

SAINTS PETER & PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH

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BULLETIN NOVEMBER 13, 2016

SUNDAY/NOVEMBER 13

21st Sunday After Pentecost

St. John Chrysostom

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

12:00p.m. – 4:00p.m. House Warming
Barbecue Party at Kate & Kahka New House
in Bridgewater – All Invited!

MONDAY/NOVEMBER 14

6:30p.m. Memorial for Vachsen & Emilia
Sarchisian

7:00p.m. Vespers

TUESDAY/NOVEMBER 15

St. Paisius of Moldavia

Beginning of 40 Day Nativity Lent

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

WEDNESDAY/NOVEMBER 16

St. Matthew the Evangelist

9:30a.m. Akathist to St. Matthew

6:30p.m. Compline

7-8:30p.m. Monthly Adult Study:
"The Key, the Door & The House"

THURSDAY/NOVEMBER 17

7:00p.m. Parish Council Meeting

SATURDAY/NOVEMBER 19

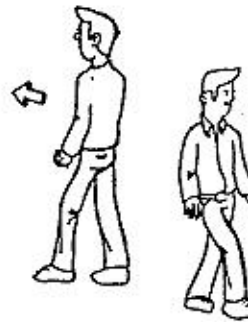
St. Philaret of Moscow

9:30a.m. Akathist to St. Philaret;
Confessions

5:30p.m. Vigil; Confessions

The word for repentance in Greek is "metanoia" which comes from two words: "meta" indicating change and "nous" meaning mind. Therefore, repentance means a basic change in thinking and behavior which occurs through the grace of the Holy Spirit and which allows man to be aware of his sins and ask mercy and forgiveness from God who loves mankind. Repentance does not happen for a moment or a short period of time, but should be the constant condition of the Christian during his whole life. In effect, it means a change in one's way of life. The person who repents abandons on way of life and begins another. With this understanding, repentance is the starting point for the Christian life. From this moment on, the Christian begins his journey toward spiritual completion and union with Christ; a journey which continues into eternity.

Repentance = Change



Preparation



Recollection

We sit in a quiet place.
We think of our life,
our behaviour and our relationship
with God and our fellowman.



Study

We read the Holy Bible and Christian
books about confession which tell us
when and how to confess.

This gives us self-knowledge and
knowledge of God's will.

Prayer



We ask God to prepare us
spiritually and physically
and to give us the gift
of a sincere confession.

Offerings Week of November 13

Olive Oil: in memory of Michael, Justina, Rosalie, Anastasia; in memory of Sarchisian and Bocai families; for the health of Mark & Libbye (anniversary) for the health of Derek (birthday); for the health and protection of Dao family.

Wine: in memory of Vaschen.

Flowers: for the health of Sarah (birthday) in thanksgiving of a job promotion.

The Parish Synodicon: Memory Eternal!

Dorothy Macheska 40th Day-Nov. 25

Nov. 13, 1963 Peter Chabra

Nov. 15, 1929 Fr. Nikita Borisoff
(7th rector 1920-1922)

Nov. 16, 1950 Francis Romanofsky

Nov. 16, 1965 Anastasia Kuzmiak

Nov. 16, 1977 Michael Putyrsk

Nov. 16, 2009 Mary Romanak

Nov. 17, 1951 Vladimir Pasechnik

Nov. 17, 1977 Stanley Bozinta

Nov. 19, 1941 Mary Skwarla

Nov. 19, 1959 Andrew Panacek

Nov. 19, 1978 Mary Suseck

Nov. 19, 2007 Archbishop Peter

Nov. 19, 2007 Vera Somoluk

Coffee Hour Schedule

- Coffee Hour Hosts are reminded to prepare foods that are simple enough that you leave the church only after 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.

Nov. 13 Peterson, Bakaletz, Mattei, Erkman
& Stone Kita,

Nativity Fast: Nov. 15-Dec. 24: No meat or dairy

Nov. 20 Kita, Nevitt, Keller, Turri, Torrisi
& Kachek

Usher Schedule

Nov. 13 Jerome S. & Adrian M.

Nov. 20 Dennis F.

Counters

Nov. 13 Ciprian C. & Larissa M.

Nov. 20 Ekaterini M. & Irina S.

Sunday Readers Schedule

Nov. 13 Austin K.

Nov. 20 Ciprian C.

The Calendar

Nov. 13 Youth Group Outing (Movies)

Nov. 15 Beginning of 40 Day Nativity Lent

Nov. 16 Monthly Adult Class 7-8:30p.m.

Nov. 17 Parish Council Meeting – You are invited

Nov. 20 Church School Class

Nov. 20 Teen Class

Nov. 21 Entrance Into Temple Feast of Theotokos

Nov. 24 Thanksgiving Day Akathist 9:30a.m.

Dec. 11 Christmas Cookie Walk

Dec. 17 Archbishop Michael at our Parish
and tonsure of Samuel Davis to the
rank of Church Reader

Dec. 18 First Service in New Brunswick of
St. Symon of Cyrene with Archbishop
Michael and faithful from area.

