



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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July 1, 2012

4th Sunday after Pentecost
Unmercenary Wonderworkers
Cosmas and Daiman

- 8:30am – Order of Confession, Hours
- 9:00am – Divine Liturgy
Epistle: *Rom. 6:18-23*
Gospel: *Mat. 8:5-13*
- Coffee Hour – Please come downstairs for a fellowship following the Divine Liturgy.

Schedule of Services

SATURDAY, JULY 7

6:00pm – Great Vespers, Confessions

SUNDAY, JULY 8

8:40am – Hours, Confessions

9:00am – Divine Liturgy

Visit us online at:

www.SsPeterAndPaulBayonne.org

If you have information to be included in weekly bulletin, please email it by Wednesday to Fr.IgorKsn@gmail.com

Jealousy That Kills

July 3 is the day the Church remembers a very youthful martyr: a boy named Hyacinthus or Hyacinth, who lived in Caesarea in Cappadocia in the second century.

Raised in a Christian family, Hyacinth had to face a terrible dilemma early in life. He was bright and articulate, and had a friendly, engaging manner. These qualities brought him to the attention of the emperor Trajan, who made him an assistant to the chamberlain in the royal court.

The dilemma, of course, was Hyacinth's faith. The emperor and his other servants were pagans, and Trajan was among those Roman rulers who hated and feared Christians. When Hyacinth stood aside and did not take part in ceremonies of sacrifice to the pagan idols, other court members were quick to notice. They were already jealous that a high position had been given to such a young person, and now they saw their chance to curry favor with the emperor.

They denounced Hyacinth, and had him brought to trial. When he refused to sacrifice to the idols and openly stated his willingness to be sacrificed himself for Christ, the infuriated emperor had him thrown into prison. Trajan also ordered that the only nourishment Hyacinth should be given was food that had been sacrificed to idols. The emperor assumed, of course, that the boy would give in to his hunger when it became too hard to bear, and would eat the food forbidden to Christians.

But Hyacinth did not, and would not, touch the food he was given. He died after a number of days, not yet having quite reached his teenage years. It happened in the year 108.

On this same day we read Romans 14: 9-18. In the first verses of this passage, Saint Paul talks about the danger of passing judgment on other people. But after asking why anyone would judge a brother, he also writes: "Or you, why do you despise

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.

your brother?" The "despising" that Paul writes about can be a form of jealousy, an attitude toward someone who is different from us and who might, we fear, have something we do not. This was the jealous fear that motivated Joseph's brothers, in Genesis, to sell him into slavery and what they thought would be his death. And it led Trajan's courtiers to bring about Hyacinth's martyrdom, though they hoped it would cause him to betray his principles when hunger became extreme.

Paul is referring in these verses to those who scrupulously keep religious laws (such as not eating meat) and then judge others who do not keep the same laws. That judgment too is a form of jealousy, a fear that even those who don't keep the laws may be accepted by God. If that happens, what advantage will the law-keepers have?

Paul urges us to abandon such concerns. He asks us "never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of a brother" but to look to the Kingdom where we find "righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit."

Please note: Last week's insert incorrectly listed the century for Aidan of Lindisfarne and Hilda of Whitby. They are seventh-century saints. ■



Today's Memorial Offering

• *Wine for the Holy Eucharist* – in honor of Grandpa John Wanko's Birthday – by grandchildren and great-grandchildren Larisa, Kenneth John, Lauren, Lindsay, Keira, Mia.

Announcements

❖ Our 90th Jubilee Celebration is coming up! Please reserve the weekend of **October 27-28, 2012** for the celebration. Also, your help in preparation for the event is greatly needed and highly appreciated: "Many hands make light work". More information will be posted as soon as it becomes available.

❖ Our Diocesan website www.nynjoca.org is regularly updated. Please visit it often to learn more about our faith as well as for the latest news and upcoming events in our Diocese. Make sure to check the latest video installment of "Lessons in Our Faith" that features Bishop Michael as he provides practical and concise teaching on the Baptism of Infants.

❖ The sandwich outreach scheduled for this Saturday, July 7 is postponed to September.

❖ Upcoming: Church School Conference for all interested will be in **August 4, 2012** at Wayne, NJ. Please contact Father Igor for registration information.

Birthday Greetings

Happy 80th Birthday to John Wanko and Happy Birthday to all who celebrate their Birthdays in the month of July. 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, receiving blessed bread at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy and for fellowship in our Church Hall after the service.