

# **SAINTS PETER & PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH**

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

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## ***BULLETIN OF APRIL 29, 2018***

***CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!***

### **FOURTH SUNDAY OF PASCHA/APRIL 29**

#### **The Paralytic at the Pool**

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

Coffee Hour; Church School

### **TUESDAY/MAY 1**

7:00p.m. Vespers

7:30p.m. Lesser Blessing of Waters

### **WEDNESDAY/MAY 2**

#### **Mid-Pentecost (25<sup>th</sup> day of Pascha)**

#### **St. Boris, Enlightener of Bulgaria**

8:00a.m. Divine Liturgy

### **SATURDAY/MAY 5**

#### **Great-Martyr Irene**

9:30a.m. Akathist to Risen Jesus; Confessions

5:30p.m. Vigil; Confessions

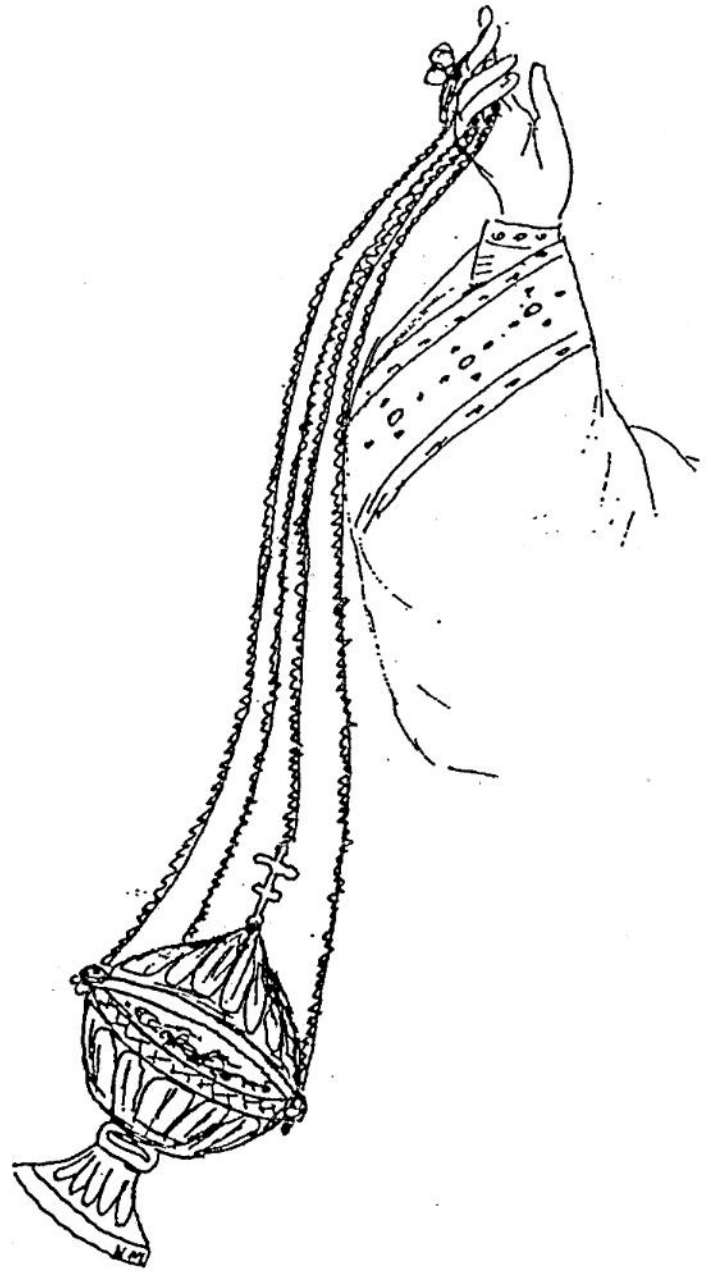
### **SUNDAY/MAY 6**

#### **The Samaritan Woman at Jacob's Well**

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

Food Basket Day for Manville Food Pantry

Coffee Hour



### **Offerings Week of April 29**

Relics Candle: for parishioners; in memory of Infant Ivanna; in memory of Emilia; Amy-Marie

Olive Oil: in memory of Sarchisian and Bocai families; in memory of Michael, Justina, Anastasia, Rosalie, & Ivanna; for the health of Kalyn and Richard.

Wine: for Nicholas and Shirly; in memory of Emilia and Amy-Marie.

Flowers: for the health of Barbara (birthday).

