



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

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

March 24, 2013

FIRST SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT

Sunday of Orthodoxy

Forefeast of the Annunciation

- 9:10am – Hours, Confession
- 9:30am – Divine Liturgy of St. Basil
Epistle: Heb. 11:24-26, 32-12:2
Gospel: Jn. 1:43-51
- 6:00pm – Great Vespers with Litya

Schedule of Services

MONDAY, MARCH 25 –

ANNUNCIATION OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS

9:30pm – Vespers & Divine Liturgy

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27

9:30am – Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

FRIDAY, MARCH 29

6:00pm – Akathist to the Passion of Christ with Panikhida for the Departed

SATURDAY, MARCH 30

6:00pm – Great Vespers

SUNDAY, MARCH 31

9:10am – Hours, Confession

9:30am – Divine Liturgy

Good Disobedience and Bad Disobedience

On March 30 we read Mark 1:35-44. The passage shows that while He was doing great miracles on earth, Jesus Christ still remained obedient to His Father.

The passage begins in the very early morning. During the previous evening, Jesus has healed a great number of people and cast out demons, forbidding them even to speak. Now, well before the sun is up, He goes out alone to pray. Jesus never depends on His own power to heal and subdue demons. He constantly prays and submits Himself to His Father's will.

Another passage read on this day encourages us to pray often, and to help each other be faithful and obedient to God, as Jesus is to His Father: "But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called 'today,' that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. For we share in Christ, if only we hold our first confidence firm to the end..." (Hebrews 3:13-14). We need to pray constantly and renew our faith and our commitment to it.

Jesus, in the passage from Mark, is given little time for His private prayers. Very soon, Simon Peter and the others "pursue" Him, and find Him. Again He is obedient, leaving His remote place to go among the people and preach to them, as He came to do.

We soon see a reason why Jesus needs to renew His strength in prayer – because even those who receive great blessings from Him do not always listen to Him. A leper begs Him for healing, and Jesus grants it. But when Jesus "sternly charges" him not to say anything to anyone except the priests, the man promptly goes out to "spread the news." As a result of this disobedience, Jesus can "no longer enter a town." Yet His own obedience to His Father never wavers;

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.

He has come to preach and to save, and He will continue to do so.

On March 28 we remember Saint Hilarion the New, who gives us an example of good disobedience. He lived peacefully in the early 9th century as leader of the Dalmatus monastery until the imperial government was taken over by iconoclasts – those who fiercely opposed the veneration of icons, partly because they misinterpreted the Old Testament's prohibition of graven images. Hilarion revered icons, and fearlessly accused the emperor of heresy. He was quickly imprisoned.

Hilarion's monks successfully begged for his release, promising to adhere to the law against honoring icons. But once back in their monastery, they resumed veneration of the holy images. The emperor soon discovered Hilarion's disobedience, having assigned men to watch him closely. Once again Hilarion was imprisoned, and tortured.

Freed by the next emperor, Hilarion lived quietly at the monastery until his death in 845. His life shows that there is such a thing as good disobedience, because sometimes it is actually obedience to God's will, like the obedience of His Son – the Son who came in the flesh and thus allowed us to depict Him in icons.



Announcements

❖ Parish Council meeting is tomorrow, Mon. March 25 at 7pm. All members are urged to attend

❖ The schedule for NJ Deanery Mission Vespers (beginning – 4 PM) are as follows:

Mar. 31 – Christ the Saviour Church, Paramus, NJ – His Grace Bishop Michael will be main celebrant and homilist;

April 7 – North: Holy Resurrection Church, Wayne, NJ; South: Holy Cross Church, Medford, NJ;

April 14 – North: Holy Spirit Church, Wantage, NJ; South: Ss. Peter & Paul Church, Manville, NJ;

Apr. 21 – North: Ss. Peter & Paul Church, Jersey City, NJ; South: St. Gregory Palamas Church, Glen Gardner, NJ.

May 8, 7pm – Bright Wednesday: Christ the Saviour Church, Paramus, NJ – His Grace Bishop Michael will be main celebrant and homilist. For more information please see a flyer posted on the bulletin board.

❖ Joint Mission Presanctified Liturgies during this Great Lent will be as follows:

Apr. 3, 6:30pm – our parish will host the service;

Apr. 10, 6:30pm – St. Sophia's Ukrainian Orth. Church;

Apr. 17, 7:00pm – St. Mary's Carpatho-Russian Orth. Church. Mark your calendars and join us in worship!

❖ Save the date! On Tuesday, Apr. 23 at 7:00pm there will be Sixth Annual Celebration of the Holy Unction service at the Holy Transfiguration Church (35 Sickletown Rd., Pearl River, NY 10965). His Grace Bishop Michael will be main celebrant. For more information please see flyer posted on the bulletin board.

Birthday Greetings

Happy Birthday to Diana Nehrebecki, Stephen Sokol and to all who celebrate their Birthdays this month. May God grant you good health and happiness for Many Years! Mnogaya Leta!