



SS. Peter & Paul Russian Orthodox Church

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

76 Whitehead Avenue, South River, NJ 08882

Phone: (732) 257-0102 * Fax: (732) 257-2959 * E-Mail: dfmg@aol.com * Website: www.saintpeterandpaul.org

Parish Mailing Address:

153 Kamm Avenue

South River, NJ 08882

Rev. David F. Garretson, Rector

Basil Kozak, Choir Director

James Kornafel, Starosta

Church Hall Address:

9 Jeffrie Avenue

South River, NJ 08882

March 18, 2012

THIRD SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT—Tone 7—VENERATION OF THE CROSS

The Repose of St. Nikolai of Zhicha

St. Cyril, Archbishop of Jerusalem; Martyrs Trophimus and Eucarpus of Nicomedia; Ven. Aninas of the Euphrates

Epistles: Hebrews 4:14-5:6

Hebrews 13:16-21 (Saint)

Gospels: Mark 8:34-9:1

John 10:9-16 (Saint)

* The Liturgical & Study Week Ahead *

(Fourth Week of Great Lent)

TODAY	4:00 p.m.	<i>Lenten Mission Vespers</i> at Church of the Mother of God in Mays Landing
Tues, Mar 20	7:00 a.m.	Lenten Matins
Wed, Mar 21	5:30 p.m.	Confessions
	7:00 p.m.	Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts with His Grace, Bishop MICHAEL
Fri, Mar 23	6:00 p.m.	Confessions
	7:00 p.m.	Great Compline followed by Confessions
Sat, Mar 24	FOURTH SATURDAY OF GREAT LENT	
9:00 a.m.	Forefeast of the Annunciation; Ven. Zachariah the Recluse	
Divine Liturgy	Epistle: Heb 9:6-12	Gospel: Mark 7:31-37
	(Confessions before Liturgy will begin at 8 a.m. Do not arrive later than 8:30 a.m.)	
5:00 p.m.	Confessions	
6:30 p.m.	<u>Panihida:</u> Benedetto Pelleriti (40 th day) offered by Jay Pelleriti	
	Walter Swenticky (1 yr) offered by the family	
7:00 p.m.	Great Vespers with Litiya followed by Confessions	
Sun, Mar 25	FOURTH SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT—Tone 8	
9:00 a.m.	THE ANNUNCIATION OF OUR MOST-HOLY LADY THE THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY	
Divine Liturgy	Epistles: Heb 6:13-20	Gospels: Mark 9:17-31
	Heb 2:11-18 (Feast)	Luke 1:24-38 (Feast)
4:00 p.m.	<i>Lenten Mission Vespers</i> with His Grace, Bishop MICHAEL, at Annunciation Church in Brick	

* What's Up in Our Parish *

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

Our intern priest, **Fr. Gerasim Eliel**, will continue his four-week series entitled *Scripture 101: An Intro to the Bible TODAY* during Coffee Hour. Join him this Lent as we journey together as a community of Scripture readers.

Gertrude Hawk Easter Candy Orders are available for pick-up in the church hall **TODAY**. Please see Susan Witkowski if you have any questions.

The **Altar Society** will meet in the church hall on **Monday, March 19**, at 6 p.m.

The first meeting of the **2012 Parish Council** will be held **this Monday, March 19**, at 7 p.m., in the church hall.

Choir Rehearsal will be held in the church on **Tuesday, March 20**, at 7 p.m.

Lenten Youth Sunday, a day our parish will celebrate all its young people, will be on the **Feast of the Annunciation, March 25**. The youth will be involved in many parts of the Liturgy, including reading of the Hours and Epistles, holding the Communion cloth, working the Candle Desk, ringing the bells and collecting the weekly offering. Please be sure to attend.

As is customary in our parish during the season of Great Lent, the **Sacrament of Holy Unction** will be celebrated on **Thursday, April 5**, at 7 p.m. In a time when the world presents us with all manner of alternative therapies, self-help books and new-age healing techniques, it is so important for us to remind ourselves that it is Christ Who heals us and redeems fallen creation with its suffering and pain. We must turn to Him for the healing of both our souls and bodies. Therefore, anyone whose physical, emotional or spiritual health is seriously impaired is encouraged to attend. *(NOTE: Because Unction is intrinsically bound to the physical and spiritual healing that we receive in the life of the Church, we must approach this sacrament as we would Communion and seek to free ourselves of the sins that separate us from the fullness of life in Jesus Christ. Therefore, it is proper for those who are not regular communicants to be absolved of their sins through Confession before being anointed. If you have any questions, contact Fr. David.)*

An **Easter Egg Hunt**, hosted by the **Saint Anne’s Guild**, will be held on the church lawn (weather permitting) on **Bright Monday, April 16**, following the Paschal Divine Liturgy. Children of **all ages** are encouraged to take part. Afterwards, there will be a **Paschal Potluck Luncheon** to which **EVERYONE** is invited.

✧ News That Matters ✧

STEWARDSHIP: TIME & TREASURE Attendance at Liturgy last Sunday was **137**.

MINISTRY DUTIES The Epistle will be read next Sunday by **Paul Rogozenski**. Coffee Hour will be hosted by the **Saint Anne’s Guild**. The church will be cleaned by **Team Berezniak**. *(NOTE: The Men’s Club and Team Silowka will be responsible for the Coffee Hour and cleaning the church, respectively, during the month of April.)*

HOLY CONFESSION is sacred and necessary for your spiritual life and growth as an Orthodox Christian, especially during this penitential period of Great Lent. If you have not already done so, plan to participate in this sacrament **as soon as possible**. Check the *Liturgical & Study Week Ahead* in the weekly bulletin to find the time that is best for you. Since this act of reconciliation should be done in a prayerful and non-rushed manner, you may want to consider fulfilling this obligation after the service on Friday evenings or Saturday afternoons before Vespers. If you come at the last minute before a service starts, particularly one at which Holy Communion is given, there may not be time for Fr. David to hear your confession, which means you would have to do it afterwards. Above all, please **DO NOT** wait until Holy Week!

THANK YOU to the **Machyowsky Family** for their donation of the flowers adorning the Holy Cross on the center tetrapod; they were given in remembrance of the birthday of beloved husband and dear father of blessed memory, **Paul Sr.** May his soul dwell where the just repose—Vechnaya Pamyat!

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

IN YOUR DAILY PRAYERS remember the following parishioners, family members and friends:

<u>Departed</u>		<u>Sick</u>		<u>Servicemen</u>
Benedetto Pelleriti	Elaine Ashton	Theresa Rogozenski	Olga Kozlov	Ivan Shidlovsky
Carol Ann Jewels	Irene Boule	Olga Romanofsky	Bishop NIKON (Liolin)	Lisa Beard
Isabelle Teszla	Edward Romanofsky	Alyssa Rosatelli	Archpriest Alexander Atty	Gregory Nosol
Patricia Franchino	Walentyyna Posluszny	John Bihuniak	Ivert (Fred) Kirkirt	June Buyofsky-Rittman
Michael Mann	Alan Zenkert	Larry Kimpart	Anna Janiszewski	David T. Floyd
Michael Durovich	Michael Dargento	Patricia Cottrell	Myrna Woznica	Patrick Lohr
	Julia Glazer	Elaine Schwartz	Joseph (Jay) Pelleriti	Keith Sudder
	Joseph Casale	Athene Demitry	Jean Catherine Brooks	Priest Paul Rivers

