



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](http://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

July 22, 2012

7th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Holy Myrrhbearer and Equal-to-the-Apostles Mary Magdalene.

- 8:40am – 3rd & 6th Hour, Confessions
- 9:00am – Divine Liturgy
Epistle: Rom. 15:1-7
Gospel: Mat. 9:27-35
- Coffee Hour – Please come downstairs for a fellowship following the Divine Liturgy.

Schedule of Services

FRIDAY, JULY 27- GREATMARTYR AND HEALER PANTELEIMON

6:00pm – Akathist to St. Panteleimon, with prayers for the health and anointing with the oil, blessed on the relics of St. Panteleimon.

SATURDAY, JULY 28

6:00pm – Great Vespers, Confessions

SUNDAY, JULY 29

8:40am – Hours, Confessions

9:00am – Divine Liturgy

Visit us online at:

www.SsPeterAndPaulBayonne.org

Did You See the Sign?

On July 23 and 24 we read Matthew 16: 1-12. In these verses Jesus Christ talks about signs with some Jewish challengers, and then with His disciples.

The Pharisees and Sadducees throw down their challenge by asking that He show them a sign from heaven. They want a spectacle – one amazing enough to prove that He is what He claims to be.

Jesus reminds them that they are competent at interpreting the signs the sky gives. They anticipate good weather if the evening sky is red, and look for stormy weather if the morning sky is threatening. Yet, He says, they fail to interpret the “signs of the times.” They don’t acknowledge the clear signs He has shown them – the great crowds who have brought “the lame, the maimed, the blind, the dumb and many others” to Him and have seen all these people miraculously healed. Nor are the healings the only signs, for Jesus has also inspired faith in those who witnessed them; we read that these witnesses “glorified the God of Israel.”

The challengers are an “adulterous” generation, He tells them, because they have broken the covenant with God that is like the marriage bond. He says that such a generation, seeking signs, will not receive any other than the sign of Jonah – a reference to His three days in the tomb, like Jonah in the belly of the whale. It’s also a reference to the greatest sign: the Resurrection.

The apostles, though of course not hostile to Jesus like the Pharisees and Sadducees, seem equally poor at remembering the signs He has shown them. He says, “Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees.” He means that they must avoid the wrong teachings of those men. But the disciples, who have forgotten

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.

to bring bread, relate it to their oversight. Jesus must remind them: “Do you not remember the five loaves of the five thousand, and how many baskets you gathered? How is it that you fail to perceive that I did not speak about bread?”

On this same day we remember Saint Apollonarius, a follower of the Apostle Peter, who consecrated him to be the bishop of Ravenna, Italy. He lived there for many years, preaching and baptizing. The years were not easy, because the pagan leaders in the area hated and harassed him. They finally succeeded in having him exiled, and he was put on a ship heading for the Balkans. The pagan soldiers assigned as his guards treated him as a dangerous criminal.

But God sent a sign. The ship capsized, and only Apollonarius, his accompanying priests, and two soldiers were saved. This miraculous sign and their survival convinced the soldiers to be baptized.

We can willfully ignore signs, as the Pharisees and Sadducees did. We can forget them, remembering only our own actions like neglecting to bring bread. Or we can respond with faith, as the pagan soldiers did.

Our God sends signs. He just won’t force us to see them. ■



Today's Memorial Offering

• **Sanctuary Lamp** – in memory of Daisy Guagenti, on the Anniversary of Death, and newly departed Vincent John Guagenti – by Carmine & Marianne Guagenti.

• **Candles on the Altar** – in memory of Peter Berezny – by Helen Stathis.

• **Wine for the Holy Eucharist** – in memory of Peter Berezny – by Helen Stathis

Announcements

❖ On this Friday, July 27, (Feast of St. Great-martyr and Healer Panteleimon) at 6:00pm we will have a Healing service – Akathist to St. Panteleimon, with prayers for the health and anointing with the oil, blessed on the relics of St. Panteleimon. Come yourself and bring your friends and neighbors.

❖ From now on we will have Coffee Hour every Sunday. Please feel free to bring any dish you would like to share downstairs. You still are more than welcome to sign up at the candle desk to sponsor this fellowship on any particular Sunday of your choice. And if you help with cleaning up afterwards, your fellow parishioners will greatly appreciate.

❖ To find the nearest Orthodox Church, when traveling or vacationing, go to: OrthodoxyinAmerica.com. A “Prayer for Travelers” may be requested at the end of the Liturgy, ask Father Igor when you venerate the Cross

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.