

## **SAINTS PETER & PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH**

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

### **BULLETIN OF JUNE 30, 2013**

#### **ALL SAINTS SUNDAY/JUNE 30**

9:10a.m. Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy  
Coffee Hour & Question/Answer Period  
12:00-2:00p.m. Open Door Ministry

#### **MONDAY/JULY 1**

7:00p.m. Vespers

#### **TUESDAY/JULY 2**

##### **St. John of San Francisco (+1966)**

9:10a.m. Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy  
7-8:00p.m. Lemonade & Conversations  
In Parish Rectory – All Invited!

#### **FRIDAY/JULY 5**

##### **St. Elizabeth of Moscow (+1917)**

9:30a.m. Akathist to St. Elizabeth

#### **SATURDAY/JULY 6**

9:30a.m. Akathist; Confessions  
5:30p.m. Vigil; Confessions

#### **SUNDAY/JULY 7**

##### **All Saints of America**

9:10a.m. Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy  
Coffee Hour  
12:00-2:00p.m. Open Doors Ministry



#### **TROPARION OF ALL SAINTS**

All you Apostles and Martyrs, you prophets —  
hierarchs with the holy men and women  
of all times — valiantly have you fought, per-  
severing in the faith. For this the Lord is sure  
to hear your prayer. Remind Him of His loving-  
kindness, and beg Him to save our souls.

### **Offerings Week of June 30**

**Olive Oil** – in memory of Michael, Justina, and Rosalie; in memory of Vaschen and Emilia; for a safe journey; in memory of Joan and Sandy; in memory of Kathleen.

**Wine** – for the health and salvation of Maria (birthday); for the health of Proto-deacon Paul.

**Litya Breads** – health of Ekaterina.

### **Memory Eternal!**

July 27, 2013 40<sup>th</sup> Day Frank Gregovitch

June 30, 1955 Steven Sidorkovitz

June 30, 1967 Christine Senko

June 30, 1994 Sophie Karwatt

June ?, 1948 Paul Federoff

July 01, 1929 Semeon Romanovsky

July 01, 1999 John Kulina Sr.

July 02, 1931 Theodore Yurgel

July 02, 1973 Mae West

July 03, 1923 Anna Kliaga

July 03, 1973 Susan Ostapovich

July 05, 1925 Athanasius Demchuk

### **Coffee Hour Hosting**

June 30 S. Kita, T. Nevitt & L. Keller

July 07 Inga, Eka, Mariana & Nona

July 14 K. Motoviloff, M. Torrisi, A. Kachek  
& P. Stone

### **Ushers Schedule**

June 30 P. Parsells, J. Stone & N. Oliver

July 07 T. Smith, P. Bakaletz & A. Moldoveanu

July 14 D. Fedechko and C. Dunaenko

### **Lemonade & Conversations**

In the months of June, July and August on select evenings, an opportunity is offered for parishioners and friends of the parish to gather for one hour (7-8p.m.) for informal conversations about “anything under the sun,” and a cold drink.

We meet in the rectory on these Tuesdays: July 2/9/23/30. Join us!

### **Ss. Peter & Paul Day Appeal**

Please be mindful of this very important appeal. A letter and envelope has been mailed out to you with an explanation of where the funds will be directed. The Lord bless your offering!

### **Part-Time Worker Available**

Painting, yard work, pavers, power washing, gardening – Javier, does some work for us at the cemetery. He can do odd jobs for you. Speak with Father James.

### **Our FaceBook Page**

“Friends of Ss. Peter and Paul Orthodox Church”  
Join us! Lots of things going on and we want you to be part of things!

### **Vestibule Stand Now Has – New Stock**

Of icons, books and wall crosses.

### **Parish Council Meeting**

July 18<sup>th</sup>, Thursday at 7:00p.m.

### **Blessing of Things Mobile**

On Sunday, July 21<sup>st</sup>, after the Divine Liturgy, the Blessing of Things Mobile will take place in the church parking lot. Autos, bikes, skate-boards, hot-air balloons, skis, etc. Things that are mobile provide us with transportation as well as recreation. In both cases, we pray for safety.

