

# SAINTS PETER & PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH

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

Diocese of NY-NJ: [www.ocanynj.org](http://www.ocanynj.org)

## BULLETIN SEPTEMBER 25, 2016

### SUNDAY/SEPTEMBER 25

14<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

St. Sergius of Radonezh

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

Coffee Hour and Church School

Question & Answer Period

### MONDAY/SEPTEMBER 26

7:00p.m. Vespers for St. Anthimus

the Georgian of Wallachia (+1716)

### THURSDAY/SEPTEMBER 29

6:30p.m. Compline

7-8:30p.m. Adult Study Class: *The Deification As The Purpose of Man's Life (Part 1 of 5 Parts)*

### SATURDAY/OCTOBER 1

Protection of the Holy Theotokos

9:30a.m. Akathist to Protection Icon;  
Confessions

5:30p.m. Vigil; Confessions

### SUNDAY/OCTOBER 2

15<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

St. Theodore the Admiral

Choir Recognition Sunday

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



### *On the Honourable Veneration of the Holy Icons*

**INQUIRER:** Some Christians wonder – why do we venerate the holy icons?

**ELDER CLEOPA:** Holy Scripture forbids the veneration of sculpted figures and deities. This prohibition refers to the veneration of idols. The law however does not forbid the veneration of certain signs and representations of God and His holy ones, since this honour does not pertain to the material from which they were constructed but rather, via the holy visage which is depicted, our thoughts ascend to God. We saw the honour that was given to the girdle and face towel of the Apostle Paul.<sup>1</sup> In the Old Testament we learn of the two sculpted Cherubim, which were placed above the Ark of the Covenant and on the tapestry of that holy place. It was before these that they lit incense and rendered repentance. Just as we are helped by the word to ascend beyond the word, so too are we lead by the icons to rise above the icons. Correspondingly, just as God wants our hearing to be made holy through spiritual discourse, so too he wants our sight to be made holy via the holy icons, so that by way of these two superior senses there enters into the soul pure thoughts.

### **Offerings Week of September 25**

**Olive Oil:** in memory of Michael, Justina, Michael, and Rosalie; for the health of Stephanie and Jason; in memory of Sarchisian and Bocai families; for the health of Marie (birthday); for the health of Theodosia (birthday) and Jeffery Alexander (birthday).

**Wine:** for salvation, health and protection and thanksgiving to God on Tabitha's birthday; protection; in memory of departed family members.

### **The Parish Synodicon: Memory Eternal!**

Oct. 14 40<sup>th</sup> Day Olga Zydiak (+Sept. 5, 2016)

Sept. 25, 1937 Kuzma Trushko

Sept. 25, 1959 Marie Dezko

Sept. 25, 1997 Olga Semergieff

Sept. 28, 1953 Thomas Liskowski

Sept. 29, 1929 Demetrius Berdar

Sept. 30, 1954 Wasyl Kluchnik

Sept. 30, 1966 Anna Gnointsy

Sept. 30, 1983 Anna Motoviloff

Sept. ?, 1930 Stephen Chemeris

### **Coffee Hour Schedule**

- Coffee Hour Hosts are reminded to prepare foods that are simple enough that you leave the church only after the time of Communion.
- Coffee Hour Hosts, please place trash in the garbage cans outside, or if the cans are full, on top of the cans, but not on the ground.
- Please allow church school teachers and students to be first in line so they can prepare for classes.

Sept. 25 Wypych, Chirnoaga, Moldoveanu, Vajda and Sue

Oct. 02 Peterson, Bakaletz, Mattei, Erkman and Stone

Oct. 09 Kita, Tessie, Keller, Turri, Torrisi And Kachek

### **Usher Schedule**

Sept. 25 Edward S. & Kahka K.

Oct. 02 Timothy S. & Peter B.

### **Counters**

Sept. 25 Jill P. & Paulina N.

Oct. 02 Rebecca O. & Lisa K.

### **Sunday Readers Schedule**

Sept. 25 Daniel T. / Oct. 02 John Z.

### **Parish Center Hall Roof Donations**

#### **Received to Date – September 20**

|                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| 1) \$5,000.00  | 18) \$35.00    |
| 2) \$1,000.00  | 19) \$300.00   |
| 3) \$200.00    | 20) \$250.00   |
| 4) \$500.00    | 21) \$3,000.00 |
| 5) \$1,000.00  | 22) \$700.00   |
| 6) \$1,000.00  | 23) \$500.00   |
| 7) \$300.00    | 24) \$1,000.00 |
| 8) \$2,000.00  | 25) \$200.00   |
| 9) \$1,000.00  | 26) \$100.00   |
| 10) \$3,000.00 | 27) \$3,000.00 |
| 11) \$500.00   | 28) \$1,000.00 |
| 12) \$100.00   | 29) \$1,000.00 |
| 13) \$100.00   | 30) \$300.00   |
| 14) \$1,000.00 | 31) \$300.00   |
| 15) \$500.00   | 32) \$100.00   |
| 16) \$1,500.00 | 33) \$200.00   |
| 17) \$500.00   | 34) \$200.00   |
|                | 35) \$200.00   |
|                | 36) \$100.00   |

**Parishioner households = 65**

**Households donated = 36 or 55 %**

**Parishioners = \$31,845**

#### **Donations for Hall Roof from Friends of The Parish (non-parishioners)**

|               |                |
|---------------|----------------|
| 1) \$100.00   | 08) \$60.00    |
| 2) \$2,000.00 | 09) \$2,000.00 |
| 3) \$100.00   | 10) \$10.00    |
| 4) \$30.00    | 11) \$1,000.00 |
| 5) \$50.00    | 12) \$400.00   |
| 6) \$100.00   | 13) \$10.00    |
| 7) \$500.00   | 14) \$5,000.00 |
|               | 15) \$500.00   |

**Friends of Parish Donations = \$11,050**

**Total Donations to Date: \$42,895**

**Funding Needed: \$50,000**

### **Names Day Greetings**

St. Michael/Sept. 30: Archbishop Michael  
Protection of Theotokos/Oct. 1: Marie Turri  
and Pan Stone – Many Blessed Years!

