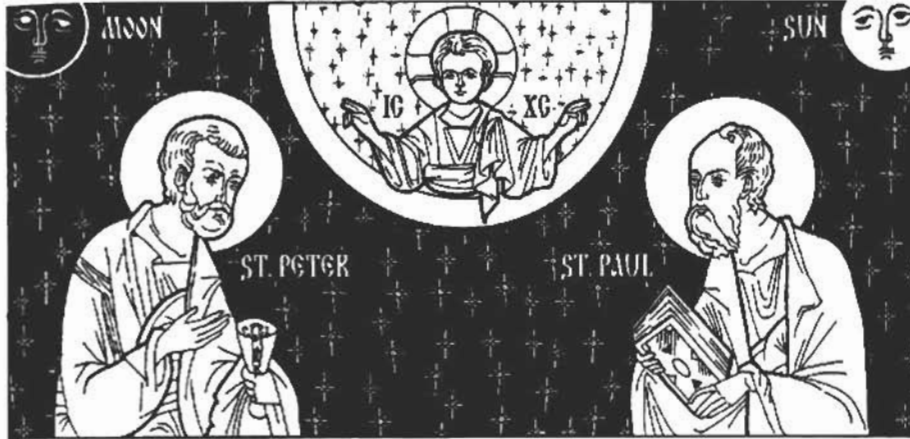


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BULLETIN OF JUNE 29, 2008



SUNDAY/JUNE 29th
All Saints of America (Tone 1)

Ss. Peter & Paul Day

9:10a.m. Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy
& Procession with Feastal Meal

TUESDAY/JULY 1st

7:00p.m. Vespers

WEDNESDAY/JULY 2nd
St. John of San Francisco

9:10a.m. Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy

SATURDAY/JULY 5th
St. Elizabeth of Moscow

9:30a.m. Akathist to St. Elizabeth; Confession
5:30p.m. Vigil; Confession

SUNDAY/JULY 6th
3rd Sunday After Pentecost (Tone 2)
New-Martyrs of the Turkish Yoke

9:10a.m. Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy
Book-for-the-Month of Spiritual Reading from
Parish Library

Fast Days

Wednesday, July 2nd

Friday, July 4th

Rejoice, O Holy Apostles Peter & Paul!

Rejoice, Peter, unbreakable rock of the Church!

Rejoice, Paul, great educator of the nations!

**Rejoice, Peter, illuminator of heavenly
knowledge!**

**Rejoice, Paul, for you have gone up unto the
third heaven!**

**Rejoice, Peter, for that you raised Tabitha alive,
who had died!**

**Rejoice, Paul, exalted expositor of the divine
Incarnation!**

**Rejoice, Peter, for that you have been named
blessed by Christ!**

**Rejoice, Paul, a fiddle that made the Gospel of
Luke sonorous!**

**Rejoice, Peter, for that you have explained the
Gospel of Mark!**

Rejoice, Paul, teacher of the dogmas of Christ!

Rejoice, O Holy Apostles Peter & Paul!

Vacation Planning – Orthodox Churches

An online directory of churches in North America on the site: [Orthodoxy in America www.orthodoxyinamerica.org](http://OrthodoxyinAmerica.org) On Sundays, even while on vacation we should keep holy the Lord's Day.

Parish Picnic Date – Sunday, July 20th

The Picnic begins at 2:00p.m. at the Village Swim Club, located at 1 Tower Center Blvd, in East Brunswick. It is on 10 acres. There is a huge swimming pool and a separate kiddie pool. There are 2 shady picnic groves with lots of tables and chairs, tennis courts, basketball courts, ping pong, volley ball and waffle ball.

Five volunteers are sought for the planning of the day. Please speak with Dan or Maria Torrisi to volunteer or for any questions about the picnic.

Food and drink will be provided, but we need to know if you are coming to plan for food purchase. Please call the Torrisis' (732-545-5642) or Fr. James (908-685-1452) with number of people, or sign up at the vestibule stand. A donation of \$5 per person is asked, with a free pass for children under 10.

