



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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September 25, 2011

15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST.

Rest of Ven. Sergius of Radonezh

- 9:10am –Hours
- 9:30am – Divine Liturgy
Epistle: 2 Cor. 4:6-15
Gospel: Luke 5:1-11
- Molieben for the beginning of the new Church School year
- Panikhida, followed by Coffee Hour – in memory of the departed members of the Guagenti and Kost families, offered by Marianne & Carmine Guagenti.

Schedule of Services

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1 - Protection (Pokrov) of the Most-Holy Theotokos
9:30am – Divine Liturgy
6:00pm – Great Vespers and Confessions

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2
9:00am – General Confession, Hours
9:30am – Divine Liturgy

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A Prophet in the Shadows

On September 28 we remember the Prophet Baruch. He was the stalwart friend and secretary of the much more prominent and often-quoted prophet Jeremiah.

It was no small thing to be Jeremiah's companion and scribe. Not only did Baruch laboriously write thousands of words of prophecy dictated by his master, he also read the words that Jeremiah had "spoken against Israel and Judah and all the nations" to the very people against whom he had spoken them.

The 36th chapter of the Book of Jeremiah says that Baruch wrote on a papyrus scroll the warnings Jeremiah heard from God, telling the people of Jerusalem and Judah to turn from their evil ways. Then, at Jeremiah's direction, he read the scroll publicly in the Temple at Jerusalem, facing the very people who were accused by God of wrongdoing.

A group of royal officials asked Baruch to read the scroll again, privately, to them. They asked him how he had come to write the words, and he replied that Jeremiah had dictated them. The danger Baruch and his master faced is made clear by the officials' instructions to Baruch: "Go and hide, you and Jeremiah, and let no one know where you are" (36:19).

The king, Jehoiakim, also wanted to hear what was in the scroll. Sitting by a fire, he had a courtier named Jehudi read it, column by column. As Jehudi finished reading a column, the king would cut it off with a penknife and throw it into the fire. Not only did Jehoiakim refuse to heed God's warnings, but Baruch had to write the whole scroll, with more words added, all over again.

The disobedience of the kings and people finally led to the fall of Jerusalem. In Jeremiah 39: 6-8 we read the grim results: "The king of Babylon slew the sons of Zedekiah [the king of Judah at that time]at Riblah before his eyes; and the king of

Intercessory Prayer

THE LIVING:

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

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.

Memory Eternal! Вечная Память!

Birthday Greetings

and warmest wishes to Andrea Bacsik, Tais Fedetz, and to all who celebrate their birthdays this week. May God grant you good health and happiness for Many, Many, Many Years! Mnogaya Leta!

Babylon slew all the nobles of Judah. He put out the eyes of Zedekiah and bound him in fetters to take him to Babylon. The Chaldeans burned the king's house and the house of the people, and broke down the walls of Jerusalem."

Baruch stood loyally by Jeremiah as the great prophet was imprisoned and persecuted. With Jeremiah, he grieved at the fall of Jerusalem. But we don't remember Baruch only as a witness to disheartening events. He also is a prophet, and in his writings we read: "This is our God; no other can be compared to him! He found the way to knowledge, and gave her to Jacob his servant and to Israel whom he loved. Afterward she appeared upon earth and lived among men" (Bar.3:35-37). The Church Fathers saw in this a prophecy of the coming of Christ.



Today's Memorial Offering

- *Sanctuary Lamp* – in memory of Mary Grudinoff, on the Anniversary of her Death – by John and Helen Wanko.



Announcements

❖ The Society of the Friends of St. Tikhon's will have their annual fundraiser – **Benefit Drawing** – on **Sun. Oct. 9, 2011**. The proceeds will provide funds for the much needed repaving of the processional road around the Monastery Church. Tickets are available at the candle desk. Please support our Monastery.

❖ **Sunday, October 2** is our first annual Diocesan **Choir recognition Day**. At the end of the Divine Liturgy we will honor all our choir singers with more than 25 years of dedicated service to Christ's Holy Church.

❖ **Sunday, October 2** following the Divine Liturgy, the Bayonne "R" Club will sponsor a **breakfast to benefit St. John the Baptist Church** of the American Carpatho-Russian Diocese located in Rahway, NJ. St. John's Church Hall suffered substantial damage during the recent Hurricane. Fr. Andrew Fetchina and his parishioners support our ice skating event each year and supported our recent bowl-a-thon that benefited IOCC and the victims in Japan. Please see Marge Kovach for tickets (\$10 for Adults and \$5 for children under 12).

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.