

SAINTS PETER & PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH

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BULLETIN OF JANUARY 13, 2019

**2019 Blessing of Homes Season: January 7th thru February 28th
By Appointment**



SUNDAY/JANUARY 13 Sunday After Theophany

9:10a.m. Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy
Blessing of Social Hall
Church School; Coffee Hour

SATURDAY/JANUARY 19

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

SUNDAY/JANUARY 20

34th Sunday After Pentecost

9:10a.m. Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine liturgy
Church School Lunch & Presentation to Parish



A Sermon about Holy Water

By Archbishop John Maximovich of Shanghai and San Francisco

On Theophany, that is, the Day of the Lord's Baptism, every year a great miracle is performed. The Holy Spirit, coming down upon the water, changes its natural properties. It becomes incorrupt, that is it does not spoil, remains transparent and fresh for many years, receives the grace to heal illnesses, to drive away demons and every evil power, to preserve people and their dwellings from every danger, to sanctify various objects whether for church or home use. Therefore Orthodox Christians with reverence drink Holy Water - a great Agiasma (holy thing), as the Greeks call it.

One should always have at home enough Theophany water so that it will last the whole year, and make use of it at every need; in cases of illness, leaving on a journey, whenever one is upset, students when going to examinations. They do well who daily, before eating any kind of food, drink a little Holy Water. It strengthens the powers of our soul - if it is done, of course, with prayer and reverence, and one does not merely expect from it a mechanical result.

Every priest should take care to bless a sufficient quantity of water for his church, so that it will be on hand for the course of the whole year for every need and to be given out to those who ask for it; and parishioners should provide for themselves at Theophany with Holy Water for the whole year and even so that it can be kept for future years.

Offerings Week of January 13

Relics Candle: in honor of St. John Maximovitch; Michael, Justina, Rosalia, Anastasia and Ivanna;

Olive Oil: for memory of Gabriella, Floarea, Gheorghe, Elena, Petre, Valeria, Alexandru, Mihail, Anicuta, Ilie, Aurelia, Sasinca and family.

Flowers: in honor of the Theotokos, our Great Protectress; for the health and well-being of family and Svetlana, Anatoly and Andrey.

Parish Synodicon: Memory Eternal!

Jan. 25, 2019 (40th Day – Helen Lapchuk)

Jan. 13, 1953 Katherine Shwetz

Jan. 13, 1966 Peter Krentisky

Jan. 15, 2000 Ekaterina Moroshan

Jan. 17, 1938 Fr. Elia Lilikovich
(rector 1925-1929)

Jan. 17, 1953 Radion Tzarkov

Jan. 17, 1975 Mary Kralovich

Jan. 18, 1927 Anastasia Petrushevich

Jan. 18, 1963 Helen Trehubets

Jan. 18, 1990 Constantine Putyrsk

Jan. 19, 1974 Vera Gromack

Jan. 19, 1999 Basil Charles Fetchko

Coffee Hour Schedule

Jan. 13 Kita, Nevitt, Turri, Torrisi,
& Kachek

Jan. 20 Church School Luncheon

Counters Schedule

Jan. 13 Ciprian C. & Jill P.

Jan. 20 Irina S. & Lisa K.

Ushers Schedule

Jan. 13 Jerome S. & Adrian M.

Jan. 20 Dennis F. & Robert E.

Readers Schedule

Jan. 13 Cameron P. / Jan. 20 John Z.

Scrip Fund-Raising Program

Is on-going. Speak with Pam Stone for cards.

Names Day Greetings

St. Anthony/Jan. 17: Antoniu Chirnoaga

Many Blessed Years!

Check On-Line Calendar on website

Jan.08-Feb. 28 Blessing of Homes Season

Jan. 18/Fri. March For Life in DC

Jan. 24/Thurs. Parish Council Meeting

Jan. 30/Wed. Deadline for Reports for Annual Meeting

Feb. 02/Sat. Meeting of Lord/ Blessing of candles

Feb. 03/Sun. Scout Recognition Day

Feb. 03/Sun. Souper Bowl of Caring

Feb. 03/Sun. Annual Mtg. Reports Distributed

Feb. 10/Sun. Annual Parish Meeting 12:00p.m.

Feb. 13/20/27 Wed. Study Classes 7-8:30p.m.

Mar. 11/Mon. Great Lent Begins

Apr. 21/Sun. Western Easter

Apr. 28/Sun. Holy Pascha (Orthodox Easter)

June 1-2 Sat/Sun. Archbishop Michael Visitation

The Blessing of Homes Season for 2019

The season is from Jan. 7th thru Feb. 28th. Homes are blessed by appointment with Fr. James. You are requested to have your home blessed earlier rather than later in the season. You can make your appointment presently.

Inclement Weather Changes to Calendar

If it is necessary to cancel or change something on the parish schedule, this will be indicated through 1) the Parish E-Mail; 2) Friends of Ss. Peter & Paul Orthodox Church Face Book; 3) and on the Parish Website – www.ssppoc.org

St. Philaret Ministry of our Parish

In the month of December the Manville Food Pantry was assisted by us with 23 new coats; \$150 in Walmart Gift Certificates; food; holiday meal supplies, personal care items and canned hams.

