

SAINTS PETER & PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH

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BULLETIN OF AUGUST 29, 2010



SUNDAY/AUGUST 29

14th Sunday After Pentecost (Tone 5)

Beheading of St. John the Baptist

(Strict Fast Day – no meat, fish or dairy)

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

Prayers for New Academic Year

Coffee Hour and Question/Answer Period

WEDNESDAY/SEPTEMBER 1

Church New Year

7:00p.m. Molieben Service for the

Church New Year

THURSDAY/SEPTEMBER 2

6:30p.m. Vespers

(Ss. Nectarios & Edward)

7:00p.m. Georgian Service

SATURDAY/SEPTEMBER 4

9:30a.m. Akathist; Confession

5:30p.m. Vigil; Confession

SUNDAY/SEPTEMBER 5

Sunday of the Environment (Tone 6)

Ss. Zachariah & Elizabeth

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

Coffee Hour

2:00p.m. Parish Picnic Part Two

Lessons in Divine & Christian Love

Love has not risen from earth, but is granted from heaven. St. John Cassian said: "Love belongs exclusively to God and those men who have renewed in themselves the image and likeness of God." Conscious love refers to the conscious person and not to a principle or an idea nor to an impersonal creation, but to personhood. Where there is no reciprocity in love, there is no love. But a principle or an idea or a creation, but be it of God or of man, cannot love us, though we may love it. Of that love we are not speaking, but of the love that is from person to person and which is "indivisible and without confusion."

Only the perfect person, with a perfect conscience, a perfect mind and perfect power, can have perfect love. Such a person is our God. What every man eagerly desires for his person is therefore that which exists in the person of his Creator. What all people value – love above all – that is therefore what the Creator is – Love. And so it has been from time immemorial to today and unto ages of ages.

- Archimandrite Callistratus of Milesevo



Parish Synodicon: Memory Eternal!

Aug. 28, 1958 Daniel Zydiak
Aug. 30, 1952 Terry Beth koles
Aug. 31, 1927 Jacob Kava
Aug. 31, 1972 Julia Marchuk
Aug. 31, 1975 John Kluchnik
Aug. 31, 1988 Fr. Nicholas Kiryluk
(Rector 1946-1953)
Sept. 01, 1922 Constantine Maykovsky
Sept. 01, 1977 Edward Wasitowski
Sept. 01, 1978 Pauline Trosko
Sept. 01, 1998 Peter Lorenick
Sept. 01, 2007 Fr. John (George) Lewis
(Rector 1969-1971)
Sept. 03, 1956 Maria Schander
Sept. 04, 2000 Audrey (Marina) Haitch



Offerings for the week of August 29

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

Wine – for the health of Protodeacon Paul and Diaconissa Patricia Sokol (20th wedding anniversary); for the health of Julia (birthday).

Flowers – for the health of Tatiana.

Parish Picnic – Part Two

On Sunday, Sept. 5th, at 2:00p.m. the Parish Picnic will again get underway – interrupted by rain on July 25 – at the same location. So plan to come and continue the good fellowship. If you missed out on the July date, plan for the Sept. date.

New Jersey Deanery Open Forum

On September 14, at 7:00p.m. an Open Forum will be held at Ss. Peter & Paul Church in South River with Bishop Michael and clergy and laity. The purpose of this gathering is to discuss the OCA Strategic Plan (see www.nynjoca.org)

The Plan may be found on-line. You are invited to read it and come to the meeting with your ideas and comments.

A Sponsor Is Sought For 2011 Parish Wall Calendars

Perhaps you may wish to make this offering to cover the costs for the calendar - \$300. Please speak with Fr. James.

Blessing of Things Mobile – Sun. Sept. 19th

After the Divine Liturgy, a special blessing “of things mobile,” will take place in the parking lot. You may bring bikes, skate-boards, skis, wagons, scooters, hot-air balloons for a blessing. Are things “mobile” worthy of a blessing? Think of how many accidents and injuries occur in their usage.

