

SAINTS PETER & PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH
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BULLETIN OF SEPTEMBER 2, 2007

SUNDAY/SEPTEMBER 2nd

14th Sunday After Pentecost (Tone 5)

Supplication for the Environment

9:10a.m. 3rd & 6th Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy
Coffee Hour; Book-for-the-Month of Spiritual
Reading from Parish Library

WEDNESDAY/SEPTEMBER 5th

7:00p.m. Compline & Akathist to

St. Maxim, Martyr of Carpatho-Rus
(Sept. 6th)

FRIDAY/SEPTEMBER 7th

7:00p.m. Vigil

SATURDAY/SEPTEMBER 8th

Nativity of the Holy Theotokos

(One of "the 12 Great Feasts of the Year")

9:10a.m. 3rd & 6th Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy
5:30p.m. Vigil; Confession

SUNDAY/SEPTEMBER 9th

15th Sunday After Pentecost & Sunday

Before the Elevation of the Cross;

Post-Feast of the Nativity

9:10a.m. 3rd & 6th Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy
Coffee Hour with Presentation by the
Russian Brotherhood Organization

Fasting Days

Wednesday, September 5th

Friday, September 7th



Teach Me to Pray
Saint Philaret of Moscow

My Lord, I know not what I ought to ask of Thee. Thou and Thou alone knowest my needs. Thou lovest me more than I am able to love Thee. O Father, grant unto me, Thy servant, all which I cannot ask. For a cross I dare not ask, nor for consolation; I dare only to stand in Thy presence. My heart is open to Thee. Thou seest my needs of which I myself am unaware. Behold and lift me up! In Thy presence I stand, awed and silenced by Thy will and Thy judgments, into which my mind cannot penetrate. To Thee I offer myself as a sacrifice. No other desire is mine but to fulfill Thy will. Teach me how to pray. Do Thyself pray within me. Amen.



The Postfeast of the Nativity of the Theotokos

is celebrated from September 8th through September 12th, the "leave-taking" of the feast. Throughout this time the troparion and kontakion for the feast are sung or said with our morning and evening prayers, and at meal times; the troparion before the meal and the kontakion after.

Troparion (Tone 4)

Your Nativity, O Virgin, has proclaimed joy to the whole universe! The Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, has shone from You, O Theotokos! By annulling the curse, He bestowed a blessing. By destroying death, He has granted us eternal Life.

Kontakion (Tone 4)

By Your Nativity, O Most Pure Virgin, Joachim and Anna are freed from barrenness; Adam and Eve, from the corruption of death. And we, your people, freed from the guilt of sin, celebrate and sing to you: The barren woman gives birth to the Theotokos, the nourisher of our life!

RBO to Visit Parish – Sept. 9th

A representative of the Russian Brotherhood Organization (RBO) will make a 20 minute presentation at the Coffee Hour on Sunday, Sept. 9th. There are a variety of insurance products, fraternal benefits and services that the RBO provides.

Two of the Twelve Great Feasts of the Year are held in September Month

The Nativity of The Theotokos (8th on a Saturday) and The Elevation of the Holy Cross (14th on a Friday). All should strive to participate in the divine services on the eve and on the day.

The Sunday Bulletin

May be picked up Saturday evening, ask someone to secure it for you from the sacristy. You may also view the bulletin on our parish website. If you are receiving the bulletin by regular mail – when you are absent – and would rather read it on line, please let Fr. James know.

Offerings for the Week of Sept. 2nd

Olive Oil – in memory of Emilia; in memory of Michael; in memory of Joan.

Wine – for healing and salvation of Simona-Georgiana (birthday); for the health of Zachary (namesday) in thanksgiving and for the health of Deacon Paul and Diaconissa Patricia (anniversary).

Flowers – in honor of the Nativity of the Holy Theotokos.

Christian Greetings

A General Greeting:

“Glory to Jesus Christ”

(Response) “Glory Forever!”

At the veneration of the Holy Cross:

“Christ is in our midst!”

(Response) “He is and forever will be!”

When calling a priest on a phone: not “Hello Father,” but “Father bless!”

(Response of priest) “God bless!”

Than begin conversation with him.

Parish Synodicon

This is a listing of those who received a funeral service from our parish. They may or may not be buried in the parish cemetery. There are those that are buried in the parish cemetery whose funeral was held elsewhere than our parish and are not listed in the Parish Synodicon.