### **Synodicon: Memory Eternal!**

May 16<sup>th</sup> – 40<sup>th</sup> day Fr. John Nehbrebecki

Apr. 29, 1949 Joseph Bulat

Apr. 29, 1964 Infant Bodyl

Apr. 29, 2008 Genevieve Tindall

May 01, 1986 Mary Julio

May 02, 1989 Deacon Gregory Lapchuk

May 02, 1998 Rose Lorenick

May 03, 1926 John Petrovich

May 03, 1984 Olga Saffron

May 03, 1985 Helen Kudelko

May 04, 1973 John Holovach

May 05, 1961 John Ivaniec

May 05, 1970 Katherine Nebozinsky

May 05, 2012 William Neudachin

### **Coffee Hour Schedule**

Coffee Hour Hosts prepare foods that are simple so you are not absent from the Divine Liturgy.

Apr. 29 Inga, Eka, Marina & Nona

May 06 Sokol, Nasledysheva, Staina & Sarchisian

May 13 Chirnoaga, Moldoveanu, Vajda & Sue

### **Counters Schedule**

Apr. 29 Peter B. & Ciprian C.

May 06 Rebecca O. & Ekaterina M.

May 13 Ciprian C. & Jill P.

### **Ushers Schedule**

Apr. 29 Timothy S. & Peter B.

May 06 Timothy S. & Peter B.

May 13 Jerome S. & Adrian M.

### **Readers Schedule**

Apr. 29 Peter G. / May 06 John Z.

### **New Church Flooring Donations Received**

**The Total Cost of the Project is \$30,000**

**Total As of April 22nd is \$20,120.00**

**(8 offerings on 3/11)** \$500, \$1,000, \$300, \$700, \$1,000, \$3,000, \$500 and \$50.

**(11 Offerings on 3/18)** \$50, \$25, \$1,500, \$100, \$100, \$200, \$2,000, \$100, \$1,000, \$300 and \$500.

**(12 Offerings on 3/25)** \$100, \$100, \$50, \$50, \$200, \$25, \$15, \$100, \$200, \$25, \$1,000 and \$500.

**(3 Offerings on 4/01)** \$1,000, \$100 and \$50.

**(7 Offerings on 4/08)** \$500, \$100, \$100, \$50, \$50, \$35, and \$20.

**(6 Offerings on 4/15)** \$500, \$250, \$500, \$200, \$300 and \$800.

**(2 Offerings on 4/22)** \$175 and \$100.

### **Names Day Greetings**

May 1/St. Tamara: Tamara Poluszek

May 5/St. Irene: Irina Staina

Many Blessed Years!

### **Flowers Are Always Welcome!**

You may subscribe to offer flowers (\$25) on the Offering Sheet on the vestibule stand and/or you may bring flowers yourself. Ask an usher (before the service) to fill a vase from the coat room with water and he will place it where you wish.

### **Liturgical Notations for Paschal Season**

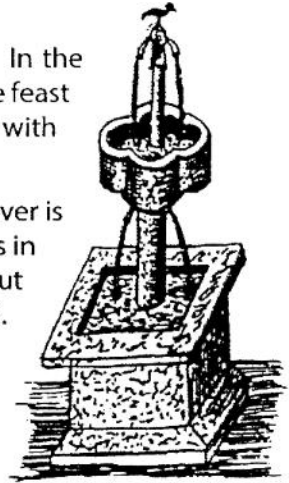
- The Paschal Season is 50 days, ending with the Feast of Pentecost, this year on May 27.
- During the first 40 days, that is to the eve of Ascension Thursday (May 17); we greet each other with the Paschal Salutation: "Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!"
- We do not kneel or make prostrations at church services or in our homes until Pentecost.
- The Paschal Troparion, "Christ is Risen from the dead..." is sung or said at the beginning and ending of all prayers, as well as at meals until Ascension Day.
- The Prayer, "O Heavenly King," is omitted until Pentecost, being replaced with the Troparion of Pascha and later of Ascension.
- Wine and oil are permitted on all Wednesdays and Fridays.

## MIDFEAST OF PENTECOST

The time of Pentecost is 50 days. Indeed, the word Pentecost, means "fifty." In the middle of the feast, that is on the 25<sup>th</sup> day, always a Wednesday, we celebrate the feast known as Mid-Pentecost. The feast unites and connects Pascha (the beginning) with Pentecost (the ending).

The symbol of water provides the theme for the feast of Mid-Pentecost. "Whoever is thirsty should come to Me and drink." As the Scriptures says, "Whoever believes in Me, streams of life-giving water will pour out from his heart." Christ said this about the Spirit which those who believe in Him were going to receive (John 7:37-38). This passage is also part of the Gospel reading for the Sunday of Pentecost.

