



SS PETER AND PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH

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

98 West 28th Street, Bayonne, NJ 07002

WWW.SSPETERANDPAULBAYONNE.ORG

Rev. Fr. Igor Kseniuk, Rector 201-436-3244 office; 646-387-5494 cell; fr.igorksn@gmail.com
Stephen Wasilewski, President 201-436-3754 home; 201-960-4352cell; stephen12375@aol.com
Vladimir J. Nehrebecki, Choir Director 201-618-6721

January 1, 2012

The Circumcision of Our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ Sunday Before the Theophany St. Basil the Great

- 9:10am – Hours, Confessions
- 9:30am – Divine Liturgy of St. Basil

Epistles: 2Tim. 4:5-8 (Sun. Before)
Col. 2:8-12 (Circumcision)

Gospels: Mk. 1:1-8 (Sun. Before)
Lk. 2:20-21, 40-52 (Circumcision)

- Molieben (Service of Thanksgiving) for the New Year.

Schedule of Services

THURSDAY, JAN. 5 – Eve of Theophany

6:00pm – All-night Vigil & Blessing of Waters

FRIDAY, JAN. 6 – THEOPHANY OF THE LORD

9:30am – Divine Liturgy & Blessing of Waters

SATURDAY, JAN. 7

6:00pm – Great Vespers

SUNDAY, JAN. 8

9:10am – Hours, Confessions

9:30am - Divine Liturgy followed by the Oath of Office of our new Parish Council.

Happy New Year!

On the first day of the year the Church commemorates Saint Basil the Great. He died on January 1, 379, having been born in 330. His few decades of life were packed full of remarkable achievements.

Both a theologian and lover of prayer, he wrote the Liturgy that we celebrate during Great Lent and on various feast days. He also actively cared for the poor, and his care extended to everyone, not just fellow Christians. No person was turned away from the soup kitchens and places of respite that he established.

As a bishop, Saint Basil had to resolve thorny Church issues and heal divisions, and was required to practice delicate diplomacy with government officials who were not always friendly to the Church. He dealt with the personal and spiritual problems of priests and parishioners. In addition, he wrote rules for monastic communities that have shaped their lives ever since.

At least once, Saint Basil described in writing the toll that all these efforts took on him. In a letter to Bishop Eusebius of Samosata he wrote that he was exhausted from physical weakness and from "a continuous illness, a rigorous winter, and the piling up of business..." Despite this, however, Saint Basil continued throughout his life to serve God and to do hard things.

With the new year, many of us will make resolutions. A recent book encourages teenagers to resolve to serve God in an intriguing way. Its title is "Do Hard Things" (Multnomah Books, 2008). The book's subtitle is "A Teenage Rebellion Against Low Expectations," and the authors, brothers Alex and Brett Harris, urge fellow teens to join a "rebellion" against a culture that promotes comfort and encourages teens to remain childish for too many years. This culture, they contend, assumes that teens are unwilling and unable to take on challenging tasks, to read deep and thought-provoking books, or to use their freedom for "huge accomplishments." But the Harris brothers believe that teens can do all these things. As they told an interviewer, "The teen years are not a vacation from responsibility. They are the training ground of future leaders who dare to be responsible now."

Intercessory Prayer

THE LIVING:

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

THE DEPARTED:

Peter Kalada, Benedict Benda, Georgette Saba, Matilda Skripak, Andrew Bacsik, Helen Pawlush, Mary Milk, Antonina Rotko, Helen Cotrone, June Bianchini, Marvanne Benda.

The authors describe "hard things" that teens have done, such as making a personal effort to pray and read Scripture regularly. Other examples are public things, for example working for a political candidate with admirable views, even when this requires overcoming a fear of speaking to groups.

Without being preachy, the authors liberally mix Biblical verses into their text. Here is Saint Paul on stepping out of one's comfort zone: "God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline" (2 Timothy 1:7).

They also cite Lamentations 3:27: "It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth." Saint Basil, who must have taken on the yoke early to accomplish as much as he did in less than fifty years of life, probably liked that verse too.

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.

Today's Memorial Offering



- St. John's Cross – in memory of Benedict Benda, offered by Lopen Family.



Announcements

❖ Calendars for 2012 are available at the candle desk. Please pick one for your family if you did not do so yet. Our heartfelt Thank You to the Koch Funeral Home for donating these calendars.

❖ Blessing of homes will begin Jan. 6th after the Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Holy Theophany. Please sign up at the candle desk or call rectory for an appointment. Please indicate your name, preferred date, time, as well as your address and preferred phone number.

❖ Save the Date! On Sunday, January 22, 2012 The Carpathian Club will sponsor a Roast Pork Dinner after the Divine Liturgy. Tickets are \$12 in advance and \$15 on the day of the dinner. For tickets please see Robert Pierce or call Steve Wanko at 201- 437- 6549. All proceeds will go to the Church. Please support this fundraiser to help our parish to get through these financially difficult times.

❖ Upcoming Panikhida services: Jan. 8: in memory of Mary Milk (by Walter Milk), Maryanne Benda (by Ted & Val Benda), Antonina Rotko (by Sisterhood of the Assumption); Jan. 15 – in memory of Benedict Benda (by Mary Mullally).

Birthday Greetings

Happy Birthday to Victor Wasilewski and to all who celebrate their Birthdays in the month of January. May God grant you good health and happiness for Many, Many Years! Mnogaya Leta!