

SAINTS PETER & PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH

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BULLETIN OF NOVEMBER 30, 2014

SUNDAY/NOVEMBER 30

25th Sunday After Pentecost

Apostle Andrew

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

Coffee Hour

5:30p.m. Compline and Akathist to

St. Philaret the Merciful (Dec. 1)

WEDNESDAY/DECEMBER 3

7:00p.m. Vespers **St. Barbara &**

St. Alexander of New York City

(Dec. 4)

FRIDAY/DECEMBER 5

7:00p.m. Vespers Confessions

SATURDAY/DECEMBER 6

St. Nicholas the Wonderworker

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

Coffee Hour

11:15a.m. General Church Cleaning

5:30p.m. Vigil; Confessions

SUNDAY/DECEMBER 7

26th Sunday After Pentecost

St. Ambrose of Milan

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

Coffee Hour

"The man who knows the delight of the love of God—when the soul, warmed by grace, loves both God and her brother—knows in part that the kingdom of God is within us. Blessed is the soul that loves her brother, for our brother is our life."

SAINT SILOUAN
OF ATHOS
(+1938)



Offerings Week of November 30

Olive Oil: in memory of Michael, Rosalia, Justina and Alexandra; in memory of Richard.

Wine: for the health of Andrea on her names day.

Flowers: in memory of Olga (40th day).

Parish Synodicon: Memory Eternal!

Dec. 14th (40th Day) Valentine Gorbunov

Nov 30, 1930 Athanasius Klebanovich

Dec. 05, 1941 Anastasia Rilik

Dec. 05, 1978 Stefan Syubiak

Dec. 06, 1997 John Suseck Jr.

Dec. 06, 2010 John Chabra

Dec. 06, 2011 Howard Bozinta

Coffee Hour Hosts

Fasting Foods

Nov. 30 Inga, Eka, Marina and Nona

Dec. 07 Motoviloff, Torrisi, Kachek & Stone

Dec. 14 Mantzafos and Sokol

Usher Schedule

Nov. 30 Edward S. & Adrian M.

Dec. 07 Timothy S. & Peter B.

Dec. 14 Timothy G. & Jerome S.

Names Day Greetings!

St. Andrew/Nov. 30: Andrew Keller, Robert Andrew Erkman, Andrea Hunchar, Andrea Arpastean

St. Barbara/Dec. 04: Barbara Kulick, Barbara Erkman

St. Sabba/Dec. 05: Saba Kaliashvili

Dec. 06/St. Nicholas: Nicholas Kita, Nicholas Oliver, Nicholas Holot, Nicholas Mattei

Many Blessed Years!

Glen Gardner Church Celebration – Sunday, December 14

In honor of St. Hilarion of Moscow (+1927), whose portion of relics is to be found in the Glen Gardner Church of St. Gregory Palamas; at 5:30p.m. a Vigil will be held with Bishop Michael and clergy and faithful of the NJ Deanery. You are invited to participate.

2015 Parish Wall Calendars

The calendars are on a table in the back of the church. Please, only 1 calendar per household.

The Holy Nativity Lent of 40 Days

- Began on November 15th and ends after the Divine Liturgy on December 25th.
- Your Parish Wall Calendar indicates days when the fasting is lessened by usage of fish, wine or oil. Otherwise a fast is observed from meat, dairy and fish.
- The discipline for receiving Holy Communion on the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord, December 25th, requires a **recent Confession** in the time period of November or December before December 25th.
- Nov.30/Sun Fish, wine & oil
Dec. 01/Mon
Dec. 02/Tue Wine & oil
Dec. 03/Wed
Dec. 04/Thur Wine & oil
Dec. 05/Fri Wine & oil
Dec. 06/Sat Fish, wine & oil
Dec. 07/Sun Fish, wine & oil

Some Increase Adjustments beginning in 2015

The Parish Council being mindful of the increases in purchasing costs of candles, wine, flowers and olive oil had determined new 2015 prices.

Small Candle (\$3), large candle (\$4), Olive Oil (\$7) Wine (\$15) and flowers (\$25).

2nd Annual Coat Drive – thru Dec. 14th

A bin is located in the lower hall for coats, hats, scarves, gloves, socks, boots and sneakers.

Christmas Cookie Sale – Dec. 14th at 11:20a.m.

Help us in this annual fund-raiser. A sign-up sheet for bakers is on the vestibule stand.