Namesday Greetings

St. Symeon/Sept. 1st: Reader Symeon Combs

St. Edward/Sept. 3rd: Edward Sarchisian

Many Blessed Years!

Archangel Uriel Bell Is Again Ringing

The largest of our bells (600 pounds) was recently refitted with custom made metal hardware and is again ringing. The cost was \$7,150. Offerings were made in the amount of \$5, 570. The Lord bless your offerings!

Our other two church bells, Archangel Salaphiel (300 pounds) and Archangel Jegudiel (225 pounds) along with Archangel Uriel continue to

- 1) Announce the beginning of services as well as parts of the services;
- 2) Remind those who hear their sound at night and during the day to rise to glorify the Name of the Lord;
- 3) By their powerful voice and the grace bestowed upon them, destructive winds, storms, thunder and lightning and all foul weather is held in check;
- 4) The faithful hearing their sound are protected from all evil powers and inspired to observe the commandments of the Lord.

The Church Open Doors Ministry

Will again commence beginning Sunday, Sept. 12th. On Sundays, the Doors of the Church are kept open from 12:00 to 2:00p.m. to provide an opportunity for visitation and prayer. Can you be a “door-keeper” for one Sunday? A sign-up list is on the vestibule stand.

The Church School Classes Resume Sept. 12

The schedule, teachers and students listing has been sent to parents. Questions may be addressed to Fr. James or the teachers.

**PILGRIMAGE TO THE MONASTERY
OF ST. TIKHON – SAT., SEPT 18TH
BUS TRIP FROM MANVILLE**



Ss. Peter & Paul Orthodox Church in Manville, NJ, is sponsoring a bus trip to the Monastery of St. Tikhon in South Canaan, Pa. for Saturday, September 18th. The Monastery is a 2 and a half hour trip from Manville. This trip is open to everyone, Orthodox and Non-Orthodox, Parishioner and Non-Parishioner.

St. Tikhon's Monastery was founded in 1905. The Monastery is rich in history and many saints have sanctified the grounds, as St. Tikhon, the Enlightener of North America and later Patriarch of Russia; St. Raphael, Bishop of Brooklyn; St. Alexis Toth and St. Nikolai of Zicha. The grounds also have many shrines, a large cemetery, bookstore, a museum and is the home of St. Tikhon's Theological Seminary, founded in 1938.

This One-Day Pilgrimage offers the opportunity for prayer, fellowship, and to become acquainted with the Monastery and Seminary. You will be able to visit the shrines, venerate the holy relics, speak with the monastic fathers, visit the bookstore and museum, meander about and conclude the day with Vespers at 4:00p.m. You may wish to bring bottles for the water from the Monastery Well Chapel. All are invited to join us on this pilgrimage.

Information: The Bus leaves from the church, 605 Washington Avenue at 8:00a.m. sharp. The Bus will leave from the Monastery at 5:00p.m. and return back in Manville about 7:30p.m.

The cost is \$30 for adults; \$20 for youths ages 12-21 and \$10 for a child under 12 years of age. These prices include lunch.

The deadline for reservations on the bus and payment is Sunday, September 5th. Please see Reader Symeon Combs or Inga Gamsakhurdavili for making payments.

THE MONASTERY OF SAINT TIKHON OF ZADONSK

South Canaan, Pennsylvania, USA 18459

Telephone: 570.937.4067



Russia's Traffic Police Issue Apples Instead of Fines

19 August, 2010

RT

As Orthodox Christians mark the Holy Transfiguration of Jesus Christ, also known in the country as the Apple Savior, policemen in Rostov-on-Don gave up their fining appetites and joined in the tasty celebration.

Stopped by the traffic police right in the city center, careless drivers at first thought they lost their minds when normally harsh officers smiled to them and – instead of the usual fines – issued fresh apples and codes of conduct.

