



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](http://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

Christ is risen! *May 19, 2013*

3rd Sunday of Pascha Holy Myrrhbearing Women

- 9:10am – Hours
- 9:30am – Divine Liturgy
Epistle: Acts 6:1-7
Gospel: Mark 15:43-16:8
- Panikhida** – in memory of Mary Angeli, on the 40th day of her Repose, offered by her family.

PLEASE NOTE: Starting next Sunday Divine Liturgies will begin **9:00am**.

Schedule of Services

SATURDAY, MAY 25

6:00pm – Great Vespers, Confessions

SUNDAY, MAY 26

8:40am – Hours, Confession

9:00am – Divine Liturgy

Commending or Committing Ourselves to God?

On May 25 the Church remembers a group of saints, all Roman soldiers, who were martyred together in about the year 302 in Macedonia.

Their names are Pasocrates, Valentin, and Julius (with other companions) and the details of their stories are somewhat diverse. Pasocrates' brother had renounced Christ for fear of persecution, and he tried to convince Pasocrates to do the same. But Pasocrates angrily told him, "Get away; you are no brother of mine!" Then he and Valentin submitted to death together.

Julius had served in the army for many years, and made a statement at his trial: "I served the emperor faithfully for 26 years. Shall I now fail to be faithful to the greater Kingdom and its King?" He too was executed.

One of the companions, Marcian, had a wife and young son. As he was preparing to face death, his wife came to the place of execution, carrying the child in her arms. Marcian kissed his son and prayed that God would take care of him. He commended his young child to God's care.

The word "commend" occurs in our worship services, especially the Divine Liturgy. In the Litany of Supplication the priest says, "...let us commend ourselves and each other and all our life to Christ our God." The Prayer of Preparation contains these words "Unto Thee we commend our whole life and hope, O Master who lovest mankind."

The meaning of "commend" is important. It expresses a basic tenet of our faith--that we trust God to care for us, to take care of "all our life" and of each other. Commending ourselves to God means placing ourselves, so to speak, in His hands. We acknowledge that on our own we can't do anything; it is all up to Him and we are confident in entrusting

Intercessory Prayer

THE LIVING: Eva & Philip Benda, Theodore & Valentina Benda, Terry Cimolic, Cathryn Christensen, Olga DeMay, Marianne Guagenti, George Hook, Peter Mazula, Walter Milk, Evelyn Morley, Anette Morose, 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 Rotko, Helen Cotrone, June Bianchini. Marianne Benda.

ourselves to Him.

In some liturgical translations, the word "commit" is used in place of "commend." But this completely changes the meaning of the petition. To commit means to pledge or to bind. When we commit ourselves or someone else, we put them under an obligation. How can we pledge, bind, or put under obligation to God people we may not even know? How can we commit people to Him who may not even believe in Him?

We can't do any of those things. What we can do is put them under His care. So, for example, we "commend" to Him people we do not know personally but who we know are suffering in distant places. We commend to Him those we know and love, but for whom we have no personal power to do anything. Today's martyr Marcian was about to die and would no longer be able to care for and protect His child. But he could commend the boy to the One whose care is unfailing and unshakable.

So as believers we commend "our whole life and hope" to God. We put ourselves, those we love, those we are worried about, those who suffer, in His hands.

There is no better place to be.



Today's Memorial Offering

- **7-Day Vigils on the Altar** – in memory of Mary Angeli – by Dorothy Pellittere & Gail Fernandes.
- **St. John's Cross** – in honor of Lindsay Wanko on her Birthday – by Grandpa & Grandma Wanko

• **Wine for the Holy Eucharist** – in memory of Mary Angeli – by Dorothy Pellittere & Gail Fernandes.

• **Bread for the Holy Eucharist** – in memory of Mary Angeli – by Dorothy Pellittere & Gail Fernandes.

Announcements

❖ **Parish Council** meeting is tomorrow, **Mon. May 20th** at 7pm. All members are urged to attend.

❖ **Time change!** Please note that starting next **Sunday, May 26**, (Memorial Day weekend) and until **Sunday, September 1**, (Labor Day weekend) *all* Divine Liturgies will begin at **9:00am**

❖ On **Sunday, June 2nd** at 12:00 Noon St. Mary's Carpatho-Russian Church (89 W 29th Street, Bayonne, NJ) will host their **Annual Luncheon and Chinese Auction**. Everyone is invited. For tickets please see Olga DeMay.

Birthday Greetings

Happy Birthday to Lindsay Wanko and to all who celebrate their Birthdays this month. May God grant you good health and joy 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 and receiving blessed bread at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy.