

**SS. PETER & PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH**  
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**BULLETIN OF SEPTEMBER 21, 2008**



**SUNDAY/SEPTEMBER 21st**  
**14th Sunday After Pentecost (Tone 5)**  
**Leave-Taking of the Holy Cross**  
9:10a.m. Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy  
Coffee Hour; Church School Classes

**WEDNESDAY/SEPTEMBER 24th**  
7:00p.m. Compline and Akathist to  
**St. Sergius of Radonezh (Sept. 25th)**

**THURSDAY/SEPTEMBER 25th**  
7:00p.m. Vespers

**FRIDAY/SEPTEMBER 26th**  
**St. John the Theologian**  
9:10a.m. Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy

**SATURDAY/SEPTEMBER 27th**  
9:30a.m. Akathist; Confession  
5:30p.m. Vigil; Confessions

**SUNDAY/SEPTEMBER 28th**  
**15th Sunday After Pentecost (Tone 6)**  
**St. Vyacheslav, Prince of the Czechs**  
9:10a.m. Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy  
Coffee Hour; Outreach Presentation at Coffee  
Hour

**Fasting Days**  
Wednesday, September 24th  
Friday, September 26th *Fish, wine & oil*

**Give Us This Day Our Daily Bread**

According to the Holy Fathers, with this petition of the Lord's Prayer we ask not only for material bread, but mostly the spiritual Bread, Christ. Christ is offered to us with His Word (Scripture), and with His Body and His Blood. This offering takes place in every Divine Liturgy.

In the first part of the Divine Liturgy, the instructive, the word of God is offered through verses taken from the Old Testament in the Antiphons and is followed by the New Testament in the Beatitudes, the Epistle and Gospel.

In the second part of the Divine Liturgy, we partake in the sacrifice of Christ and we receive His crucified and resurrected Body. That is why we recite the Lord's Prayer before Holy Communion and after the recitation of, "and make us worthy, O Mater, that with boldness we may dare to call upon Thee the heavenly God as Father and to say..."

In this way this prayer is closely connected to the Holy Eucharist and leads us to a Eucharistic use of this world. By asking God for everything we need, we acknowledge him as the only provider of everything good and we acknowledge all the gifts of life as His gifts.

**September Month – Poor Basket earmarked for refugees in Georgia and Ossestia**

Please be mindful of the more than 155,000 refugees (mostly Orthodox Christians) who are in need due the military conflict in August. Funds collected will be handed to the IOCC which will disperse them through the Orthodox Churches in Georgia and Russia.

**The OCA Special Investigation Report**

May be found on line at the Orthodox Church in America website: [www.oca.org/news/1628](http://www.oca.org/news/1628)

**Scripture Study Classes – Tuesdays in October 7-8:30p.m.**

On the four Tuesday evenings in the Conference Room a Study on part of St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians 4:25-32 will be held. This section of the Epistle speaks about members of the Faith relating to one another. All are invited!

Tues. Oct. 7th *Trouble in Ephesus*

Tues. Oct. 14th *Baptism, Truth, Members of One Another*

Tues. Oct. 21st *Conflict – Be angry but do not Sin*

Tues. Oct. 28th *Honor the Spirit – Honor the New Life in Christ*

**Namesday Greetings**

St. Peter/Sept. 24th: Peter Parsells: Many Blessed Years!

**Parish Outreach Meeting at Coffee Hour Sunday, September 28th**

The Parish Outreach Committee is eager to hear about your ideas and suggestions about Ss. Peter and Paul's ministry of Outreach and Evangelization. Some great suggestions were made at this year's parish annual meeting, and we would like to hear more from you! Also, the Committee has a number of suggestions to share with you. We will meet in the Conference Room during Coffee Hour. This is your opportunity to share your vision of how our parish can be ever more dynamic – see you next Sunday!

**Parish Synodicon – Memory Eternal!**

Sept. 27, 2008	Sophie Wassel (40 <sup>th</sup> Day)
Sept. 21, 1977	Steven Trehubets
Sept. 23, 1985	Mary Koles
Sept. 24, 1917	Evdokia Philmiuchuk
Sept. 25, 1937	Kuzma Trushko
Sept. 25, 1959	Marie Dezko
Sept. 25, 1997	Olga Semegieff

**Orthodox Education Day – St. Vladimir's Seminary, Saturday, October 4th**

A day of worship, education, fellowship, music, tours, fine ethnic foods, and special sales on religious items and books. Go! And offer a ride. See posted flyer for schedule of events.

**Wednesday Parish E-Mail**

This past Wednesday and ever Wednesday from here on in, a mid-week e-mail is being sent to parishioners and friends of the parish. The purpose is to "keep in touch," and offer some news, information, spiritual counsel and other considerations. If you did not receive an e-mail from Father James on Wednesday, Sept. 17th, and wish to be on the mailing list, please e-mail Fr. James at [frjames@ssppoc.org](mailto:frjames@ssppoc.org)

**Diocesan Website: [www.dcnuyoca.org](http://www.dcnuyoca.org)**

Has posted a photo-report of the Diocesan Assembly of September 15th. An on-line edition of the Diocesan Publication, *Jacob's Well*, Summer/Fall 2008 (32 pages) may also be viewed.

