

SAINTS PETER & PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH

605 Washington Avenue, Manville, New Jersey 08835-1856

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

Email: frjames@ssppoc.org

Website: www.ssppoc.org

BULLETIN OF SEPTEMBER 6, 2009

SUNDAY/SEPTEMBER 6

13th Sunday After Pentecost

Sanctification of the Environment Day

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

Coffee Hour

12:00p.m. – 2:00p.m. Church Open

MONDAY/SEPTEMBER 7

5:30p.m. Vigil (Not 7:00p.m)

TUESDAY/SEPTEMBER 8

Nativity of the Theotokos

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

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

SATURDAY/SEPTEMBER 12

9:30a.m. Akathist; Confession

5:30p.m. Vigil; Confession

SUNDAY/SEPTEMBER 13

Sunday Before the Holy Cross

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

Coffee Hour

12:00p.m. Movie Presentation:

Beyond Torture

12:00p.m. -2:00p.m. Church Open

MONDAY/SEPTEMBER 14

Elevation of the Holy Cross

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

-Strict Fast Day-

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

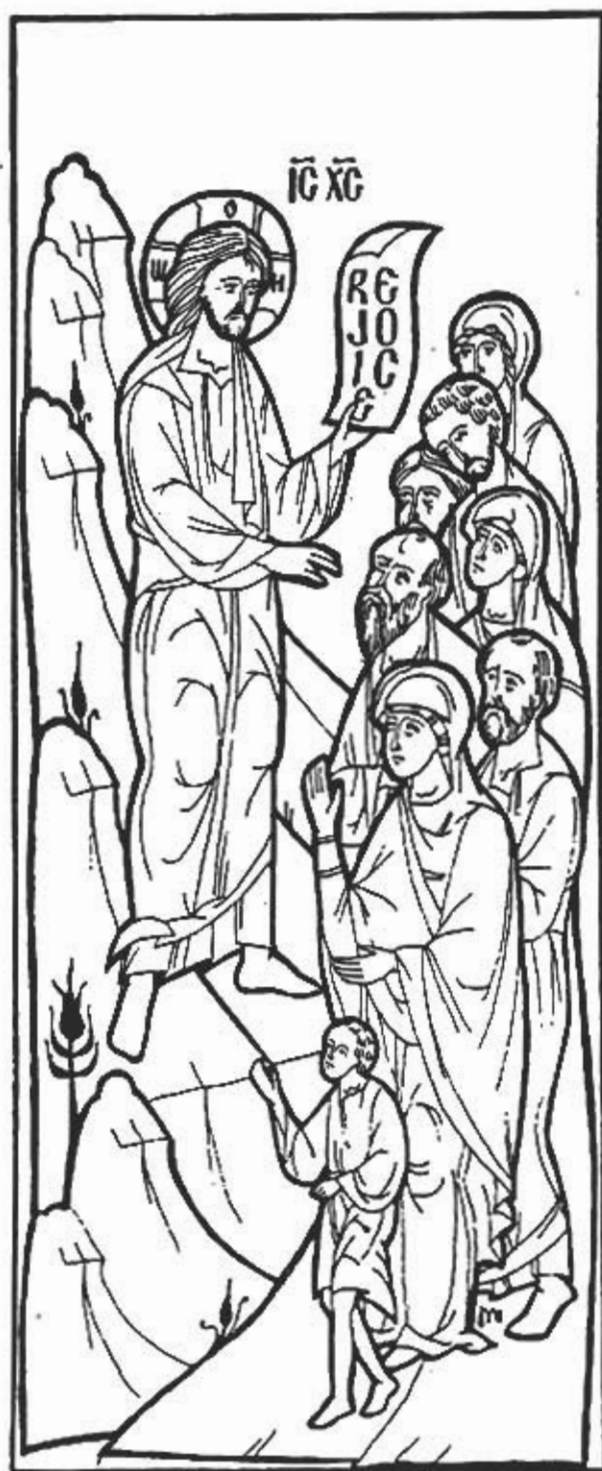
Fast Days

Sept. 9th Wed. – fish, wine & oil

Sept. 11th, Fri.

Sept. 14th, Mon. – wine & oil

TEACH ME YOUR WAY



Parish Synodicon: Memory Eternal!

