



SS. Peter & Paul Russian Orthodox Church

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

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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

April 1, 2012

FIFTH SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT—Tone 1—ST. MARY OF EGYPT

Ven. Euthymius of Suzdal; Martyr Abraham of Bulgaria; Ven. Gerontius the Canonarch of the Kiev Caves; Ven. Macarius the Abbot of Pelecete; Martyrs Gerontius and Basilides; Righteous Achaza

Epistles: Hebrews 9:11-14

Galatians 3:23-29 (Saint)

Gospels: Mark 10:32-45

Luke 7:36-50 (Saint)

* The Liturgical & Study Week Ahead *

(Sixth Week of Great Lent)

TODAY	4:00 p.m.	Lenten Mission Vespers at SS. Peter & Paul Church in Bayonne (A Deanery Youth Choir , under the direction of Basil Kozak, will sing the responses.)
Wed, Apr 4	5:30 p.m.	Confessions
	6:00 p.m.	Confessions in Russian with Fr. Sergius Kuharsky
	7:00 p.m.	Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts
Thurs, Apr 5	6:00 p.m.	Confessions
	7:00 p.m.	The Sacrament of Holy Unction
Fri, Apr 6	6:00 p.m.	Confessions
	7:00 p.m.	Great Compline & Matins followed by Confessions
Sat, Apr 7	LAZARUS SATURDAY	
9:00 a.m.	The Repose of St. Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow	
Divine Liturgy	Epistles: Heb 12:28-13:8	Gospels: John 11:1-45
	Heb 7:26-8:2 (St. Tikhon)	John 10:9-16 (St. Tikhon)
	(Confessions before Liturgy will begin at 8 a.m. Do not arrive later than 8:30 a.m.)	
5:00 p.m.	Confessions	
7:00 p.m.	Vigil of Palm Sunday with Blessing of Willows followed by Confessions	
Sun, Apr 8	PALM SUNDAY—THE ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM	
9:00 a.m.	Holy Apostles of the Seventy: Herodion, Agabus, Asyncritus, Rufus, Phlegon, Hermes and those with them	
Divine Liturgy	Epistle: Phil 4:4-9	Gospel: John 12:1-18
4:00 p.m.	Bridegroom Matins (FOCA Lenten Mission) with His Grace, Bishop MICHAEL	



Fr. David will be leaving for Los Angeles this afternoon on union business; he will be coming home on Tuesday. Accordingly, there will be **NO LENTEN MATINS** served this week. If there be an emergency need for a priest, call

Father on his cell phone (732-740-6230). If you can't reach him, please contact Starosta at (732) 462-3388.

✳ What's Up in Our Parish ✳

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

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

Choir Rehearsal will be held in the church on **Tuesday, April 3**, at 7 p.m.

As is customary in our parish during the season of Great Lent, the **Sacrament of Holy Unction** will be celebrated **this 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 strongly encouraged to attend. (**NOTE:** *Because Holy 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 Holy Confession before being anointed. If you have any questions, get in touch with Fr. David.*)

Calling all men and women who bake! We are in need of prosphora (Holy Bread) bakers **this Saturday, April 7**, starting at 10:30 a.m., in the church hall. Please consider offering your time and talent to this most important ministry by helping our existing group of "**Holy Rollers**" prepare the greatest gift we can give to the Lord—the very bread that He, through His divine Holy Spirit, will consecrate and become the Body of Christ—come!

The **Annual Lenten Mission** of the **Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America (FOCA)** will be hosted by **our parish next Sunday, April 8**, beginning at 4 p.m. His Grace, Bishop MICHAEL, will be the main celebrant, with the assistance of priests from parishes throughout New Jersey. A **Lenten Agape (Meal)** will be held in the church hall afterwards. Try to attend; it is a very moving and inspiring way to begin Holy Week.

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

Because Bright Monday falls on the third Monday of April this year, the next monthly meeting of **Parish Council** will be on **Monday, April 23**, at 7 p.m., in the hall. All members are asked to please make note of this change.

Join the **Men's Club** for an **Atlantic City Bus Trip** to the *Showboat Casino* on **Tuesday, May 15**. Seats are available on a first-come, first-served basis. The bus usually fills up very quickly, so make your reservations **as soon as possible**. If you're interested in attending, call Edward Boshko at (732) 254-1200.

✳ News That Matters ✳

STEWARDSHIP: TIME & TREASURE Attendance at Liturgy last Sunday was **130**.

MINISTRY DUTIES The Epistle will be read next Sunday by **Robert Pisuk**. Coffee Hour will be hosted by the **Men's Club**. The church will be cleaned by **Team Silowka**.

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: visual arts, creative writing, music 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.

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

Departed
Michael Mann

Joseph (Jay) Pelleriti

Sick
Julio Andres
Veramende

Presbytera Florence
Cassar

Servicemen
Ivan Shidlovsky

Michael Durovich	Jean Catherine Brooks	Archpriest Alexander Atty	Archpriest Stephen Mack	Lisa Beard
Pope SHENOUDA III	Edward Romanofsky	Alyssa Rosatelli	Bishop NIKON (Liolin)	Gregory Nosol
Marie Fidyk	Walentyna Posluszny	Deacon John Diamantis	Ivert (Fred) Kirkirt	David T. Floyd
Barbara Minard	Alan Zenkert	Patricia Cottrell	Theresa Rogozenski	Patrick Lohr
Ryan Alley	Michael Dargento	Elaine Schwartz	Olga Romanofsky	Keith Sudder
Krishna Kesari	Julia Glazer	Athene Demitry	Elaine Ashton	Priest Paul Rivers
Cynthia Mazurek	Joseph Casale	Timothy Magee	Irene Boule	Patrick Baldwin
	Donna Casale	John Centrello	Anna Janiszewski	Michael Gregus
	Lasha Giorgi Pozidis	Nancy Filak	Myrna Woznica	Peter Shaw
	Dorothy Swenticky	Charles Csenica	Samuel Garretson	Jacqueline Martinez
	John Cameron	Barbara Parhizgar	Joseph Posluszny	David Gambert
	Katherine Tarzewski	Mikola Zakrewsky	Gilson Costa	Fred Bush
	Martha Drobnak	Kim Walker	Pearl Blower	Travis Hartman
	Dorothy Sopchak	Dennis Silowka	Ellie Jacobs	Elizabeth Brent
	Margo Stewart	Alexandre Kurtanidze	Mary Rock	Kyle Abbott
	Barbara Wyluda	Darren Flynn	Louis Silva	Priest Sean Levine
	Arlene Krell	Beth Williscroft	Joan Uler	Gary Amatrudo Jr.
	Beverly Vietti	Malcolm Bradford	Laura Mercolino	Steven Moore
	Adam Huba	Barbara Longo	Dee	James G. Teller
	Thea Casale	Charlene Sofer	Florence	
	David Hebert	Brenda Foster	Larry Kimpart	
	Robert Smith	Eva Fedash	Maria Simpson	
	Thomas Roche	Olga Kozlov	Mary Fritz	

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

HOLY CONFESSION We are now entering the sixth and final week of Great Lent. If you have not yet gone to Confession, **PLEASE** do not let it go until the 11th hour when time is a factor. There are plenty of opportunities this week to complete this act of reconciliation: before the Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts and the Sacrament of Unction on Wednesday and Thursday, respectively; before and after Great Compline/Matins on Friday evening; before Divine Liturgy on Saturday morning; and before and after Vigil on Saturday evening; check the *Liturgical & Study Week Ahead* in the weekly bulletin to find the time that is best for you. Above all, **DO NOT** wait until Holy Week! (**NOTE:** *For those who are more comfortable making a confession in Russian, our Pastor Emeritus, Fr. Sergius Kuharsky, will be in church this Wednesday, April 4, starting at 6 p.m. Inform your friends or relatives. If someone is unavailable on this day, he/she should contact Fr. David so that other arrangements can be made.*)

ALL-NIGHT VIGIL Our church will remain **open** for prayer, reflection and meditation from Holy Friday afternoon until the beginning of Nocturne on Holy Saturday night. Volunteers **of all ages** are needed to be on *grave watch* for two-hour shifts to keep vigil at the Tomb of Our Lord by reading the Psalms and Acts of the Apostles. Everyone is encouraged to participate in this symbolic act representing the guards who were posted by Pontius Pilate to stand watch over the Holy Sepulchre; it is a wonderfully quiet and prayerful opportunity. A sign-up sheet is in the church vestibule. For details, see or contact Michael Steffaro (732-698-1952).