**Youth Group Bake Sale – October 5th**

A Bake Sale will be held this day to benefit our Youth Group. Bakers are sought. Please speak with Maria Torrisi (732-454-5642).

**Offerings for the week of September 21st**

**Olive Oil** - in memory of Michael and Justina (birthday); for the health of Theodosia; in memory of Joan; in memory of Emilia; for the health of Vaschen.

**Flowers** – for the health of Basil and Barbara Kulick.



**Diocese of Washington & New York  
Census Analysis**

Parish	2008 Census	2007 Census	2006 Census
Annunciation Church, Brick, NJ	105	107	105
Assumption of the Holy Virgin Church, Clifton, NJ	126	126	116
Cathedral of the Holy Transfiguration of Our Lord, Brooklyn, NY	88	100	90
Cathedral of the Holy Virgin Protection, New York, NY	100	100	100
Christ the Savior Mission, Fenwick Island, DE	30	34	38
Christ the Savior Mission, Stafford, VA	33	22	19
Christ the Saviour Church, Milton, NY	55	61	61
Christ the Saviour Church, New York, NY	48	47	45
Christ the Saviour Church, Paramus, NJ	109	109	117
Church of the Holy Cross, Medford, NJ	111	126	126
Church of the Holy Transfiguration, Pearl River, NY	16	16	20
Church of the Holy Trinity, Brooklyn, NY	40	40	48
Church of the Mother of God, Mays Landing, NJ	8	9	11
Dormition of the Virgin Mary Church, Binghamton, NY	138	150	172
Holy Apostles Church, Saddlebrook, NJ	53	63	68
Holy Cross Monastery, Niagara Falls, NY	4	4	6
Holy Resurrection Church, Wayne, NJ	177	178	178
Holy Spirit Church, Wantage, NJ	41	42	45
Holy Transfiguration Chapel, Princeton, NJ	31	31	30
Holy Trinity Church, East Meadow, NY	125	128	128
Holy Trinity Church, Elmira Heights, NY	56	56	58
Holy Trinity Church, Rahway, NJ	20	20	20
Holy Trinity Church, Randolph, NJ	165	170	168
Holy Trinity Church, Reston, VA	44	43	45
Holy Trinity Church, Yonkers, NY	116	150	163
Mother of God, Joy to All Who Sorrow Mission, Rocky Hill, NJ	35	34	33
Nativity of the Holy Virgin Church, Jackson, NJ	39	40	60
Our Lady of Kazan Church, Sea Cliff, NY	132	136	135
Ss. Cyril and Methodius Mission, Washington, DC	6	25	25
Ss. Peter and Paul Church, Bayonne, NJ	62	64	64
Ss. Peter and Paul Church, Buffalo, NY	39	39	47
Ss. Peter and Paul Church, East Herkimer, NY	121	127	131
Ss. Peter and Paul Church, Endicott, NY	155	165	170
Ss. Peter and Paul Church, Jersey City, NJ	70	75	75
Ss. Peter and Paul Church, Manville, NJ	100	100	105
Ss. Peter and Paul Church, South River	277	277	277
Ss. Peter and Paul Church, Syracuse, NY	139	146	145
St. Andrew Church, Baltimore, MD	105	105	115
St. Andrew Church, Dix Hills, NY	68	67	65
St. Basil Church, Watervliet, NY	182	192	205
St. Catherine the Great Martyr Mission, Hagerstown, MD	46	45	45
St. George Church, Buffalo, NY	58	58	58
St. Gregory Palamas Church, Glen Gardner, NJ	37	37	37
St. Gregory the Theologian Church, Wappingers Falls, NY	114	108	103
St. Innocent Mission, Oneonta, NY	9	9	11

St. John Chrysostom Church, Woodside, NY	35	35	35
St. John Chrysostom Mission, Absecon, NJ	7	7	7
St. John the Baptist Church, Alpha, NJ	57	61	60
St. John the Baptist Church, Passaic, NJ	78	86	103
St. John the Baptist Church, Spring Valley, NY	34	34	41
St. John the Baptist, Rochester, NY	90	89	99
St. John the Theologian Church, Shirley, NY	48	48	42
St. Luke Church, Mc Lean, VA	55		72
St. Mark Church, Bethesda, MD	209	220	218
St. Mary Magdalen Church, New York, NY			19
St. Matthew Church, Columbia, MD	165	162	161
St. Nicholas Cathedral, Washington, DC	382	366	350
St. Nicholas Church, Auburn, NY	120	121	121
St. Nicholas Church, Cohoes, NY	104	109	119
St. Nicholas Church, Whitestone, NY	75	75	84
St. Nino's Mission, Brooklyn, NY			25
St. Spiridon Church, Perth Amboy, NJ	29	24	28
St. Vladimir Church, Trenton, NJ	128	132	133
<b>Totals</b>	<b>5,258</b>	<b>5,431</b>	<b>5,600</b>

St. Nicholas Church, Whitestone, NY

# Saints Peter & Paul Orthodox Church Cheesecake & Jewelry 2008 Fundraiser

## Fundraising

### Makes It Happen

Saints Peter & Paul Orthodox Church needs your support! We're kicking off our annual Cheesecake & Jewelry fundraiser.