Sept. 03, 1956 Maria Schander

Sept. 04, 2000 Audrey Marina Haitch

Sept. 05, 1917 Peter Darensky

Sept. 07, 1966 Fr. Stephen Adamcio

Sept. 07, 1967 Anthony Cherniak

Sept. 07, 1970 George Rech

Parish Educational Classes

Both for children and adults will get under way in the month of October. The present structure of classes for our children (younger and middle) needs restructuring and the impute of parents is sought at a special meeting to take place in the near future. Concerns may be addressed to either Fr. James or Stacey Kita.

The Education Classes already set in place are:

1) Teen Discussion Group (high school students) a brief 15-2- minute informal discussion to be held on the 2nd Sunday (beginning in October) during the Coffee Hour.

2) Adult Study Class will be held on the 5 Tuesday evenings in October from 7-8:30p.m. The topic will be: “The Divine Liturgy – Meaning, Expectation and Experience.”

Namesday Greetings

St. Edward/Sept. 2nd; Edward Sarchisian

St. Zachariah/Sept. 5th: Zachary Sokol; Zachary Holot; Many Blessed Years!

The Parish Bulletin Board

Please examine it for information that does not appear in the Sunday Bulletin.

Parish Council Meeting

Sept. 20th, Thursday at 7:00p.m

“I Am Forced to Work on Sunday Mornings”

Try to change this when and if you can. Meanwhile, come to the Saturday evening Service (or part of it) and if this is not possible, the Saturday morning service. We should not let the week go by without glorifying God at the divine services.



THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS

The Most Holy Virgin Mary was born at a time when people had reached such a degree of moral decay that it seemed altogether impossible to restore them. People often said that God must come into the world to restore faith and not permit the ruin of mankind.

The Son of God chose to take on human nature for the salvation of mankind, and chose as His Mother the All-Pure Virgin Mary, who alone was worthy to give birth to the Source of purity and holiness.

The Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary is celebrated by the Church as a day of universal joy. Within the context of the Old and the New Testaments, the Most Blessed Virgin Mary was born on this radiant day, having been chosen before the ages by Divine Providence to bring about the Mystery of the Incarnation of the Word of God. She is revealed as the Mother of the Savior of the World, Our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Most Holy Virgin Mary was born in the small city of Galilee, Nazareth. Her parents were Righteous Joachim of the tribe of the Prophet-King David, and Anna from the tribe of the First Priest Aaron. The couple was without child, since St Anna was barren.

Having reached old age, Joachim and Anna did not lose hope in God's mercy. They had strong faith that for God everything is possible, and that He would be able to overcome the barrenness of Anna

even in her old age, as He had once overcome the barrenness of Sarah, spouse of the Patriarch Abraham. St Joachim and Anna vowed to dedicate the child which the Lord might give them, to the service of God in the Temple.

Childlessness was considered among the Hebrew nation as a Divine punishment for sin, and therefore the righteous St Joachim and Anna had to endure abuse from their own countrymen. On one of the feasts at the Temple in Jerusalem the elderly Joachim brought his sacrifice to offer to God, but the High Priest would not accept it, considering him to be unworthy since he was childless.

St Joachim in deep grief went into the wilderness, and there he prayed with tears to the Lord for a child. St Anna wept bitterly when she learned what had happened at the Jerusalem Temple. Never once did she complain against the Lord, but rather she prayed to ask God's mercy on her family.

The Lord fulfilled her petitions when the pious couple had attained to extreme old age and prepared themselves by virtuous life for a sublime calling: to be the parents of the Most Holy Virgin Mary, the future Mother of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Archangel Gabriel brought Joachim and Anna the joyous message that their prayers were heard by God, and of them would be born a most blessed daughter Mary, through Whom would come the Salvation of all the World.

The Most Holy Virgin Mary surpassed in purity and virtue not only all mankind, but also the angels. She was manifest as the living Temple of God, so the Church sings in its festal hymns: "the East Gate... bringing Christ into the world for the salvation of our souls".

The Nativity of the Theotokos marks the change of the times when the great and comforting promises of God for the salvation of the human race from slavery to the devil are about to be fulfilled. This event has brought to earth the grace of the Kingdom of God, a Kingdom of Truth, piety, virtue and everlasting life. The Theotokos is revealed to all of us by grace as a merciful Intercessor and Mother, to Whom we have recourse with filial devotion.



HELPING OUT OUR ORTHODOX CHURCH



A BENEFIT CONCERT FOR ST. NICHOLAS ORPHANAGE IN SLOVAKIA

On Sunday Sept. 16th at 5:00p.m. a benefit concert will be held at St. John the Baptist Church, 211 West Grand Ave., Rahway. Admission by Donation. See posted flyers on Bulletin Board.

