



# SS PETER AND PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH

A PARISH OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA, DIOCESE OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY

98 West 28<sup>th</sup> Street, Bayonne, NJ 07002

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## February 24, 2013

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

#### Sunday of Publican and Pharisee Beginning of the Lenten Triodion

#### 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Finding of the Head of St. John the Baptist

Fast-Free Week

- 9:10am – 3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> 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 Cimboric, 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.

*despair, which was his real sin. He drifted into an unhealthy, unfruitful way of living. When he became deathly ill, his monastic brothers were sure that it was too late for him to repent. But the Mother of God appeared to him as he lay dying. She understood that he had wanted to honor her by making the church beautiful, and she assured him that he would be given time to repent, and would be received into the Kingdom of Heaven.*

*On February 25 we remember another person who was tempted by the devil: Saint Tarasius, Patriarch of Constantinople. At the end of a life spent honorably serving God, he was attacked by demons trying to make him despair by accusing him of various sins. But rather than give in, he shouted back at them, "I am not guilty of that sin!" and flailed the air with his arms, driving them off. When he finally died, he was at peace and his face was radiant.*

*Whatever ways the devil finds to tempt us into despair, it's good to remember the promise of Christ: The person who endures to the end will be saved.*



## Announcements

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

❖ **2<sup>nd</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.