



SS. Peter & Paul Russian Orthodox Church

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

76 Whitehead Avenue, South River, NJ 08882

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Parish Mailing Address:

153 Kamm Avenue
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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

June 24, 2012

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—Tone 2

THE NATIVITY OF THE HOLY GLORIOUS PROPHET, FORERUNNER AND BAPTIST JOHN

All Saints of Britain and Ireland; Ven. Anthony the Abbot of Dymsk; The Righteous Youths John and James of Meniugi; The Seven Martyred Brothers in Georgia: Orentius, Pharnacius, Eros, Firmus, Firminus and Longinus

Epistles: Romans 5:1-10

Romans 13:11-14:4 (St. John)

Gospels: Matthew 6:22-33

Luke 1:1-25, 57-68, 76, 80 (St. John)

* The Liturgical & Study Week Ahead *

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

Thurs, June 28 6:30 p.m. Panihida for **Mary Fritz** (40th day) offered by **the family**
7:00 p.m. Great Vespers with Litiya

Fri, June 29 **THE HOLY GLORIOUS AND ALL-PRAISED LEADERS OF THE APOSTLES PETER AND PAUL**
9:00 a.m. **(Our Patron Saints)**
Divine Liturgy Epistle: 2 Cor 11:21-12:9 Gospel: Matt 16:13-19
(A procession around the church will be held after the Liturgy, followed by a festal meal in the church hall, to which everyone is invited.)

Sat, June 30 5:00 p.m. Confessions
6:30 p.m. Panihida: **Steven & Leslie Senko** (Annual) and **Joanne Sivess** (Annual) offered by **the family**
Nina Karwatt (1 yr) offered by **the family**
7:00 p.m. Vespers

Sun, July 1 **4TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—Tone 3**
9:00 a.m. Holy and Wonderworking Unmercenaries Cosmas and Damian, Martyrs at Rome
Divine Liturgy Epistle: Rom 6:18-23 Gospel: Matt 8:5-13
(Following the Liturgy, a **Celebration Coffee Hour** honoring Father David & Matushka Shari on their 25th wedding anniversary will be held in the church hall; everyone is invited.)



The parish office will be closed this Monday through Wednesday; it will reopen on Thursday morning. For any pastoral emergencies, contact Fr. David on his cell phone (732-740-6230). If you can't reach him, call Starosta at (732) 462-3388.

✧ *What's Up in Our Parish* ✧

Have questions about the Orthodox Faith? Wish Father David would talk about this or that in a sermon? Here's your chance! **TODAY** Father will hold a **Faith Feedback Session** during the Coffee Hour to answer all your queries—do come!

Choir Rehearsal will be held in the church on **Thursday, June 28**, following Great Vespers.

Our **Patronal Feast Day Celebration** will be held **this Friday, June 29**. Divine Liturgy with Procession will be served at 9 a.m., followed by a festal meal in the hall. There is a sign-up sheet at the Candle Desk for those who plan to bring something (covered dish, salad, dessert) to the repast. (*Remember that all food should be **MEATLESS** as it is Friday.*) Please make every effort to attend this very joyous occasion as we remember the heavenly protectors of our community, SS. Peter & Paul.

Parish Council most warmly invites **all parishioners** to participate in the joyous celebration of **Fr. David & Matushka Shari's** 25th wedding anniversary **next Sunday, July 1**, during Coffee Hour. This very special occasion is being co-chaired by **Diane Dreyer, Anastasia Essl, Sonja Harris** and **Paula Mindzak**. If you would like to offer your assistance, get in touch with them.

The **Strategic Planning Committee** will hold its inaugural meeting in the church hall on **Wednesday, July 11**, at 7 p.m. All Council members and parishioners who volunteered to be a part of this group should attend.

Parish Council will meet in the church hall on **Monday, July 16**, at 7 p.m.

The **Senior R Club** is sponsoring an **Atlantic City Bus Trip** on **Thursday, July 19** to the *Showboat Casino & Resort*. The bus will leave from the church's main parking lot on Whitehead Avenue at 9 a.m. sharp! Bring along a friend. The cost is \$30, with \$25 back in slot dollars. Make your reservations early by calling Janice Meade at (732) 257-8671. Don't miss out—join your fellow parishioners for a day of fun!

In partnership with both the *South River Police Department* and the *Municipal Alliance of South River*, our parish will again be hosting this year's **National Night Out Campaign** at Seven Acres on **Tuesday, August 7**, from 4 until 9 p.m. This annual campaign affords residents the chance to get out in the community, be a part of a huge "block party" and make an effort to know their neighbors as a way to encourage crime prevention and promote better police-citizen relations. More details to follow; meanwhile, save the date and plan to enjoy a summer evening surrounded by friends, family and fellow parishioners in support of America's *Night Out* against crime!

