

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

Parish Website: www.ssppoc.org Diocese of NY-NJ: www.nynjoca.org

Face Book: "Friends of Ss. Peter & Paul Orthodox Church"

BULLETIN OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2015

100th Anniversary Celebration – October 3 & 4



Before
Thy Cross

SUNDAY/SEPTEMBER 20

Sunday After the Holy Cross

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

WEDNESDAY/SEPTEMBER 23

7:00p.m. Compline & Akathist to Icon
"Joy of All That Sorrow"

SATURDAY/SEPTEMBER 26

9:30a.m. Akathist to Our Lord; Confession
5:30p.m. Vigil; Confession

SUNDAY/SEPTEMBER 27

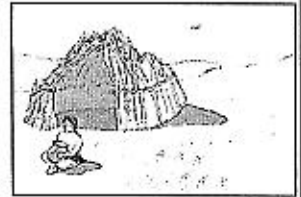
17th Sunday After Pentecost

St. Anthimus of Wallachia

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

WHEN YOUR HUT'S ON FIRE

The only survivor of a shipwreck was washed up on a small, uninhabited island. He prayed feverishly for God to rescue him. Everyday he scanned the horizon for help, but none seemed forthcoming. Exhausted, he eventually managed to build a little hut out of driftwood to protect him from the elements, and to store his few possessions.



One day, after scavenging for food, he arrived home to find his little hut in flames, with smoke rolling up to the sky. He felt the worst had happened, and everything was lost. He was stunned with disbelief, grief, and anger. He cried out, "God! How could you do this to me?"

Early the next day, he was awakened by the sound of a ship approaching the island! It had come to rescue him! "How did you know I was here?," asked the weary man of his rescuers. "We saw your smoke signal," they replied.

The Moral of This Story: *It's easy to get discouraged when things are going bad, but we shouldn't lose heart, because God is at work in our lives... even in the midst of our pain and suffering. Remember that the next time your little hut seems to be burning to the ground. It just may be a smoke signal that summons the Grace of God.*

Offerings Week of September 20

Olive Oil: in memory of Michael, Justina, Rosalia and Anastasia; in memory of Vaschen, Emilia and Valentina; for the health of Theodosia (birthday).

Parish Synodicon: Memory Eternal!

Sept. 27 40th Day for Helen Perry
Sept. 21, 1977 Steven Trhubets
Sept. 23, 1985 Mary Koles
Sept. 24, 1917 Evdokia Philmiuchuk
Sept. 25, 1937 Kuzma Trushko
Sept. 25, 1997 Olga Semergieff

Coffee Hour Hosts

Sept. 20 Peterson, Bakaletz, Mattei & Erkman
Sept. 27 Kita, Nevitt, Keller & Turri

Usher Schedule

Sept. 20 Dennis F. & Peter B.
Sept. 27 Edward S. & Khaka K.
Oct. 04 Tim S. & Peter B.

Counters

Sept. 20 Inga G. & Peter B.
Sept. 27 Ekaterini M. & Ciprian C.
Oct. 04 Rebecca O. & Edward S.

2015 Equal Sacrifice Model is in Effect

Each of our 70 parishioners (100%) is asked to make an extra offering over the amount of your usual offering of \$2.87 to \$8.62 per week to cover this year's deficit. This is based on 12 months. The average increase for the last 8 months was a base of only \$1.61. This is far short of the need.

On Members of the Church – by St. Paisios of Athos (+1993)

Everyone is useful in the Church. Everyone has something to offer; there's plenty of room for everybody, for those of a mild character and for those that are strict and demanding. The Body of the Church resembles the human body. Just as we need both sweet and sour foods, even bitter herbs, because each food has something to contribute in substance and vitamins, so too, the Body of Christ needs everyone on us. Each person complements the character of the other, and we are all obliged to tolerate not only the spiritual temperament of

others, but also their human weaknesses. Now unfortunately, there are those who have irrational expectations of others.

Fall Adult Study Classes – 7-8:30p.m.

October 7, 14, 21, 28, (Wednesdays). November 12 (Thursday) December 10 (Thursday). All invited. Topic announcement forth-coming in the bulletin and on the website.

