



# 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 9, 2012

### 14<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**Afterfeast of the Nativity of the Theotokos.  
Sunday before the Elevation.**

- 9:10am – 3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Hour, Confessions
- 9:30am – Divine Liturgy
  - Epistles: Gal. 6:11-18  
1 Cor. 16:13-24
  - Gospels: Jn. 3:13-17  
Mat. 22:1-14
- Coffee Hour – Please come downstairs for a fellowship following the Divine Liturgy.

### Schedule of Services

#### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

6:00pm – Great Vespers with Litya

#### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 –

##### EXALTATION OF THE CROSS

9:30am – Divine Liturgy

#### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

6:00pm – Great Vespers, Confessions

#### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

9:10am – 3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Hour, Confessions  
9:30am – Divine Liturgy

## Human Anguish and Divine Compassion

*On September 9th we remember three saints of the Church who experienced great anguish in their lives, for different reasons. But the three also received the compassion, and comfort, that God gives.*

*Joachim and Anna were, of course, the parents of Mary the Mother of God. Joachim was descended from King David, and Anna was the daughter of a priest. They were devout, and offered much of their income to the Temple and for the relief of the poor. But before their child's birth, which happened late in their lives, they lived through long, lonely years of being without any children.*

*This was not only a source of sorrow, but also of humiliation and rejection. One time when they had traveled to Jerusalem to offer sacrifice in the Temple, the high priest said haughtily to Joachim, "You are unworthy to offer sacrifice with your childless hands." Others pushed Joachim aside, and he and Anna were forced to leave the Temple and make the journey home in deep sadness. So God's compassion, answering their fervent prayers with the birth of Mary, was especially sweet to this couple.*

*On this day we also remember the Blessed Nicetas, called "Man of God" and also "the Hidden." This latter name refers to his spiritual efforts, which were extraordinary but unseen and unknown by those around him. Even though he lived in the busy city of Constantinople and was surrounded by people all day, he found time for intense prayer and secret good works that brought him very close to God.*

*Among the blessings he received during his holy life, Nicetas was once able to ease another man's anguish and call*

## 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.

*down God's compassion on him. This other man, a deacon named Sozon, had quarreled with a priest. They never resolved their argument, and the priest died. Sozon was grief-stricken at having let the rift continue until it was too late.*

*Sozon's guilty conscience led him, eventually, to Nicetas, who was able to call the priest back from the dead so that he and Sozon could be reconciled. The miracle took place at night, in the church of the Blachernae Mother of God in Constantinople. After Sozon and the priest embraced each other, Nicetas disappeared from his sight; once again he became "Nicetas the Hidden." For the rest of his life, Sozon was free of the anguish of an unresolved quarrel.*

*In 2 Corinthians 1:21-2:4, a reading for this day, Saint Paul also speaks about being in anguish. He had already had one painful visit to the Corinthian church, and was reluctant to make another, so he had instead written a rather harsh letter: "For I wrote you out of much affliction and anguish of heart and with many tears, not to cause you pain but to let you know the abundant love that I have for you."*

*Paul, too, was grateful for God's compassion which eased his anguish. He writes in 7:4, "[Even] with all our affliction, I am overjoyed."*



## Today's Memorial Offering

- **Sanctuary Lamp** – in honor of Helen Wanko, on her Birthday – from grandchildren and great-grandchildren Larissa, Kenneth John, Lauren, Lindsay, Kiera, Mia.
- **St. Nicholas Cross** – in memory of Mary Pirniak, on her Anniversary of Repose – by Pirniak family.

- **Wine for the Holy Eucharist** – in memory of Andrew Wanko, on his Anniversary of Death – by John and Helen Wanko.



## Announcements

❖ This Friday, September 14 is the feast of **Exaltation of the Cross**. Donations to decorate the Cross of the Lord with flowers are taken at the candle desk. May God bless you abundantly for your support!

❖ **The Carpathian Club** will hold its **annual picnic** on **Sunday September 23, 2012** from 11am-3pm on the church grounds. The price is \$17 at the door and \$15 in advance. For tickets please see Robert Pierce.

❖ Our **90<sup>th</sup> Jubilee Celebration** is coming up! Please reserve the weekend of **October 27-28, 2012**. His Grace Bishop Michael will be serving Great Vespers and Panikhida for all our departed parishioners on Saturday evening at 6:00pm and the Divine Liturgy on Sunday at 9:30am. Everyone is welcome to join us in celebration of this great milestone in our Parish history.

❖ The **17<sup>th</sup> All-American Council** of the Orthodox Church in America, at which a new Primate of the OCA will be elected is scheduled for Tuesday, November 13, 2012 in Parma, Ohio. More information can be found on OCA and our Diocesan websites.

## Birthday Greetings

Happy Birthday to Helen Wanko, Olga DeMay, and to all who celebrate their birthdays in the month of September. May God grant you good health and happiness for Many Years! Mnoqaya Leta!