

SAINTS PETER & PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH
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BULLETIN OF FEBRUARY 17, 2013

SUNDAY/FEBRUARY 17 – ZACCHAEUS SUNDAY

9:10a.m. Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy
Coffee Hour; Church School; Teen Class

WEDNESDAY/FEBRUARY 20

6:30p.m. 40th Day Memorial for Slako Yadlowsky
7:00p.m. Compline & Akathist to the Icon
“Joy of All That Sorrow”

SATURDAY/FEBRUARY 23

9:30a.m. Akathist to Our Lord; Confessions
5:30p.m. Vigil of Resurrection; Confessions

SUNDAY/FEBRUARY 24 – THE PUBLICAN & PHARISEE

Beginning of the Lenten Triodion

9:10a.m. Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy
Coffee Hour with Question & Answer Period

About Missionary Spirituality by Metropolitan Jonah (OCA)

The Gospel of Jesus Christ is the good news of the Kingdom of God. It is a message of hope, of redemption, of forgiveness and cleansing of sins. It is what gives meaning to our lives and to our struggles. It breaks down the barriers between people, giving a common vision and purpose, uniting one to another in a bond of love that transcends culture, ethnicity, language and all other human barriers. The message of the Gospel is the very breath of the Church, inspiring and vivifying each member. We come to a living encounter with the Living God through the Gospel, through the Church, through the sacraments. It is nothing less than that living encounter with Christ that is the essence of our message of salvation. And not only the encounter, but incorporation into His very life.

Our task, as Orthodox Christians in the West, is essentially missionary. We may not personally be called to the apostolic labor of the conversion of a whole nation (or perhaps we are?). But each one of us is called to bear witness to Christ and His Kingdom with our lives and by our faith. We must ask ourselves how we are conducting that missionary task the Lord has given us, both personally and in our parishes. We need to ask ourselves if we have a clear understanding of the message of the Gospel, and how clearly we are expressing it by our words, and incarnating it in our lives.

Offerings Week of February 17

Olive Oil – in memory of Michael, Justina, and Rosalia; in memory of Vaschen and Emilia; in memory of Joan and Sandy.

Wine - for the health of Zachary (birthday).

Parish Synodicon – Memory Eternal!

Feb. 20th 40th Day Slawko Yadlowsky
Feb. 17, 2003 Anna Peschek
Feb. 18, 1952 Gregory Holovach
Feb. 18, 1963 Magdalena Padla
Feb. 18, 1993 Josephine Hriniak
Feb. 19, 1963 Gregory Klimchuk
Feb. 20, 1918 Jacob Shevchuk
Feb. 20, 1953 Anna Sabat
Feb. 20, 1963 Theodosia Zuboff
Feb. 20, 1981 Anna Lisowski
Feb. 21, 1939 John Cherkan
Feb. 21, 1963 Steven Piscadlo
Feb. 21, 1976 Anna Sharshon
Feb. 21, 2011 Ludmila Tjaden
Feb. 22, 2011 Michael Warin
Feb. 22, 1931 Steven Blisak
Feb. 22, 1931 Olga Yaskovsky
Feb. 22, 1977 Stella Hunchar
Feb. 22, 1989 Gertrude Huzinec
Feb. 23, 1942 Louis Potapchuk
Feb. 23, 1946 Joseph Wilhousky Sr.



Coffee Hour Hosting

Feb. 17 Kita, Nevitt and Keller
Feb. 24 Inga, Eka, Marina and Nona
Mar. 03 Motoviloff, Torrisi, Kachek and Stone

Ushers Schedule

Feb. 17 - P. Parsells and C. Dunaenko
Feb. 24 - E. Sarchisian and L. Khuzaurashvili
Mar. 03 - T. Smith and P. Bakaletz

The Blessing of Homes Season – January 6th thru February 23rd

This is the last week for blessing of homes.

Friends of Ss. Peter & Paul Orthodox Church – 4 New Members this week!

This is our parish site on Facebook. Share your news, ideas, recipes, photos, and good will. Join!

