not to be interpreted with severe and pedantic legalism; *"for the kingdom of God is not food and drink, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit" (Rom. 14:17)*.

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.

THE DEPARTED:

Helen Cotrone, June Bianchini, Maryanne Benda, Anne Verona, Ann Fondak, Theodor Bacha, Margaret Dellabella, George Makara.

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, receiving blessed bread at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy and for fellowship in our Church Hall after the service.

❖ **Adult Enrichment Lectures Series** will continue for three more **Wednesdays – December 8th, 15th, and 22nd**. This Nativity Fast we watch and discuss in our Church Hall seven talks by Fr. Maximos Davies entitled: **"Eastern Fathers on Involuntary Sin"**. In this series, Fr. Maximos gives an in-depth discussion of sin, particularly involuntary sin, as viewed by the Eastern Church Fathers. Themes for the last three lectures: *St. John of Damascus; Practical Applications; Specific Involuntary Sins*. Lectures begin at **7:00pm**. Everyone is welcome to participate. See you then!

Today's Memorial Offering



• **Sanctuary Lamp** – in memory of Lydia Wanko's Anniversary of Birth – by John and Helen Wanko.

• **St. John's Cross** – in memory of my brother John Padla on his 1st Anniversary of Repose – by Terry Cimboric.

• **Candles on the Altar** – in memory of my brother John Padla on his 1st Anniversary of Repose – by Terry Cimboric.



Announcements

❖ During this **Nativity Fast**, each member of our parish community is supposed to prayerfully prepare for the Feast of Nativity of Our Lord on December, 25th by having a heartfelt **private Confession** and partaking of the Holy Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ – Holy Communion. This is the most perfect way to prepare and celebrate the Nativity of Christ. General Confession though, **is not and should not be a substitute for a private Confession**.

❖ **Today** – NJ District FOCA is having their annual St. Andrew/St. Nicholas Vespers at St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church in Little Falls, NJ. Information on this event is posted on our bulletin board.

❖ **Monday, December 6** – Free Seniors Day at the Rubin Museum of Art (150 West 17th Street, New York, NY). Current exhibition is: "Icons in Eastern Orthodox Christianity". For more information see a flyer posted at the candle desk.

❖ **Sunday, December 12 @ 5pm** – "The Spirit of Orthodoxy" Choir will perform "Hymns of the Season" concert at St. Andrew's Greek Orthodox Church in Randolph, NJ. For more information see a flyer posted at the candle desk.