

# **SAINTS PETER & PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH**

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## **BULLETIN OF MARCH 21, 2010**

### **SUNDAY/MARCH 21**

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Great Lent (Tone 8)**

**St. Mary of Egypt**

*(Wine & Oil)*

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

Coffee Hour; Church School

*End of the 5<sup>th</sup> and beginning of the 6<sup>th</sup>*

*Week of the Great & Holy Fast*

4:00p.m. Deanery Vespers at Ss. Peter & Paul  
Church in Manville

### **MONDAY/MARCH 22**

7:00p.m. Vespers & Choir Rehearsal

### **TUESDAY/MARCH 23**

6:45p.m. Vespers; Confessions

7:30p.m. Outreach Meeting

### **WEDNESDAY/MARCH 24**

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

7:00p.m. Matins; Confessions

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*As we set out upon the sixth week of the Fast, let us sing to Christ a hymn in preparation for the Feast of the 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 with branches of virtues, that with rejoicing we may see His Resurrection.*

*Bearing the branches of our generosity and the palms of our purity, let us all make ready to meet Christ who comes to Jerusalem as our God.*

*Having completed the 40 Days that bring profit to our soul, we beseech Thee in Thy love for man: Grant us also to behold the Holy Week of Thy Passion, that in it we may glorify Thy mighty acts and Thine ineffable dispensation for our sakes, singing with one mind: O Lord glory to Thee!*



**ST. ZOSIMA AND ST. MARY OF EGYPT**

### **THURSDAY/MARCH 25**

**ANNUNCIATION TO THE THEOTOKOS**

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

*(Fish, wine & oil)*

9:30a.m. Vespers & Divine Liturgy

### **FRIDAY/MARCH 26**

*(Wine & oil)*

7:00p.m. Matins; Confessions

### **LAZARUS SATURDAY/MARCH 27**

*(Wine & oil)*

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

After Liturgy Preparing Palms & Willows

3:00p.m. Confessions

5:30p.m. Vigil; Confessions

*End of the 40 Days & Beginning of  
Great & Holy Week*

### **PALM SUNDAY/MARCH 28** **ENTRANCE OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM**

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

*(Fish, wine & oil)*

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

Hour; Question & Answer Period

6:30p.m. Bridegroom Matins

### **Parish Synodicon: Memory Eternal!**

Apr. 17 <sup>th</sup>	40 <sup>th</sup> Day	Basil Charles Kachek
Mar. 21,	1991	Eugenia Kozlov
Mar. 23,	1925	Peter Chabra
Mar. 23,	1975	Anna Yalsh
Mar. 24,	1959	Alexander Gromack
Mar. 24,	1970	Julia Zorzi
Mar. 24,	1974	Xenia Poletelo
Mar. 25,	1954	John Holovach
Mar. 25,	1984	Stephen Szwahla
Mar. 26,	1931	Anna Mogilevsky
Mar. 26,	1958	Henry Knaff
Mar. 27,	1971	Anna Szwhala
Mar. 27,	1985	Steven Pawlik



### **Offerings for the week of March 21**

**Olive Oil** – in memory of Vaschen and Emilia; in memory of Michael and Justina; in memory of Joan.

### **April Monthly Envelopes**

Your packet has a number of misprints. Pascha is April 4<sup>th</sup>. The Palm Sunday envelope for St. Mary Magdalen Church is for March 28<sup>th</sup>. Make your adjustments as necessary. The important thing is to use your envelopes, the particular dates are not that important and will be sorted out by the counters.

### **Bright Monday – April 5**

On this day many of our parishioners take off from school and work and celebrate as a community the Bright Resurrection of Christ. Plan to come for the Divine Liturgy and the festal meal. Lisa Keller will be the coordinator for foods.

### **Parish Council Meetings for 2010**

Thursdays at 7:00p.m. on May 20, July 22, Sept. 23 and Nov. 18. Parishioners are welcome to attend.

### **Pussywillows Are Needed**

Please bring them to the hall this week by Friday. Thanks!

### **Church Bell Repair Offering**

To date, \$3,145 – half of the sought for funds have been received. The Lord bless your offerings!

### **Consecration of Bishop-Elect Michael**

Will take place on May 8<sup>th</sup>, Saturday at 9:30a.m. at Ss. Peter & Paul Church in Jersey City. All of our parishioners are encouraged to participate in this very special service.

A festal banquet will also be held in Jersey City after the Liturgy at a nearby hotel. A sign-up sheet for a table from our parish is posted on the Bulletin Board. The cost is \$75 per person. The deadlines for tickets is Mar. 31st. For more information please speak with Protodeacon Paul.

### **Mark Your Calendar – Sunday, May 16<sup>th</sup>** **“The Spirit of Orthodoxy – Concert & Reception”**

This Outreach program will be held at 4:30p.m. Reserve the date and plan to bring friends with you to see our church; hear the choir and delight in wonderful refreshments.

**The Mysteries of Confession & Communion**  
Should be received by all the faithful before Palm Sunday (March 28<sup>th</sup>). Confession is not scheduled during Great & Holy Week (March 28-April 3).

### **Namesday Greetings**

St. Larissa/Mar. 26: Larissa Teslenko, Larissa Matei and Laura Hansen; Many Blessed Years!

### **Sign-Up Sheets**

- 1) For Great & Holy Week Tasks that needed to be performed
- 2) The Vigil Watch for Great & Holy Friday and Saturday.