One Wonders

On January 7th at 10:50a.m. a phone message is left on the church phone: "Merry Christmas! What time will you have Christmas Services this morning." Note please the time.

St. Luke of Crimea (+1956) on Holy Water

Drink Holy Water. The more often, the better. It is the best and most effective medicine. I say this not as a priest, but I say this as a doctor, from medical experience.

POINTS WE MAY CONSIDER TO BUILD UP OUR SOULS

One: Perpetual Lateness to the Sunday Divine Liturgy is sinful. This bad habit demonstrates a lack of faith and reverence; disturbs others and weakens the faith of others by bad example. Are you late for work, school, the cinema, sporting events?

Two: Here a Sunday and Skip a Sunday is the conduct of many Christians. They do not build their lives on weekly giving thanks to the Lord and worshipping Him. When they miss Sunday Divine Liturgy, they think it is no big thing, and often times do not even confess this sin.

Three: Year after year of Not Receive the Body and Blood of Christ is spiritually damaging. Unless one is under Penance, all should partake of this Holy Mystery of the Church. Without Holy Communion, there is simply no genuine growth in spiritual life.

Four: Observance of the Wednesday and Friday Fasting Days are not suggestions. They are essential for spiritual growth and have been taught and observed since the time of the Holy Apostles. Pink boxes on your wall calendar = fasting days.

Five: Participation in the Divine Liturgy and Other Services is the reason we are at worship. Everyone can sing, cross themselves, light candles, venerate the icons, make bows or prostrations. We don't attend services, we celebrate (act) at services. We are bored and our minds wander when we are not participating actively.

Six: "I cannot make the Sunday Divine Liturgy" because of _____. Maybe there is a reason "for a cause worthy of a blessing," or maybe not. If possible, we should give consideration to coming another time that week to services, perhaps the evening before for Vigil or Saturday morning for the Akathist.

Seven: The inability of us to focus on prayer at the Services is related to our inability to be attentive to daily evening and morning prayers in our homes. A good discipline of prayer, strengthens our desire to pray more often and with more fervor.

Eight: The Reading of Holy Scriptures should be a daily practice in our lives. It is possible for everyone to read – especially from the New Testament – a small section of Scripture or to commit oneself to a certain time for reading, measured even in minutes.

Nine: Veneration of Icons is Not Only for Church, in our homes, at the time of evening and morning prayers, we kiss the holy icon or icons. Is this a daily practice in your life?

Ten: Preparation for Holy Communion includes the following: A total fast from food and drink from midnight, a clean conscience, the reciting of Pre-Communion Prayers and if possible, participation in the preparatory service (that is Vespers or Vigil).

Eleven: The Taking of Medicines in no way should preclude our receiving of Holy Communion. Medicines should be taken at prescribed and the proper time. Particular concerns you may have, you should speak to your priest.

Twelve: The kids don't want to go to church, so I don't force them. For younger children (ages 16 and under), parents have the authority. The child must go to the doctor, dentist, school, athletic practices etc. They have no choice. For older teens, the parents must encourage, set the example of going regularly to church and not force the teen. Again, each home situation is unique, speak with your spiritual father.

Thirteen: The frequent use of Holy Water is a powerful spiritual tool and medicine that wards off temptations, calms the mind, elevates the soul and can have healing property. Do you have Holy Water? Do you use it frequently with prayer?

Fourteen: The Jesus Prayer – “Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me,” is a spiritual sword that cuts down temptations; demonic assaults; strengthens the mind, soul and will. This Prayer we should all be very familiar with and resort to it day in and day out. Usage of a Prayer Rope is recommended.

Fifteen: The Daily Invocation of One's Patron Saint is provided for in most Prayer Books. Each day we ask our Saint, whose name we were given when baptized, to watch over and protect us. It is even better to know the Tropar of our Patron saint. Do you know your Names Day? Do you celebrate your Names Day?

Sixteen: The Wearing of a Cross is standard practice in our Faith. The day we were baptized, the Cross was put on our neck. The Cross is the very symbol of our Faith and offers protection from evil and reminds that we “take up the Cross” and follow Christ. If you are presently not wearing a Cross, obtain one. Parents and Godparents have a responsibility in this regard and should exercise it.

Seventeen: “I got to get things together, I need to do something,” and spiritually we make things more problematic for ourselves by not addressing our spiritual needs/problems/passions/concerns/difficulties/questions/sins/etc. in a timely manner in most fervent prayer as well as addressing them to a spiritual father (most often a priest). The delay in healing, effects every aspect of our spiritual, emotional and even physical well-being and can have negative consequences for members of our household. The time for action is always the present.

Eighteen: Our Faith experience must be dynamic and growing, if spiritually we are today, what we were in the past, something is in disorder. St. Paul tells us that our vocation is to grow “to a perfect man, to the measure of the fullness of Christ,” (Eph. 4:13). Our Christian Faith abounds in newness, growth, enlightenment, an unquenchable joy, witnessing and love for God, ourselves and one another. Are we stale or see ourselves alive in Christ?

Nineteen: Our God is very Personal With us and us with Him. Relationship with our God must be real, constant, deep and intimate. The Lord is our God, Saviour, Redeemer, King, Physician, Head, Father, Bridegroom and especially our Friend.