



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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January 6, 2013

THE HOLY THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

- 9:10am – 3rd & 6th Hour
- 9:30am – Divine Liturgy of St. Basil & Great Blessing of Waters

Epistle: Tit. 2:11-14; 3:4-7

Gospel: Mt. 3:13-17

Schedule of Services

SATURDAY, JANUARY 12

6:00pm – Great Vespers, Confessions

SUNDAY, JANUARY 13

9:10am – Hours, Confessions

9:30am – 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

A Public Saint and a Private Saint

On January 10 the Church celebrates the memory of Gregory of Nyssa, a saint who probably preferred solitary thought, study and prayer to public preaching and lecturing. Yet he was called to both public and private activity in his life.

Born in 335 in Caesarea, Cappadocia, Saint Gregory was one member of a family that produced an extraordinary number of saints. He grew up thinking, hearing and speaking about theology and was profoundly influenced by his older brother Basil – known to us as Basil the Great – and by their friend Gregory of Nazianzus.

With his solid theological background, Gregory was ready as an adult to write about deep and complex Church teachings in ways that people could understand. This became especially important when the doctrine of the Trinity was questioned and argued about. Gregory explained that God is One in three undivided Persons who always work together. Part of what he said has been expressed in this way: "Every operation which extends from God to the Creation...has its origin from the Father, and proceeds through the Son, and is perfected in the Holy Spirit." He also said, "Whatever comes to pass does so by the action of the Three. But what comes to pass is one thing, not three things."

In addition to defending and explaining the faith in public, Gregory was, despite his reluctance, appointed Bishop of Nyssa by his brother Basil in 372 A.D. Basil knew his younger sibling was not altogether suited to such a public administrative role, but he needed someone he could depend on.

As a bishop, Gregory had to deal with the false teachings of the Arians, who constantly challenged him. Seeking to damage his reputation, they accused him of financial mismanagement and got him removed from his episcopal see, and even

Intercessory Prayer

THE LIVING:

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

THE DEPARTED:

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

banished for a time. Though the false charges were dropped, the experience of such publicly-expressed hostility was hurtful and embarrassing.

He was able to come back to his diocese a few years later, and because the necessity was so great, he continued to defend the faith against the Arians in public. He attended the Ecumenical Council of Constantinople in 381, and preached on special occasions. But he turned down the opportunity to become bishop of the important area of Sebaste.

Gregory needed his private time to produce his great theological works. In addition to his writings on the Trinity, he completed Basil's sermons on the six days of creation (unfinished at Basil's death in 379) and gave the world a thorough outline of theology, the "Address on Religious Instruction," as well as many other works, including mystical writings like the "Life of Moses" which compares the Hebrews' wilderness journey to Mount Sinai to the human soul's journey through this difficult life to a vision of God.

Gregory did not choose public life, and it didn't bring him success. Yet its challenges spurred him to use his private hours for the creation of theological works that were, and still are, basic to the understanding of the Orthodox faith.

Today's Memorial Offering



- *Candles on the Altar* – in memory of Ben Christensen – by Cathryn Christensen.
- *St. John's Cross* – in memory of Henry Zuber – by Elizabeth Zuber.
- *Bread for the Holy Eucharist* – in memory of H. Robert Stathis – by Cathryn Christensen.



Announcements

❖ The **blessing of homes** starts today. Please sign up at the candle desk or call Father Igor for an appointment. Please indicate days and times that are most convenient for you.

❖ The next "**Sandwich Saturday**" will take place on **Sat, Jan. 12, 2013 at 10:00am** in the church hall. All are welcome to participate. Donations can be made at the candle stand. It is our goal this time to make 300 sandwiches to be divided up between the Hoboken Shelter and the St. Lucy Shelter in Jersey City. Thank you for your time and generosity.

❖ Our parish has raised nearly \$300.00 for the purchase of art supplies that are already sent to the Newtown Public School System in the aftermath of the tragic events of December 14th at the Sandy Hook School. May God bless you for your generosity.

❖ **Stop&Shop, A&P and ShopRite Shopping Cards** are available at the candle-stand. Do your shopping as you always do it, and help our church raise funds at no additional cost to you.

Birthday Greetings

Happy Birthday to Michael Kovach, Deborah Wanko and to all who celebrate their Birthdays in the month of January. May God grant you good health and happiness for Many Years! Mnoqaya Leta!