



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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February 24, 2013

38th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday of Publican and Pharisee
Beginning of the Lenten Triodion
1st and 2nd Finding of the Head of St. John the Baptist

Fast-Free Week

- 9:10am – 3rd & 6th Hour
- 9:30am – Divine Liturgy

Epistle: 2Tim. 3:10-15
 2 Cor. 4:6-15(Forerunner)
Gospel: Lk. 18:10-14
 Mt. 11:2-15(Forerunner)

- Coffee Hour – Please come downstairs for a fellowship following the Divine Liturgy provided by Ted and Valentina Benda and their family.

Schedule of Services

SATURDAY, MARCH 2

6:00pm – Great Vespers, Confessions

SUNDAY, MARCH 3

9:10am – Hours, Confessions

9:30am – Divine Liturgy

Dealing with the Devil

On February 24 we read Mark 13: 9-13. These words of Jesus Christ warn the disciples of difficult times to come.

The events He foretells are frightening: "They will deliver you up to councils; and you will be beaten in synagogues...And brother will deliver up brother to death and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; and you will be hated by all for My name's sake."

But before telling them all these things, He urges the disciples to "take heed to yourselves," which is also translated as "watch out for yourselves" or "beware." This warning could simply mean that they must prepare for the trouble that is coming.

But it might also mean that they must be ready to face that trouble without letting it overcome them. The devil uses whatever he can to tempt us away from faith, and making us despair when we suffer unjustly for the faith can be one of his weapons. That is why Christ adds this promise to His warning: "But he who endures to the end will be saved."

On this same day we remember a man who did allow the devil's temptation to overcome him. He is the monk Erasmus of the Kiev Caves. He came from a very wealthy family, and decided that the best way to spend his money was to beautify the monastery church with icons and precious relics. He used up his fortune doing this, and continued to live his personal life as a monk without possessions or wealth.

The devil found a way to use Erasmus' generous beautifying of the church against him by making him doubt what he had done. Why, the devil tempted him, didn't you use your money to help the poor? What good is a beautiful church?

Erasmus allowed these evil questions to drive him into

Intercessory Prayer

THE LIVING:

Eva Benda, Theodore & Valentina Benda, Terry Cimbolic, 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.



Announcements

❖ Fast-free week – please note that there is a general dispensation from fasting throughout this week.

❖ **2nd Wedding Bann:** The Sacrament of Holy Matrimony of our parishioner Lauren A. Wanko and Nicholas G. Petronko, parishioner of St. Gregory Palamas Orthodox Church in Glen Gardner, NJ is scheduled for Friday, March 8, 2013. Anyone who wants to express any concerns or protests please speak to Fr. Igor.

❖ Save the date! – The 3rd Annual Altar Server Retreat will take place on March 1-3, 2013 at St. Basil's Academy in Garrison, NY. For questions please contact Fr. Jason Vansuch @ 609-851-3811. More information is posted on the bulletin board.

❖ **ShopRite and Stop&Shop 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 Evgenia Kozlenko, Daniel Chaichyts, and to all who celebrate their Birthdays this week. 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.