### **About Vacationing This Summer**

- A Prayer for Travelers may be obtained after the Sunday Divine Liturgy. Just ask Father James when you come to venerate the Holy Cross.
- Be mindful of being a good steward and make your regular offerings to cover the time you will be away.
- On Sundays – even while on vacation we should be at the Sunday Divine Liturgy. Check this site for a local Orthodox Church: [www.orthodoxyinamerica.org](http://www.orthodoxyinamerica.org).
- The Dormition Lent is held between August 1<sup>st</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>.
- If you wish to receive Holy Communion in another church, it is your responsibility to speak with the priest of that church prior to the divine service. Call, write or e-mail him.
- Daily prayers, spiritual reading and the keeping of the Wednesday and Friday fast remains in effect.

# UNDERSTANDING THE 'GAY MARRIAGE' RULINGS



This morning, the U.S. Supreme Court struck down section 3 of the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) and dismissed an appeal of California's Proposition 8 on grounds of standing. But what does this mean? What are the implications of the court decisions? Here's the good, the bad and the ugly from today's rulings:

## **The Good:**

The court did not claim to have discovered a fundamental "right" to marry. If it had done so, it could have imposed a redefinition of marriage on the entire country, forcing widespread recognition of "gay marriage." Instead, the court chose to issue a more limited ruling, saying in its DOMA decision that the states are free to define marriage as they see fit, but *if* they choose to recognize same-sex "marriage," the federal government must acknowledge these "marriages" alongside the marriages of one man and one woman. States are still free to hold a view of marriage as one man, one woman if they choose to do so. This is a silver lining on a court decision that could have been absolutely devastating.

## **The Bad:**

Overturning DOMA means that the federal government will recognize "gay marriage" in the states that allow it. This will affect more than 1,000 regulations and legal provisions, and could have a sweeping impact on both the legal and cultural understanding of what marriage is. And by dismissing Prop 8, the court is allowing a lower ruling to stand, paving the way for "gay marriage" in California. In addition, since the federal government must acknowledge all state-recognized marriages, there will be increased pressure on the states to redefine marriage.

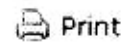
## **The Ugly:**

The majority opinion in DOMA makes the claim that those who support the law do so in order to "disparage," "injure," "degrade," "demean" and "humiliate" gay individuals. This is very bad news for those who defend marriage not out of animus or hatred but because they believe that marriage is rooted in divine and natural law and is not ours to redefine. As Justice Scalia explained in a scathing dissent, the court today has declared those who oppose a redefinition of marriage to be "enemies of the human race." Supporters of marriage as it has been understood by virtually every society throughout human history need to be prepared for social persecution, since even the nation's high court now assumes that defending marriage is based on hatred and bigotry rather than a natural understanding of the sacred purpose of human sexuality. Defenders of marriage may find that their rights to voice their beliefs and live according to them are quickly eroding after this court decision.

[www.catholicnewsagency.com](http://www.catholicnewsagency.com)

June 26, 2013

# 10 Reasons Why Homosexual "Marriage" is Harmful and Must be Opposed



By TFP Student Action

## 1. It Is Not Marriage

Calling something marriage does not make it marriage. Marriage has always been a covenant between a man and a woman which is by its nature ordered toward the procreation and education of children and the unity and wellbeing of the spouses.

The promoters of same-sex "marriage" propose something entirely different. They propose the union between two men or two women. This denies the self-evident biological, physiological, and psychological differences between men and women which find their complementarity in marriage. It also denies the specific primary purpose of marriage: the perpetuation of the human race and the raising of children.

Two entirely different things cannot be considered the same thing.

Click "like" for TRUE marriage!

[Get the [TFP newsletter](#) for free]

## 2. It Violates Natural Law

Marriage is not just any relationship between human beings. It is a relationship rooted in human nature and thus governed by natural law.

Natural law's most elementary precept is that "good is to be done and pursued, and evil is to be avoided." By his natural reason, man can perceive what is morally good or bad for him. Thus, he can know the end or purpose of each of his acts and how it is morally wrong to transform the means that help him accomplish an act into the act's purpose.

Any situation which institutionalizes the circumvention of the purpose of the sexual act violates natural law and the objective norm of morality.

Being rooted in human nature, natural law is universal and immutable. It applies to the entire human race, equally. It commands and forbids consistently, everywhere and always. Saint Paul taught in the Epistle to the Romans that the natural law is inscribed on the heart of every man. (Rom. 2:14-15)

## 3. It Always Denies a Child Either a Father or a Mother

It is in the child's best interests that he be raised under the influence of his natural father and mother. This rule is confirmed by the evident difficulties faced by the many children who are orphans or are raised by a single parent, a relative, or a foster parent.

