



SS. Peter & Paul Russian Orthodox Church

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

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Rev. David F. Garretson, Rector
Basil Kozak, Choir Director
James Kornafel, Starosta

Church Hall Address:
9 Jeffrie Avenue
South River, NJ 08882

April 8, 2012

PALM SUNDAY—THE ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM

Holy Apostles of the Seventy: Herodion, Agabus, Asyncritus, Rufus, Phlegon, Hermes and those with them; St. Niphon, Bishop of Novgorod; Ven. Rufus the Obedient of the Kiev Caves; Martyr Pausilippus of Heraclea in Thrace; St. Celestine, Pope of Rome; The Spanish Icon of the Most-holy Theotokos

Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9

Gospel: John 12:1-18

* The Liturgical & Study Week Ahead *

(Holy Week)

TODAY	4:00 p.m.	Bridegroom Matins (FOCA Lenten Mission) with His Grace, Bishop MICHAEL
Mon, Apr 9		GREAT AND HOLY MONDAY
7:00 p.m.		Bridegroom Matins
Tues, Apr 10		GREAT AND HOLY TUESDAY
7:00 p.m.		Bridegroom Matins
Wed, Apr 11		GREAT AND HOLY WEDNESDAY
8:00 a.m.		Confessions
9:00 a.m.		Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts with His Grace, Bishop MICHAEL
6:00 p.m.		Confessions
7:00 p.m.		Bridegroom Matins with His Grace, Bishop MICHAEL, followed by Confessions
Thurs, Apr 12		GREAT AND HOLY THURSDAY
9:00 a.m.		St. Basil the Confessor, Bishop of Parium
Vespers Liturgy		Epistle: 1 Cor 11:23-32 Gospels: Matt 26:2-20; John 13:3-17; Matt 26:21-39; Luke 22:44-45; Matt 26:40-27:2
		(Confessions before Liturgy will begin at 8 a.m. Do not arrive later than 8:30 a.m.)
7:00 p.m.		Matins of Great & Holy Friday – Service of the 12 Passion Gospels
Fri, Apr 13		GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY
2:00 p.m.		Vespers of the Entombment – Placing of the Holy Plaschanitsa on the Tomb
7:00 p.m.		Matins of Great & Holy Saturday – Lamentations & Procession followed by Confessions
		(Following Matins, the church will remain open for uninterrupted grave vigil and veneration until the midnight Resurrection services.)
Sat, Apr 14		GREAT AND HOLY SATURDAY
9:00 a.m.		St. Martin the Confessor, Pope of Rome
Vespers Liturgy		Epistle: Rom 6:3-11 Gospel: Matt 28:1-20
		(Confessions before Liturgy will begin at 8 a.m. Do not arrive later than 8:30 a.m.)
4:00 p.m.		Blessing of Paschal (Easter) Food in the church hall

9:00 p.m.	Reading of the Acts of the Apostles
11:30 p.m.	Nocturne & Procession
Sun, Apr 15	HOLY PASCHA—THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST
12 midnight	[Beginning of the Pentecostarion]; Apostles of the Seventy: Aristarchus, Pudens and Trophimus
Matins/Liturgy	Reading: Acts 1:1-8 Gospel: John 1:1-17
After Service	Blessing of Paschal (Easter) Food followed by a Paschal “ <i>Agape</i> ” in the church hall
12 noon	Paschal Vespers with Procession
Mon, Apr 16	BRIGHT MONDAY
9:00 a.m.	Virgin-martyrs Agape, Irene and Chionia in Illyria
Paschal Liturgy	Reading: Acts 1:12-17, 21-26 Gospel: John 1:18-28
	<i>(A procession around the church will take place at the end of Liturgy; everyone, especially our youth, is encouraged to take part. An Easter Egg Hunt and Paschal Potluck Luncheon will follow.)</i>

✧ *What's Up in Our Parish* ✧

Church School Classes will meet **TODAY** following the Liturgy Dismissal. There will be **NO** sessions on Pascha or St. Thomas Sunday. Classes will resume on **Sunday, April 29**.

A **Special Collection** was taken during the Liturgy **TODAY** to cover the loss of the church's copper down spouts which were stolen two weeks ago. If you were unprepared to make a donation, give your offering next week; your financial support will be appreciated.

