



# SS. PETER & PAUL RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

Diocese of New York & New Jersey ✠ Orthodox Church in America

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Parish  
Web Site:  
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Basil Kozak, Choir Director  
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**November 27, 2011**

## **TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—Tone 7**

Greatmartyr James the Persian; Ven. Palladius of Thessalonica; St. James, Bishop and Wonderworker of Rostov; The Uncovering of the Relics of St. Vsevolod of Pskov; The 17 Monk-martyrs in India; St. Roman; The Repose of Ven. Diodorus the Abbot of Yuriev Monastery; Blessed Andrei of Simbirsk; The Commemoration of the *Znameniye (The Sign) Weeping Icon of the Most-holy Theotokos at Novgorod in 1170 and the other Icons of the Most-holy Theotokos Of the Sign, including the Kursk Root and Abalatskaya*

Epistle: Ephesians 2:14-22

Gospel: Luke 13:10-17

## ❖ Parish Liturgical & Study Week ❖

TODAY 11:00 p.m. *Faith Feedback Session* with Fr. David

Sat, Dec 3 5:00 p.m. Confessions  
7:00 p.m. Great Vespers with Litiya followed by Confessions

Sun, Dec 4 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy  
**25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—Tone 8**  
**The Glorification of Hieromartyr Protopresbyter Alexander Hotovitzky; Greatmartyr Barbara; Martyr Juliana; St. John of Damascus**  
Epistles: Eph 4:1-6 Gospels: Luke 17:12-19  
Heb 13:7-16 (St. Alexander) Luke 12:32-40 (St. Alexander)  
Gal 3:23-29 (St. Barbara) Mark 5:24-34 (St. Barbara)

## ❖ Parish Life & Happenings ❖

**Church School Classes** will meet **TODAY** following the Liturgy Dismissal.

To decorate for the holiday season, our **Junior R Club** is sponsoring a **Christmas Poinsettia Sale**. Bright and beautiful red, white or pink poinsettias (already foil-wrapped) are being offered in 6" pots for \$8 and 8" pots for \$16. Your order must be submitted **TODAY** to ensure the quantities and varieties requested. The flowers will be delivered next month; you will be notified of the date in the bulletin. For more info, see any Junior member or contact Allison Steffaro at (732) 698-1952.

If you need help becoming a better informed Orthodox Christian, then come to Father David's **Faith Feedback Session TODAY** during Coffee Hour. This is a terrific opportunity to ask burning questions you may have on spiritual matters, including the Holy Bible and Orthodox tradition and theology. This session is set in a low-key atmosphere, where Father tries to not only provide info, but gives everyone the chance to engage in dialogue and share his/her faith. Come and take part!

A **Holiday Wreath & Grave Blanket Sale** is now underway through the **Saint Anne's Guild**. Prices range from \$20-\$45. All orders must be placed by **Monday, November 28**. See Kathy Cooper, Sandy Romanofsky or Barbara Horsky for more details. You can also call Kathy in the evening to place an order; her telephone number is (732) 390-1859. Pickup in the hall is scheduled for **Friday, December 2**, from 8-9 p.m., and **Saturday, December 3**, from 10 a.m. till noon. Decorate your home and/or the resting place of your loved one with beautiful balsam items this Christmas!

**Choir Rehearsal** will be held in the church on **Tuesday, November 29**, at 7 p.m.

On **Saturday, December 3**, starting at 9 a.m., members of our **Holy Bread Baking Ministry** will meet in the church hall to participate in the ancient tradition of making prosphora for our Eucharistic celebrations. If you want to help these "holy rollers" and experience Jesus' real presence in the Liturgy more richly, then come—everyone is welcome!

All orders from the **Annual Gertrude Hawk Holiday Sweets Sale** will be delivered **next Sunday, December 4**; you can pick yours up in the hall during Coffee Hour. See or contact Susan Witkowski (732-946-8468) if you have any questions.

In preparation for the upcoming episcopal visit of **His Grace, Bishop MICHAEL**, a **Discussion & Question/Answer Session** on the role of a hierarch in the Holy Orthodox Church will be held in the church on **Wednesday, December 7**, starting at 7 p.m. Refreshments in the hall will follow. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

Our beloved diocesan hierarch, **Bishop MICHAEL**, has scheduled an **Episcopal Visit** to our parish on **Saturday-Sunday, December 10-11**. He will be accompanied by **Bishop MATTHIAS** of Chicago and the Midwest. After concelebrating the Liturgy on Sunday, Their Graces plan to attend the *Annual Saint Nicholas Day Pageant* presented by our Church School children. Please arrange your schedules accordingly.

Share the Christmas experience with our Church School children as they present their **Saint Nicholas Day Pageant (Yolka)** in the church hall on **Sunday, December 11**, after Liturgy. It promises to be another inspiring event. Come to show your support and congratulate their endeavors. (**NOTE:** *There will be an expanded Coffee Hour hosted by the Saint Anne's Guild and it is rumored that even Saint Nicholas himself will make an appearance!*)

An **Iconography Discussion** with emphasis on the Saints of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century will take place in the church on **Wednesday, December 14**, at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend this special gathering. Refreshments will be served afterwards in the hall.