Names Day Greetings

St. Matthew/Nov. 16: Matthew Todd Peterson,
Mathew Eradze, Matei Moldoveanu
Many Blessed Years!

Memorial Service

Nov. 26, Sat. 10:00a.m. for (+) Dorothy Macheski
(40th day Memorial).

Nativity 40 Day Lent: Nov. 15-Dec. 24

In this one of "The Four Lents," of the year, a fast is observed from eat, dairy, fish, wine and oil. The Parish Wall Calendar and the Monthly Printed Wall Calendar indicate modifications to the fast.

Nov. 15/Tues. fish, wine and oil allowed

Nov. 16/Wed. fish, wine and oil allowed

Nov. 17/Thurs. wine and oil allowed

Nov. 18/Fri. –

Nov. 19/Sat. fish, wine and oil allowed

Nov. 20/Sun. fish, wine and oil allowed

Baskets for Food Collection in Vestibule

Staple food items may be brought for our local food pantry during Nativity Lent season.

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE ON THE ANGELS

1. Angels? Who in their right mind believes in angels anymore?!?
 - a. those who know that things exist which cannot be seen by the human eye
 - b. those who believe the Word of God in the Old and New Testaments
 - c. those who have even some awareness of the spiritual world, including non-Christians
 - d. those who are possessed by demons
 - e. all of the above
2. True or False: According to the Holy Scriptures, there are 7 ranks of angels and 9 archangels.
3. The word "angel" means:
 - a. spirit
 - b. servant
 - c. messenger
 - d. holy one
 - e. none of the above
4. True or False: Angels can be present in two or more places at the same time because they don't have physical bodies.
5. The word "Satan" literally means:
 - a. father of lies
 - b. prince of the world
 - c. accuser or adversary
 - d. evil one
 - e. all of the above
6. True or False: Angels and demons, by their very nature as super-natural, highly intelligent spirits, not only know everything that has happened in the past, but can also read our thoughts and foretell the future.



7. If an angel came to you and gave you a different teachings from what was already given by Jesus Christ, should you listen to him?
8. True or False: When little children die, in heaven they become angels.
9. True or False: God created Satan as a fallen angel so that man's free will would be tested, having the option to follow God or follow the devil.
10. How many angels are there?
 - a. 144,000 angels, plus an unnumbered amount of demons
 - b. 99 angels, as indicated by the Lord's parable about the 99 sheep that didn't wander
 - c. somewhere between 1,000 and 10,000
 - d. innumerable more than the number of people ever created

1. e) all of the above.
2. False) There are 9 ranks of angels and many archangels, seven of which are known by name in Holy Scripture and Tradition
3. c) messenger
4. False. Angels are bound by time and space as are human beings.
5. c) Though all the descriptions apply, "Satan" literally means "accuser" or "adversary".
6. False. Angels do not know everything in the past, cannot read our thoughts, and do not know the future, unless God informs them of this.
7. No. See Galatians 1:8 and the errors of Islam and Mormonism for instance.
8. False. Though they may go to Heaven. Human beings do not become angels, nor angels become human beings.
9. False. Everything God created was made good, including Satan, who was formerly an angel of light and willingly chose to dwell in darkness.
10. d) Though there is no exact figure given in Holy Scripture or Tradition, the Church teaches that there are innumerable more angels than human beings ever created.

A PEOPLE WITH A PURPOSE

“But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy” (1 Peter 2:9).

In the Mystery of Chrismation we were sealed as members of God’s People, a People with a Purpose: to be His priesthood, to proclaim His mighty acts of redemption and recreation. We are fully ourselves as Christians only when we are acting as His People.

“To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen” (Revelation 1:5-6).

The priesthood of God’s People is a common ministry: we are not each our own priest offering separate gifts to God. We are members of the Body of Christ, the High Priest, who offers the only gift capable of reuniting us to God: the gift of His own blood. In the Divine Liturgy we are connected with the Head of the Body as He offers His eternal gift to the Father in the heavenly sanctuary. We add our voices to the heavenly powers in praise of God and our prayers to those of all the saints worshipping at the throne of God.

As members of His royal priesthood we:

- **Exercise a body-ministry** –as the Body of Christ, not as individual priests.
- **Join the heavenly powers** and all the saints in the praises of God.
- **Unite with Christ the High Priest** as He offers Himself to the Father.



“During the oblation the whole Church – in heaven and upon earth, the Church of the first-born inscribed in the heavens and the Church militant fighting against the enemies of salvation upon earth – is represented typically as assembled around the Lamb, who took upon Himself the sins of the world. What a great spectacle, enrapturing and moving the soul! It is possible that I too am a joint heir with the saints, if I remain faithful to the Lamb until death. And are not all my brethren, too, members of the future kingdom? ...We are the children of God... heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ.” (St John of Kronstadt)

Become what you are: a member of the royal priesthood by:

- **Discovering** the riches of the Church’s worship tradition.
- **Ownership** of this tradition by accepting it as the basis of our daily life.
- **Gratitude** to God expressed in offering the sacrifice of praise.
- **Use** of your priesthood in service to God and intercession for one another.