## THE NETWORKS OF COMMUNICATION

*From the OCA Mission Resource Kit*

The single most comprehensive, contemporary lesson in Church growth (specifically, how to evangelize effectively in your parish) can be learned by standing in any Orthodox church on the first Sunday of Great Lent (Great Lent being a traditional time for the catechumenate) and listening to the Gospel reading (John 1:35ff.). A paraphrase of the events in this passage is as follows:

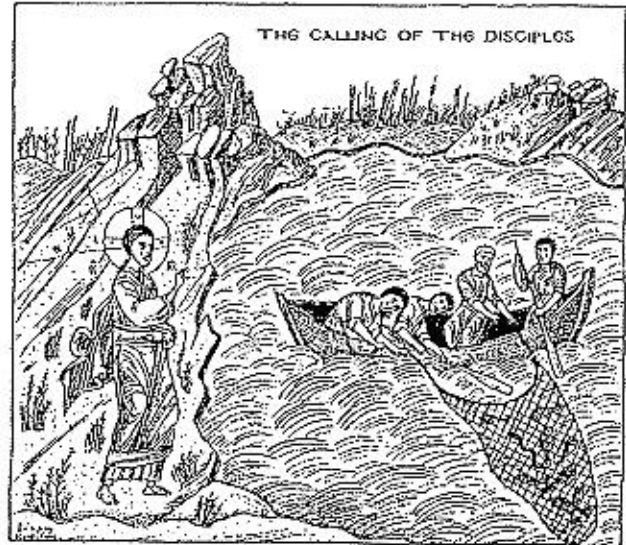
- ❖ Jesus told Andrew, "Come and see," and they did.
- ❖ Because it was important, Andrew went and found his brother Simon Peter and brought him to Jesus.
- ❖ Jesus told Philip, "Follow me," and he did.
- ❖ Because it was important, Philip went and found his friend Nathanael and told him, and Nathanael came to Jesus.

Anyone who can fully grasp the implications of points 2 and 4, and is willing to apply them actively, is on the way to successful evangelism in their local parish. The following statistics on recruited membership are generally accepted by Church analysts in North America. Typically, members of any parish have joined their church because of:

- ❖ Visitations (by priest or parishioner) 1-2 %
- ❖ Walked in off the street 2-3 %
- ❖ Special need met by parish 2-3 %
- ❖ Program offered by parish 3-4 %
- ❖ Sunday School 3-5 %
- ❖ Clergy 3-5%
- ❖ "Crusade" .001 %
- ❖ A relative or friend 70-90 %

Chances are very great that if you are reading this, you are a baptized Christian because a relative or a friend brought you to the Church. (It would be strange to expect anything else.) Further analysis of the 70-90 % in the last category is illuminating: If a majority of the people were brought by relatives, then the parish is more static; if they were brought by friends, then the parish is more dynamic.

A principle related to the family-friends phenomenon illustrated above is found in the New Testament emphasis on evangelism through house-



holds. The calling of Zacchaeus and the bringing of salvation to him and to all his house is (not coincidentally) the Gospel reading that alerts us to preparation for Great Lent, the time of the catechumenate, as mentioned above. Similarly, we note the same paradigm in Acts when Paul evangelizes Lydia and her house, the jailer and his house, and the leader of the synagogue and his house, to mention a few. Our Church normally appoints the Zacchaeus passage for the prayer and blessing of a new house, recognizing the principle of the natural growth of the Church through the family and the associations of the household.

Throughout the New Testament, it is assumed that the primary mode of Church growth is evangelism. Sometimes individuals from native Orthodox cultures lose sight of this reality because of their native situation. There are only three means whereby people become members of parishes: birth, transfer, and evangelism. Christian parenting cannot be expected to be the process by which the entire world becomes Christian. Likewise, transfer of membership to a "new" parish means that an "old" parish has lost a member, so the process is a "wash."

The icon or image that we are given to imitate is that of evangelism, the draught of fishes, the making of disciples. Individuals who hear the Gospel are expected to proclaim the Gospel.

# ***DEIFICATION AS THE VERY PURPOSE OF LIFE***

*Based on writings of the late Archimandrite George (+ 2015) of Grigoriou ,  
Monastery on Mt. Athos*

THURSDAY/SEPTEMBER 29

*Part One*

Deification as the Purpose of Life  
The Incarnation as the Reason for Deification

THURSDAY/OCTOBER 6

*Part Two*

The Contribution of the Theotokos & the Role of the Church

THURSDAY/OCTOBER 13

*Part Three*

The Uncreated Energies of God  
Presuppositions for Deification

THURSDAY/OCTOBER 20

*Part Four*

Experiences of Deification  
The Failure to Attain Deification

THURSDAY/OCTOBER 27

*Part Five*

Consequences of the Spiritual Guidance of Deification  
Consequences of Spiritual Guidance which does not lead to  
Deification

**SS. PETER & PAUL CHURCH, MANVILLE  
CONFERENCE ROOM IN LOWER HALL – 7-8:30p.m.**

**All Invited!**