Sept. 07, 1966	Fr. Stephen Adamcio (Rector 1953-1962)
Sept. 07, 1967	Anthony Cherniak
Sept. 07, 1970	George Rech
Sept. 08, 1925	Peter Petsur
Sept. 08, 1997	Mary Mahalick
Sept. 08, 1985	Adam Rzeszowski
Sept. 09, 1978	Xenia Seminuk
Sept. 11, 1964	Michael Grenther
Sept. 12, 1929	Helen Kotliarchik
Sept. 12, 1971	Pauline Kravitsky
Sept. 12, 1974	Anna Naruta
Sept. 12, 1995	Anna Rudzina

Incense Fragrance Used

Sun. Sept. 6 *Sinai* & Sun. Sept. 13 *Flowers of Paradise*.

Parish Website

The On-Line Parish Directory has been up-dated to include email addresses. For access obtain from Fr. James user and passwords. To have your email included or for any other necessary changes in the Directory, please let Father know.

The Free Table

In the lower hall near the Conference Room, is a table where you may find books, cds, and other items you may freely take. Check it out.

Parish Council Meeting

Thursday, Sept. 17th at 7:00p.m. sharp.

Film Presentation - "Beyond Torture"

On Sun. Sept. 13th at 12:00noon and on Tues. Sept. 15th at 7:30p.m. in the Conference Room. This Film is the story of Pitesti Prison in Romania. In 1949 Stalinist Soviets began a sweep of Romanian college campuses, to imprison and transform young Romanians into a communist way of thinking. This documentary attests to both the power of evil as well as the superior power of good. Interviewed is a prison survivor, Fr. Roman Braga, a spiritual father today in the USA.

Bring someone with you to the film!

Marriage of Nino Kanchaveli and John Finnegan

Will be celebrated Sept. 20th at 1:00p.m. in our church.

Cheesecake Fundraiser - September Month

This annual fundraiser is now under way. Ordering forms may be picked up in the church vestibule or in the parish hall. Questions? Please speak with Lisa Keller. Thank you for participating.

Open Door Ministry

From 12:00p.m. to 2:00p.m. for the next six Sundays, the Doors of the Church as an "outreach" so visitors can see, pray, light a candle, obtain information about our church. Door-Keepers are sought. A sign-up sheet is on the vestibule stand or speak with Reader Symeon Combs.

Offerings for the week of Sept. 6

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

Wine for the health, wisdom and protection of Simona-Georgiana (birthday); in memory of departed servant of God.

Flowers - in memory of Peter Lorenick.

Remember in Prayer

Mary Holovach (home and enjoys visits); Mary Rosocha, Theodora Combs, Charles Kachek.

Parish Church School Classes

Will commence in October. Presently, we are lining up teachers and will meet with the parents of church school age children to determine a schedule for classes.

Good Order in Church

(+) Be on Time for services.

(-) Make sure cell phones are off.

(+) Light candles during a service only when Royal Doors are closed.

Archpastoral Message of His Beatitude, Metropolitan Jonah at the Beginning of the Ecclesiastical Year

Posted 09/01

September 1, 2009

**To the Venerable Hierarchs, Reverend Clergy, Monastics and Faithful
of the Orthodox Church in America**

The Lord said:

The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed; To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD. Luke 4:18f.

Dearly Beloved in Christ:

The Blessing of the Lord be upon you!

As we celebrate the Church's New Year, we meditate on the Gospel for this day, where the Lord went to Nazareth and was handed the Scriptures, and read the above. He then said, "Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

The question we have to ask ourselves is, How is this fulfilled in my life? How have I entered into the Lord's ministry, preaching the good news to the poor, healing the brokenhearted, giving liberty to captives, and so forth? Am I even paying attention to this?

Our Church has many challenges before it, financial, legal, organizational. But we must remember that, as important as these things are, as critical as they may be the life of our Church at this time, they can quickly become distractions from the one thing needful: to keep focused on Jesus Christ and the ministries which He has given us as a means of participation in His own ministry. While we might have budget challenges, there is nothing that can prevent us from preaching the Gospel, consoling those alone and abandoned, and setting at liberty those held captive by their sins.

We have been "recreated in Christ for good works." Let us do that work, not because we expect a paycheck or recognition for doing it, but because it is the very nature of who we are as Christians: to manifest the Kingdom by showing love for our neighbor. Let us recover our spiritual sight, in Christ by the Spirit, so that we may know that the Spirit of the Lord is upon us, and has anointed us to do the Lord's will.

Each one of us has been anointed by the Lord do the works of God – in chrismation. We don't have to wait for a program or a department to do them. In whatever walk of life, no matter who we are, we are called to enter into the Lord's labors. So let us put aside all distraction, keeping all things in their proper perspective, with our attention and focus firmly on Jesus Christ. We then might just find that our distractions and crises are not so big as we thought they were and that we have been given everything that we need to resolve them, if we indeed can maintain our awareness of Christ, striving for the fulfillment of His will.