The **Annual Lenten Mission** of the **Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America (FOCA)** will be hosted by **our parish TODAY**, 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 an inspiring way to begin Holy Week.

After we celebrate Matins and Divine Liturgy of the Holy Resurrection on **Pascha night, April 15**, plan to stay and share in the **Annual Paschal “Agape” Meal** in the church hall. **EVERYONE** is invited and **NO** donation is required, as there will be plenty to eat and drink. If, however, you would like to offer something—main course, side dish, dessert, beverage—there is a sign-up sheet posted in the church vestibule. If you have any questions, see or contact Natasha Rogozenski (732-613-0856). Let's break the Fast **TOGETHER** as a parish family!

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 Liturgy. Children of **all ages** are encouraged to participate. Afterwards, there will be a **Paschal Potluck Luncheon** to which **EVERYONE** is invited. (*NOTE: A sign-up sheet for those who would like to bring something is posted on the church bulletin board. Get in touch with Natasha Rogozenski if you have any questions.*)

A **Special Parish Meeting** will be held in the church after Liturgy on **Sunday, April 22**, to discuss the Rock house on the corner of Jeffrie & Linden Avenues. All parishioners are urged to attend.

Because Bright Monday falls on the third Monday of April this year, **Parish Council** will convene on **Monday, April 23**, at 7 p.m., in the hall.

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, phone Edward Boshko at (732) 254-1200.

✧ *News That Matters* ✧

STEWARDSHIP: TIME & TREASURE Attendance at Liturgy last Sunday was **166**.

MINISTRY DUTIES The Epistle will be read next Sunday by **Reader Michael Steffaro**. Coffee Hour on Saint Thomas Sunday will be hosted by the **Men's Club**. The church will be cleaned by **Team Silowka**.

HOLY CONFESSION We are now entering Holy Week. If you have not yet gone to Holy Confession, **PLEASE** do not let it go until the 11th hour when time is a factor. There are many opportunities this week to complete this act of reconciliation: check the *Liturgical & Study Week Ahead* in the weekly bulletin to find the time that is best for you. Don't miss out in partaking of the real Pascha in communion with our Lord.

YOU NEED TO KNOW Three weeks ago, someone came into the church and stole the *Poor Box*. We were extremely blessed that nothing else substantial was taken nor was there any vandalism. Unfortunately, the same cannot be said for the outside of the church; several of our copper down spouts were recently pilfered. Parish Council is taking steps to do a thorough check of our building

security and will make whatever changes prudence and good sense require. But, let's face it. It's just like providing security for your home. We know that many of you come to the church or hall for various reasons after hours. We want you to feel safe. Still, we want to encourage **YOU** to exercise a normal level of vigilance and caution. Check that all doors and windows are locked. Be aware and take note of anything that looks "wrong." Call Fr. David or any Council member if you do notice something that concerns you. These sorts of things will go a long way toward keeping our facilities safe for us to use as we need.

SINCERE THANKS The success of any church event depends on the support and donations of all its parishioners and friends. This year's *Easter Bazaar* was no exception. Due to the generosity of those who care, the profit from this fundraiser generated almost **\$9,000**. Again, as with all functions of this type, there were special people who assisted in making it successful. First and foremost, we extend our very deepest thanks to the co-chairmen, **Patricia Larkin** and **Jay Pelleriti**, who again enthusiastically took on this project and made sure it ran smoothly. Heartfelt gratitude is given to **all the volunteers** who donated their time and talent, whether it was purchasing supplies, cooking or serving food, handling ticket sales, manning the craft and ethnic booths, etc.—they all helped to create a true atmosphere of faith and fellowship. Finally, many thanks are offered to **those people** who were unable to attend, but were thoughtful enough to send contributions, be they baked goods, homemade crafts or monetary gifts; these donations were just as meaningful. With God's blessings, may this spirit of cooperation continue for many years to come.

THE 2012 FOCA CREATIVE ARTS CONTEST is coming to an end. 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**. 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:

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

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

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.), let Father David or Starosta know. Your assistance in this project will be most appreciated.

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 would be greatly appreciated.

READ ANY GOOD BOOKS LATELY? Turn this last week 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!

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. 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 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 minimal. Thank you for your support and please pass the word!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES go out this week to **Meredith Garretson.** May God continue to bestow His blessings upon her for many years—Mnogaya Lyeta!

