



# 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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## August 14, 2011

9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost.

### Afterfeast of the Transfiguration

- 8:40am – Hours
- 9:00am – Divine Liturgy  
Epistle: 1 Cor. 3:9-17  
Gospel: Matt. 14:22-34
- Panikhida – in memory of Matilda Skripak, on the 40<sup>th</sup> day of her Repose, offered by John Skripak and Barbara Hasse.
- 6:00pm – Great Vespers with Litya & blessing of flowers and herbs.

### Schedule of Services

MONDAY, AUGUST 15 – DORMITION

OF THE MOST-HOLY THEOTOKOS

9:00am – Divine Liturgy & blessing of flowers and herbs.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 20 – ARCHPASTORAL

VISITATION OF HIS GRACE BISHOP MICHAEL

6:00pm – Great Vespers

SUNDAY, AUGUST 21 – ARCHPASTORAL

VISITATION OF HIS GRACE BISHOP MICHAEL

8:40am – Greeting of Bishop Michael, Hours

9:00am – Hierarchical Divine Liturgy

## The Feast of the Dormition

of the Theotokos is celebrated each year on August 15th.

A hymn of the feast tells us that Mary, after dying as we all do, had the unique experience of being "translated to life by the One who dwelt in her virginal womb." Mary was taken to paradise by her Son. She immediately entered the eternal life that has been prepared for the future of everyone who follows her example of faithful obedience to God.

Having lived as a human being like us, the Mother of God now shows us the way to everlasting life with God. The festal hymns also tell us that as heaven receives her, the angels join the apostles in gazing at her with awe.

A different view of angels is depicted in a 1987 German movie entitled "Wings of Desire." The recently-deceased actor Peter Falk, probably best known as the TV detective Columbo, was featured in the movie. The movie seems to be making the point that a purely spiritual life, the life of angels, could never be as satisfying as human life with all its "real" problems and joys. But the Church is telling us something quite different in the Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos.

We will never be angels, and should refrain from telling children that a person who has died is now an angel; that is not the Church's teaching. Rather, we are called to life in its fullness. Having completed our life on earth, with all the pleasures the movie describes, we are offered the greater gift of eternal life with our Creator.

It's not for us to speculate that angels are dissatisfied with their lives. But we needn't be dissatisfied with ours. The Theotokos did what God asked her to do, as we all can. And for doing that she is called "more honorable than the cherubim and beyond compare more glorious than the seraphim"—the highest angels of all.

## Intercessory Prayer

### THE LIVING:

Benedict and Eva Benda, Valentina Benda, Cathryn Christensen, Olga DeMay, Marianne Guagenti, George Hook, Andrew Koch, Peter Mazula, Walter Milk, Helen Pirniak, Stephen & Lillian Sokol, Elizabeth Zuber, Joseph Korin.

May God grant you Many Years!

### THE DEPARTED:

n/d Matilda Skripak, n/d Andrew Bacsik, Helen Pawlush, Mary Milk, Antonina Rotko, Helen Cotrone, June Bianchini, Maryanne Benda, Anne Verona, Ann Fondak, Theodor Bacha, George Makara, Steven Petronko, Agnes Silberman.

Memory Eternal! Вечная Память!

## Birthday Greetings

to Lillian Sokol and to all who celebrate their birthdays in the month of August. May God grant you good health and happiness for Many, Many, Many Years! Mnogaya Leta!

## 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.

## Today's Memorial Offering



• *Sanctuary Lamp* – in memory of Joseph Cimboric, on the Anniversary of His Birth (Aug. 15) – by Terry Cimboric.

• *St. John's Cross* – in memory of Tatiana Korbelak, on 37th Anniversary of her Repose – offered by Elizabeth Zuber.

• *Candles on the Altar* – in honor of Zachary Lopen, on his Birthday (Aug. 17) – by Grandma Lopen.



## Announcements

❖ **Visitation of His Grace Bishop Michael** to our parish will take place next weekend - Sat. August 20, and Sun. August 21, 2011. On Saturday His Grace will attend Great Vespers at 6pm. On Sunday at 8:40am will be entrance, greeting, and vesting of His Grace. The Hierarchical Divine Liturgy will begin at 9:00am, followed by a Luncheon in the Church Hall. **All are encouraged to be present at 8:30am.** If you would like to participate in preparation of the Luncheon, please sign up at the candle desk.

❖ **Coffee Hour Sponsors are needed.** Have it in memory or in honor of your loved ones. Please sign-up at the candle desk.

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

## Vacation Planning

If you go away during summer on vacation trips, make sure to find an Orthodox Church near wherever you travel and attend the Divine Liturgy on Sunday and major Holy Days there. Our website will help you to find any orthodox Church in USA and Canada. You might be tired of hearing it, but it's important truth we should never forget – there is no vacation from God!