**EXCERPTS FROM THE ADDRESS OF ARCHBISHOP MICHAEL AT THE
DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY ON NOVEMBER 1, 2016**

1) PRAYER – We all need to constantly be revitalizing and renewing our prayer life. Every day, at every turn in life, we need to be in conversation and communion with Christ ... putting Him into every detail of the picture of our life. We need to remember the words of our Lord in the Scripture: “Without Me, you can do nothing.” Let’s put Him in our life in faith and love.

Let’s take a silent poll: How many of you pray every day? And the prescribed 7 times a day: 1) In the morning when you get up, 2) in the evening when you go to bed, 3-5) at each of our 3 meals a day, 6) with our spouses (asking God for blessings on issues our children need not know about – possible loss of a job, or possible re-location, or the possible illness of a grandparent), strengthening our marriage as Ecclesiastes says, “A three-stranded cord (husband, wife and the Lord) is stronger than a two-stranded cord” ... and finally 7) with our children as a family, perhaps just the Trisagion or the readings of the day ... and then the rite of mutual forgiveness and saying “I love you.” We need to commit to a richer daily prayer life. Let’s consult our spiritual father for guidance, use our prayerbook, follow the church calendar

2) CHURCH ATTENDANCE – No matter what the rest of the world is doing, we need to go back to the Fifth Commandment, “Keep holy the Sabbath day,” and put Christ back into His day, the Lord’s day – and each of His feasts. Given that He gives us 168 hours each week ... is it too much to give Him back an hour on Saturday evening and two hours on a Sunday? If we really do love Him, we should want to be with Him, in His house, as often as we can. Isn’t that how it is with the people we love (someone we’re dating ... our grandchildren ...)? We want to be with them, spend time with them, do things with them and for them. We yearn for the presence of the one we love. In this fashion, our hearts ought to be attracted to GOD as the object of our greatest love and devotion.

There are those who say the Liturgy is too long, too boring, too stale. If we feel that way, we surely won’t like Heaven. The solution is to get to know Our Lord better. He will help us to see that He is at the center of every Liturgy and sacrament, offering Himself to us in love. If the Bible doesn’t seem like Good News to you, the solution is to get to know Christ better. We will find that the Bible is Christ speaking to us the words of life everlasting. If we find coming to Church on Sunday a chore, the solution is to get to know the Savior personally. There is no substitute for getting to know Jesus personally and learning to love Him faithfully. When this happens, everything changes; everything comes alive. Those who are parish leaders, should gladly provide examples of faithful Church attendance for others to follow.

3) SACRAMENTAL LIFE – When I was a child, we went to Communion this way: One Confession, one Communion, once a year. I was terrified of it – of committing a sin between the two sacraments, of swallowing water if I brushed my teeth – but I took it seriously. Today, I fear, we are too cavalier with Communion. We just get into line with everybody else, and receive the Holy Eucharist. Sacramental Reception is a good thing indeed; BUT are we properly prepared to receive the Very Body and Blood of Our Lord? Have we gone to Vespers? Have we read the Canon of Preparation, or at least said the Prayers of Preparation for Holy Communion in the Liturgy book? Have we made a daily confession in our Icon Corner at home, come to General Confession if it is offered, and given our private confession in the Church at least once each fasting season? Have we fasted properly? I visit some parishes outside of the fasting seasons, and hardly ever see anyone going to confession that weekend. Is that the norm? Has it become Casual Communion?

I hope and pray that that is not the case. St. Paul warns us sternly in I Cor. 11:27-29: “Therefore whoever eats this Bread or drinks the Cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the Body and Blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the Bread and drink of the Cup. For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord’s Body.” The Church wants all of us to receive Communion frequently, regularly. That’s why she recommends Confession every month to six weeks, and always during each of the fasts. (The idea of going to confession once a year is from the Council of Trent). And remember, General Confession is NOT meant to replace private confession, but only to enhance it. Let us renew our Sacramental way of life, by receiving them with proper preparation and greater enthusiasm!

4) PARISH LEADERSHIP: Throughout salvation history, God has relied upon faithful men and women to be leaders of His chosen people. Think of Abraham and the patriarchs; Moses and Joshua and Samuel; Kings David and Solomon; the Old Testament Prophets; the Evangelists and Apostles; and the Saints of every age. We include here women: Deborah and Hannah; Ruth and Esther; Elizabeth and Anna; the Myrrh-bearing Women; the Women Equal to the Apostles; the Saints of every age ... and of course, the Theotokos – the Virgin Mary. All of them were, in some way, prepared for that role of leadership; trained, if you will, to lead by both teaching and by example ... prepared in some instances by the Lord Himself, and trained in other cases by individuals who were previously prepared and became their teachers.

This is the reason we have Continuing Education for Clergy and Workshops for Parish Council Members – to continue to form them into better “vessels of clay” to serve the Lord and His Church, through further education, programs developed outside the Diocese, perspectives from individuals of specific expertise, and through bringing those within the diocesan family into closer co-operation with and mutual support of one another. In the last few years, our parish council conferences and clergy continuing education gatherings have suffered from lesser interest and diminished attendance -- two symptoms of APATHY.