The unfortunate situation of these children will be the norm for all children of a same-sex "marriage." A child of a same-sex "marriage" will always be deprived of either his natural mother or father. He will necessarily be raised by one party who has no blood relationship with him. He will always be deprived of either a mother or a father role model.

Same-sex "marriage" ignores a child's best interests.

#### **4. It Validates and Promotes the Homosexual Lifestyle**

In the name of the "family," same-sex "marriage" serves to validate not only such unions but the whole homosexual lifestyle in all its bisexual and transgender variants.

Civil laws are structuring principles of man's life in society. As such, they play a very important and sometimes decisive role in influencing patterns of thought and behavior. They externally shape the life of society, but also profoundly modify everyone's perception and evaluation of forms of behavior.

Legal recognition of same-sex "marriage" would necessarily obscure certain basic moral values, devalue traditional marriage, and weaken public morality.

#### **5. It Turns a Moral Wrong into a Civil Right**

Homosexual activists argue that same-sex "marriage" is a civil rights issue similar to the struggle for racial equality in the 1960s.

This is false.

First of all, sexual behavior and race are essentially different realities. A man and a woman wanting to marry may be different in their characteristics: one may be black, the other white; one rich, the other poor; or one tall, the other short. None of these differences are insurmountable obstacles to marriage. The two individuals are still man and woman, and thus the requirements of nature are respected.

Same-sex "marriage" opposes nature. Two individuals of the same sex, regardless of their race, wealth, stature, erudition or fame, will never be able to marry because of an insurmountable biological impossibility.

Secondly, inherited and unchangeable racial traits cannot be compared with non-genetic and changeable behavior. There is simply no analogy between the interracial marriage of a man and a woman and the "marriage" between two individuals of the same sex.

#### **6. It Does Not Create a Family but a Naturally Sterile Union**

Traditional marriage is usually so fecund that those who would frustrate its end must do violence to nature to prevent the birth of children by using contraception. It naturally tends to create families.

On the contrary, same-sex "marriage" is intrinsically sterile. If the "spouses" want a child, they must circumvent nature by costly and artificial means or employ surrogates. The natural tendency of such a union is not to create families.

Therefore, we cannot call a same-sex union marriage and give it the benefits of true marriage.

#### **7. It Defeats the State's Purpose of Benefiting Marriage**

One of the main reasons why the State bestows numerous benefits on marriage is that by its very nature and design, marriage provides the normal conditions for a stable, affectionate, and moral atmosphere that is beneficial to the upbringing of children—all fruit of the mutual affection of the parents. This aids in perpetuating the nation and strengthening society, an evident interest of the State.

Homosexual "marriage" does not provide such conditions. Its primary purpose, objectively speaking, is the personal gratification of two individuals whose union is sterile by nature. It is not entitled, therefore, to the protection the State extends to true marriage.

#### **8. It Imposes Its Acceptance on All Society**

By legalizing same-sex "marriage," the State becomes its official and active promoter. The State calls on public officials to officiate at the new civil ceremony, orders public schools to teach its acceptability to children, and punishes any state employee who expresses disapproval.

In the private sphere, objecting parents will see their children exposed more than ever to this new "morality," businesses offering wedding services will be forced to provide them for same-sex unions, and rental property owners will have to agree to accept same-sex couples as tenants.

In every situation where marriage affects society, the State will expect Christians and all people of good will to betray their consciences by condoning, through silence or act, an attack on the natural order and Christian morality.

### **9. It Is the Cutting Edge of the Sexual Revolution**

In the 1960s, society was pressured to accept all kinds of immoral sexual relationships between men and women. Today we are seeing a new sexual revolution where society is being asked to accept sodomy and same-sex "marriage."

If homosexual "marriage" is universally accepted as the present step in sexual "freedom," what logical arguments can be used to stop the next steps of incest, pedophilia, bestiality, and other forms of unnatural behavior? Indeed, radical elements of certain "avant garde" subcultures are already advocating such aberrations.

The railroading of same-sex "marriage" on the American people makes increasingly clear what homosexual activist Paul Varnell wrote in the Chicago Free Press:

"The gay movement, whether we acknowledge it or not, is not a civil rights movement, not even a sexual liberation movement, but a moral revolution aimed at changing people's view of homosexuality."