GUATEMALAN ORPHANAGE WISH LIST Both 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 welcomed. Whatever you can contribute will be lovingly appreciated.

WARM THE CHILDREN (WTC) ANNUAL REPORT 2011 was a truly terrific year for this charitable organization. Thanks to the overwhelming involvement of parishioners and parish organizations throughout the United States, 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!

THE 2012 ANNUAL PARISH MEMBERSHIP ASSESSMENT is \$200 per individual. **All registered parishioners** are morally obligated to support the church and its institutions by payment of all past and present assessments, as well as participation in the envelope system. You are strongly encouraged to be generous, as it is only through your loyal giving by which we can continue the work and divine mission of this God-protected parish.

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. The Apostle Andrew brought his brother Peter to God...let's follow his example!

HOLIDAY BAKE SALE *Holy Annunciation Church* in Brick is still selling homemade dessert rolls. Five varieties are being offered for \$12 apiece: **apricot nut, chocolate chip nut, walnut, poppy** and **prune.** For **guaranteed** delivery this week, place your order **TODAY** with James Kornafel (732-462-3388). 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 requested to remove all winter sprays and/or coverings from the graves of their loved ones.

OUR THANKS to **Joan Cameron** and **Walter "Blackie" Sudnikovich** for their lovely donation of the flowers on the center tetrapod today; they were given in remembrance of their beloved uncle, **Walter Swenticky.** May his soul dwell where the just repose—Vechnaya Pamyat!

EARLY DEADLINE Because of the Easter holiday, any announcements for next Sunday's bulletin should be submitted by no later than **Tuesday** of this week. 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).



Receive the full joy of Holy Week and Pascha by participating in all the scheduled church services. Those of you who reduce your attendance each year to just Good Friday and/or Easter Sunday are lacking an understanding of our Lord's plan for salvation and are **not** celebrating the holiday as authentic Orthodox Christians. While earthly matters, such as cleaning, shopping, cooking, baking and coloring eggs are wonderful traditions that add to the festivity of the season, the essence of Pascha is found in prayer and worship. This goes for **everyone**, including the youth of the parish—no one is excused.

This week, if you accomplish only one thing on your "To Do" list, let it be to experience the special Easter peace Christ gives by praising Him **first** in His Holy Temple, then at the big family meal on Sunday afternoon.

✧ Church Order for Holy Week ✧

- Please be attentive when holding candles during all the Holy Week and Paschal services, so as to avoid setting hair, clothes or prayer books on fire or dripping wax on the pews, floor or carpet.
- Shortly before the start of the Resurrection Matins, all the candles and lights in the church will be put out. Until the Paschal candle is brought from the Holy Altar to the ambo where two lay people will receive the light and pass it on to the entire congregation, try not to move about in the dark.
- 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).
- Volunteers are still needed to carry icons and banners during the processions on 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. [**NOTE:** Assistance with moving the tomb and putting the tetrapod back in the center of the church on Pascha night would also be appreciated; see Hank or Anastasia Essl for direction.]
- Those desiring to read the *Acts of the Apostles* before the Holy Plaschanitsa on **Holy Saturday, April 14**, should get in touch with Father David before the end of the week; the start time is **9 p.m.**

✧ Blessing of Paschal (Easter) Baskets ✧

Pascha (Easter) is the most important of all holidays in the church year. The "*Feast of Feasts*," as the Orthodox call it, ends after a 50-day Lenten period during which the devout abstain from meat, eggs, butter and other dairy products. Following the reception of the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ on the glorious day of His Holy Resurrection, the faithful break the Fast with a banquet they have worked on the previous week.

This food, usually brought in baskets to church, is classically and properly blessed following the Resurrection services on Pascha night. For your convenience, however, baskets will be blessed on **Holy Saturday, April 14**, at **4 p.m.**, in the church hall. Please remember that as tempting as it may be, **none** of this food is to be sampled or enjoyed until Sunday; only **Lenten** foods are in order on Saturday.

(**NOTE:** Be considerate and respectful by **not** bringing food or drink into the church, especially on Holy Saturday. If you plan to venerate the Holy Plaschanitsa before or after the 4 p.m. basket blessing, your Easter food, blessed or unblessed, should remain outside or in the church hall. Your consideration of this matter will be greatly appreciated.)

Glory to Jesus Christ!

Glory Forever!