The answer to the puzzle turned out to be quite simple: on August 19, the Russian Orthodox Church celebrates one of its main holidays: the Holy Transfiguration of Jesus Christ, or the Apple Savior.

On this day, traditionally associated with harvest, people come to church to sanctify apples, pears, plums and other fruits. As part of the celebration, apples and honey are presented to neighbors and brought to orphanages and hospitals. The old tradition symbolizes generosity and fruitfulness, glorifying the unity of the God and mankind.

Eager to participate in the nation's beloved holiday, the police in Rostov-on-Don, inspired by the local eparchy, have come up with the unusual flash mob.

"This is a perfect occasion to remind people how important road safety is," the head of the local police was quoted as saying by the RIA Novosti news agency. "Besides, apples symbolize a healthy way of life."

Bulgaria, Sozopol in Euphoria over St. John the Baptist Archaeology Find

2010-08-05 15:56:39

The recently discovered relics of St John the Baptist have been laid in state in Bulgaria's Sozopol after a transfer procession which brought much excitement and euphoria in the Black Sea town.

The relics, which include part of an arm bone, a skull bone, and a tooth, were found in a sealed marble reliquary in the St. John the Forerunner Church on the St. Ivan Island near Sozopol on July 28, 2010, by the team of archaeologists led by Prof. Kazimir Popkonstantinov.

The procession led by the Bulgarian Orthodox Bishop of Sliven Yoanikiy brought the relics of St. John the Baptist from the St. Ivan Island to the St. George Church in the downtown where they were laid in state.

Thus, the holy relics have been officially transferred from the archaeologists to the Bulgarian Orthodox Church.



The procession that transferred the relics of St. John the Baptist to the St. George Church in Sozopol was led by Sliven Bishop Yoanikiy, who carried the small sarcophagus with relics above his head. Bulgaria's Finance Minister Simeon Djankov is in the middle, while the man who discovered the relics, Prof. Kazimir Popkonstantinov is on the far left. Photo by Finance Ministry

Thousands of Bulgarians as well as dozens of buses with foreign tourists – Germans, Russians, Poles, Czechs

- having their vacations along the Bulgarian Black Sea coast have immediately arrived on a pilgrimage trips to pay their respects to the relics of St. John the Baptist.

The samples from the reliquary and the bones are still to be tested by specialists have expressed their views that there is no doubt whatsoever that absolutely unique archaeological discovery consists of relics of St. John the Baptist.

The wide-ranging arguments for that start with the fact that the small sarcophagus was found in a "natural architectural environment" - hidden under the major slabstone on the floor of the St. John the Forerunner Church – the oldest church on the St. Ivan Island.

(The island off the Sozopol coast itself is named St. John the Baptist – as Ivan is the Bulgarian/Slavic name for John.)

Experts have pointed out that at the time of the building of the St. Ivan the Forerunner Church – 4th century AD – the tradition was to build in relics of saints in the construction instead of to lay them in state for pilgrims, and there was no intentional falsifications of such holy items.

The greatest argument supporting the thesis that the relics belong to St. John the Baptist is the "clue" found at 1.2 m from the reliquary. It consists of a small box bearing inscriptions that make it clear who and when brought the relics of St. John the Baptist to Sozopol.

The inscriptions make it clear that a man name Thomas, "God's servant brought a particle of St. John on the 24th." Even though some of the end letters are missing, the inscription in Greek makes it clear that the date refers to the birthday of St. John the Baptist, June 24. The use of genitive case in the inscription leaves no doubt that the relics belonged to one of the founders of Christianity.

"It is important to understand one thing – this is the first time ever in the world archaeological practice that relics of St. John are found together with an inscription which just literally nails the conclusion and leaves no

doubts. There are no speculations here," said the man who made the unique discovery, archaeologist Prof. Kazimir Popkonstantinov.