Question & Answer Periods

At Coffee Hour, Sundays, Sept. 27, Oct. 25, Nov. 29 and Dec. 20. This is an opportunity for a brief (about 20 minutes) discussion based on your questions about matters of the Faith. Join us in the Conference Room. The Coffee Hour feeds the body, the Question & Answer Period feeds the soul.

St. George Gazebo

Enjoy the gazebo but refrain from eating there during Coffee Hour. Our foods, drinks and fellowship are with one another in the hall.

January-August 2015 Financial Notations

- At the end of 8 months year to date loss of \$13,147.
- The year to date loss translates to \$175.00 per contributor.
- The Rental Hall from the Coptic Church, \$1,700 per month ended in May when they moved out, which has added to the financial loss of income.
- If you have fallen behind in your offerings, please make up.
- For those able, a contribution of \$175.00 to off-set the current liability would be very much appreciated.

On The Commemoration Books Used at the Divine Liturgy

A four-page hand-out (green colored) explaining the Commemoration Book usage may be found on the vestibule stand. Every household is encouraged to make use of the Commemoration Book as it is powerful intercessory prayer for the living and departed.

100th Anniversary Updates

1. If you have not sent your reply for the Anniversary banquet please do so ASAP. **Absolute final day for responses is Sunday, September 20th.**
 - If anyone has a hardship and cannot afford the cost of the dinner, please speak with Fr. James. We want **ALL** of our parishioners to join us for this celebration.
2. Rides will be arranged for parishioners who do not drive in the evening hours for Vigil on Saturday, October 3rd and for the Banquet on Sunday, October 4th. If you need a ride please sign up on the sheet in the church or church hall **by Sunday, September 27th**. You can also email Pam Stone at pmzo2003@yahoo.com or call 908-672-2775.
3. If you will be attending the Saturday Memorial Service Brunch or the evening Vigil Service Dinner please sign up on the sheet in the church or church hall **by Sunday, September 27th**. You can also email Pam Stone at pmzo2003@yahoo.com or call 908-672-2775. If you know someone who is not a parishioner of SSPPOC and will be attending the brunch or dinner, please indicate this on the sheets as well.

100th Anniversary Weekend Schedule

- ❖ Saturday, October 3rd @ 10am a Memorial Service will be held at the Parish Cemetery (If it rains the service will be held in the church)
Brunch will be served in our Parish Hall following the service
- ❖ Saturday, October 3rd Vigil @ 5:30pm with Dinner after services
- ❖ Sunday, October 4th Hierarchical Divine Liturgy @ 9am with a lite coffee hour to follow
- ❖ Sunday, October 4th 3pm-7pm Anniversary Dinner Celebration at the Bridgewater Manor, Routes 202/206 North Bridgewater, NJ



Icons themselves, as the whole house and all inside of it, should be blessed and kept in a good order.

We have talked already about the meaning of divine images of the Cross, of the Icons, of religious pictures from Church history, of portraits and photos of sacred people, etc. — which should truly decorate the walls of our home.

When we can not afford a separate "prayer room", we should have at least a special corner in a room, well decorated with holy Icons and vigil lamps. Although the whole surrounding of a Christian ideally should be modest and simple, such holy items as Icons, crosses, ecclesiastical pictures, and the like are exceptions to that general rule. As saint John of Kronstadt indicated: "Consecrated objects elevate our hearts to God, so their rich beauty is not sinful in any way, but blessed and useful for all of us, similar to the magnificent beauty of decorations and utensils inside the church. All those supposed to serve the glory of God, and to initiate our inspiration... And that is not sinful, but a purifying influence."

We should approach the icon corner not only for reading our morning and evening prayers, but many times a day. Here, we should ask God's blessings and His divine support for every new initiative, before going out (that is, before leaving home), as well as upon arrival home, also in times of spiritual temptations and life difficulties, and when we are about to make any important step. Here, before the Icons, our soul can receive the reinforcement of divine grace and spiritual strength.

Each family in Orthodox Christian understanding is a small Church. So our homes should be properly decorated with Orthodox Icons, wall Crosses, and vigil lamps, those necessary attributes of family prayer, which maintain at home the right disposition of heart and mind.