

SAINTS PETER & PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH
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BULLETIN OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2007

SUNDAY/SEPTEMBER 30th
18th Sunday After Pentecost (Tone 1)
St. Gregory of Armenia

9:10a.m. 3rd & 6th Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy
Coffee Hour
6:30p.m. Vespers

MONDAY/OCTOBER 1st

Protection of the Holy Theotokos

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

SATURDAY/OCTOBER 6th

St. Innocent, Apostle to Alaska & Siberia

9:30a.m. Akathist to St. Innocent; Confessions
5:30p.m. Vigil; Confessions

SUNDAY/OCTOBER 7th

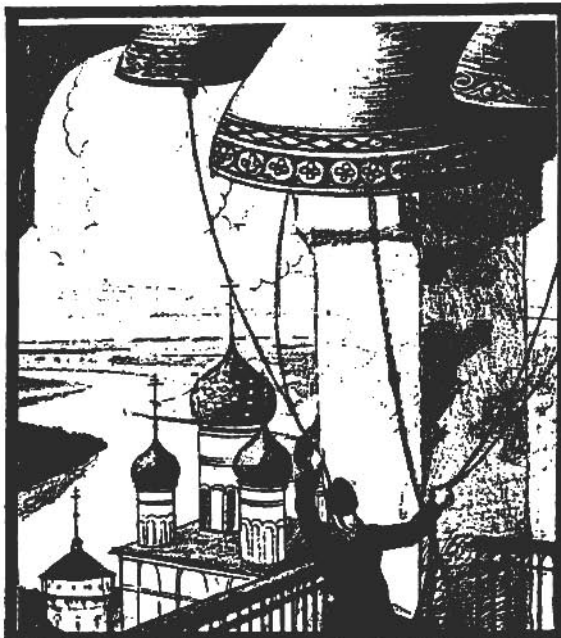
19th Sunday After Pentecost (Tone 2)

9:10a.m. 3rd & 6th Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy
Coffee Hour; Church School Classes

Fasting Days

Wednesday, October 3rd

Friday, October 5th



ON THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE CHURCH
By St. Justin (Popovich) +1979

Every holy church building is a piece of heaven on earth. And whenever you are in a church, behold, you are already in heaven. When the world torments you with its hell, hasten into a church; enter it, and behold, you have entered paradise. If people harm you with their evil, take refuge in church, fall down before God and He will take you under His gentle and almighty protection. Should it happen that legions of demons attack you, flee into church – among the angels; for a church is always full of angels, and the angel of God will defend you from all the demons of this world.

What is a church for? For the sake of prayer to God, for the sake of serving God in justice and in the light of truth. In a temple, in a church of Christ, we entrust ourselves to God through prayer: and He teaches us His eternal Divine Justice, His eternal Divine Truth, His eternal Divine Goodness.

When you hear the church bells say to yourselves: by the tolling of the bells the Lord is summoning us to Himself, the Lord is teaching us: to be good, righteous, holy, immortal and eternal! By the tolling of the bells the Lord is calling us to prayer, so that with the aid of prayer we may be cleansed of sin and evil, and arm ourselves with eternal Truth and eternal Justice, so that we might stand fast and survive when the misfortunes, tribulations and injustices of this world strike us.

Offerings for the Week of Sept. 30th

Olive Oil - in memory of Emilia; in memory of Michael; for the health of June and Mike (anniversary); for the health of Marie; for the health of John and Vera; for the health of Julia (birthday).

Wine - for the health of Justina (namesday); in memory of Basil (40th day); in memory of Anna Motoviloff.

Flowers - in memory of Joan.

"But even the hairs of your head are all numbered" (Matthew 10:30)

Our Lord is telling us what hair will grow on our heads; how long it will stay there; when it will fall; when another will grow: all these are matters of divine concern. It is said that we have in the area of 100,000 hairs. The world population is counted in the billions. "How does God do it?" He is God and can do it.

Now you, as a person, are incomparably more important than the odd hair of two. Yet if God is concerned about each hair; imagine how much more He's concerned about you; for how long and what time you'll enjoy your health; for how long and at what time you'll fall ill, and how and when you will die.

So you've lost all your money? You've failed at something? You've been injured? Fallen ill? Betrayed by someone? Feel alone and not understood? Do not worry. All circumstances of life bears God's signature. God does not mistakes. God cares and loves us beyond all measure.