3 Kind of Giving: Grudge, Duty and Thanksgiving

Grudge giving says, "I have to."

Duty giving says, "I ought to."

Thanksgiving says, "I want to."

The first comes from constraint; the second from a sense of obligation; the third from a full heart.

STORIES TO THINK ABOUT

BIG SINS

AND

LITTLE SINS

Once upon a time there lived a holy hermit. Many people came to him to ask his advice, and he received everyone kindly and helped each one to see more clearly their way in life.

Two women went on a pilgrimage to ask for the holy man's prayers and blessing. They had a long way to go on foot and as they walked they talked to each other.

"I am almost afraid of coming to Father," said one of them. "I have done a very evil thing. I tried to kill someone and it was only by accident that I did not murder him. I am a great sinner indeed and what will he say to me?"

"I am sorry for you," said the other woman. "It must be terrible to have something like this on one's conscience. Thank goodness there is nothing like this in my life. I have just the usual small sins that everyone has."

At last the two women approached the little hut in the woods where the hermit lived. He was sitting at his door-step and he greeted the two women kindly. Then he said:

"My friends, I have a little job for each one of you. Will you do it?" And both women said they'd be glad to do any work he gave them. The hermit gave each of the women a big canvas bag. Speaking to the woman who had sinned so heavily he said: "Please go and look for as large a stone as you can carry in this bag and bring it to me." Then he said to the other woman: "Go and fill this bag with many small stones and bring them to me." And the women hurried to carry out the work, wondering why it was necessary.

REPLACING THE STONES

A little later, when they brought their loads to the hermit, he said to the first woman: "Now go, and replace the stone in the exact place where you found it." The woman went, she found easily the mark in the ground where she had picked up the stone and placed it back exactly as it had been before. To the second woman the hermit told too: "Go and replace the stones you gathered in the places where you found them." But this task proved so hard that it was impossible to carry it out. The woman was able to replace just a few of the last stones she had gathered and then she got quite confused. She returned to the hermit with her bag still full of stones.

"Do you understand, my dear friends," said the hermit. "These stones are like our sins. When we commit a big sin and are sorry for it, we remember it; we think of it; we repent, and with God's grace we get rid of it. But we do not remember our small sins; we do not repent for them; and, added up one to another, their load can be much heavier than that of one big sin."



THE SOCIETY OF SAINT PHILARET THE MERCIFUL

In 1984, our diocesan hierarch, Archbishop PETER gave his blessing for the establishment of a parish organization to promote charitable causes in the parish and for Orthodox and non-Orthodox communities.

The Society of St. Philaret seeks to help parishioners and other needful individuals. In addition to providing concrete help to those needing it; the society strives to educate parishioners in the theology of Christian philanthropy.

The work of the society has consisted in: providing meals to sick people in the parish; sponsoring a monthly food basket collection in church; monetary offerings to monasteries and convents; support of Ss. Cosmas & Damian Adult Home; St. Basil's Home for Orphans; Cyprus Children's Fund; Task Force on Hunger and Homelessness; Religious books for college bound students; Persecuted Orthodox Christians; etc.

In addition, persons and families have been helped out with food and necessary medicines.

The society addressed the needs of parishioners, the larger Orthodox needs and again the needful in and of Somerset County.

All donations to the society come from the poor box in church. Anyone in the parish may receive benefits from the society. Please bring the names or situations needing help to the parish rector. Obviously, help provided is done with little fanfare and kept quiet.

<p><i>Saint Philaret the Merciful was a married wealthy man from the area of Paphlagonia. He was not only wealthy, but virtuous and freely bestowed his wealth to those less fortunate than himself.</i></p>	<p><i>God therefore rewarded St. Philaret, granting him even greater riches and blessings than before. Now he was, through the marriage of his daughter, a member of the Royal Court. Even in the midst of great wealth, St. Philaret loved the poor and spent his riches, time and love in caring for all those needful in any manner.</i></p>
<p><i>It came to pass, that God tested Philaret—like Job of the Old Testament—and he lost most of his wealth. Although his friends disappeared, and his family had to struggle for the basic needs of life, St. Philaret proved to be as generous when poor as he was when rich.</i></p>	<p><i>At the age of 90, he distributed the last of his belongings and peacefully reposed in the Lord. Miracles occurred over his blessed relics.</i></p>



Saint Philaret the Merciful (+797)

"Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful."

LUKE 6:36

