

SS. PETER & PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH

605 Washington Ave., Manville, NJ 08835

Voice: 908-685-1452 / fax: 908-685-1074

Web: www.ssppoc.org

Email: frjames@ssppoc.org

BULLETIN OF APRIL 5, 2009

SUNDAY/APRIL 5th (wine & oil)

5th Sunday of the Great & Holy Fast:

St. Mary of Egypt (Tone 1)

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

Coffee Hour; Church School

4:00p.m. Vespers in Saddle Brook

MONDAY/APRIL 6th

7:00p.m. Outreach Meeting

7:00p.m. Vespers; Confession

TUESDAY/APRIL 7th

7:00p.m. Vespers; Confession

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 8th

9:30a.m. Akathist to the Passion; Confession

6:30p.m. Pre-Sanctified Liturgy

THURSDAY/APRIL 9th

7:00p.m. Holy Unction Mystery

(Confession & Communion must have been received prior in the 40 Days of Great Lent)

FRIDAY/APRIL 10th

9:30a.m. Willow and Palm Work Party

7:00p.m. Matins; Confession

End of the 40 Days

LAZARUS SATURDAY/APRIL 11th

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

3:00p.m. Confession

5:30p.m. Vigil; Confession

PALM SUNDAY/APRIL 12th (fish, wine & oil)

ENTRANCE INTO JERUSALEM

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

Coffee Hour; Church School

Beginning of Great & Holy Week

6:30p.m. Bridegroom Matins



ST. ZOSIMA AND ST. MARY OF EGYPT

Hymns for the Sixth Week

As we set out upon the Sixth Week of the Fast, let us sing to Christ a hymn on preparation for the Feast of Palms. He comes for our sake seated on the foal of an ass; that as King He may subdue the wild and unruly nations to His Father. Let us all make ready for Him branches of virtues, that with rejoicing we may see His Resurrection.

Receive your King, O Zion. For see, He comes to you now in meekness, to raise up Lazarus and to destroy the bitter kingdom of death. Summoned by God, let all the multitude of holy monks and lay people assemble, to welcome Christ with palms and cry: Blessed is He who comes to save mortal men through the Passion of the Cross, and to grant in His love freedom from the passions unto all.

Fasting Norms for Great Lent

A Fast is observed from meat, dairy, fish, wine and oil products daily. On Saturdays and Sundays, wine and oil are permitted. We should strive to keep both the rule and spirit of what constitutes a true Fast.

Lenten Charitable Offerings

OCMC Coin Boxes Please bring them in on Palm Sunday, April 12th.

Poor Basket in the center of the church which provides funding for St. Philaret Society, the charitable arm of our parish caring for our own and others.

St. Mary Magdalen Church in Jerusalem. Each year we make an offering for the benefit of this holy church in the Holy Land.

The Mysteries of Repentance and Holy Communion

- Should be received by all the faithful during the time of the 40 Days – **ending April 11th.**
- Confessions are not scheduled during the Great and Holy Week (April 12-18).
- Parishioners wishing to make their Confession outside of the parish should first speak with Fr. James.
- For making a Confession at another time than what is scheduled, contact Fr. James.
- A total Fast from mid-night (or 12:00p.m. for the Pre-Sanctified Liturgy) is held in preparing for Holy Communion. The reading of Pre and Post Communion Prayers and participation in the liturgical service the evening before Communion is part of the church discipline.

Orthodox Youth (Soccer) Tournament – June 6th, Sat. in South River

The Invitation is open to men and women, join in fellowship with other Orthodox young people. See posted flyer and speak with Alexander Torrisi (732-545-5642).

Offerings for the week of April 5th

Olive Oil – in memory of Emilia and Vaschen; in memory of Joan; in memory of Michael and Justina; for the health of Nicholas (birthday).

Wine – in honor of St. Joseph (namesday) for protection during travel and for forgiveness of sins; in memory of Florin, Livia and Ioan.

Easter Candy Sale

Netted a profit of \$762. Thanks for your support!

Parish Synodicon - Memory Eternal!

April	06,	1974	Gregory Tscherwinski
April	06,	1977	Eva Marchuk
April	06,	1992	Stephen Mock
April	06,	1995	Anne Burd
April	07,	1968	Fr. Basil Dziama
April	09,	1937	George Huzinec
April	09,	1953	Anna Romanovich
April	10,	1960	Mary Romanovich
April	11,	1919	Jacob Cherniak
April	11,	1959	Mary Skwarla
April	11,	1966	Paul Adamcio

Great & Holy Week Work Sheet

For tasks and needs before Pascha, may be found on the vestibule stand. Please sign-up for what you can do.

