



# 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 28, 2011

11<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST.

*Uncovering of the Relics of Ven. Job, Abbot and Wonderworker of Pochaev.*

- 8:40am – Hours
- 9:00am – Divine Liturgy

Epistles: 1 Cor. 9:2-12

Gal. 5:22-6:2 (St. Job)

Gospels: Matt. 18:23-35

Lk. 6:17-23 (St. Job)

## Schedule of Services

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

6:00pm – Great Vespers and Confessions

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

8:30am – General Confession, Hours

9:00am – Divine Liturgy

Visit us online at:

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

If you have any information to be added into weekly bulletin, please send your info to [Fr.IgorKsn@gmail.com](mailto:Fr.IgorKsn@gmail.com)

## *Of Gods and Men*

Monks have faced persecution many times in the history of the Church. We know countless stories of monastic courage, unshakable faith and martyrdom from earlier centuries.

The 2010 movie "Of Gods and Men" is a story about modern monastics. They are eight French-born Cistercian Trappist monks, living and serving in an old abbey in Algeria. The monks are good neighbors to the surrounding Muslim populace, working side by side with them, attending their family celebrations, and offering them spiritual and emotional support. The abbot, Brother Christian, studies the Quran in an effort to understand their faith. Another monk, named Brother Luc, is a doctor and sees as many as 150 patients a day. He treats each one with love and respect even though he is exhausted, has limited supplies of medications, and worries that he cannot keep up with the latest advances in medicine.

The movie shows the monks' daily life, and much of it will be familiar to Orthodox viewers, especially if they have visited monasteries. The men chant psalms, come together for prayer at prescribed times, and eat meals in silence while one member reads from spiritual writings. They also keep bees and sell homemade honey at the local market.

But the serene life of the monastery is soon to be violently interrupted. The movie is set in the 1990's, when Algeria was being torn apart by civil war between Islamist revolutionaries and the government's forces. Atrocities have become commonplace, and the simple villagers living near the monastery are terrified. Foreigners are suspect; a group of Croatian day workers have had their throats slit by the revolutionary terrorists for no apparent reason.

Because the monks are natives of the country that colonized and, in the view of the terrorists, plundered Algeria, they are

## 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:

Matilda Skripak, Andrew Bacsik, Helen Pawlush, Mary Milk, Antonina Rotko, Helen Cotrone, June Bianchini, Maryanne Benda, Anne Verona, Agnes Silberman.

*Memory Eternal! Вечная Память!*

potential targets. The central theme of the movie becomes their agonizing decision about whether to leave for a safer place, or stay to continue their ministry and face possible death.

Their position becomes increasingly precarious and uncomfortable. When Brother Luc treats an injured revolutionary, the government army commander considers it an act of treason. His hostility is matched by that of the local governor, who keeps urging the monks to leave so that he will not have their blood on his hands and is bewildered and frustrated when they continue to refuse.

The movie has an element of suspense — will the revolutionaries invade the monastery?— but the climax is the monastic brothers' decision that they will follow the path of Christ's martyrdom and will stay where God has put them. Brother Christian writes to a friend that he looks forward, after death, to seeing God's "children of Islam" as God Himself sees them.

"Of Gods and Men" is based on a true event. A group of monks were abducted and beheaded by Algerian terrorists in 1996. The movie's end shows them as they must have been—fearful, but steadfast, walking laboriously up a hill followed by their captors, and disappearing into the mist.



## Announcements

❖ The Carpathian Club will hold its annual picnic on Sunday September 18, 2011 from 11am-3pm on the church grounds. The price of tickets is \$17 at the door and \$15 in advance. Please see Robert Pierce for tickets. Please note that Fr. Igor will do two guided tours to the Church during that time. If your friends that come to the picnic have never seen the Church inside – please make sure that they won't miss this opportunity.

❖ St Gregory Palamas parish in Glen Gardner, NJ is hosting a Tricky Tray on Sunday, September 30th. We need your support and a wonderful time will be guaranteed. We have the best perogies for sale in Hunterdon county! All homemade and they'll melt in your mouth. Make sure you call to place your orders. For more details please see a flyer at the bulletin board.

❖ 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.

## A Heartfelt Thank You

To all of you who have helped out in any possible way to make the visit of our beloved Vladika, Bishop Michael last weekend a wonderful celebration of our spiritual family. 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.