Anticipating the gift of the Holy Spirit by Christ, the Troparion and Kontakion of Mid-Pentecost express the yearning of the believer with these words:



### Troparion

In the middle of the Feast, O Savior, fill my thirsting soul with the waters of godliness, as Thou didst cry to all: If anyone thirsts let him come to Me and drink! O Christ God, Fountain of our life, glory to Thee!

### Kontakion

Christ God, the Creator and Master of all, cried to all in the midst of the feast of the law: Come and draw the water of immortality! We fall before Thee and faithfully cry: Grant us Thy bounties, for Thou art the Fountain of our life.

A Blessing of Water takes place on this feast. We may bring vessels to church the next time we come for services so as to bring the newly-blessed waters to our homes.



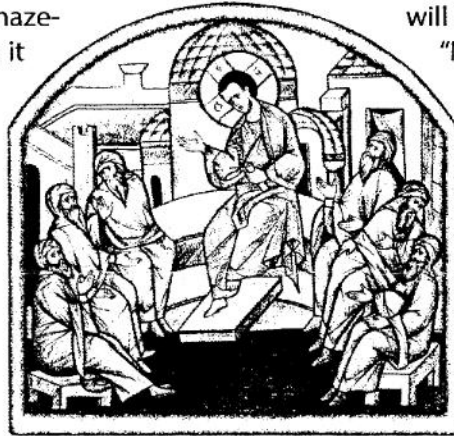
## THE ICON OF MID-PENTECOST

*From the Incarnate God – Volume 2*



The iconography adopted by the Church to illustrate Mid-Pentecost shows us Jesus Christ teaching in the Temple, just as in the Gospel. Christ is sitting at the center of a circle of Jewish scholars and wise men. These express their amazement at His knowledge: "How is it that this Man has learning, when He has never studied?" (John 7:15). In answer to this question, Jesus speaks of His connection to the Father, of His divine origin.

Most often, the icons of Mid-Pentecost represent Christ's first encounter in the Temple with the doctors of the Law – this is the episode described by St. Luke, when Jesus was twelve years old (Luke 2:41-50). "Did you not know that I must be in My Father's house?" He says to His worried parents, thus openly declaring that He is the Son of God and that He must carry out His mission. On that day,



Christ declares His independence from Joseph and Mary, escaping their tutelage. He tells them about His unique link with God the Father. He accepts filial obedience to the end, an obedience which will lead Him all the way to the Cross. "Not My will, but Thy will be done!" (Luke 22:42).

Divine Wisdom is revealed to the doctors of the Law who admire the wisdom of the Child, revealing Jesus as the Child-Emmanuel announced by the Prophets (Isaiah 7:14). The authority of His teaching is already confirmed during His infancy, for "He is before all things," He precedes creation (Colossians 1:17 and Proverbs 8:22-30), "He is begotten, not made, of one essence with the Father" (the Creed). He is "the Wisdom, the Word, and the Power of God" (From Matins of Pascha).

## THE NEXT AGE

By St John of Kronstadt

The degrees of beatitude and torment in the next world will be different. This is proved by the present state of the souls of different people or of the same man at different times under different conditions. The more simple, the better and more sociable the man is, the more blessed he inwardly is; the more deceitful, evil, and selfish he is, the more unhappy; the firmer his faith and the stronger his love are, the more blessed he is; the weaker his faith and love are, the weaker, the worse he feels. Thus those who have little or no faith, those who hate their fellow-creatures, are the most unhappy of men. By this we can understand what future torments will be.



## DON'T BE A FISH OUT OF WATER

St. John Chrysostom, the superb homilist who was called the "Golden-mouthed", was especially concerned for the spiritual and moral development of his flock and, as a result, he was especially interested in teaching them how to pray.

As trees cannot live without water, so man's soul cannot live without prayerful contact with God, he taught. If you deprive yourself of prayer, you will become like a fish out of water because as water is life for a fish, so is prayer for you.

## THOUGHTS ON STEWARDSHIP

From Parish Publishing, LLC

All of us are caretakers. Nothing belongs to us; everything belongs to God. Not all men and women realize this, but Christians do and strive to please God in the use of all that God has put in their care. Yes, you are a caretaker... God's caretaker!

Think of time as a priceless gift; develop an awareness of its incomparable value and examine your conscience in this light. Are you using your time according to God's plan, or are you throwing it away? If tomorrow were never to dawn, what would you do for God today?



## ON HOLY COMMUNION

Saint Ambrose of Optina

The Holy Eucharist is the first, most important, and greatest miracle of Christ. All the other Gospel miracles are secondary. How could we not call the greatest miracle the fact that simple bread and wine were once transformed by the Lord into His very Body and His very Blood, and then have continued to be transformed for nearly two thousand years by the prayers of priests, who are but simple human beings? And what is more, this mystery has continued to effect a miraculous change in those people who communicate of the Divine Mysteries with faith and humility.