Looking for a fun and yummy way to participate in the holiday season? What better way than through the **Annual Christmas Cookie Sale** of the **St. Anne's Guild**! It will be held in the church hall after the Liturgy on **Sunday, December 18**. Proceeds from the sale will benefit our Church School program and related youth/family events. The success of this fundraiser is dependent on the involvement of not just the Guild members, but the entire parish family. Parishioners willing to share their baking talents and favorite recipes are asked to contribute homemade sweets. Contact Karen Berezniak by E-mail ([kberez@comcast.net](mailto:kberez@comcast.net)) or telephone (732-754-0033) if you would like to take part. All donations can be dropped off in the hall for packaging on **Saturday, December 17**, at 9:30 a.m. Remember: nothing says Christmas like cookies!

Our **Church Choir**, with **Basil Kozak** conducting, will present its **10<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Concert** on **Sunday, December 18**, in the church. The performance will begin at 3 p.m. An array of liturgical and secular holiday music from around the world will be performed to delight one and all. Invite your friends and family to come; it will be a perfect prelude to the upcoming feast. Although there is **NO CHARGE** to attend, a freewill offering of a canned good would be appreciated to support the *South River Food Bank*. As one will, undoubtedly, need some time to bask in the glow of this magnificence experience, there will be refreshments served in the hall afterwards—come and enjoy!

There will be a **Parish Council Meeting** on **Monday, December 19**, at 7 p.m., in the church hall.



**STEWARDSHIP: TIME & TREASURE** Attendance at Liturgy last Sunday was **133**.

**MINISTRY DUTIES** The Epistle will be read by **John Kozak**. Coffee Hour will be hosted by the **Saint Anne's Guild**. (**NOTE:** *This organization will be responsible for this ministry throughout December.*)

**ADVENT CONFESSIONS** There will be **NO GENERAL CONFESSION** throughout Advent. During this period, there will be many days and times when Fr. David will be available to hear private confessions; check the bulletin under the *Parish Liturgical and*

*Study Week.* As part of your spiritual preparation for Christmas, take advantage of this penitential sacrament so that you can ready your heart and soul to receive the newborn Lord.

**THANK YOU** to **Parish Council** for hosting this month's *Coffee Hour*; the opportunities to develop and deepen friendships and share in conversation were greatly appreciated—God bless!

**OUR HEARTFELT THANKS** to **Peter and Deborah Silowka** for the beautiful floral arrangement that adorned the center tetrapod on the Feast of the Entry of the Theotokos into the Temple last Monday. We also express our deep gratitude to **Natalie Demidenko** for the lovely Thanksgiving centerpiece that was offered in memory of **Alexander & Nadja Demidenko**. May the Lord bless these donors for being so kind.

**SINCERE THANKS** to **Josephine Cheresko, Irma and Argyra Lapchuk** (in memory of **Matushka Pauline Warnecke**) for their recent contributions to the church. We also gratefully acknowledge a cemetery offering by **Nicholas and Juliana Zielenkiewicz** in memory of **Francis, Olga & Thomas Bohnyak**. May God grant these donors many years—Mnogaya Lyeta!

**SEWING MACHINE WANTED** Anyone interested in donating his/her used (in good condition) sewing machine to our seminarian family? How about donating money or purchasing a new one for them? If so, please see or contact Allison Steffaro at (732) 698-1952.

**FALL FESTIVAL 2011 RECAP** The *2011 Fall Festival* was an amazing success; we had record crowds and sales! Although final net numbers are not yet available, this year's fundraiser would not have been possible without our co-chairmen, **Philip and Natasha Rogozenski**, who organized volunteers and worked tirelessly on such a huge task. We send a heartfelt *Thank You* to them for the time and effort they selflessly gave on behalf of the church. As you know, an event like this only works with great manpower...and we sure had it! Kudos to **all our wonderful parishioners** who helped in all of the different areas of the Festival; your gifts and talents are true treasures of our God-protected community. Many Years—Mnogaya Lyeta!

**BRING A FRIEND** along with you to church. Encourage your relatives to attend services faithfully. It our Christian duty to help others find Jesus. Apostle Andrew brought his brother Peter to God...let's follow his example!

**2012 ORTHODOX POCKET PLANNERS** from *Saint Tikhon's Seminary* in South Canaan, PA are still available for purchase from Walter Deerson for \$3.50 apiece. This is a great and quick reference for keeping track of the major feasts/fasts and planning your life around the liturgical year. The supply is limited, so buy one today and get yourself organized in the New Year!

**HOLIDAY BAKE SALE** *Holy Annunciation Church* in Brick is still selling its homemade dessert rolls through **Sunday, December 18**. Five varieties are being offered for \$12 apiece: **apricot, apricot nut, chocolate chip nut, walnut and poppy**. (*Prune is SOLD OUT!*) For guaranteed availability for your Christmas celebration, place your order **as soon as possible** with James Kornafel (732-462-3388). Delivery is usually within a week. Our sister parish thanks you for your continued support.

