

## **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](mailto:frjames@ssppoc.org)

Parish Website: [www.ssppoc.org](http://www.ssppoc.org) Diocese of NY-NJ: [www.nynjoca.org](http://www.nynjoca.org)

### **BULLETIN OF MAY 12, 2013**

#### **NEW SUNDAY/MAY 12**

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

#### **MONDAY/MAY 13**

6:30p.m. Paschal Memorial at the Parish  
Cemetery (rain date: Tuesday, 6:30p.m.)

#### **THURSDAY/MAY 16**

7:00p.m. Parish Council Meeting

#### **SATURDAY/MAY 18**

9:00a.m. Memorial for Irene Keith  
9:30a.m. Akathist to the Resurrection;  
Confessions  
5:30p.m. Vigil; Confessions

#### **3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF PASCHA/MAY 19**

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



#### **LITURGICAL NOTES ABOUT THE PASCHAL SEASON**

This period of great festivity and joy finds its liturgical expression in the following manner:

- ❖ We greet each other with the Paschal salutation, "Christ is risen! Indeed He is risen!" for 40 days, until Ascension Day.
- ❖ We do not kneel or make prostrations either at church services or in our homes until the "Kneeling Prayers" at Pentecost.
- ❖ The Paschal Troparion, "Christ is risen from the dead" is sung or said at the beginning or end of all prayers until the Leave-taking of Pascha on the Eve of Ascension.
- ❖ During Bright Week, morning and evening prayers are replaced by the Paschal Hours.
- ❖ The prayer, "O Heavenly King" is omitted until Pentecost, being replaced with the Troparion of Pascha and then Ascension.

### ***Offerings Week of May 12***

**Olive Oil** – in memory of Michael, Justina, and Rosalia; in memory of Catherine; for the health and salvation of John and Vera; for the health of June Lopen (birthday).

**Wine** - for the health of Andrea (birthday); in memory of Joan and Sandy.

### ***Parish Synodicon – Memory Eternal!***

May 15 40<sup>th</sup> Day Mildred Mock  
May 13, 1933 Maria Yaskovsy  
May 13, 1958 Jacob Popko  
May 14, 1933 Peter Chromoho  
May 14, 1953 Della Marchisin  
May 14, 1956 Pelagia Carko  
May 14, 1965 Metropolitan Leonty  
May 15, 1925 Maria Barna  
May 15, 2005 Olga Shemansky  
May 16, 1953 Michael Hobora  
May 16, 1962 Theodore Janushenko  
May 18, 1975 Wasil Kosticz

### ***Coffee Hour Hosting***

May 12 Peterson, Bakaletz and Mattei  
May 19 Kita, Nevitt and Keller  
May 26 Inga, Eka, Marina and Nona

### ***Ushers Schedule***

May 12 T. Gorbatuk & J. Stone  
May 19 D. Fedechko & C. Dunaenko  
May 26 E. Sarchisian, N. Popa & L. Khuzaurashvili

### ***For College Students Returning Home***

Because Pascha was "late" this year, there are some college students who have returned home only after Pascha. If this be the case, be sure to arrange with Father James to receive Holy Confession and Communion as soon as possible.

### ***Extending Best Wishes on Mother's Day***

May the Lord bless all mothers, grandmothers, and god mothers on this civil holiday!

### ***Sincere Thanks to All!***

Appreciation is expressed to all of you who have helped out in these past two weeks with the many tasks and ministries in our parish life. Thanks to Diaconissa Patricia and the choir; to Protodeacon

Paul and the altar servers; to ushers; to readers; to ground workers; to food donors; to meal set-up and clean-up; to Austin Kachek for the two new symbols of the Resurrection (Lily and Pomegranate); to those who set-up and decorated the church; those who set up the hall; to those who made special monetary gifts; and to all who helped out in all different ways. The Lord richly bless you!

### ***Open Church Doors Ministry – The Months of May and June***

In the months of May and June (for most Sundays), we will again have the "Open Door Ministry." Between the hours of 12:00p.m. and 2:00p.m., we keep (weather permitting) the doors of the church open, so those passing by, people who wish to pray, and those led in by the Lord, may benefit and receive the blessing of our Lord. On these Sundays, we seek 2 people each week simply to be at the church any greet anyone entering. It is also a great opportunity for those greeting to spend time in prayer, reflection and spiritual reading. A sign-up sheet is on the vestibule stand.

### ***Archpastoral Visit of Bishop Michael to our Parish – June 15 and 16***

On this, "Father's Day" weekend, our Spiritual Father, Bishop Michael will be with us. Please plan your calendar accordingly. We will also recognize "graduates" on this Sunday and a light festal meal will follow in the parish Center.

### ***Graduates of the Year 2013***

Please let Father James know the names of those who are graduating this year from high school, college, special schools; graduate school, etc. Thanks.

### ***May Film Presentation: May 21<sup>st</sup>, 7:00p.m.***

"Suing the Devil," this 97 minute film is the story of a certain salesman, turned night law student who decides to sue Satan for 8 trillion dollars. The "Trial of the Century" takes place and Satan defends himself. Recommended for ages 12 and up, the film offers hope and inspiration, especially as we all face the storms of life. Highest Rating by the "Dove Family Approved" rating. Bring a friend!

---

## THE TESTIMONY THAT CHRIST ROSE FROM THE DEAD

*From Mystagogy: johnsanidopoulos.com*

It may come as a surprise that one of the most reliable testified events in the ancient world is the resurrection of Christ, recorded in writing within a generation after the event (see 1 Corinthians 15) and fully testified within two generations while the majority of the witnesses were still alive. To understand how rare this is in the ancient world, one need only look at such a historical figure as Alexander the Great, whose earliest biography was not written until about 400 years after his death, after the earliest written testimony for Jesus.