Donna Casale	Timothy Magee	Samuel Garretson	Patrick Baldwin
Lasha Giorgi Pozidis	John Centrello	Jami Porzi	Timothy Stepan
Dorothy Swenticky	Nancy Filak	Richard Baylor	Michael Gregus
John Cameron	Charles Csenica	Joseph Posluszny	Peter Shaw
Katherine Tarzewski	Barbara Parhizgar	Gilson Costa	Jacqueline Martinez
Martha Drobnak	Mikola Zakrewsky	Pearl Blower	Karen Bonet
Dorothy Sopchak	Kim Walker	Presbytera Florence Cassar	David Gambert
Margo Stewart	Dennis Silowka	Sophie Teszla	Fred Bush
Barbara Wyluda	Alexandre Kurtanidze	Natalie Teszla	Travis Hartman
Arlene Krell	Darren Flynn	Jonathan Zdybel	Elizabeth Brent
Beverly Vietti	Beth Williscroft	Ellie Jacobs	Kyle Abbott
Adam Huba	Malcolm Bradford	Mary Rock	Priest Sean Levine
Thea Casale	Barbara Longo	Louis Silva	Gary Amatrudo Jr.
David Hebert	Charlene Sofer	Joan Uler	Steven Moore
Robert Smith	Brenda Foster	Barbara Minard	James G. Teller
Thomas Roche	Eva Fedash	Archpriest Stephen Mack	
		Laura Mercolino	

If you have a friend or loved one for whom you would like us to pray, contact Father David or Starosta.

THE 2012 FOCA CREATIVE ARTS CONTEST is now underway. As in years past, it is open to all Orthodox Christian children and youth. Entrants need not be members of an FOCA chapter. This year's theme, *My Friends in the Faith*, can be expressed in four categories: creative writing, music, visual arts and photography. A detailed list of rules for each category and entry forms may be found on the FOCA website under the "Juniors" tab. Entries must be submitted by **Thursday, April 12**. All submissions will be displayed at this year's *FOCA National Bowling and Basketball Tournaments*, during which awards will be presented.

IF YOU OR A LOVED ONE IS HOSPITALIZED, let Father David know; new privacy laws prohibit care facilities from calling him.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE at www.saintpeterandpaul.org. You can read the parish history, peruse parts of the church bulletin, find a schedule of services and learn about all our parish organizations. As this is always a work in progress, with updates done regularly, our Webmasters, **Jeff & Tatiana Hoff**, would be more than happy to post any noteworthy photos and/or announcements; you can contact them by E-mail (webmaster@saintpeterandpaul.org or jeffhoff@gmail.com).

ALL-NIGHT VIGIL We would like to keep the church **open** again this year for prayer, reflection and meditation from Holy (Good) Friday afternoon up until the start of Nocturne on Holy Saturday night. Unfortunately, we have no one to coordinate this effort. If you would like to volunteer for this assignment, please see or contact either Fr. David or Starosta.

LENTEN FOOD BANK CHALLENGE Lent is often viewed as a time for giving something up. This year, you are asked to think about giving TO something during this season of preparation for Pascha: the **South River Food Bank**. For the 15th straight year, food bank agencies around the US are invited to participate in the **Alan Shawn Feinstein \$1 Million Giveaway to Fight Hunger**. The members of the South River Board of Health and the staff of the South River Food Bank are enthusiastically taking up this challenge by soliciting donations during March and April. All food and monetary offerings made to the Food Bank during these two months will help it receive a larger donation from the Feinstein giveaway. Detailed information is available on the flyer posted on the bulletin board near the kitchen. Donations of food can be left on the table in the church hall vestibule. Any monetary contributions can be placed in an envelope marked "*Lenten Food Bank Challenge*" and given to Paul Zelanko. Our thanks for your support!

SINCERE THANKS to the following individuals for their recent monetary gifts to the parish:

Church/General Fund: **Alexander Demydenko and Dr. & Mrs. Pacala** (both in memory of **Matushka Luba Kreshik**) and **Anonymous**

Cemetery Perpetual Care: **Mr. & Mrs. B. Hillyer and Alison & Anne Marie Rankin** (all in memory of **Veronica Burak**); **Mr. & Mrs. Louis Adams, Nick & Sophie Dureiko, Sandra K. Forrest, Sonja Harris and Mr. & Mrs. Louis Silva** (all in memory of **Anna Durovich**); and **Betty Matyas, Fran Delany, David & Eleanor Erickson, Mr. & Mrs. Jonathan Erickson, George & Bridget Hughes, Louis & Nadya Silva, Joseph & Arlene Sokoloski and Joan Sylvester** (all in memory of **Anne Silvanovich**)

Handicap Access Fund: **Janet & Ruth Hartman** (in memory of **Anne Silvanovich**)

We receive these contributions with our deepest gratitude to the donors.

