

SAINTS PETER & PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH
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BULLETIN OF JUNE 10, 2007



SUNDAY/JUNE 10th
All Saints of the American Lands
(Tone 1)

9:10a.m. 3rd & 6th Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy
Coffee Hour; Teen Discussion and Picnic
Planning Meeting

MONDAY/JUNE 11th
Pirohi Making Day and Evening

TUESDAY/JUNE 12th
Pirohi Making Evening Only

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 13th
7:00p.m. Compline and Akathist; Confessions

SATURDAY/JUNE 16th
9:30a.m. Akathist; Confessions
5:30p.m. Vigil; Confessions

SUNDAY/JUNE 17th
3rd Sunday After Pentecost (Tone 2)
9:10a.m. 3rd & 6th Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy
Coffee Hour

SS. PETER & PAUL LENT
(June 4th thru June 29th)
A fast is observed from meat, dairy, fish, wine products. Many of the days of the fast allow for fish, wine and oil. See the monthly parish calendar or you yearly wall calendar for these indications.

Those of the faithful that are regular communicants of the Chalice, are instructed to go to Holy Confession in this lenten season, if they have not been to Confession anytime after Pascha (April 8th).

FEAST OF THE SAINTS OF THE AMERICAN LANDS

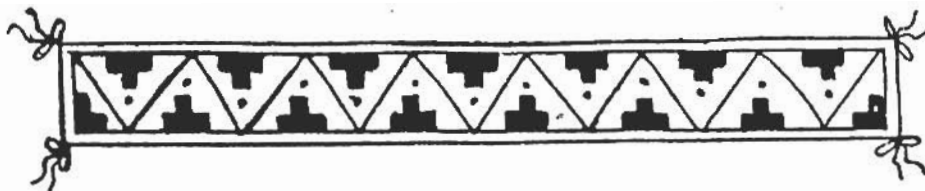
On this day, the second Sunday after Pentecost, following the good order of the Church and the established tradition from the holy Fathers, we celebrate the feast of All Saints who have shown forth in the American lands.

This joyful feast attests to the fact that the Grace of the Holy Spirit, even in these later days continues to raise up Saints, who practicing every virtue, live the New Life in Jesus Christ. This feast is a celebration of the Orthodox Way as it had been brought from the Old World to the New World.

The known Saints that we remember are
St. Juvenaly, Monk-Martyr of Alaska (+1796)
St. Herman of Alaska (+1837)
St. Peter the Aleut-Martyr (+c.1815)
St. Innocent of Alaska & Siberia (+1879)
St. Jacob of Sitka (+1864)
St. Alexis of Wilkes-Barre (+1907)
St. Raphael of Brooklyn (+1915)
St. John of Chicago (+1917)
St. Tikhon of Moscow & North America (+1925)
St. Alexander of New York (+c. 1930)
St. Nicholai of Zicha (+1956)
St. John of San Francisco (+1966)

We look forward with joyous anticipation, when in the fullness of time, God will manifest the holiness of other ones – men, women and children – who are already “known within His courts” as additional fervent intercessors for the American lands.





Orthodox Summer Camp

St. Tikhon's Summer Camp: July 8th-14th at the Monastery grounds of St. Tikhon in So. Canaan, Pa. Ages 7-17. See posted information.

St. Andrew's Camp: Months of July and August at lake Jewell, NY. Six weeks of regular camping for ages 7-13 and a Teen Week for ages 14-17. See posted information. You may also speak with Pam Oliver who has experienced with both of these camps.

Vacation Time and Church Locations

Vacation time does not mean we "vacate" ourselves from the Sunday Divine Liturgy. The website: www.orthodoxyinamerica.org will give you a listing of church locations in the USA.

Pirohi Orders

May be placed with Susan Gorbatuk (908-722-7849). Cost \$6 a dozen, \$5 for pirohi workers.

OCA Seminary Appeal

This annual June offering will be distributed by the parish council directly to one or more of our OCA seminaries. Please support our seminaries and use your envelope.

2007 OCA & Diocesan Assessment of \$180

All adult parishioners (excluding students) are asked to pay the assessment in full by June 30th. Please use your assessment envelope or mark you check "assessment." These funds are passed along to the central and diocesan church. Questions or concerns about the assessment should be addressed to the parish rector.

Namesday Greetings

St. Augustine/June 15th: Austin Kachek, Many Blessed Years!

A couple of Nos. (Thanks)

Lipstick on icons.
Tape on offering envelopes.

The Parish Synodicon

June 10, 1953	Nazar Skwarla
June 11, 1953	Chariton Mishalenko
June 12, 1979	Nadezhda Lebedz
June 14, 1978	Anna Williams
June 15, 1959	Leon Martinchuk
June 15, 1973	Maksym Yadlowsky
June 16, 1953	Olga Pawlik
June 17, 1977	David Kloss

Parish Picnic – Sunday, Aug. 19th

Reserve the date for a parish picnic at the Village Recreation and Swim Club in East Brunswick. A great day of fun and fellowship is being planed!

Parish Patronal Feast Day – June 29th

On this day we honor our heavenly patrons the Holy Apostles Peter & Paul. Mark your calendar so as to attend the services and fellowship of the day. A Luncheon is being planned. Kathryn Motoviloff has Agreed to co-ordinate the meal. Please speak with her if you wish to contribute any lenten food item.

Offerings for the Week of June 10th

Olive Oil - in memory of Emilia; in memory of Michael; for the health of Liliana and Laurentiu; in memory of Joan; for the health of Mark (birthday).

Wine – in memory of John Roscoha Sr.; for the health of Diaconissa Patricia (birthday).

Flowers – for the health of Abbess Mihaela; in memory of Basil Jr.