CHURCH ETIQUETTE Please **DO NOT** chew gum in the church; not only is it disrespectful, distracting and sometimes noisy, it is considered “breaking the fast” for anyone desiring to partake of Holy Communion. Your strict attention to this matter of etiquette is greatly appreciated.

READ ANY GOOD BOOKS LATELY? Turn the last two weeks of your journey to Pascha into a real pilgrimage by deepening your spirituality with a book from our parish library. Why not take a few moments during today’s Coffee Hour and go upstairs in the church hall and browse the shelves? We have a good selection for Lenten reading, prayer and meditation—something for everyone, guaranteed!

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. Monetary contributions can be

placed in an envelope marked “*Lenten Food Bank Challenge*” and given to Paul Zelanko. Our thanks for your support!

SCHEMICK-TOLLS SCHOLARSHIP Application packets are available from Carol Deerson, Scholarship Coordinator. They must be completed and submitted by **Tuesday, May 1**. (*All 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. 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 phone Carol (732-254-4979) with any questions.

DONATE YOUR USED CELL PHONE In an effort to raise some money to offset costs for this year’s trip to *Hogar Rafael Ayau Orphanage* in Guatemala, our mission team is collecting used cell phones, in any condition, for recycling to an environmentally-conscious center. In addition to earning extra cash, the members are also helping to keep the fabulous earth God gave us clean! So, if you have any old phones sitting in a drawer gathering dust, please bring them to church next week and give them to John or Susan Witkowski; the effort required is so minimal. Thank you for your support and please pass the word!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES go out this week to **Philip & Paul Rogozenski, John Witkowski** and our Assistant Starosta, **Hank Dziemian**. May God continue to bless them with good health, happiness and long life for many years—Mnogaya Lyeta!

GUATEMALAN ORPHANAGE WISH LIST The nuns and children at the **Hogar Rafael Ayau Orphanage** in Guatemala are in need of church, office and school supplies, as well as clothing, toiletries, kitchen items and medicines, especially the following:

Saint John of Commandaria wine for Liturgy
HP 56 Black & HP 22 Color printer cartridges
Jeans for teenagers (Sizes 1, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16)
Church Shoes for boys & girls (All sizes)

Canon 210 Black & Canon 211 Color printer cartridges
Long skirts for teenagers (Sizes S, M & L)
Blouses for teenagers
Trash bags (Medium, Large & 13 gallon)

A complete wish list is posted in the church hall. With its limited resources and monthly budget, the orphanage is doing the very best it can. It is, however, counting on your generosity to help them continue the work of caring for God’s little ones. If you would like to support the blessed effort of this year’s mission team, please donate one or more of the items from the list and give it to John or Susan Witkowski by **Sunday, May 6**. Monetary offerings (cash or checks payable to *Friends of Hogar Rafael Ayau*) are also most welcomed. Whatever you can contribute will be lovingly appreciated.

WARM THE CHILDREN (WTC) ANNUAL REPORT 2011 was a terrific year for this charitable organization. Thanks to the overwhelming involvement of parishioners and parish organizations throughout the country, one ton (63 boxes) of lovely, warm and useful items was sent to 13 orphanages and institutions in Belarus and Russia. Anyone who participated in this campaign should be rightly proud to have helped hundreds of children and, in some cases, adults, to have new clothing, school supplies and toiletries. The recipients cherished everything that was received. The first shipment of this year will be going out soon. If you want to get involved in a truly “feel good” project, contact WTC Coordinator, Barbara Nafranowicz, by telephone (908-232-2532), E-mail (bnafranowicz@verizon.net) or post (167 North Cottage Place, Westfield, NJ 07090-2820). Whatever we possess becomes of double value when we share it with others—what a wonderful testament to the success of this ministry!