In an effort to raise funds that will benefit our church, we are launching a major fund raising drive featuring a fantastic selection of beautiful jewelry items and delicious baked goods and desserts!

**SEPTEMBER 28TH - FUNDRAISER ENDS**

SYOSSET, NY [OCA Communications] – The Statute Commission of the Orthodox Church in America received two proposed Statute amendments to be considered at 15th All-American Council.

The proposed resolutions are as follows.

#### **Article IV, Section 4 (Concerning the Election of the Metropolitan)**

The present text reads as follows.

*When a vacancy has occurred in the office of Metropolitan, the bishop senior by rank and date of consecration shall convene the Holy Synod. After the formal vote declaring the vacancy, the Holy Synod will proceed with the election of a locum tenens. Within a period not exceeding three months (unless some unavoidable necessity forces a prolongment of this period), the locum tenens will convene an All-American Council at which a successor shall be elected. If not already a bishop, a candidate for the office of Metropolitan must fulfill the canonical, moral, and educational requirements stated in Article VI, Section 9. The election shall take place according to the following order:*

- a. The Council nominates candidates by secret ballot without previous discussion of names. A blank paper ballot shall be distributed to each member of the Council before the vote.*
- b. On the first vote, one single name may be written on each ballot. If the name of a candidate is written on a number of ballots equal to at least two-thirds of the total number of members in attendance at the Council, his name shall be submitted to the Holy Synod for approval by majority vote; in case of rejection, the Holy Synod shall formally state the reasons which motivated the rejection.*
- c. If no candidate receives a number of ballots equal to at least two-thirds of the total membership in attendance, or if the person receiving that number of ballots fails to receive the approval of the Holy Synod, a second vote shall be taken.*
- d. In the second vote, two names shall be written on each ballot; the tellers shall not count any ballot on which fewer or more than two names are written. The names of the two candidates who receive the highest number of ballots on the second vote shall be submitted to the Holy Synod for their choice by majority vote.*

*Upon his election, and before the dismissal of the All-American Council, the new Metropolitan will be enthroned according to the established ritual.*

The proposed amendment reads as follows.

*The election (of the Metropolitan) presided over by the ranking member of the Synod of Bishops shall take place according to the following order:*

- a. The Council nominates by secret ballot, without previous discussion of names. Three blank paper ballots shall be distributed to each member of the Council before the vote.*
- b. Each Council member writes one name on each of the three ballots.*

(over)

*c. The ballots are counted and the names of the three men receiving the most votes are announced to the Council, with the number of votes each man has received.*

*d. Should any of the men so nominated not already be a bishop, his name is given to the Synod of Bishops for canonical clearance. If the Synod determines that the nominee is not canonically qualified to be consecrated a bishop, they announce the reason for his disqualification, and the procedure for electing nominees is repeated according to the above rules until three nominees are secured.*

*e. The Synod of Bishops receives the acceptance of nomination from each of the nominees. Should any refuse, the procedure is repeated until three nominees are secured whose names are written on three identical sheets of paper, identically folded, put into an appropriate vessel, covered, and placed on the Altar Table.*

*f. After the Divine Liturgy is celebrated by the locum tenes and the Synod of Bishops, followed by a Service of Prayer, a member of the Church appointed by the Synod of Bishops picks one paper from the vessel.*

*g. The new Metropolitan, chosen by lot, is immediately enthroned in office according to the established ritual. Should he not be a bishop, the Synod of Bishops announces the time and place of his episcopal consecration and enthronement as primate of the Orthodox Church in America.*

## **COUNSELS FOR LIFE**

### ***From the teachings of the Elder Epiphanius of Athens (+1989)***

#### **Psychiatric Illness, Demonic Influence, and Holiness**

“Many Christians maintain that psychiatric illnesses are due to demonic influence and, with this viewpoint, they reject the use of psychiatric medicines. What do you have to say about this position?”

“A certain percentage and, furthermore, a small percentage of “psychiatric patients” are really possessed. The majority, however, of the psychiatric patients are not possessed nor are the manifestations of their psychiatric illnesses due to demonic influence.”

“And how can we tell that there is a possession, when it is such?”

“The Church diagnoses possession from the position of the sufferer as regards the sacred Sacraments: divine Communion, Confession, etc. Or as regards the Gospel, the precious Cross, the sacred relics or the holy icons and, in general, the sacred things.

Father — tells me that at Saint Gerasimus of Kephalaria they used to place the Holy Scripture or some icon on the back of a possessed person lying face down—that is, without him seeing—in order to exclude the possibility of suggestion—and then the possessed person would tremble, a thing which would not occur when they would place other types of books or objects on him.”

“Do we have any example of psychosis among the saints?”

“Certainly. I will off-hand mention to you Saint Olympiada, the deaconess. After the exile of sacred Chrysostom, her Spiritual Father, she suffered depression and this saint consoled her with his letters reminding her of the divine reward for those who are persecuted in the name of the Lord.”