The Vigil Watch Sheet for Great & Holy Friday and Saturday

Is to be found on the vestibule stand.

Bright Monday - April 20th

On this day, the Second of Pascha, our parish family gathers in fellowship. You are encouraged to take the "day off" from work and school and feast. A sign-up sheet for foods is on the vestibule stand. You may also speak to Lisa Keller or Kathryn Motoviloff.

Namesday Greetings

St. Rodion/April 8th: Robert Smith; Many Blessed Years!

Appreciation

Is expressed to all those that helped out in the Great Lent Church Cleaning. The Lord bless!

So Said 5 Year Old Todd P.

Todd: "Who is reading in the choir?"

Mom: "Reader Symeon."

Todd: "I thought it was St. Paul."

Mom: "Honey, I think you mean Deacon Paul."

Todd: "Well, you could call him that, but I call him St. Paul."

Georgian Celebration Day – Sat. May 2nd

From 11:00a.m. to 4:00p.m. Plan to come and bring someone with you!

Church leader sparks Georgian baby boom

By Tom Esslemont
BBC News, Tbilisi

Two years after having one of the lowest birth rates in the world, Georgia is enjoying something of a baby boom, following an intervention from the country's most senior cleric.

At the end of 2007, in a move to reverse the Caucasian country's dwindling birth figures, the head of the Georgian Orthodox Church, Patriarch Ilia II, came up with an incentive. He promised to personally baptise any baby born to parents of more than two children.

There was only one catch: the baby had to be born after the initiative was launched.

The results are, in the words of the Georgian Orthodox Church, "a miracle".

Easy decision

The country's birth rate increased by nearly 20% during 2008 - a rate four times faster than the previous year.

Many parents say they took the decision to have another child on the basis of the Patriarch's incentive.

Giorgi and Pati Bluashvili have just had their fourth child. He is a boy called Giviko. He has big blue eyes and a loud laugh. As I try to interview his mother he takes delight at interrupting by babbling away.

Pati says the decision to have another child was an easy one.

"There's no doubt in my mind that we had Giviko because of the Patriarch's incentive," she says.

"When he announced that he would baptise any child born to parents with at least two children already we could not resist the opportunity to have another baby. To have a child baptised by the Patriarch is so very special."

Many other parents agree. It is perhaps not surprising in a country where more than 80% of people follow the Orthodox faith.

On a Thursday afternoon, dozens of parents are queuing up outside a registry office in central Tbilisi to put their child's name down for the Patriarchal mass baptism. The ceremonies take place four times a year.

Scribbling down the name of her three-month-old boy, Nino - a young mother - says it is an honour to be contributing to the task of boosting birth rates.

"The Patriarch did a really good thing launching this initiative," she says.

"I am sure that most parents decided to have more babies because of him. If his Holiness baptises your child it means he becomes his or her godfather and that is such an honour."

No surprise

The next baptism is scheduled for early April, when thousands of mums, dads and their children will cram into Tbilisi's biggest church, the Sameba Cathedral. The babies will be briefly dipped into a gigantic inflatable font after receiving a blessing from his Holiness, Ilia II.

The Patriarch plays a very influential role in Georgian society. Many see him as the most authoritative figure in their life.

But to Church insiders, the increased birth rates come as no surprise.

"Faith is getting stronger," says Irakli Kadagishvili, a spokesman for the Patriarch Foundation, a movement set up to promote the interests of the Church.

"The Patriarch is seen not only as a religious figure, but also as a national authority. When he saw the need to increase the birth rate he only had to provide an incentive. It was the only stimulus most parents needed if they were already thinking about having more children."

The Church is taking the credit for the sudden trend in having babies. But there are other factors to consider, including economic ones.

" Who is now creating families? People who five years ago were out of work "

Giorgi Vashadze head of Georgian civil registry

The head of Georgia's civil registry, Giorgi Vashadze, has been monitoring the recent figures.

He tells me that the jump from 48,000 in 2007 to 57,000 in 2008 can, in part, be explained by the Patriarch's incentive, but also by the rise in average household incomes.

"Who is now creating families? People who five years ago were out of work," he says.

"Previously, they had no income. They could not get married. Today they are working. They have salaries. They are maybe not as high as in [other] European countries but they are quite normal for Georgia. So I think this is a major factor."

In a country which early last year boasted of having economic growth rates of 7.9% there is little doubt that economic factors may have played a role in bringing on the baby boom.

But the role of the Church cannot be underestimated in Georgia.

Twenty years ago, just before Georgia gained independence from the Soviet Union, the Orthodox religion was all but suppressed in the country.

Now it is more than clear that the faith has never been stronger.