HOLY WEEK & PASCHA PROCESSIONS Volunteers are needed to carry icons and banners during the processions on Holy (Good) Friday evening, Pascha night, Easter Sunday afternoon (Paschal Vespers) and Bright Monday. Anyone and everyone can take part! If you’re interested, please see Hank Dziemian during Coffee Hour or call him at (732) 690-7461.

LAST YEAR’S PUSSY WILLOWS are considered sacramentals; please, therefore, dispose of these blessed branches by either burying or burning them, in anticipation of receiving new ones on Palm Sunday.

THANKS to all the **young parishioners** who participated in our *Annual Lenten Youth Sunday* last week. Very special recognition is given to **Kristen Berezniak** for delivering a truly inspiring sermon. We also express our appreciation to our Youth Coordinator, **Allison Steffaro**, and our Choir Director, **Basil Kozak**, for the excellent job they did in organizing this event. Everyone’s dedicated service to this parish is worthy of God’s richest blessings.

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

Church/General Fund: **Robert & Linda Szegeti** (in memory of **Raya Shaluha**); **Dominic & Kathryn Bongiovi, Ann Buckley, Terri Doktorski, Amanda Meyers, Helen Siry** and **Joseph & Terry Sowa** (all in memory of **Michael Durovich**); and **Walter & Carol Deerson, Ann Krynicki, Vera Dorn, Peter & Deborah Silowka, Helene Titsch** and **Mary Urbanik** (all in memory of **Benedetto Pelleriti**)

Handicap Access Fund: **Sonja Harris** (in memory of **Michael Durovich**)

Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund: **Mary Fritz** (in memory of **Michael Durovich**)

We also want to acknowledge a generous contribution made by **John & Helen Pelak** to offset the costs of our weekly *Coffee Hour*. This offering, as well as all the abovementioned gifts of care and love, are gratefully accepted—God bless!

BRING A FRIEND along with you to church. Encourage all 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!

HOLIDAY BAKE SALE For those of you who missed yesterday's Easter Bazaar, *Annunciation Church* in Brick is selling homemade dessert rolls through **next Sunday, April 8**. Five varieties are being offered for \$12 apiece: **apricot nut, chocolate chip nut, walnut, poppy** and **prune**. For guaranteed availability, place your order **as soon as possible** with James Kornafel (732-462-3388). Delivery is usually within a week. Buy a tasty treat for your holiday dinner while helping a worthy cause—our sister parish—at the same time!

SPRING CLEAN-UP In preparation for *Provodnoye* (Paschal Cemetery Visitation) on **Saint Thomas Sunday, April 22**, parishioners are respectfully requested to remove all winter sprays and/or coverings from the graves of their loved ones.

UPDATING OUR RECORDS is an ongoing process. Because we are such a large parish with members living in many counties throughout the state, staying on top of this can, at times, be difficult. You can help. We would like to have all parishioner information be correct or corrected; therefore, if you have recently moved and/or changed telephone numbers or names (through marriage, separation, divorce, death, etc.), please let Father David or Starosta know. Your assistance in this project will be most appreciated.

BULLETIN SUBMISSION DEADLINE Please note that any news, updates or events that you would like published in next Sunday's bulletin must be submitted by **Thursday evening**. Get in touch with Father 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).



The sixth and final week of Great Lent is upon us. Have you used this time wisely to rebuild your relationship with the Lord or have you, again, wasted this beautiful opportunity to renew it? Don't despair—it's never too late! Whatever little effort in prayer, fasting and/or charitable works that you can make during these last days of the Fast will surely bring you closer to God than you were when this journey to Pascha (Easter) started at the end of February. The Lord is seeking an intimate relationship with you; all you have to do is believe in His love and forgiveness.

Glory to Jesus Christ!

Glory Forever!