The Picnic is for parishioners and families, former parishioners, and friends of the parish. Come and socialize!

Parish Council Meeting

July 17th, Thursday at 7:00p.m.

Annual Blessing of Autos

July 20th, Sunday after the Divine Liturgy.

Namesday Greetings

St. Peter/June 29th: Peter Gorbatuk, Robert Peter Keller, Peter Bakaletz;

St. Paul/June 29th: Protodeacon Paul Sokol, Paul Kulina;

St. John/July 2nd: Richard John Webber;

St. Elizabeth/July 5th: Elizabeth Hansen;

Many Blessed Years!

Appreciation is expressed

To those who helped in the church cleaning this past week.

Parish Synodicon – Memory Eternal!

July 21st 40th Day Julia Yadlowsky

June 30, 1955 Steven Sidorkovitz

June 30, 1967 Christine Senko

June 30, 1994 Sophie Karwatt

June ? 1948 Paul Federoff

July 01, 1929 Semeon Romanofsky

July 01, 1999 John Kulina Sr.

July 02, 1931 Theodore Yurgel

July 02, 1973 Mae Wilhousky

July 03, 1923 Anna Kliaga

July 03, 1973 Susan Ostapovich

July 05, 1925 Athansius Fedchin

July 05, 1970 Alexis Fedchin

Parish Website: www.ssppoc.org

Has posted the weekly Sunday Bulletin and parish news. It also has posted last minute changes in the schedule or news "this just in."

Offerings for the Week of June 29th

Olive Oil – in memory of Emilia; in memory of Joan; in memory of Michael and for the health of Protodeacon Paul; in memory of Kathleen Warcola Hughes, for the health of Vaschen.

Wine - for salvation of Justina; for forgiveness of sin and salvation of Marianna (birthday).

Flowers - in honor of Ss. Peter and Paul.

Half-year 2008 Financial Statement of Donations and Budget Review

Is being mailed out. Please examine your statement. The bad economy has also had a negative impact on our parish finances. You are asked to exercise honorable stewardship both in good and bad economic times.

OCA Town Meeting – Saturday, Aug. 2nd in South River.

Ss. Peter & Paul Church in South River will be the site for a 2 hour (10:00a.m.-12:00p.m) open forum for clergy and laity to speak to one of our bishops (not yet determined which one), on matters of our OCA.

The meeting is designed for the faithful to express their feelings in an atmosphere of openness and candor. The bishop presiding is to hear the voice, pain, ideas and concerns of the faithful. Go!

St. Arsenios Boka (+1989) and His Revelation

Source: From the Greek Orthodox Publication "Saint Philotheos of Paros," Issue 9, Sept-Dec 2003, pg. 91, translated from the Greek by St. POIMEN Brotherhood

St. Arsenios was born in 1910 in a small village in Romania by pious Orthodox parents, Joseph and Christina. When his mother was pregnant with little John (his baptismal name) she dreamed repeatedly that either the sun or the moon shone on her stomach. She thus often wondered what kind of a child was that would be born.

While St. Arsenios was young, his father passed away and his mother was forced to remarry. This second marriage troubled her son John immensely and he thus stayed away from home for a long time. He eventually joined the brotherhood of the St. Constantine Binkoveanou monastery whereby he patiently cultivated his spiritual side. He was enlightened by the Grace of the Holy Spirit and acquired the gift of foreseeing the future.

St. Arsenios became renowned for his abilities as a confessor and a spiritual guide. When he met a person, one felt that the Saint had the ability to enter and examine the depths of that person's soul. He was able to reveal your thoughts and many past sins or deeds. He would also know a person's name upon meeting them and without any prior knowledge. Once he was ordained and received the blessing to confess, he would frequently reveal the unconfessed sins (forgotten or not) to those who came to him, as well as things that would happen to them in the future.

