## SAINTS PETER & PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Parish Website: www.ssppoc.org Diocese of NY-NJ: www.nynjoca.org
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## 2014 - 99th Anniversary of Ss. Peter & Paul Church, Manville

## SUNDAY/JANUARY 26,2014 31st Sunday After Pentecost

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

## WEDNESDAY/JANUARY 29

7:00p.m. Vespers

## THURSDAY/JANUARY 30 Synaxis of the Three Holy Hierarchs: Basil, Gregory and John

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

## SATURDAY/FEBRUARY 1

9:30a.m. Akathist to St. Luke of Crimea and anointing with oil; Confessions 5:30p.m. Vigil; Confessions

## SUNDAY/FEBRUARY 2 MEETING OF THE LORD IN THE TEMPLE (One of "the 12 Great Feasts" of the year) Zacchaeus Sunday

9:10a.m. Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy with blessing of candles; Coffee Hour

Souper Bowl of Caring: Feb. 2 & 9: you are Asked to bring food items for the local Food Pantry and Deposit \$1 (or more) in the baskets in the vestibule for our local charity: "Great Expectations" – a residence for unwedded mothers in Raritan, helping them to safely deliver there unborn



Many hundreds of years ago a very holy old man lived in a desert. One day people came to him and said: "Father, teach us, how can we come closer to God while we live in this world?" The old man drew a circle in the sand at his feet. "This circle is the world," he said "and here in the center of it is God. Each one of us lives in the world," and he made dots around the edge of the circle. "As we try to come closer to God, we draw closer to each other and this is the only way in which we can come closer to God. Remember it."

Offerings Week of January 26

Olive Oil: in memory of Michael, Justina, Rosalia, Anna, Anastasia and Pavel; in memory of Vaschen and Emilia; health of Rebecca (names day).

#### Parish Synodicon: Memory Eternal!

Jan. 25, 1976 Simon Leich

Jan. 26, 1965 Fr. Constantine Suchostovsky (rector 1917)

Jan. 26, 1982 Joseph Wilhousky

Jan. 27, 1937 Helen Popko

Jan. 27, 1972 Mary Sandago

Jan. 27, 1987 Alexander Kulina

Jan. 28, 1995 Olga Small

Jan. 29, 1974 Paul Monko

Jan. 29, 1988 John Macinko

Jan. 31, 1952 Jacob Michaelski

#### Coffee Hour Hosting

Jan. 26 Kita, Nevitt, & Keller

Feb. 02 Inga, Eka, Marina & Nonna

Feb. 09 Motovlioff, Torrisi, Kachek & Stone

#### Ushers Schedule

Jan. 26 E. Sarchisian & A. Moldoveanu

Feb. 02 T. Smith & P. Bakaletz

Feb. 09 T. Gorbatuk & J. Stone

#### **Old Icon Prints**

From Christmas cards and calendars may be deposited in the designated box on the vestibule stand.

#### Holy Pascha 2014 April 20 Western Easter 2014 April 20

#### Names Day Greetings

St. Maria/Jan. 26: Maria Torrisi

St. Perpetua/Feb. 1: Rebecca Gorbatuk

Many Blessed Years!

The Blessing of Homes: Jan. 7 – Feb. 9

The season of blessing of homes is shorter this year (2014) due to the earlier date of Pascha. You are asked to arrange for your home blessing asap.

Phone: 908-686-1452

E-Mail: frjames@ssppoc.org

In person: At Sunday Coffee Hours

#### The Calendar

Jan. 26 Distinguished Diocesan Donors Dinner

Jan. 30 Feast of the Three Hierarchs

Jan. 30 Annual Meeting Reports Due

Feb. 02 Meeting of our Lord (Blsg. of candles) Feb. 02 Distribution of Annual Mtg. Reports

Feb. 02 Super Bowl of Caring (food pantry & \$1)

Feb. 07 Winter Teen Retreat, Dalton, PA.