SCHEMICK-TOLLS SCHOLARSHIP Application packets are now available from Carol Deerson, Scholarship Coordinator. They must be completed and submitted by **Tuesday, May 1.** (*Supplemental materials, such as letters of reference and transcripts, are due by Monday, May 28.*) To qualify, an applicant and his/her family must be church members in good standing for at least two years prior to May 1. In addition, they must also be regular participants in the sacramental life of the church and demonstrate proper stewardship and support of the parish. The applicant must be enrolled as a full-time, undergraduate student in a two-year, four-year or certificate granting institution and have high school and/or college grade point averages of 2.25 or better. Please telephone Carol (732-254-4979) with any questions.

BELATED BIRTHDAY GREETINGS go out to **Nicholas Kovalenko** who celebrated this past week. We wish him all God's special blessings for many years—Mnogaya Lyeta!

LITURGICAL REMINDER The **Liturgy** begins with "*Blessed is the Kingdom...*" and ends with the final Blessing of the Cross. It is a teaching tool; Church School is **NOT** a replacement for it.

THE RUSSIAN ECCLESIASTICAL MISSION (REM) IN JERUSALEM Since its inception in 1858, the REM in Jerusalem has been the guardian of sacred sites in the Holy Land and other areas of Palestine. Thanks to the past charitableness of donors throughout the world, over \$1 million has been sent over the last 14 years to provide material aid to our holy convents in Gethsemane and the Mount of Olives, as well as the *Skete of St. Chariton*. The needs continue to be extensive and financial assistance is humbly requested in support of these monastic endeavors. Send whatever you can to **REM, 75 East 93rd Street, New York, NY 10128.** May the Lord reward you a hundredfold for your generosity and may He enable you, one day, to visit the places where He lived and fulfilled our salvation.

CONFESSION AND COMMUNION OF SHUT-INS Father David would like to make sure that all parishioners at home, in retirement communities or in specialized care facilities participate in the sacraments of Holy Confession & Communion this Lent. Although he has a current listing, it may have erroneous or missing info. Therefore, if you know of someone who may not be on the list and would like to be confessed and communed at home, please let him know **as soon as possible.**

CONGRATULATIONS to **Sonia Plutnick** on the birth of her first great-granddaughter, **Sloane Mary Grabell**, on March 14. We wish her much joy and happiness as she watches this miracle of God's love grow and mature. Many Years—Mnogaya Lyeta!

SEXTON FAMILY SPECIAL COLLECTION The response to a special collection taken last Sunday during Liturgy for Fr. Adam Sexton & Family of *St. John the Baptist Church* in Nanticoke, PA was truly heartwarming; **\$943** was donated to assist this family of 10 who lost everything in a fire that raged through the parish rectory two weeks ago. Your consideration and financial help were most appreciated. Please continue to keep these victims in your prayers. Thank you.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED The recent devastating tornadoes and floods in the US have left thousands of people homeless with nothing but the clothes on their backs. Disabled children in Haiti are still in need of a school that was destroyed in the earthquake over two years ago. Many hard-working families in Greece have found themselves unemployed or without homes to receive essential food and health care. Hundreds of Syrians have been displaced by fighting and hundreds more have been forced to flee to Lebanon and Jordan to save themselves and their loved ones. Through your generosity, **International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC)** can work to assist these families around the world in their time of suffering. During this period of Lent, when helping the less fortunate is one of those "basics" that will bring us ever closer to God, let's support the efforts of this organization; the need is immense. Send a tax-deductible contribution to *International Orthodox Christian Charities, P.O. Box 17398, Baltimore, MD 21297-0429.* Be assured that whatever monetary donation you give, be it small or large, will make a difference and be an answer to a prayer.

THE DEADLINE to submit all info for next Sunday's bulletin is **Thursday evening.** Get in touch with Fr. David at the rectory or contact our Bulletin Editor, James Kornafel, by phone (732-462-3388), fax (732-845-3515) or E-mail (jimmyk@optonline.net).