### **10. It Offends God**

This is the most important reason. Whenever one violates the natural moral order established by God, one sins and offends God. Same-sex "marriage" does just this. Accordingly, anyone who professes to love God must be opposed to it.

Marriage is not the creature of any State. Rather, it was established by God in Paradise for our first parents, Adam and Eve. As we read in the Book of Genesis: "God created man in His image; in the Divine image he created him; male and female He created them. God blessed them, saying: 'Be fertile and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it.'" (Gen. 1:28-29)

The same was taught by Our Savior Jesus Christ: "From the beginning of the creation, God made them male and female. For this cause a man shall leave his father and mother; and shall cleave to his wife." (Mark 10:6-7).

Genesis also teaches how God punished Sodom and Gomorrah for the sin of homosexuality: "The Lord rained down sulphurous fire upon Sodom and Gomorrah. He overthrew those cities and the whole Plain, together with the inhabitants of the cities and the produce of the soil." (Gen. 19:24-25)

***THE BLESSING OF THE CRAPE MYRTLE TREES***

***PENTECOST SUNDAY – JUNE 23, 2013***

***IN MEMORY OF SLAKO “JERRY” YADLOWSKY***

O CREATOR OF LIFE AND SUSTAINER OF SEED AND SOIL, OF TREE AND FLOWER, THOU HAST CREATED THIS WORLD AND ALL THAT IS IN IT. WE COME TO THEE IN THIS PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND BLESSING, FOR THOU ART THE GIVER OF LIFE. SEND THY BLESSING UPON THESE CRAPE MYRTLE TREES. MAY THEY PROSPER AND FLOWER. MAY THEY ADORN THIS HOLY GROUND AND PROVIDE SHELTER FOR BIRDS, SHADE FOR HUMANS AND ANIMALS, COLOR AND BEAUTY FOR THOSE BEHOLDING THEM IN THE SEASON OF FLOWERING.

BE MINDFUL O LORD OF THY SERVANT SLAKO, WHO LABORED IN A GENEROUS MANNER HERE AT THIS CEMETERY OF SS. PETER AND PAUL, GRANT HIM ETERNAL REST. MAY THESE TREES DEDICATED TO HIS MEMORY REMIND US TO PRAY FOR HIM, TO BE GRATEFUL FOR HIS GENEROSITY AND PHYSICAL LABORS AND SACRIFICES. MAY WE ALSO BE INSPIRED TO BE BENEFACTORS OF THESE HOLY GROUNDS, OFFERING OUR TIME, TALENT AND TREASURE. MAY THY HOLY NAME BE EVER GLORIFIED, FATHER, SON

# AND HOLY SPIRIT, NOW AND EVER AND UNTO AGES OF AGES. AMEN.

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In 1993, the Parish Cemetery of Ss. Peter and Paul embarked upon a new adventure of up-grading and adorning these blessed ground. In that year a fence and gate was installed and in the years since, road work and road expansion; land survey; installation of electric power and water pumps; white fences; the placing of eight benches; plotting of new cemetery area; demarcation of boundaries; and the planting of some 197 new trees and 277 shrubs and plants took place. Today, we see the beauty of these grounds.

This work was accomplished chiefly through the benefactions of Slako Yadlowsky. "Jerry" offered his talent, his treasure and time to beautify the cemetery. One of the unique qualities of Ss. Peter & Paul Cemetery is that it seeks to develop and maintain a sacred ground that is an honorable burial place for the relics of the departed and a setting of prayer, meditation and consolation for the living. In this sense, the cemetery does not become merely functional but transcendent in purpose. The nature of the selection of the plantings; their seasonal flowering; color and size are all important to create an environment that is beautiful and contemplative, refreshing both to the eye and to the soul. Space and size, projected shrines and other features, are all directed to this concept of beauty and order.

Ss. Peter and Paul Cemetery serves both the living and the departed and the proper up-keep of the grounds is of prime importance. As we remember "Jerry" and his generosity, you are encouraged and invited to share in his vision and work. Be a generous benefactor of the Cemetery.

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The value of a tree Economically Speaking One tree over a 50-year lifetime:

- \* Generates \$3,1250 worth of oxygen
- \* Provides \$62,000 worth of pollution control
- \* Recycles \$37,500 worth of water
- \* Controls \$31,250 worth of soil erosion
- \*Source: Michigan State University