The Calendar

Feb. 22 Fri. Youth Night in Wayne 7:00p.m.
Feb. 27 Wed. & Mar. 01 Fast Free Days
Mar. 01-03 Fri/Sun: Diocese Altar Servers Retreat
Mar. 09 Sat. Memorial Saturday
Mar. 10 Sun. Daylight Savings Time Begins
Mar. 10 Sun. Installation of New Parish Council
Mar. 10 Sun. Last Day for Meats Until Pascha
Mar. 14 Thurs. Parish Council Meeting
Mar. 16 Sat. Parish Blood Drive
Mar. 17 Sun. Last Day for Dairy Until Pascha
Mar. 17 Sun. Rite of Forgiveness at 6:30p.m.
Mar. 18 Mon. Beginning of 40 Day Great Lent
Apr. 14 Sun. Deanery Vespers in Manville 4:00
June 15-16 Sat/Sun. Visitation of Bishop Michael

Special Adult Class Presentation

Feb. 27th, Wed. at 7:00p.m.

“Orthodoxy The Science of Sciences” will be the topic of a presentation and discussion this evening. Fr. John Parsells, rector of Christ the Saviour Church in Berlin, Maryland will be the presenter. What is the nature of salvation and deification that Orthodoxy offers? All are invited. Bring a friend.

Annual Parish Meeting Reports

These Reports may be picked-up on the vestibule stand. Please take the time to read and reflect upon them. These Reports provide an insight into what constitutes our community. “A Chain is as strong only as it’s weakest link”. The more all of our parishioners know about and participate in the manifold aspects of our parish life; the better for all of us as individuals and community members.

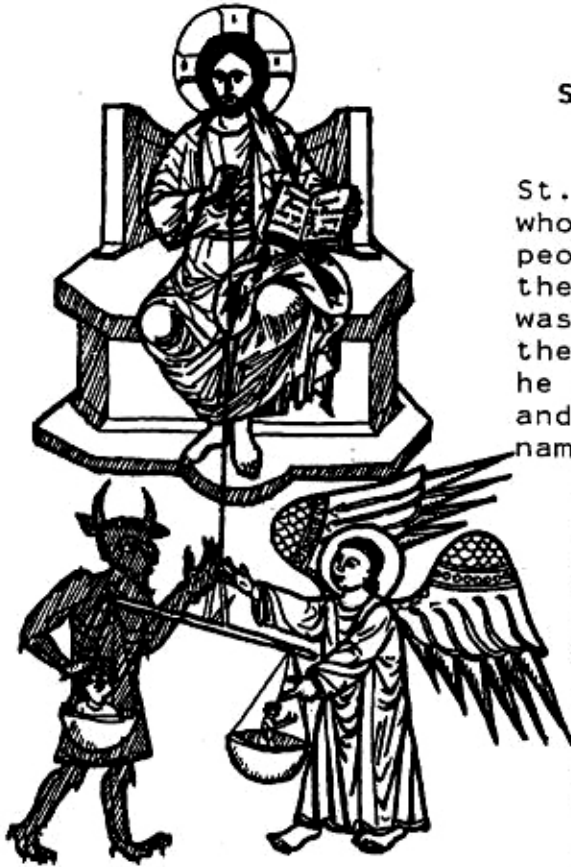
Easter Candy Orders – Due Feb. 24th

Candy orders are in the vestibule. Please return them next Sunday. Thank you for your support.

The Lord Bless!

Your offerings of foods for the local Food Pantries as well as your cash offerings for our local charity, which was “Great Expectations.” The amount of \$350.00 was sent to them.

ST. ARSENIOS BOKA (+1989) AND HIS REVELATION



St. Arsenios was a renowned Romanian monastic who was a confessor and spiritual guide to many people. He was a member of the brotherhood of the St. Constantine Binkoveanou Monastery. He was gifted with the grace to enter and examine the depths of a person's soul. For their benefit, he would reveal their thoughts and many past sins and deeds. The saint would also know a person's name upon meeting them and without any prior knowledge.

The righteous elder foretold his repose and the fall of atheistic communism in Romania. He reposed in November of 1989 and yet has remained in the souls of many of his spiritual children, continuing to guide them from above.

At his grave site at the Prislop Monastery, a miraculous event occurs that attracts many. Flowers grow on his grave and remain in full blossom, not being subject to the bitter freeze.

The following is a revelation of St. Arsenios offered for our edification.

He was extremely bothered and concerned about the many people he confessed who refused to change their life, selecting to continue satisfying their desires. St. Arsenios was fully aware that, in the Day of Judgment, he would be their guarantor for the salvation of their souls. He thus begged and pleaded with God to reveal to him the reason for which people refuse to abandon their sinful ways.