✧ *News That Matters* ✧

STEWARDSHIP: TIME & TREASURE Attendance at Liturgy last Sunday was **120**.

MINISTRY DUTIES The Epistle will be read next week by **Robert Pisuk**. Coffee Hour will be co-hosted by the **Parish Council** and the **Altar Society**. The church will be cleaned by **Team Dziemian**. (**NOTE:** *The **Altar Society** and **Team Dziemian** will be responsible for the Coffee Hour and cleaning the church, respectively, throughout July.*)

THANK YOU to the **Parish Council** for hosting *Coffee Hour* this month and to **Team Kelly (Maryann Barrett, Peter & Erin Kelly)** for cleaning the church throughout June. We truly appreciate everyone's participation in these two parish ministries—God bless!

CHURCH ETIQUETTE There are times for socialization and talking...that is during the Coffee Hour, not during the Liturgy. When the chalice containing the Body and Blood of Our Savior is present during Holy Communion, this is a prayerful time. There should be **NO talking, ONLY praying or singing** the Communion Hymn, even if you are not a communicant. Also, **"holy silence"** should be kept while waiting to venerate the Cross at the end of the Liturgy. Your attention to these matters of church etiquette is appreciated.

MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE UNTO THE LORD Liturgical services are the most important events in the life of the Orthodox Church and the music at them becomes the crowning point of our communal worship. Since its founding 107 years ago, our parish has been blessed with a choir that truly exemplifies the spiritual, meaningful and beautiful glorification of God through song. To keep up this sacred tradition, new members, especially our youth, are encouraged to join. If you are interested in using your God-given musical talent, please see our Choir Director, Basil Kozak, or contact him at (917) 697-8058. In the words of eminent Asian poet and philosopher Rabindranath Tagore: *"God respects me when I work, but He loves me when I sing."*

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.

THANKS to **Ellen & Lara Prihodko** and **Dr. George Azer** for their recent church donations in memory of **Stella Prihodko** and **Nancy Witczak**, respectively. We also acknowledge two offerings made in memory of **Mary Fritz**: one by **Janet & Ruth Hartman** for the *Handicap Access Fund* and one by **Patricia Casey** for the *Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund*. May the Lord God bless all these contributors for their kindness and generosity.

SUMMER CAMPS 2012 The time to apply to summer camps is NOW. The closest is at **Saint Tikhon's Monastery**; it will be held **Sunday-Saturday, July 1-7**, in beautiful South Canaan, PA. Info and registration forms can be printed from the website: www.sttikhonscamp.org. The camp within our own diocese is **Saint Andrew's** located upstate New York, just north of Syracuse. The camp dates are **July 8-28** for children ages 7-13. *Teen Week* will be **Sunday-Saturday, July 29-August 4**. Info and registration forms can be printed from the website: www.standrewscamp.com. Volunteers are welcomed. Another Orthodox summer camp is held at the **Antiochian Village** in Ligonier, PA; information can be found at www.antiochianvillage.org. Take advantage of these opportunities for your child (children) to make new friends, learn new skills and grow in the Faith!

AXIOS! AXIOS! AXIOS! Early last month, a new brother joined the episcopal family of the *Orthodox Church in America (OCA)*—**His Grace, Bishop ALEXANDER (Golitzin)**. Bishop ALEXANDER succeeded **His Eminence, Archbishop KIRILL (Yonchev)** of blessed memory, as the second ruling hierarch of Toledo and the Bulgarian Diocese. Archbishop KIRILL had overseen the diocese from 1964 to 2007; in 1976, he brought it under the omophorion of the *OCA*. We congratulate Vladyka ALEXANDER with his receiving the grace of the episcopal rank and we wish that the Lord grant him great and bountiful mercies, giving him wisdom, insight and strength in his archpastoral service for many years. Eis Polla Eti, Despota!