Professor Kazimir Popkonstantinov (left), who found the relics of St. John, together with Finance Minister Simeon Djankov (right), explaining why the origin of the relics is absolutely certain. Photo by BNT

"I think that this is the discovery of the year, not just in the Bulgarian archaeology but also in the European archaeology. It is hard to speak of the symbols of early Christianity but Apolonia (i.e. the Greek name of Sozopol) and the St. Ivan Island were one of the earliest places where Christians settled as they were persecuted by the Roman authorities. Their heritage is

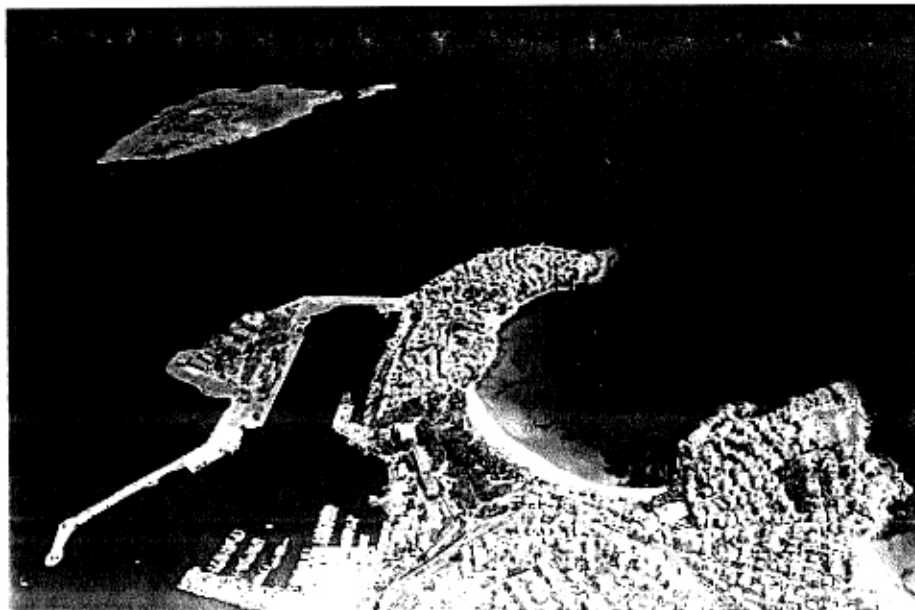
connected with the entire Christian history," explained the Director of the Burgas Regional History Museum Tsonya Drazheva who is also part of the archaeological team that found the relics of St. John.

The relics of St. John the Baptist will lay in state in the St. George Church in Sozopol until the completion of the repairs of the larger St. Cyril and St. Methodius Church nearby.

Once the larger church is completed, the relics of St. John will be transferred there, together with two other holy items already kept in Sozopol – the a piece of the Holy Cross of Jesus Christ donated to the town by the Bulgarian Prime Minister Boyko Borisov and the National History Museum, and relics of St. Andrew, which were donated to the town by the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople Bartholomew I during his visit to Sozopol last month.

On Wednesday, the Bulgarian government allocated additional BGN 420 000 for completing the renovation of the St. Cyril and St. Methodius Church which will be the home of the holy relics. Prime Minister Boyko Borisov

"As soon as this amazing archaeological discovery was made, I made some research, and found that such finds generate great returns from tourism and pilgrimage. Bulgaria and this region will now enter the world tourism maps as a pilgrimage site. The fact that this is a sea resort provides for an unique combination between cultural and sea tourism," declared Bulgaria's Finance Minister Simeon Djankov who participated in the procession carrying the relics together with Diaspora Minister Bozhidar Dimitrov, a Sozopol native.



The uninhabited St. Ivan Island (upper left corner) in the Black Sea off the coast of the resort town of Sozopol is the place where the relics of St. John the Baptist were discovered by a team of archaeologists led by Prof. Kazimir Popkonstantinov. Photo by 4coolpics.com