One day, while he was sitting in a chair within his garden staring at the mountain across from him, he observed that a huge dark cloud appeared on the mountaintop. There was great commotion and noise coming from within the cloud. Continuing to attentively stare at it, he suddenly observed that the cloud separated in two and at the very peak of the mountain there was a royal throne surrounded by fire. On the throne was seated the Enemy of mankind, Satan, surrounded by a plethora of demons. St. Arsenios was able to clearly follow what was transpiring. He thus hears the Evil One say:

“Which one of you is skillful and clever enough to come up with some kind of a cunning and wicked thought which we will whisper in the minds of people so that we can attract them and draw them to our side? In this way we can establish a kingdom that is greater than God's since there is so little time left...”

A demon then appeared who worshipped his leader all the way to the ground and said:

“Excellent leader of the darkness, I consider it proper to whisper into people’s ears that there is no God.”

Satan then said:

“Your wickedness is not the best because we can gain a greater number of souls in a different way. Let somebody else come up with another idea.”

A second one came and said:

“Excellent leader of the darkness, I suggest that we whisper to them that there is a God but there is no such thing as Heaven or Hell and that this life of theirs simply ends at their grave.”

Satan, after extensive contemplation, said:

“This wicked thought is also insufficient and will not enable us to win many souls. People will remember that Christ said, as He ascended into Heaven: ‘In my Father’s house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. [Jn 14:2-3]’ The faith of people into these words is unfortunately strong enough to counteract our plans. People will continue to believe that He will reward all according to their life deeds. Let another one of you suggest something else.”

A third one then came up and after he worshipped his leader all the way to the ground, took the floor and said:

“Most excellent leader of the darkness, I propose that it is much better that we praise people for their faith in God, their belief in the existence of Paradise and Hell, their expectation for the Last Judgment. However and at the same time, let us whisper to them: ‘Do not rush into repentance. Let repentance be your deed during the latter part of your life. Death is still far away. For the time being, enjoy your life, satisfy all of your carnal desires because you have plenty of time left.’ Thus, while we conduct our alluring and magic works, they will grow old without realizing it and reach their life’s end before they can repent. Death will arrive suddenly and will find them unprepared and they will be ours forever.”

Satan then moved his head acknowledging his satisfaction. He grunted and squealed with devilish joy and with hasty anxiety told them all: “Quickly, all of you go and do exactly as your colleague indicated.”

It is for this reason that people fulfill their Christian duties in a lackluster manner. The cunning demons, throughout their life, whisper to them in a tempting way regarding the joys of this world and people obey. They refuse to change their ways and continue to satisfy their desires and sinful nature, ignoring the advice of the Church regarding true repentance, even in their old age...

CCT Call the Churches and Elected Leaders to Act on Immigration Reform Now

February 1, 2013 By [carlos](#)

Statement on Immigration Reform Christian Churches Together in the U.S.A.

February 1, 2013
Austin, Texas

Christian Churches Together in the U.S.A., representing the breadth of Christian churches and denominations in the U.S., gathered in Austin, Texas, for its annual meeting to focus on the challenge of immigration reform. We heard from “dreamers,” a variety of immigrants and experts on immigration issues. Through a process of prayer, reflection and discernment of God’s call, we agreed on a statement that provides principles for just and humane immigration reform. In this hour, as our nation launches a national debate seeking immigration reform, we call upon people of faith, people of good will, elected officials in Congress and the President of the United States to work together to enact just and humane immigration reform legislation in 2013.

As Christian leaders and Christian communities, we engage in this debate as followers of Jesus Christ, who commanded us to “welcome the stranger,” (Matthew 25:35) and advised that “just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.” (Matthew 25:40)

As Christians we believe that all will be judged, in part, by the way they treat strangers in their midst. “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left.” (Matthew 25: 31,32a) We acknowledge that members of our own faith communities have been complicit in the establishment and reinforcement of our current system through active political engagement and apathetic inaction. As a moral matter, we cannot tolerate an immigration system that exploits migrants, is inhospitable, and fails to offer immigrants the full protection of the law.

While immigration is often viewed as an economic, social, or legal issue, it is ultimately a humanitarian and spiritual issue that directly impacts millions of unauthorized immigrants and the entire fabric of our society. The Bible frequently commands us to treat the immigrant justly. Further, every person is created in the image of God and possesses inestimable value. It is therefore paramount that our national immigration system protects the basic human rights and dignity of all persons. Sadly, our current system fails to meet this test and requires comprehensive reform now.