Feb. 09 Annual Parish Meeting

Feb. 09 Last Day For Blessing of Homes

Feb. 09 Beginning of Pre-Lent Season (3 weeks)

Feb. 12 & 14 Fast-Free, Wednesday and Friday

Feb. 14-16 Diocesan Altar Servers Retreat

Feb. 22 Parish Workshop on Church Growth 12:00 Lunch, 1:00-5:00 Program

Mar.03 Beginning of 40 Day Great & Holy Fast

Mar.09 Sun. of Orthodoxy Vespers in Manville At Holy Ghost Church

Mar. 16 New Parish Council Installation

Mar. 16 Presentation on Orthodox Summer Camp

Sympathy & Prayers Are Extended

To Crenguta Chirnoaga and her family on the repose of her father, Dumtriu in Romania (+Jan. 19, 2014). Memory Eternal!

To our former parishioner, Cristina Stefanescu of Florida and her family, on the repose of her son, Ioan-Vlad (+Jan. 15, 2014). Memory Eternal!

A Timely reminder

Holy prayers are of great avail when one is seriously ill, in the hospital, or going to go for some medical procedure. A simple phone call will enable your priest to respond with prayer and/or a visitation. It is not a good thing, when parishioners are aware of one's "need," but the priest has not been either informed directly or asked to minister.

Federal Privacy Laws prevent the clergy from checking patient listings in hospitals. The only way your priest is aware you are hospitalized is if he is informed by the family. Please be mindful of this.

## The Blessing of Candles – Next Sunday

A table will be set up for you to place candles you wish to be blessed for home usage. It is a pious custom to keep blessed candles and use them in time of storms, loved one's travelling in precarious weather or other special needs.



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2+9,2014

# Help Our Parish Become Souper Bowl Champions!

On Super Bowl Sunday, Feb. 2, 2014, team up with our parish's youth to help the needy in our community and around the world. Help our team in the "Souper Bowl of Caring" by bringing one dollar and a canned good with you to Liturgy. Please support this effort and help our parish become Souper Bowl Champions!



International Orthodox Christian Charities P.O. Box 17398 • Baltimore, MD 21297-0429 Toll-Free: (877) 803-4622 • Fax: (410) 243-9824 Internet: www.iocc.org

# **Defusing Incivility**

Fr. George Morelli

## Chaplain's Corner

Short essays written for the La Jolla Veteran's Hospital newsletter in La Jolla, California

In the 8th Century B.C., King Solomon, the author of the book of Proverbs, wrote: "A mild answer breaketh wrath: but a harsh word stirreth up fury. The tongue of the wise adorneth knowledge: but the mouth of fools bubbleth out folly." (Proverbs 15:1-2). Since first penned, this wisdom has been confirmed by thousands of years of human experience. This is no truer than in today's world in which we encounter a proliferation of crudeness, harshness, rudeness, lack of respect of the person and attempts to control others. The use of four letter and scatological words in dealing with others is found everywhere. No segment of the media is exempt. The explosive worldwide multiplication of social media use has made such discordant behavior almost unavoidable.

It is important to realize that a crude, rude and harshly toned reactive response by us often creates a pattern of escalation of incivility between all involved. We may not be able to change the uncivil behavior of others, but we can change our response to such rudeness when it is directed to us. This was recognized by Confucius in 4th Century B.C. China who wrote: "When it is obvious that the goals cannot be reached, don't adjust the goals, adjust the action steps." In the Jewish Talmud we read: ""The highest form of wisdom is kindness." After being confronted by unseemly words and actions it might be a stretch for some to respond with kindness, but a good first step would be to act in wisdom according to the advice of Molière (1622-1673 A.D.): "A wise man is superior to any insults which can be put upon him, and the best reply to unseemly behavior is patience and moderation."

One way of responding in wisdom is to employ the *disarming technique*. (Morelli, 2010)<sup>iv</sup>. This is done by making "a neutral statement about the other individual's response." One does not have to agree, one has to deflect. For example, an empathic response may be made. That is to say, simple acknowledgment of the strong emotion the other is feeling, such as "I see you're upset." Other disarming responses are: "Hum! That's an idea;" "That is one way of looking at it;" "That's a possibility;" "That's a point to consider;" "Well, we may have different ways of looking at things."

Let us be wise in responding to the crudity of others.. As our Eastern Christian Church Father St. John of Gaza (1990) tells us: "If silence is more necessary even during conversation about good matters, how much more so in matters that are indifferent?"

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