Clergy Visitations to Hospitals & Nursing Homes

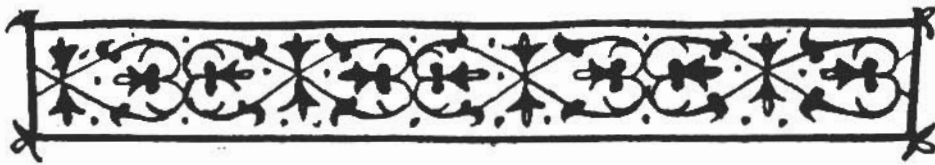
Is dependent upon notification by family members. The Federal Privacy Law does not allow clergy access any longer to a master census at hospitals or nursing homes. If you are going to be hospitalized please be sure that your priest is notified.

Bulletin Board in Lower Hall

Has posted items of interest that do not make it into the Sunday Bulletin. Take a look during coffee hour.

Prayers for Travelers

May be offered after the Sunday Divine Liturgy. Let Father know when you venerate the Cross.



ON THE MYSTERY OF CONFESSION

BY ELDER CLEOPA OF ROMANIA

Our Venerable Father Paisios the Great says:

"Confession of thoughts to the spiritual father is the foundation of spiritual life and the hope of salvation for all the faithful."

One of the greatest spiritual duties of Christians is the confession of sins. What I intend to speak to you about today, therefore, has to do with this Mystery.

The first thing that we must understand is that all of us, all human beings, are sinners in the sight of God, some more so, some less so. We find this written in the Holy Scriptures: "What is man, that he should be clean? and he which is born of a woman, that he should be righteous?" (Job 15:14). Likewise, the Apostle and Evangelist John writes the following in his first epistle, in verses eight and nine: "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

Confession, if it is to be upright and pleasing to God, must meet the following conditions:

1. It must be made in the presence of the spiritual father [or confessor].
2. It must be complete. In other words, it must include all of the sins committed by the one confessing beginning from his early childhood or from his last confession. He must not hide any of his sins.
3. It must take place willingly, in accordance with the words of Scripture: "And out of my desire I will confess Him" (Ps. 27:7).
4. It must be made with humility and a broken heart, as is written in Scripture: "a heart that is broken and humbled God will not despise" (Ps 50:17).
5. It must be spotless; that is, the one confessing must not lay charges against others, neither against people, nor against one of the creations of God, including even the devil. Rather, he must consider himself and himself alone guilty and responsible for his actions, as is said by St. John Chrysostom: "If you want to blame someone, blame yourself alone." Similarly, St. John of the Ladder says: "Speak and say and don't be ashamed: 'Mine is the swelling,

father, mine also the wound; such and such happened because of my negligence and no one else's. No one is to blame for this – neither man, nor spirit, nor body, nor someone else – except for my idleness alone."

6. It must be sincere and heart-felt; that is to say, the Christian must speak the truth and only that which he himself has done, without divulging the names of others who have some connection with his sins. God loves the truth, as is witnessed in Scripture, where it is said: "For there is a shame that bringeth sin, and there is a shame which is glory and grace" (Sir. 4:21). The shame which you endure in confession frees you from that shame all people will feel on the dreadful day of the Future Judgment, as the Holy Father John of the Ladder says in his fourth step: "It is possible to be saved from the eternal shame only by way of the present shame."
7. Confession must be decisive; that is, we must make a decision in the presence of the spiritual father that, with help of Divine Grace, we will no longer sin. Indeed, we must say and believe that it is better to die a thousand times than to sin again willingly. Whoever has not made such a decision remains standing with one foot before his spiritual father and the other in sin. There are those who confess with their mouth while desiring in their heart to commit the sin again, and thus resemble the dog which returns to his vomit, or the pig which, having been washed and cleaned, returns again to wade in the mud.



Some Thoughts on Liturgical Life

Let's take a moment to reflect on how we approach the worship services of the Church, especially the Divine Liturgy. The entire Liturgy is important, but there are moments during the Liturgy that require our full and complete attention: the Epistle and Gospel readings, the Sermon, the Creed, the Anaphora (prayers before, during and after the consecration of the Holy Gifts), the Lord's Prayer, and the time before, during, and after Holy Communion. There are also particular moments when we should stand and not sit, namely, during the reading of the Gospel, during the Anaphora, during the Lord's Prayer, during the Creed, and during Communion even if we are not receiving. These are also times when we should not enter or leave the Church or be moving about, even to light candles. Parents with children should do their best to keep movement in and out of the Church to an emergency only basis. For adults and teens, we should "stay put". Also, for parents, do not let your children leave the Church unattended at any time, especially children less than 15 years old. This is said as a matter of safety.

On the same note, we should make every effort to arrive on time for the worship services. Parents with small children, do your best (been there, done that). But for the rest of us, would we arrive late to a dinner party held on our behalf? Since the Lord is inviting us to eat at His Mystical Banquet table, it would be proper to ask "does arriving late show the Lord proper respect?" Let's not insult the Lord by arriving late for the Divine Liturgy, in some cases very late. It is not Orthodox!!!

The reception of the Eucharist is an awesome responsibility. It means that we prepare

with prayer and fasting and by going to Confession. Although the Sacraments of Communion and Confession are not tied to each other, that is, going to Confession every time one prepares to receive the Eucharist, nonetheless, going to Confession on a regular basis if one wishes to go to Communion on a regular basis is normal. Another proper preparation is going to the Vespers or Vigil service on Saturday evening or on the eve of a Feast. We should never take our frequent reception of the Eucharist for granted. And, we should never consider the infrequent reception of the Eucharist as normative. If one studies closely the structure of the Divine Liturgy, it becomes clear that it is understood that we gather so that we may receive the precious Body and Blood of Christ.