Both these sheets are on the vestibule stand. Please help out when and where you can.

### **Proper Order When Approaching for Holy Communion for Visitors**

If you are visiting another church and desire to receive Communion, the priest ought to know who you are by name. It is your responsibility to let him know prior to the Divine Liturgy. A phone call, email, or earlier arrival before Liturgy may be employed for this purpose. If the priest does not know you, he may ask if you are an Orthodox Christian; what is your parish church and when you were last to Confession.

# **3 Rules For Keeping On The Straight Path**

## **After Confession and Holy Communion**

**By St. Theophan the Recluse (+1894)**



**Our inner spiritual lives never get into the proper order all of a sudden. What is always required and what lies ahead is intensified labor over oneself, by assimilation of good intentions and by the enabling grace through the Mysteries of Confession and Communion. This work and effort is directed towards destroying the disorder that reigns inside; in its place it establishes order and harmony, after which follows inner peace and a continual joyful mood of the heart.**

**Do not think, however, that for this you must re-do everything, or bind yourself to a lot of rules. Absolutely not. Two or three little rules or precautions, is all you need.**

**Rule One: It is necessary to get in the habit of unceasing remembrance of God, along with fear and reverence. Be with the Lord no matter what you do; and turn to Him with your whole mind, trying to conduct yourself as you would in front of a king. You will soon get into the habit, just don't give up or break off. To make it easier to acquire the habit of remembrance of God, there is a special method for fervent Christians; that is, the unceasing repetition of a short prayer of two or three words. Most common is "Lord have mercy," or "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me a sinner." If you have never done it, begin doing it now from this moment on. Whether you are walking, sitting, eating, going to bed, repeat over and over the prayer. From long practice of this, the words will fasten themselves to the tongue, so that they will repeat themselves. Do not forget to combine this prayer with reverence.**

**Rule Two: Do not do anything that your conscience prohibits; and do not omit anything that it says to do, whether great or small. Follow your conscience undeviatingly, and with such perseverance that you would not allow yourself to do anything against it even if you were to die. The more decisively you act, then the more powerful your conscience will become. The more powerful your conscience becomes, the more completely and forcefully it will inspire you with what is necessary and steer you away from what is unnecessary in words, deeds and thoughts, and the more quickly your inner being will be put in order.**

**Rule Three: Supplement the first two rules with this third one – be patient. You must spiritually work and not give in to pleasing yourself or the world. There will be constant opposition to any good spiritual work you have begun. You must overcome this; therefore, you must exert more force and consequently, be patient. Clothe yourself in this all-powerful armor and never allow your spirits to fall when you encounter misfortune. Everything will come with time. Be encouraged in your patience through this hope. This is what happens to be borne out by the experience of all people who have sought and accomplished salvation.**

**Three simple rules: remembrance of God with reverence; obey your conscience strictly and arm yourself with hope through patience. May the Lord bless you to be so inclined and to be in this frame of mind.**



## GREAT AND HOLY WEEK

### The Theology

We now enter the most sacred week of the year. It starts with the feast of the Entry of our Lord Into Jerusalem, also known as Palm Sunday. The joy of the raising of Lazarus who was four-days-dead, is coupled with the harrowing humiliations which are to follow.

The Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of Great and Holy Week are a preparation for the Passion. They already have a strongly accented character of mourning and repentance. The Thursday, Friday and Saturday of the Great and Holy Week belong to the paschal solemnities - each one of these days reveals to us a special aspect of the mystery of Pascha. One could even say that this mystery has three aspects, each of which corresponds to a day: Thursday, Friday and Saturday. One could also say that each of these three aspects corresponds to a place: the Upper Room, Golgotha, the Holy Sepulchre. Great and Holy Thursday commemorates the mystery of the Upper Room, Great and Holy Friday the mystery of Golgotha, and Great and Holy Saturday the mystery of the tomb of Christ.

On the Thursday, in the Upper Room, Jesus, through a sacramental action, both announces and represents, consecrates and offers what is to take place

in the following days. On Friday, at Golgotha, Jesus, by His death on the Cross, accomplishes our redemption. On the Saturday, Jesus rests in the tomb; but the church already looking ahead to the feast of Resurrection Sunday, speaks to us of the victory over death that our Saviour has won. This anticipation of the Resurrection on Great and Holy Saturday allows us to say that the mystery of Christ's Resurrection, triumphantly celebrated on Pascha, already belongs, although incompletely, to the Great and Holy Week. And so this week constitutes a summary of the whole economy of salvation.

It would be a great mistake to want to concentrate on one of the aspects of the paschal mystery by separating it from the others. The word "Passover," in the traditional language of the church, does not only designate the Sunday of the Resurrection, it also covers the mystery of the Eucharist (Thursday), the mystery of the Cross (Friday) and the mystery of the empty tomb (Saturday). The Sunday of Pascha, completes the one and unique paschal mystery. This whole unity is the Christian transposition of what the Jews called "the Passover," that is to say, the passage. The elements of the Jewish mystery correspond to those of our paschal mystery. For them, there is the feast in which the lamb is eaten. There is the blood of the lamb - the sign of salvation for those houses whose doors were painted with it and whom the angel of death would spare. There is the crossing of the Red Sea - the departure from the land of Egypt and slavery - the miraculously divided waters and the passage across on dry ground and, at last, the arrival on the other side, the side of freedom and hope. The Great and Holy Week will only have its true meaning for us when we see it as a "passover," a passage from death to life.

