



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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May 5, 2013
Holy Pascha

RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

- 9:10am – Paschal Hours
- 9:30am – Divine Liturgy
Epistle: Acts 1:1-8
Gospel: John 1:1-17
- Blessing of the Paschal food followed by breaking of the Fast in the Church Hall, and a traditional Paschal Fellowship at the Carpathian Club.

Schedule of the Bright Week

MONDAY, MAY 6 – Bright Monday

9:30am - Divine Liturgy

TUESDAY, MAY 7 – Bright Tuesday

9:30am - Divine Liturgy

SATURDAY, MAY 11 – Bright Saturday

6:00pm - Great Vespers & Confessions

SUNDAY, MAY 12 – St. Thomas Sunday

9:30am – Divine Liturgy

Christ is risen!

On this day of the Resurrection of Our Lord, we have a special duty to the world around us. We need to help other people come to a true understanding of what Christ's rising from the dead means for the world.

This is needed because there is so much misunderstanding of God's plan and intention. And that misunderstanding is often expressed with great certainty by people who are sure they know the "facts" about God, and what He does.

For example, in an article published in the New Yorker Magazine, Adam Gopnik wrote that Jesus' cry on the cross, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" indicates failure. Gopnik wrote: "His father let him down, and the promise wasn't kept."

But this is the exact opposite of what God did. The truth about His plan and work are well expressed in the Prayer of Commemoration in the Liturgy of Saint Basil, which we have heard all through Great Lent. That prayer reminds us that man(kind) was "set in a paradise of delight" but lost it through "his own transgressions." So God sent man forth from paradise, "returning [him] to the earth from which he was taken, yet providing for him the salvation of regeneration in Christ Himself."

The prayer goes on to say that "it pleased Thine only-begotten Son...to condemn sin in His flesh, so that those who were dead in Adam might be made alive by Thy Christ Himself." Christ "made for all flesh a path to the resurrection from the dead."

These words mean that the Father and the Son agreed that Christ should come into the world, and should suffer, be

Intercessory Prayer

THE LIVING: Eva & Philip 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: Mary Angeli, Olga Stecher, Michael Moroch, Peter Kalada, Benedict Benda, Georgette Saba, Matilda Skripak, Andrew Bacsik, Helen Pawlush, Mary Milk, Antonina Roiko, Helen Cotrone, June Bianchini, Marianne Benda.

crucified and raised. It was the only way He could once and for all defeat the power of death.

In one of the readings for May 7th, Jesus Himself gives the reason for His agonizing death. Luke 24:12-35 includes the story of the two travelers on the road to Emmaeus who meet the risen Jesus but do not recognize Him. As they walk along together, Jesus reminds them of all the prophecies of the Old Testament. He asks them, "Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into His glory?" (24: 26).

That word "necessary" is significant. It surely wasn't necessary for the Son of God, as God, to suffer and die. He is alive forever with His Father. But His creatures transgressed and could not save themselves from the deadly consequences of what they had done. To save them, it became necessary. We are the children of a God who refuses, as Saint Basil's prayer says, to "turn His face away from His creatures forever." No matter what we do, He will never forget us, because we are "the work of His hands." His love is so great, His determination not to let us perish is so absolute, that He will do anything for us. On this day of Pascha we celebrate that love and the eternal life it brings us.



Today's Memorial Offering

- 7-Day Vigils on the Altar – for the health of Cathryn Christensen – by Helen Stathis.
- Sanctuary Lamp – in memory of George, Peter & Joseph Berezny – by Helen Stathis.
- St. John's Cross – in memory of Mary Angeli – by Mary Ann Prime.
- St. Nicholas Cross – in memory of Joseph Macinsky, on Anniversary of His Repose – by Mary Macinsky.
- Tripple Candelabra – in memory of Mary Angeli – by Mary Ann Prime.
- Wine for the Holy Eucharist – in memory of deceased members of the Berezny family – by Helen Stathis.
- Bread for the Holy Eucharist – in memory of Demetri & Paraska Berezny – by Helen Stathis.

Announcements

❖ Blessing of graves at Bayview Cemetery in Jersey City will be on Saturday, May 11, starting at 9:00am. For other times and other cemeteries, please make an appointment with Fr. Igor.

Birthday Greetings

Happy Birthday to Elena Nehrebecki and to all who celebrate their Birthdays this month. 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.