### Twelve Resurrection Appearances in the New Testament

There are twelve indisputable resurrection appearances recorded in the New Testament which spanned a time period of forty days following the event of the resurrection. They are to the following people:

- ❖ Mary Magdalene (Mk. 16:9-11; Jn. 20:11-18)
- ❖ The Myrrh-bearing women (Mt. 28:9-10)
- ❖ Two disciples on way to Emmaus (Mk. 16:12-13; Lk. 24:13-32)
- ❖ Peter (Lk. 24:34; 1 Cor. 15:4)
- ❖ Ten disciples (Lk. 24:36-43; Jn. 20:19-25)
- ❖ Eleven disciples (Mk. 16:14; Jn. 26-29)
- ❖ Seven disciples (Jn. 21: 1-23)
- ❖ Eleven disciples on the mountain (Mt. 28:16-20)
- ❖ Over five hundred disciples (1 Cor. 15:6)
- ❖ James, the brother of our Lord (1 Cor. 15:7)
- ❖ Disciples in Bethany at Ascension (Lk. 24:50-53; Acts. 1:2-12)
- ❖ Paul (1 Cor. 15:8)



We should mention that Acts 1:3 records that the Lord appeared many times over a forty day period following His resurrection from the dead, so the appearances are not limited to only twelve.

### How many saw the resurrected Christ?

Over a period of forty days Christ rarely appeared to only one individual disciple. Usually many were present, and He gave ample evidence that His resurrection was in His physical body (they touched His wounds and saw Him eat). From the testimony in the New Testament, we know that well over five hundred people saw the risen Jesus, usually in groups, and there are no contradictions in the accounts nor recorded disputes about these appearances by those who saw Him.

### When did they see the resurrected Christ?

Interestingly, all the resurrection appearances occurred either during the day, afternoon or towards evening. Never is a resurrection appearance recorded at night, lest it be confused with a dream.

### Where was the risen Christ seen?

The risen Christ appeared in many different areas, both indoors and outdoors. He was seen:

- |                            |                 |            |
|----------------------------|-----------------|------------|
| ❖ Near His tomb            | ❖ Inside a home | ❖ Outdoors |
| ❖ On a well travelled road | ❖ A mountain    | ❖ Judea    |
| ❖ The seashore             | ❖ A city        | ❖ Galilee  |

### How did they see the risen Jesus?

The appearances of Christ were not passing visions, but they lasted over many hours to people of different backgrounds and occupations, where He would eat with those He appeared to and have conversations with them. None of them had previously believed that He would rise from dead, so initially the appearances confirmed the event and clarified teachings they may not have understood.

- ❖ The Apostle John writes in 1 Jn 1:1-4 that they heard, they saw, and they handled the risen Christ.
  - ❖ The Apostle Peter says in Acts 10:41 that they ate and drank with the risen Christ.
-

## **6 SYMBOLS OF THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST THAT ADORN OUR ICONOSTASIS HERE IN MANVILLE**

Symbols are an important part of our faith and are very evident within our churches. The icons, the three parts of the church building, the iconostasis, the candles, the vestments, are all symbols of various types. Each holds a meaning that must be understood if the symbol is to touch our lives with more than its mere external appearance.

There are many symbols that speak of the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Perhaps, the **Red Egg** is the most well known. Just as the egg appears to be lifeless, so too did the body of Christ appear to be a mere corpse. But just as the egg can contain life, so does Christ contain the life we receive through His Resurrection.

- (1) The **Butterfly** is a symbol of the springtide of new life. At the caterpillar stage, the creature represents the earthly life of Jesus Christ. The cocoon stage reminds us of the crucifixion and burial of our Lord. The butterfly comes forth from the cocoon (the tomb) with an entirely new and glorious body.
- (2) The **Peacock**. From the earliest times this image was found upon the walls of the ancient catacombs of the Church. This creature was used as a symbol because of its unusually beautiful tail. Each year, however, the bird loses the beauty during the molting season to such an extent that the apparent intrinsic worth of the beauty is greatly diminished. Yet the value of the bird is enhanced as the molting season comes to an end and a new and more beautiful tail appears. In the eyes of men, the mystery, the awe, the greatness of Christ is enhanced countless times over through the Resurrection.
- (3) The **Phoenix** is an ancient bird from Greek mythology. This bird is said to have fallen to the ground dead and burned. It rose from the ashes as a new bird and soared aloft. In this image we see the Phoenix aflame in the fire. As Christ's life in an earthly form was destroyed through the crucifixion, but a new and more glorious life came about as a result of the Resurrection.
- (4) The **Lion** is a symbol of Jesus Christ, found both in the Old and New Testaments. He is the Lion of the tribe of Judah. The Lion is kingly and full of strength. As a Resurrection symbol, the Lion is said to sleep with one eye open. The Fathers of the Church – St. Hilary and St. Augustine – see this to represent the divinity of Christ, which was not “asleep” in the tomb. While the human nature of Christ died, His divine nature was alive. The Scriptures also speak of Christ as a lion's whelp (puppy). The ancients believed that the young new born lion on the third day after birth being still inactive, needed to be awakened by the roar of the Father Lion. Here, we understand that God the Father raised up His Son from the tomb.
- (5) The **Lily** is a symbol of immortality. The bulb decays in the ground, yet from it a new life is released.
- (6) The **Pomegranate** fruit, bursting or broken open is a symbol of the fullness of the sufferings and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. A 4<sup>th</sup> century Christian symbol.