Great Lent is not so much a season of punishment as one of healing. Having reached the midpoint of the Fast, this statement might be difficult for many to agree with, especially those of you who are trying to strictly follow the rules of fasting and abstinence established by the Holy Fathers. Forty days is a long time and while the spirit is often willing, the flesh is always weak!

Just remember that it is the hope of the Holy Church that by eating and drinking less and eliminating our exposure to worldly pleasures, our minds will be made more clear and receptive to receive the sacred nourishment of God's word. At this point, our Lenten struggle may seem difficult, tiring and a total waste of time, but it is only a burden to those who take it up unwillingly. If we carry this "cross" with courage and dedication, we can be assured that we will reap the spiritual benefits of our Savior's victory which He achieved on the Cross.

✧ 2012 Parish Council ✧

With the archpastoral blessing of His Grace, Bishop MICHAEL, the following individuals were installed today as officers and members of the 2012 Parish Council:

James Kornafel, *Starosta*
Hank Dziemian, *Assistant Starosta*
Carol Deerson, *Secretary*
Sandra Hoff, *Treasurer*
Robert Hoff, *Financial Secretary*

Gregory Berezniak	Sonja Harris	Paula Mindzak
Diane Dreyer	James Jones	Jay Pelleriti
Anastasia Essl	Barbara Kaminsky	Michael Steffaro

May the Lord bless them for their dedication and love for our parish community and may He help them carry out their leadership responsibilities with both courage and wisdom and with patience and mutual respect.

We would be remiss in not thanking our only departing Council member, **Yuri Nerush**. His commitment and loyalty have been second to none.

Serving on Parish Council is a sacred trust; please, therefore, offer your continued and prayerful support for this group of men and women as they fulfill their roles as stewards of the church and deal with her needs and priorities this year.

✧ Annual Easter Bazaar – March 31, 2012 ✧

Believe it or not, our **Annual Easter Bazaar** is just two weeks away! Again, the opportunity is here for all of us to work **together** as a parish and enjoy a day of fellowship. Our Bazaar Co-chairmen, Patricia Larkin (732-605-1351) and Jay Pelleriti (732-257-4478), are asking for as much assistance as possible. The more helping hands, the smoother this event will run. Contact them—your participation in this fundraiser will be appreciated, whether you give of your time or talents or simply make a donation of baked goods or homemade crafts. Monetary offerings to offset advertising costs will also be accepted.

Fresh kielbasa orders are being handled by Michael Burak (732-254-0879); a 2-lb minimum is requested. The order deadline is **TODAY**. Assistance to make the sausage is needed on **Thursday-Friday, March 22-23**. Those of you who have not helped in the past are encouraged to do so and learn something new; see Mickey for details.

Babka orders are being taken by Debra Jones, via E-mail (dshaluha@comcast.net) or phone (732-238-0735) through **next Sunday, March 25**. Get them in early and often! This year's variety includes cheese, cinnamon crumb, prune, poppy, raspberry (NEW), apricot and raisin for \$9.50 and raspberry cheese, apricot cheese (NEW) and chocolate cheese (NEW) for \$10. Orders can be picked up in the hall on **Thursday, March 29**, between 2 and 7 p.m.

The *Gift Basket Committee* is looking for contributions of "big ticket items," such as movie or sporting event passes, gift cards/certificates, personal electronics (digital camera, *Ipod*, *Ipad*, *Kindle*, *Nook*, *MP3* player), kitchen appliances, home décor or jewelry. If you don't have time to shop, monetary donations are gladly welcomed. All contributions are requested by **next Sunday, March 25**. Please contact Karen Berezniak (732-754-0033) or Deborah Silowka (732-735-1359) if you have any questions.

Get the word out and bring all your family, neighbors, acquaintances and co-workers for a full day of fundraising, friendship and community. Tell everyone to avoid all the crowds at the supermarkets and get their delicious Easter basket goodies easily and conveniently. We're counting on your support!

Glory to Jesus Christ!

Glory Forever!