**BIRTHDAY WISHES** go out this week to **Arianna Marie Steffaro**. May God's loving presence continue to be in her life for many years—Mnogaya Lyeta!

**2012 CHURCH CLEANING SCHEDULE** Starting **January 1**, the general maintenance of the church (vacuuming, removing candles/wax, dusting, etc.) will no longer be handled by the Parish Council or a few willing parishioners and Altar Boys; it will be the responsibility of **everyone** on a **monthly basis**. So far, three "teams," comprised of families and/or individuals, have stepped up to clean the church in January, February and July, respectively. We are hoping that nine additional groups will voluntarily assemble to cover the remaining months of the year, before parishioners are assigned. All supplies will be provided and a list of duties will be posted at the Candle Desk. Team members can decide among themselves when and how to handle the required tasks. We recommend, however, that everything be completed after Liturgy on Sunday to ensure that the church is clean prior to the next service; this will also make it easier for those without access to the building to perform their duties while someone is around to unlock /lock the doors. If you have any questions or need assistance forming a team, please see/contact Carol Deerson (732-254-4979) or Jay Pelleriti (732-257-4478). Be receptive about this new procedure, keeping in mind the words of Saint Seraphim of Sarov: "*Everything to do with the church is like an inner fire enkindling us; looking after it is the best work of all. The humblest job, be it only to clean the floor of the House of God, is nobler than all others. Everything you do in the House of God should be done with reverence, for where else could you find greater joy than in the place where the Lord is dwelling?*"

**PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED** for the following parishioners, family members and friends, as well as for the Coptic Church in Egypt and all Christian churches throughout the Middle East:

<u>Departed</u>	<u>Sick</u>		<u>Servicemen</u>
Helen Smorgans	Elaine Ashton	Elaine Schwartz	Ivan Shidlovsky
Rosalie Smaldone	Irene Boule	Athene Demitry	Lisa Beard
Helen Ribarro	Edward Romanofsky	Anne LaMonica	Gregory Nosol

Benedict Benda  
Joseph Bulko  
Raisa Shaluha  
John Pisuk

Walentyna Posluszny  
Alan Zenkert  
Michael Dargento  
Julia Glazer  
Joseph Casale  
Donna Casale  
Lasha Giorgi Pozidis  
Dorothy Swenticky  
John Cameron  
Sarah Hall  
Katherine Tarzewski  
Anna Durovich  
Denise Yager  
Martha Drobnak  
Dorothy Sopchak  
Margo Stewart  
Barbara Wyluda  
Arlene Krell  
Beverly Vietti  
Adam Huba  
Thea Casale  
David Hebert

Robert Smith  
Thomas Roche  
Theresa Rogozenski  
Olga Romanofsky

Alyssa Rosatelli  
John Bihuniak  
Larry Kimpart  
Patricia Cottrell

Timothy Magee  
John Centrello  
Nancy Filak  
Charles Csenica  
Barbara Parhizgar  
Mikola Zakrewsky  
Kim Walker  
Dennis Silowka  
Benedetto Pelleriti  
Alexandre Kurtanidze  
Darren Flynn  
Beth Williscroft  
Malcolm Bradford  
Rina D'Amico  
Barbara Longo  
Charlene Sofer  
Brenda Foster  
Paul Pavlik  
Stavroula Parks  
Priest Herman Schick  
Subdeacon Basil Quinn  
Archpriest Thomas  
Edwards  
Eva Fedash  
Olga Kozlov  
Bishop NIKON (Liolin)  
Archpriest Alexander  
Atty  
Ivert (Fred) Kirkirt  
Melissa  
Anna Janiszewski  
Valentina Fornadel  
Nancy Balon  
Archpriest Paul White

June Buyofsky-Rittman  
David T. Floyd  
Patrick Lohr  
Keith Sudder  
Priest Paul Rivers  
Patrick Baldwin  
Timothy Stepan  
Michael Gregus  
Peter Shaw  
Jacqueline Martinez  
Karen Bonet  
David Gambert  
Fred Bush  
Travis Hartman  
Elizabeth Brent  
Kyle Abbott  
Priest Sean Levine  
Gary Amatrudo Jr.  
Steven Moore

Please notify Father David or Starosta if you have anyone else who should be included on this list. May they all be under the grace and tender watch of our Lord.

**MEMORY ETERNAL** The servant of God, **John Pisuk**, fell asleep in the Lord on Friday, November 18. We extend our prayerful sympathy to his family and friends, especially his nephew, **Robert (Joan) Pisuk**. May God's presence sustain them during this time of sorrow—Vechnya Pamyat!

**BULLETIN DEADLINE** Announcements for next Sunday's bulletin must be submitted by **Thursday evening** to either Fr. David or our Bulletin Editor, James Kornafel. You can reach Father at the rectory or contact Jim by phone (732-462-3388), fax (732-845-3515) or E-mail ([jimmyk@optonline.net](mailto:jimmyk@optonline.net)).

**GLORY TO JESUS CHRIST!**

**GLORY FOREVER!**