WARM THE CHILDREN (WTC) UPDATE This charitable project continues to make great strides in helping abandoned and sick children in Russia, Belarus and Romania. Eleven large boxes of clothing and knitted/crocheted items were recently shipped to Orthodox sponsored orphanages, homes and missions. Back-to-school packages will be sent in late summer/early fall. If you would like to participate in this worthwhile cause and put your knitting and/or crocheting talents to good use, contact WTC Coordinator Barbara Nafranowicz by phone (908-232-2632), E-mail (bnafanowicz@verizon.net) or mail (167 North Cottage Place, Westfield, NJ 07090). Don't forget to talk to your family, friends and neighbors about this project; perhaps they may want to help or may have yarn just laying around that needs a "home." Monetary contributions to help defray shipping expenses are also welcomed. Let's share our good fortune with others, for *"charity gives itself rich; covetousness hoards itself poor."*

REMEMBERING OUR SHUT-INS We have a number of parishioners who, because of illness, physical disability or advanced age, are confined to their homes, extended care facilities or assisted living quarters. Let them know that they are in your thoughts and prayers by giving them a call, dropping them a line or paying them a visit. As it says in Proverbs 16:31: *"Gray hair is a crown of glory; it is gained by virtuous living."* Don't let these dear ones be forgotten!

WITH GRATITUDE we thank those parishioners who helped make Holy Bread (prosphora) last Saturday: **Myra Brown, Michael Burak, Diane Dreyer, Ann Krynicky, Craig & Elaine Mazzei, Janice Meade, Jay Pelleriti** and **Linda Wood**. God's love was truly evident in their caring for this parish ministry. Many Years—Mnogaya Lyeta!

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

Departed

Michael Miller Sr.
Metropolitan CONSTANTINE
Nancy Balon
Alison Orfanidis
Lucy Rose

Stella Prihodko

Ana Sigalas

Sick

Elaine Ashton
Irene Boule
Edward Romanofsky
Walentyna Posluszny
Michael Dargento

Julia Glazer

Joseph Casale
Donna Casale
Lasha Giorgi Pozidis
Dorothy Swenticky

John Cameron

Katherine Tarzewski
Martha Drobnak
Dorothy Sopchak
Margo Stewart
Adam Huba

Thea Casale
David Hebert
Robert Smith

Thomas Roche
Theresa Rogozenski
Olga Romanofsky
Alyssa Rosatelli
Larry Kimpart
Patricia Cottrell
Elaine Schwartz
Athene Demitry
Timothy Magee
John Centrello
Nancy Filak
Charles Csenica
Barbara Parhizgar

Mikola Zakrewsky

Kim Walker
Dennis Silowka
Alexandre Kurtanidze
Darren Flynn
Beth Williscroft
Malcolm Bradford
Barbara Longo

Servicemen

Charlene Sofer
Brenda Foster
Eva Fedash
Olga Kozlov
Bishop NIKON
(Liolin)
Archpriest
Alexander Atty
Ivert (Fred) Kirkirt
Anna Janiszewski
Myrna Woznica
Joseph (Jay)
Pelleriti
Jean Catherine
Brooks
Samuel Garretson
Joseph Posluszny
Gilson Costa
Pearl Blower
Presbyteria
Florence Cassar
Ellie Jacobs
Joan Uler
Julio Andres
Veramende
Dee
Florence
Karen Zimmerman
Fred Haas
Beth Van Orden
Iwan Jakimtschuk
Andriy Kinash
Marita McDonald
Michael Myslinski
Martin Behnke
Olga Smith
John Holod
Archpriest Stephen
Mack
Archpriest John
Bartholomew
Dorothy Vernak
Dr. John B. Smith
Donna Kara
Nella Mirabile
Trey Gerstmyer
Margaret Butch
Henry Dziemian
Amelia Chup

Ivan Shidlovsky
Lisa Beard
Gregory Nosol
Patrick Lohr
Keith Sudder

Priest Paul Rivers

Fred Bush
Travis Hartman
Elizabeth Brent
Kyle Abbott

Priest Sean Levine

Gary Amatrudo Jr.
Steven Moore
James G. Teller

Please contact Fr. David or Starosta if you know of someone who should be on this list.

SINCERE THANKS to **Janet Hartman** for gifting the parish with a new handmade *Poor Box* to replace the one that was stolen in March. May God, Who has done so much through Janet, bless her always in this life on earth and reward her richly in heaven.

SYNOD CONCLUDES SPRING SESSION *Holy Dormition of the Mother of God Monastery* in Rives Junction, MI provided the setting for the Spring Session of the **Holy Synod of Bishops of the OCA** early last month. At its conclusion, the following statements were issued:

- A budget surplus was realized at the conclusion of the first quarter of 2012.
- His Grace, Bishop ALEXANDER of Toledo and the Bulgarian Diocese, was appointed chair of the *Department of External Affairs*.
- His Eminence, Archbishop NATHANIEL, was confirmed as chair of the *Holy Synod Canonical Commission* and the *Holy Synod Canonization Commission*.
- Candidates for ordination, as well as clergy wishing to transfer into the OCA, must undergo an approved battery of psychological evaluations.
- The *OCA Clergy Guidelines and Policies, Standards and Procedures for Sexual Misconduct* will be translated into Spanish, Russian and French.
- OCA clergy placed "on loan" to serve in other jurisdictions, especially in long-term cases, is discouraged.
- Non-Chalcedonian Christians can be received into the Church through the blessed sacraments of Confession and Communion. However, should they later return to their own Church, they no longer would be admitted to communion in the OCA.
- Antimensia should contain relics of martyrs, although relics of Holy Confessors are acceptable. They may be replaced by a new bishop, who may also update them by placing his signature under that of the previous bishop.
- Diocesan bishops with five years of service are to be elevated to the dignity of Archbishop. Hence, Bishops NIKON, TIKHON, BENJAMIN and ALEJO all received the title of *His Eminence*.

We pray that our Holy Synod continues to be an instrument of growth in holiness, especially among our faithful and in our parishes and society. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with them all.

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS are wished upon **Brian Posluszny** and **Margaret Butch** who are celebrating this week. May they both continue to experience joy in their lives for many years—Mnogaya Lyeta!

THANK YOU to the **Senior & Junior R Clubs** for providing mini tool kits to all the fathers, grandfathers and godfathers last Sunday for Father's Day. May God bless these organizations for their love and kindness.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY WISHES are extended to **Walter & Carol Deerson** who will mark 48 years of wedded bliss this week. May God continue to bless and enrich their shared love for many years—Mnogaya Lyeta!

IOCC DELIVERS MEDICAL AID TO GREECE As Greece faces its most severe economic crisis in decades, struggling families are seeking medical assistance more than ever, with the greatest demand coming from elderly retirees whose pensions have been dramatically reduced by the government. **International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC)** is responding to this need with financial support and supplies (walkers, crutches, bandages, syringes) destined for clinics in some of the poorest neighborhoods in Athens. This organization is also providing food aid packages for impoverished individuals and funding for hiring unemployed workers to bundle parcels for distribution through local church parishes. Despite all these efforts, requests for help are increasing, as the wants of our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ continue to grow. How can you help? By making a monetary gift to the **Greece Response Fund** set up by IOCC. Visit www.iocc.org on the Web, call toll free at 1-877-803-4622 or mail a check/money order payable to *IOCC, P.O. Box 17398, Baltimore, MD 21297*. Whatever amount you send **will** make a difference, so please respond favorably.

READ A BOOK Visit our parish library, located upstairs in the Church School, during Coffee Hour. We have a wide selection of books available on our Holy Orthodox Faith for **all ages**—come and browse!

PRAYERFUL SYMPATHY to **Elena Illenye** on the falling asleep of her aunt, **Ana Sigalas**, on Friday, June 22. May the thought of her loved one rejoicing in the kingdom of heaven bring Elena and her family comfort in the days ahead. Memory Eternal—Vechnaya Pamyat!

UPDATING OUR RECORDS is an ongoing process. Because we are a very large parish with members living in many counties throughout the state, staying on top of this can, at times, be difficult. You can help us. 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.

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!

BULLETIN DEADLINE All announcements for the Sunday bulletin must be submitted each week by no later than **Thursday**. Get in touch with Father David at the rectory or contact our Bulletin Editor, James Kornafel, by telephone (732-462-3388), fax (732-845-3515) or E-mail (jimmyk@optonline.net).



*The **Apostles Fast** is quickly coming to an end. The Feast of SS. Peter & Paul, our Patrons, is this Friday. Are you truly prepared to celebrate with a heart, soul and mind more open to the presence of the Lord in your life or have you just been "going through the motions" of prayer and fasting without any real thought to changing your relationship with Him and those around you?*

Use this final week of the Fast to try to see what is important and what takes precedence in your life. It's never too late to make the effort to realign your priorities, just as the Apostles did, and choose the Lord instead of those things of the world—family, job, worries, pressures—that can distract and make you less dependent on Him. It will be hard, but if you express a willingness to turn to God, He will respond and fill your life with much healing and love and abundance.



Summer is officially here and with it comes many pleasures, including sunbathing, barbecues, sailing, swimming, baseball, softball and vacations with family and friends. As we revel in the joys of this season given to us by God, let us never forget Him in the midst of our fun.

Whatever your plans during the next ten weeks, attendance at worship services on Sundays and holidays should be at the top of your *Summer Activities List*. If you are going to be out of the area and need help locating an Orthodox Church along the route and/or destination of your travels, contact Father David; he will be more than happy to supply you with names, addresses and phone numbers.

God never takes a vacation from you...should you ever take one from Him?

Glory to Jesus Christ!

Glory Fore