**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH**  
**SS. PETER & PAUL CHURCH WILL COLLECT**  
**FOODS FOR THE MANVILLE FOOD PANTRY**

*You may place your donations in the baskets in the church vestibule.*

The Manville Reformed Church, in collaboration with the Food Bank Network of Somerset County, will be operating a food pantry out of the church for Manville residents beginning on February 24, 2018. The need in Manville is great; currently 41% of the students attending Manville schools are on free and reduced lunch. Countywide, the food bank has seen a 20% increase in its clients this past year with many coming from Manville. Our church is small, but with the combined efforts of local churches and organizations, we are trusting God that the pantry can be kept stocked on a monthly basis.

The pantry will be opened to serve those in need on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of every month from 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM. The church will be adhering to policy utilized by the Food Bank Network for registration, food distribution and donations. All documentation for the program will be sent to the main warehouse on Easy Street in Bridgewater on a monthly basis. We have already been in communication with the Mayor, Board of Health, Borough Administrator and Borough Engineer of Manville, and our church has received the green light for this endeavor.

In an effort to adequately stock the shelves, we are seeking regular food or monetary donations. The **Food items** listed below are the most needed at this time. Nonfood items may also be donated, but the more urgent need is for food. This list is attached separately as well, so you can display it in a prominent location for all your members/clients to see.

**Food Items**

Cereal: (Hot and cold)  
Canned Fruit and vegetables  
Canned beans  
Rice  
Soup: (canned and instant soup cups)  
Canned meats: (tuna, chicken, spam, stew, corned beef)  
Pasta: short and long  
Peanut butter  
Jelly  
Shelf Stable Milk (e.g. Parmalat)  
Juice boxes/bottles  
Snacks  
Canned potatoes  
Macaroni and cheese  
Canned/jar pasta Sauce: (e.g. Hunts)

*espezielly needed*

**Nonfood Items**

Toilet Paper  
Paper towels  
Deodorant  
Hand Soap  
Toothpaste  
Dish Detergent  
Laundry Detergent  
Shampoo  
Diapers/Wipes

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## LESSONS FROM TREES

The Aromatic Tree is full of a wonderful fragrance, not in greens or in flowers but in the bark. When the bark is cut with an ax, the fragrance pours forth. In such a manner, we Christians are aromatic trees in Christ's Church, when struck by the sinful world, we pour forth the heavenly fragrance of divine forgiveness.

The Chinese Bamboo Tree for the first four years of its growth, only a small shoot appears above ground, yet miraculously, in the 5th year, the tree grows up in one year to some 80 feet. In our spiritual life, we need to pay the price to prepare the ground of our soul - plant the seed of virtue, cultivate it by righteous living, water it with the Sacraments; knowing that in the future, great growth will take place.

The Tree of the Holy Cross is the most precious tree in all the world. It provides heavenly shelter and divine shade. The fruit of this tree - is the Lord Jesus, if we eat of this tree, we shall not die, but live forever.

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## AN EXPLANATION OF HOLY SCRIPTURE

ON MATTHEW 9:16-17

BY ST. THEOPHAN THE RECLUSE (+1894)

**No Man puts a piece of new cloth unto an old garment...nor do men put new wine into old bottles.**

What does the Saviour wish to teach us by this comparison? By this comparison the Lord taught that strenuous labors, without the spirit of true life, brings no benefit to our moral character, but rather, confusion and corruption. A repentant sinner is given grace, which forms in him a determination to please the Lord, without sparing his own life. All labors are useful to a person with determination. However, should a person who lacks it, attempt on occasion, for example, to impose a fast on himself, he will strain and strain harder, but then he gives up his efforts. And after this his life becomes even worse.

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## ABOUT ORTHODOX PARISH LIFE

.....If people want a parish community, then they have to work to create it. As they say: no pain, no gain. Today, many people seem to have adopted a Welfare State mentality, a consumer mentality, towards the Church. As a result they expect church services and activities to be laid out for them, as if it were their right. This is totally unrealistic. We have to combat the mentality which says that 80% of church activities are carried out by 20% of the parishioners and the remaining 20% of activities are carried out by 80% of the parishioners.

.....some are critical that Orthodox laity appear to have no role to play in church life, and seem to be mere passive spectators of services. This impression is sometimes founded in reality, but only in dying parishes where laity may indeed have reduced their role to passive spectatorship. Laypeople can only be passive if they wish to be passive.