He was extremely bothered and concerned about the many people he confessed who refused to change their life, selecting to continue satisfying their desires. St. Arsenios was fully aware that, in the Day of Judgment, he would be their guarantor for the salvation of their souls. He thus begged and pleaded

with God to reveal to him the reason for which people refuse to abandon their sinful ways. One day, while he was sitting in a chair within his garden staring at the mountain across from him, he observed that a huge dark cloud appeared on the mountaintop. There was great commotion and noise coming from within the cloud. Continuing to attentively stare at it, he suddenly observed that the cloud separated in two and at the very peak of the mountain there was a royal throne surrounded by fire. On the throne was seated the Enemy of mankind, Satan, surrounded by a plethora of demons. St. Arsenios was able to clearly follow what was transpiring. He thus hears the Evil One say:

"Which one of you is skillful and clever enough to come up with some kind of a cunning and wicked thought which we will whisper in the minds of people so that we can attract them and draw them to our side? In this way we can establish a kingdom that is greater than God's since there is so little time left..."

A demon then appeared who worshipped his leader all the way to the ground and said:

"Excellent leader of the darkness, I consider it proper to whisper into people's ears that there is no God."

Satan then said:

"Your wickedness is not the best because we can gain a greater number of souls in a different way. Let somebody else come up with another idea."

A second one came and said:

"Excellent leader of the darkness, I suggest that we whisper to them that there is a God but there is no such thing as Heaven or Hell

and that this life of theirs simply ends at their grave.”

Satan, after extensive contemplation, said: “This wicked thought is also insufficient and will not enable us to win many souls. People will remember that Christ said, as He ascended into Heaven: ‘In my Father’s house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also [Jn 14:2-3]’. The faith of people in these words is unfortunately strong enough to counteract our plans. People will continue to believe that He will reward all according to their life deeds. Let another one of you suggest something else.”

A third one then came up and after he worshipped his leader all the way to the ground, took the floor and said:

“Most excellent leader of the darkness, I propose that it is much better that we praise people for their faith in God, their belief in the existence of Paradise and Hell, their expectation for the Last Judgment. However and at the same time, let us whisper to them: ‘Do not rush into repentance. Let repentance be your deed during the latter part of your life. Death is still far away. For the time being, enjoy your life, satisfy all of your carnal desires because you have plenty of time left.’ Thus, while we conduct our alluring and magic works, they will grow old without realizing it and reach their life’s end before they can repent. Death will arrive suddenly and will find them unprepared and they will be ours forever.”

Satan then moved his head acknowledging his satisfaction. He grunted and squealed with devilish joy and with hasty anxiety told them all: “Quickly, all of you go and do exactly as your colleague indicated.”

It is for this reason that people fulfill their Christian duties in a lackluster manner. The

cunning demons, throughout their life, whisper to them in a tempting way regarding the joys of this world and people obey. They refuse to change their ways and continue to satisfy their desires and sinful nature, ignoring the advice of the Church regarding true repentance, even in their old age...

St. Arsenios foretold his end by informing many that he had three more Paschal seasons to celebrate and indeed, he fell asleep in the Lord three years later. He had foreseen the fall of the Communist establishment and the rise of the Romanian people against the atheist regime, and quickly after this prophecy he fell asleep in November 1989 (the Communist regime fell one month later, in December 1989). He has remained in the souls of many of his spiritual children, continuing to guide them from above.

There exists a miraculous event that attracts thousands of Christians to his grave site, at the Prislop women’s monastery. Even though the temperatures there can be extremely low, often reaching 20 degrees Celsius below zero, all of the flowers that have grown on his grave neither wither nor freeze and die by the extreme temperatures but instead remain in full blossom. From winter to summer, the Saint’s grave remains full with blossomed, multi-colored fragrant flowers (refer to the picture at the start of the article).

May the prayers of St. Arsenios, this notable, tireless and remarkable servant of God be with all of us sinners! + + +

✘ Prayer, by its action, is: the reconciliation of man with God, the mother and daughter of tears, a bridge for crossing temptations, a wall of protection from afflictions, a crushing of conflicts, boundless activity, the spring of virtues, the source of spiritual gifts, invisible progress, food of the soul, the enlightening of the mind, an axe for despair, a demonstration of hope, the release from sorrow.

Abba Agathon