Parish Synodicon

Oct. 10, 2007 40th Day Fr. John (George) Lewis
(Parish Rector 1969-1971)
Oct. 02, 1990 Stella Labay
Oct. 03, 1922 John Milanich
Oct. 03, 1946 Stephen Blisak
Oct. 03, 1971 Dimitri Pegene
Oct. 03, 1978 Pauline Andreyko
Oct. 06, 1961 Michael Gorobetz
Oct. 06, 1963 Daniel Victorenko

Parish Educational Classes - Begin October

The Education Classes already set in place are:

- 1) **Teen Discussion Group** (high school students) a brief 20 minute informal discussion to be held on the 2nd Sunday during the Coffee Hour.
- 2) **A Five Week Adult Study** "On the Meaning of the Divine Liturgy," will be held on Tuesday evenings, Oct. 9th-Nov. 6th, 7-8:30p.m.
- 3) **Class A (K thru 3rd grade)** on the 1st and 3rd Sundays during Coffee Hour.
- 4) **Class B (4 thru 8 grade)** on the 1st, 2nd & 3rd Sundays during Coffee Hour.
- 5) **General Question & Answer Period** on the 4th Sunday during Coffee Hour.

Aluminum Cans for Holy Trinity Church

Don't forget to bring your rinsed cans to the bucket in our church hall.

Fall Cheesecake Fundraiser

Is underway. Please return your order forms by Oct. 22nd. Extra forms may be found on the vestibule stand.

The Parish Bulletin Board

Has posted various items, events, news, and other information. Check it out at Coffee Hour.

Namesday Greetings

Protection of Theotokos/Oct. 1st: Mary Rosocha, Marie Turri, Maureen Lokos, Pamela Oliver;
St. Justina/Oct. 2nd: Justine Dao;
St. Dionysius/Oct. 4th: Dennis Fedechko;
Many Blessed Years!

Parish Website

Has posted any changes that would take place to the monthly or weekly calendar. It is continually updated as need be. Check, "Schedule of Services."



Alleluia is a joyful song of praise to God. The word *Alleluia* is also used as a sign of the presence of God. Whenever we sing *Alleluia* we announce that God is here with us.

A STUDY OF THE DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

**Based on, "A Commentary on the Divine Liturgy" by
St. Nicholas Cabasilas**

**A FIVE TUESDAY EVENING SERIES
Oct. 9th thru Nov. 6th
7-8:30p.m. in the Conference Room**

**Ss. Peter & Paul Church Orthodox Church
Manville, New Jersey
908-685-1452/ssppoc.org**

All Are Welcome!



**Oct. 9th Tue. Part One:
Introduction and the Prothesis**

**Oct. 16th Tue. Part Two:
The Liturgy of the Catechumens**

**Oct. 23rd Tue. Part Three:
The Liturgy of the Faithful I**

**Oct. 30th Tue. Part Four:
The Liturgy of the Faithful II**

**Nov. 6th Tue. Part Five:
A Theological Parenthesis & Thanksgiving**

**CONCERNING MEMBERSHIP IN AA (ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS)
AND ORTHODOX CHRISTIANS***

- by Bishop Kallistos (Ware)



Can an Orthodox Christian, while still remaining fully loyal to the Church, at the same time turn for help to AA? Should we not put rather our trust in the Sacraments of Confession, Anointing with Oil and Holy Communion, and in the counsel and prayers of our spiritual father? Why seek help elsewhere? Does this signify a lack of faith?

Membership in AA in no way contradicts or undermines membership in the Church. Quite simply, the two are not in competition; for AA makes no claim to be a church or a religion. The Twelve Steps will never replace the Gospels as the call of Christ. The meetings of the AA are not in any sense a substitute for participation in the sacramental worship of the Church.

Membership in AA will not make us less Orthodox, or less Catholics, or less whatever else we are. What AA can do – what, indeed it has actually done for innumerable believing Christians – is to enable them to live out their faith and to experience the power of the Sacraments in a way that they had not otherwise found possible. For again and again this has been the experience of the many thousands, if not millions, who have turned to AA: it works. Its distinctive blend of spirituality and practicality has proved remarkably successful in the contemporary world. But the rules of AA, while simple, are certainly not easy.

DON'T BE IN DENIAL, GO TO THE MEETINGS*

by Fr. Meletios Webber

One of the forms of denial I have come across on a number of occasions is that Orthodox Christians with a drinking problem try to avoid going to AA on the grounds that AA is not Orthodox. I would encourage such people to go to the meetings anyway. They will find that they are able to take their Orthodoxy with them (to the extent that they need to), just as others take their own religious traditions with them. Indeed, the richer the diversity in an AA group, the more the group is likely to be able to help other newcomers. Remember, AA is not a church, and AA is not a religion. The focus of every single meeting is sobriety, and that is what you need to go to find. If there is anything in the meeting which you really find offensive from an Orthodox standpoint, discuss it with your parish priest. If you are still resisting AA because it is not Orthodox, you need to consider whether this is not perhaps an excuse.

* Taken from the book, *Steps of Transformation* by Fr. Meletios Webber. This book, printed by Conciliar Press (2003) "presents" says Fr. Thomas Hopko, "the vision and practice of the Twelve Step programs for dealing with addictions, particularly alcoholism. Fr. Meletios relates the Steps to Orthodox Christian spirituality, with clarity and conviction, and appealing personal engagement. Here is a book which addicts and their friends are sure to treasure. It is true, deep, pure, rich and highly rewarding."