Please consider coming to the concert and spreading the word to your family and friends. It's for a good cause.

The *Spirit of Orthodoxy Choir*, celebrating its 10th year of existence, is performing the concert. All proceeds will go to St. Nicholas Orphanage in Slovakia.

The St. Nicholas Orphanage in Medzilaborce, Slovakia is an outreach of the Orthodox Diocese of Presov, serving the needs of the children since the fall of communism. It serves as a home for unwanted children and unwed mothers. There are approximately 100 children there, ranging from infancy through the age of 18. As you can imagine, the expense of running an Orphanage can be substantial and the local church can only do so much. It's at events such as this concert that the extended church family, of which we are part, can make a difference.

For those that wish to make a donation but cannot attend the concert, the Bread Plate held by the altar servers at the end of Divine Liturgy on Sundays Sept. 9th and 16th will be earmarked for St. Nicholas Orphanage. Any checks may be made to Ss. Peter and Paul Church.

ALUMINIUM CAN/CUPOLA RESTORATION PROJECT – HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, Catasauqua, PA – Diocese of Eastern PA., is currently in the process of securing funds in order to have their cupolas restored. Here at Ss. Peter and Paul, we are certainly aware of what such a project entails.

Holy Trinity Church is the Mother Parish of the Leigh Valley, established in 1899, it was consecrated by St. Tikhon of Moscow, when he was bishop in America.

Part of the fund drive, is the collection of aluminum cans, be they soda or other beverages. Why *aluminum cans*? In PA., they receive a deposit back on aluminum cans. So, please save your cans and bring them to the lower church hall, where a receptacle is placed. For the time being, this will be an on-going project. Updates will be posted. For more information about this project, speak with Henry Hando. Let's make good use of our aluminum cans to help restore a link with the history of Orthodoxy in America.

HOME-MADE CANDLES FOR SALE – BENEFIT OF OCA MISSION IN DELEWARE

On a table in the lower hall a variety of candles are for sale as part of a fund-raising project of Christ the Saviour Church on Fenwick Island. Fr. John Parsells is the Rector there. The Mission Parish is 6 years old, slowly growing and as all churches starting out have many needs.

These scented candles are of different sizes. Simply leave your offering in the basket by the candles.

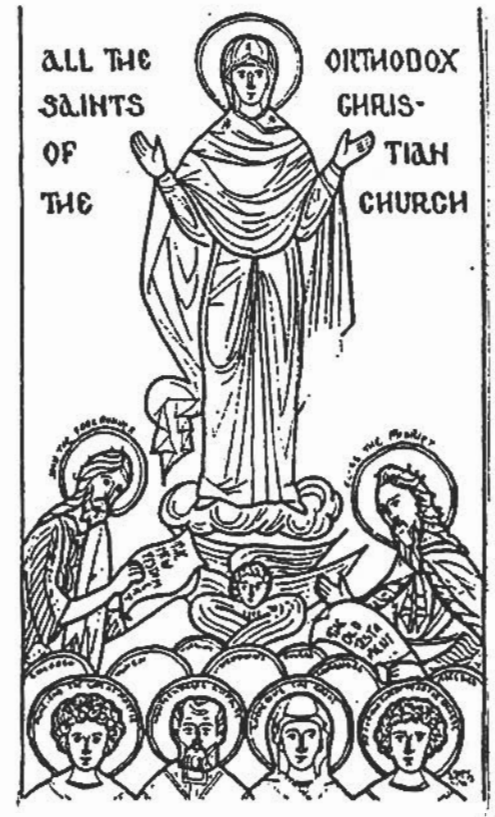
THE INVOCATION OF THE SAINTS FOR VARIOUS NEEDS

Folk Tradition,

According to the Typicon of the Lavra of the Miracle

This script was presented to the Great Lord Tsar and Great Prince Alexis Mikhailovich, the Autocrat of All Russia, and to the Great Lord and Most Holy Kyr Joseph, the Patriarch of Moscow and All Rus in the city made illustrious by the reigning throne, Moscow, in the year 7160 (1652).

