

**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 JULY 07, 2013**

**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

**TUESDAY/JULY 9**

7-8:00p.m. Leomande & Conversations  
At Rectory

**THURSDAY/JULY 11**

7:00p.m. Compline and Akathist to the  
"Icon of the 3 Hands" (July 12<sup>th</sup>)

**SATURDAY/JULY 13**

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

**SUNDAY/JULY 14**

**3<sup>RD</sup> Sunday after Pentecost:  
Commemoration of Martyrs of  
The Turkish Yoke**

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



### **Offerings Week of July 7**

Olive Oil – in memory of Michael, Justina, and Rosalie; in memory of Vaschen and Emilia; for a safe journey; for the health of Robert (birthday); for the health of Amanda-Sarah and Scott (anniversary).

Wine – for the health of Mark (anniversary); for the health of Larissa (birthday)

Flowers – in memory of Joan and Sandy.

### **Memory Eternal!**

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

July 07, 1984 Anna Cohen

July 09, 1971 Kuzma Savich

July 09, 2010 Tatiana Onuschak

July 09, 2011 Atopere Filippini

July 10, 1951 Vassily Fetchina

July 11, 1928 Elias Chromoho

July 12, 1978 Antonia Salamander

July 12, 1979 Chariton Perogeff

July 13, 1975 John Kachorsky

### **Coffee Hour Hosting**

July 07 Inga, Eka, Mariana & Nona

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

July 21 Combs, Mantafos, Parsells & Sokol

### **Ushers Schedule**

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

July 14 T. Gorbatuk and J. Stone

July 21 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 9/23/30. Join us!

### **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.

### **Photos of Ss. Peter & Paul Day**

May be viewed on our parish website.

### **Our FaceBook Page – Is Now in Sync with our Parish Website For Announcements!**

“Friends of Ss. Peter and Paul Orthodox Church”

Lots of things going on! Post and Share! We are 28 strong but certainly want you! as number 29!

### **Parish Council Meeting**

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

### **Sync Your Smartphone**

From [ssppoc.org](http://ssppoc.org), you can now sync the parish liturgical calendar to your smart-phone, Google calendar, Outlook, iCalendar, etc. Check it out!

### **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.

*the Icon of the  
Most Holy Theotokos  
"Of the Three Hands"*



Mother of God  
"Three-handed" Icon

The origins of the "Three-handed" Wonder-working Icon go back to the 8th century when the iconoclastic heresy was emerging. The history of the icon is closely tied to the fate of the famous defender of Holy Orthodoxy and the veneration of holy icons, the Venerable John of Damascus (†776, memory commemorated 4 December).

In 717, the Byzantine Emperor Leo the Isaurian began persecution of icon veneration. St. John of Damascus zealously defended the veneration of icons by his sermon and by theological treatises written in defence of the Orthodox viewpoint concerning holy images. Venerable John was slandered by Leo the Isaurian

by false information sent to the Governor in Damascus through the emperor's informers. John had been a counselor for the Damascus ruler, considered an important and confidential position. The ruler was angered and ordered that St. John's right hand be cut off. John of Damascus turned in prayer to the Mother of God and in tears interceded Her help at the Icon. The Venerable One received a miraculous healing as the severed hand grew back together. After the miracle, John left Damascus and took the monastic tonsure at the Laura of Venerable Sabbas the Sanctified (†532, commemorated 5 December) and gave the Icon to the monastery. In gratitude for the miracle which happened to him, Venerable John of Damascus had a hand made of silver and as a gift attached it to the Icon — some sources claim that John simply "wrote" (painted) the third hand on the Icon. It is from this event that the Icon received its name "Three-handed." According to Church tradition, Venerable John Damascene composed the thanksgiving prayer to the Most Holy Theotokos, "In Thee rejoiceth all creation, Thou full of Grace..." which is sung at the Liturgy of St. Basil the Great in place of "It is truly meet..." following the epiklesis.

Later, the "Three-handed" Icon of the Theotokos was given as a blessing to Saint Sabbas, the Archbishop of Serbia (†1237, commemorated 12 January). When the Turks invaded Serbia, the precious Icon was given to the Holy Mount Athos Monastery of Hilandar (Serbian). The decision to give the holy shrine to the monastery located on Mount Athos is attributed to the intervention of God's Providence.

In 1661 a copy of the Wonder-working "Three-handed" Icon was brought to Moscow for the first time. After this, the Icon became widely distributed throughout Russia. At the present time the original revered copy of the "Three-handed" Mother of God Icon is located in the Holy Dormition Temple of the Bulgarian Metochion in Moscow.

Feastdays commemorating the Wonder-working "Three-handed" Icon are celebrated two times each year: 28 June and 12 July

## Sayings of St. Raphael of Lesvos



Apolytikion in honor of St. Raphael

Since the discovery of thy divine relics, O wise one, Lesvos hath been filled with the Grace which hath been given to thee abundantly; for thou, O Hosiomartyr Raphael, dost appear wondrously to many persons, and dost provide cures; wherefore we who are believers rejoice in thy marvels.

The following teachings come from St. Raphael, the newly-revealed martyr of Lesvos, through revelations of his various appearances to residents in Lesvos.

- Donors to churches have the blessing of God. A donor to the house of God becomes a recipient of God's gifts.

- Work is a great precaution against temptations.

- Greed is a terrible sin.

- Temperance of the tongue always brings peace.

- Great evil to the person who lives with contaminated thoughts.

- Goodness of the soul is worth more than the beauty of the body.

- Beware of the condemnation of your fellow man.

- O man, protect yourself from sin in order to gain Paradise.

- Christian, all mornings are yours, but Sunday morning belongs to God. Do not forget this.

- Without Holy Communion there does not exist, there does not exist eternal life for man.

- The Holy Spirit is an air of love. He is the light that burns. He is a cool and cheerful breeze.

- Worldly glory does not lead God's children to heaven.

- Humility is a blessing that protects the soul from sin.

- The protection of God is the true assurance of man.

- Obedience to the words of the Gospel will give the soul eternity.

- If man does not suffer in life on earth then it is not easy to enter the gates of Paradise.

- Whatever happens to man in his life, it is because of his naughty life.

- When man prays, the evil one plummets.

- The study of the Divine word, matures the thought of man.

- Fasting should be accompanied by a virtuous life.

- Spiritual formation is higher than anything.

- Do not hurt your fellow man, neither in word nor deed.

- Despair is the work of the evil one.

- Without affliction the Christian people cannot enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

- Money does not bring rest to the soul, but sinks it into darkness.

- Repentance resurrects man.

- When God blesses all is delightful, beneficial and prosperous.

- The medicines of the soul, are the Divine words of the Gospel.