With love in Christ,



+JONAH

Archbishop of Washington

Metropolitan of All America and Canada

News and Events

OCA Diocese of New York/New Jersey concludes Extraordinary Assembly

Posted 08/31

CLIFTON, NJ [Diocese of NY/NJ] – The Diocese of New York and New Jersey of the Orthodox Church in America held an Extraordinary Diocesan Assembly at the Church of the Assumption of the Holy Virgin here on Monday, August 31, 2009.

His Beatitude, Metropolitan Jonah, locum tenens of the diocese, presided.

The extraordinary assembly was convened to nominate a candidate for diocesan bishop, whose name would be forwarded to the OCA's Holy Synod of Bishops for consideration in a canonical election.

During the assembly, the delegates discussed a motion to postpone the selection of a candidate until later in the year. This motion was defeated in a 56/42 vote, and the election was allowed to proceed.

Initially, three possible candidates had been proposed by the Diocesan Episcopal Search Committee: the Very Revs. David Brum, Michael Dahulich, and David Mahaffey. By joint decisions, Father David withdrew his name. Fathers Michael and David were nominated. Other names were brought forward, but the nominees declined. The delegates voted on the proposed candidates.

The Assembly cast 55 votes for Father Michael and 33 votes for Father David. Ten votes were deemed invalid.

The Assembly suspended the rules of a second ballot and, according to election procedures, will submit both names to the Holy Synod for consideration in their election of a hierarch for the Diocese of New York and New Jersey.

Russian Patriarch backs Serbia attempt to contest Kosovo independence

Moscow, September 1, Interfax - Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia has expressed support for the Serbian government's attempts to contest the recognition of Kosovo's independence.

"We know that the Serbian government has filed a lawsuit with the UN International Court, contesting Kosovo's independence as illegal. I have familiarized myself with the Russian Foreign Ministry's reaction on it and I agree with this position," the Russian Patriarch told Serbian Ambassador to Russia Jelica Kurjak in Moscow on Tuesday.

"The situation, which the recognition of Kosovo by a whole number of states will create, will not be favorable enough for the litigation," Patriarch Kirill said. But hopefully, he said, "the norms of international law will be defended by the court, or else a different turn of events may follow, leading to a destabilization in international relations," he said.

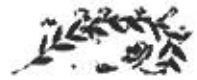
Patriarch Kirill again urged the world community to do all it can to guarantee the rights and security of Kosovo Serbs and to protect Orthodox Churches in the region. He described as "an absolute outrage" the destruction of Orthodox shrines in Kosovo in the early 2000s, adding that the insecure position of Kosovo believers today "can once again incite violence and loss of life."

"We belong to a single world and we share the same spiritual values and moral tradition, which links our peoples very strongly. We care for what is happening in the life of the Serbian people. Therefore, we take the Serbs' grief over the loss of Kosovo close to our hearts," he said.

Kurjak thanked Patriarch Kirill, the Russian Orthodox Church and the Russian leadership "for their permanent support for the idea of preserving the territorial integrity of our country."



THE NATIVITY OF THE MOST-HOLY THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY
Celebrated on September 8th



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. Ss 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 Hebrews as a Divine punishment for sin, and therefore the righteous Ss 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.



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.



The Ship of the Church

<i>The Ship</i>	- <i>the Church</i>
<i>The Owner of the Ship</i>	- <i>God the Father</i>
<i>The Captain of the Ship</i>	- <i>God the Son, Jesus Christ</i>
<i>The Gentle Breeze</i>	- <i>God the Holy Spirit</i>
<i>Moving the Ship</i>	- <i>Our Present Life</i>
<i>The Sea</i>	- <i>Temptations</i>
<i>The Storms at Sea</i>	- <i>The Holy Cross</i>
<i>The Mast</i>	- <i>Sacred Beliefs</i>
<i>The Beams & Planks</i>	- <i>Faith</i>
<i>The Sail</i>	- <i>Hope</i>
<i>The Anchor</i>	- <i>The Old and New Testaments</i>
<i>The Double Rudder</i>	- <i>Our Works and Conduct</i>
<i>The Rigging</i>	- <i>Clergy (Officers)</i>
<i>The Crew</i>	- <i>Laity (Stewards)</i>
<i>Voyage Destination</i>	- <i>Paradise</i>