The timing of our statement on immigration is ever more poignant given that our country is celebrating the 150th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation. We are reminded that there are those in our nation whose forebears were brought here involuntarily through the unjust institution of slavery. There are also those who lived here long before others arrived who experienced the denial of their basic human rights. Each day in our congregations and communities, we bear witness to the effects of a system that continues this legacy of separation of families and the exploitation, abuse, and deaths of migrants. This suffering must end. Therefore, in our relentless effort to achieve a more perfect union, we urge our elected officials to enact immigration reform consistent with the following principles and policies:

Pathway to Citizenship

The 11 million individuals now in the U.S. without authorization should be given an opportunity to earn citizenship, if the individual chooses. Many have built equities in our nation and have contributed to the economic and social fabric of this country. Such reforms would ensure that families are not separated and that the undocumented population can fully enjoy the rights and responsibilities of U.S. citizenship. (Leviticus 18:33-34)

Family reunification

Family reunification should be the cornerstone of our nation's immigration policy. Immigrant families have helped build this nation economically and socially, and will continue to do so. We support changes to the family-based immigration system, which expedite the reunification of families. Family-based visa categories should not be eliminated or reduced and the current lengthy backlogs should be addressed. (Mark 10:9)

Enforcement and due process

Enforcement measures should be just and include due process protections for immigrants. We support the right of our nation to defend our borders and to ensure the integrity of the workplace through immigration enforcement. However, for over twenty-five years, our nation has pursued an enforcement-only policy toward immigration, with severe humanitarian consequences. At the same time that our nation has spent billions of dollars on immigration enforcement, the number of undocumented in the nation has more than tripled. Millions have been incarcerated unnecessarily, thousands of families have been separated, and thousands have died attempting to enter the United States. We urge Congress to review our enforcement policies and restore due process protections to immigrants and their families in a way that respects their God-given dignity, including reform of our detention laws. (Exodus 1:1-22)

The human dignity and image of God has been further violated as a result of the cooperation between local law enforcement and federal immigration agencies that leads to racial profiling of people suspected of being in the U.S. without authorization. Immigration laws should be reformed and implemented in a way that does not facilitate racial profiling. Enforceable detention standards and reforms should be established and include the review of partnerships between the federal government and for-profit prison corporations.

Refugees and Asylum Seekers

Refugees and asylum-seekers should receive special protection as particularly vulnerable migrants because they are fleeing persecution. The United States has a moral obligation to continue to provide protection to ensure refugees and asylum-seekers are able to find safety in the United States through the appropriate processes and not at heightened risk of being returned to their persecutors. There should be improvements to the asylum process to ensure asylum-seekers are not detained upon arrival and are given a fair opportunity to express a fear of persecution. There should also be more robust support of the refugee resettlement program and adequate resources to help refugees integrate upon their arrival to the United States. We are also mindful of the millions of families and individuals waiting for resettlement, living, raising families, and dying in temporary refugee camps and the many who perish attempting to reach those camps. (Matthew 2:13-18)

Root Causes

In order to find a long-term solution to the problem of unauthorized immigration, the root causes of such migration should be examined. Persons should be able to find employment in their home countries in order to sustain their families in a place that is free from fear and violence. At a minimum, Congress and the Administration should review our international economic policies to ensure that they do not encourage unauthorized migration and do not eliminate living wage jobs in sending countries. Our country should help to foster job opportunities and respect for human rights in the countries from which many immigrants come. (Isaiah 2:1-4; Micah 4:1-5)

As Christian Churches Together, we recommit ourselves to be promoters and examples of justice, showing hospitality and love for the immigrant; for we know we may be "entertaining angels without knowing it." (Hebrews 13:2) We call for our nation to engage in an immigration debate that is conducted in a civil manner and does not dehumanize immigrants. We will speak out and educate communities about the past and current contributions of immigrants in building and growing this nation. Finally, we will work with our elected officials to ensure that, consistent with the aforementioned policies and principles, the human rights of immigrants are protected in any final legislation.

Orthodox Churches that are members of "Christian Churches Together in the USA" are the Antiochian Archdiocese, the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese, the Orthodox Church in America (OCA) and the Coptic Orthodox Church.