



# 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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## Christ is risen!

April 22, 2012

Antipascha

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Pascha  
St. Thomas Sunday

- 9:30am – Divine Liturgy

Epistle: Acts 5:12-20

Gospel: John 20:19-3

- Church School

### Schedule of Services

SATURDAY, APRIL 28

6:00pm - Great Vespers & Confessions

SUNDAY, APRIL 29 –

Holy Myrrbearing Women

9:30am – Divine Liturgy

Visit us online at:

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

If you have information to be included  
in weekly bulletin, please email it to  
[Fr.IgorKsn@gmail.com](mailto:Fr.IgorKsn@gmail.com)

## Jesus Christ in His Own Words

On April 27 we read John 5:30 - 6:2.

*In these verses Jesus establishes Himself as God's Son by calling the Father His witness: "If I bear witness to myself, my testimony is not true; there is another who bears witness to Me, and I know that the testimony which He bears to me is true." In an earlier verse (5:20) Jesus has stated that He "raises the dead and gives them life" and He "judges all people." This authority has been given to Him by the Father, who loves Him and sent Him to the world. Like the Father, He is to be honored.*

*Here is a major difference between Christianity and Islam. For Muslims, Jesus Christ cannot be the Son of God because that would require that God the Father had a wife: "And exalted is the Majesty of Our Lord: He has Taken neither a wife nor a son" (Qur'an 72:3). But as Archbishop Hilarion writes in his book "The Mystery of Faith:"*

*"...the Christ of the Gospels is simultaneously revealed as both God and man: all his actions and words are those of a human being which, nonetheless, are marked with the divine imprint. Jesus is born like all other children, but from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin rather than from a husband and a wife. Brought into the Temple like other infants, he is greeted by a prophet and prophetess who recognize him as the Messiah. Jesus grows and becomes strong in spirit while living at his parents' home, yet at the age of twelve he sits in the Temple among the teachers and utters mysterious words about his Father. Like others, he comes to be baptized in the Jordan, but at the moment of immersion the voice of the Father is heard and the Holy Spirit appears in the form of a dove" (p. 82).*

*This description of Christ's baptism negates another*

## 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, Faith Verona, Elizabeth Zuber, Olga Stecher.

### THE DEPARTED:

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

*Islamic claim, that Jesus could not be the Messiah about whom John the Baptizer prophesies. If He were, according to Islam, it would be unnecessary for Him to be baptized by an inferior. But the Father's voice and the Holy Spirit's appearance make the baptism one of the clearest Biblical proofs of Christ's divinity.*

*In this day's verses from John's Gospel, Jesus speaks of the "works which the Father has granted me to accomplish" (5:36). He has come to finish and complete the things which the Father has sent Him to do. Here is another difference from Islamic teaching. Badru Kateregga writes in his book "Islam and Christianity" that Muslims "do respect the Messiah, Jesus, profoundly, but they do not believe that he is, therefore, superior to all prophets. In fact, the Qur'an affirms that Jesus foretold the coming of the Seal of the Prophets [Muhammed]" (p. 47).*

*But in His own words, Jesus tells us that He is not foretelling someone else's coming. Jesus is the One who IS foretold, by every Old Testament prophet and by the truly final prophet, John the Baptist.*

## Today's Memorial Offering



• *St. Nicholas Cross* – in memory of Eva DeMay, on Anniversary of her Repose – by DeMay Family.

• *Triple Candelabra* – in memory of Michael Zuber, on the 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of his Repose – by Elizabeth Zuber.

• *Bread and Wine for the Holy Eucharist* – in memory of George, Peter, Donald and Lawrence – by Helen Stathis.

## Announcements

❖ Today after the Divine Liturgy there will be a brief meeting of the "R" Club in the Church Hall. All members are urged to attend.

❖ Thank you very much to all of you who in any possible way were involved in organization and preparation of the divine services of the Holy Week and Pascha. May God's Blessings be upon you all and may the risen Lord will abundantly bless you and your loved ones with good health and happiness for Many Years to come!

❖ To bless the graves of your departed loved ones, please make an appointment with Fr. Igor.

## Birthday Greetings

Happy Birthday to Walentyna Szestawicka, Anne Pacheco, Lisa Wasilewski and to all who celebrate their Birthdays in the month of April. May God grant you good health and happiness for 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.