- 1) **For the healing of infirmities and deliverance from injuries:** The holy Archangel Raphael, whose memory we celebrate on 8th November; and the holy Great Martyr and Healer Panteleimon, 27th July.
- 2) **For preservation from sudden death:** The holy Hieromartyr Charalampus, Bishop of Magnesia - commemorated 10th February; the holy Hieromartyr Sadoth, Bishop of the Persian towns of Seleucia and Ctesiphon - commemorated 19th October and 20th February; **and in the hour of death:** the holy Great Martyr Barbara of Heliopolis - commemorated 4th December; the Venerable Onouphrius the Great - commemorated 12th June.
- 3) **For the enlightenment of darkened minds:** The holy Archangel Uriel - commemorated 8th November.
- 4) **For the healing of maladies of the head:** The holy Forerunner and Baptist John - feastday 29th August.
- 5) **For the recovery of one's sight:** The Kazan Icon of the All-holy Theotokos - commemorated 22nd October and 8th July.
- 6) **For the healing of diseases of the eyes:** The holy Martyr and Archdeacon Laurence - 10th August; Holy Great Martyr Menas of Egypt - 11th November; and the holy Martyr Longinus the Centurion - 16th October.
- 7) **For the healing of maladies of the teeth:** The holy Hieromartyr Antipas, bishop of Pergamum in Asia - 11th April.
- 8) **For deliverance from infection, fatal wounds and poisoning:** Venerable Antony the Great - 17th January; and the holy Martyr Sebastian - 18th December.
- 9) **For the healing of pyretic maladies (fevers):** Venerable Maron the Hermit - 14th February; the holy Virgin Photine of the town of Caesarea in Palestine - 13th February [N.B. this is not the Samaritan Woman of the same name -ed.]; Venerable Basil the New - 26th March.
- 10) **For recovery from ruptures, swelling of the legs and knees, bodily weakness and exhaustion:** The holy Great Martyr Artemius of Egypt - commemorated 20th October.



(...to be continued in next Sunday Bulletin)

St. Maxim Sandovich

Feast Day – September 6th

St. Maxim was born in the village of Zhdynia, Galicia. It was under the Austro-Hungarian Empire, but it had been part of the Ukraine. The Austro-Hungarians did all they could to root out any sympathy for Russia. They further latinized the uniate liturgy and they viewed all Orthodox as Russian conspirators. Maxim's parents, Timko & Christina, were devout people. They saw to it that Maxim received a good education, but they could not afford much. His father arranged for him to stay in the Russian Dormitory provided for poor students at the high school in Nowy Sacz. There Maxim learned Russian history and the history of the Church. But he realized that this school was still too expensive for his family, so after his first year, he transferred to the uniate school run by Basilian monks. He found their teachings and their way of life repugnant. He left after a few weeks. He found his way across the border to Russia and entered the Lavra at Pochaev. From there, Archbishop Anthony Khrapovitsky sent him to the Orthodox seminary at Zhitomir in 1905. He graduated in 1910. When he visited his home for Pascha and Bright Week, the people of the area were excited to have an Orthodox seminary graduate in their midst. Some who had grown up in the unia, had traveled to America and had made their confessions to Orthodox priests there. They urged Maxim to seek ordination and return to Hrab and start an Orthodox Church. He promised them he would. The following year he was married and ordained. When he

and his wife arrived in town, his appearance caused an uproar. The uniate clergy mocked him for his beard, long hair and riassa, saying, "Look! St. Nicholas has come to the Carpathians!" The church grew and flourished to the point that crowds stood around the windows outside to catch a glimpse and to join in the services. He was repeatedly arrested and harrassed on false charges. The uniate clergy had him and several parishioners arrested for burning candles in church. He was arrested in 1912 for capital espionage along with a priest in a neighboring town when he went there to make his confession. They were held for two years. They were finally brought to trial and found innocent. He was released on June 6, 1914, and he returned to Hrab. He was only able to minister a short time, when he was arrested again; this time, with his pregnant wife and his father, on August 4, (three days after Austria-Hungary had declared war on Russia). They were all kept in one cell until 5am on the 6th when Timko and Mrs. Sandovich were moved to a cell with a window facing the street. They then took Maxim out, blindfolded. Placed him with his back against the wall. He knew this was the end and he said: "Lord bless." Just before the order to shoot was given, he shouted: "Long live Orthodox Rus!" Two men shot him from six paces away. His body did not fall over as it was leaning against the wall so one of the soldiers went over to him and shot him three times in the head with his revolver. St. Maxim's son, Maxim, later returned and pastored a thriving Orthodox community there.



Tropar Tone 4

Moved by the providence of God to go to Mount Pochaev *
There to learn the rightness of the Orthodox Faith *
You did attain true teaching in the city of Zhitomir *
And did return to your own country as a brave warrior of Christ, *
For Orthodoxy and your people you did receive the crown of martyrdom *
And thereby you have made your native land steadfast in the Holy Faith ***
O Hieromartyr Maxim, entreat Christ God, that our souls be saved.